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Contact: Catherine Hinman  
(407-645-5311  
[chinman@morsemuseum.org](mailto:chinman@morsemuseum.org)

## **Morse Museum Announces 2007-2008 Special Exhibitions and Programs**

*Note to editors: Attached is a high-resolution image of “Autumn” from the Four Seasons leaded-glass window, 1899-1900, which won Tiffany a gold medal at the 1900 Exposition Universelle in Paris and which was later installed at Tiffany’s country estate, Laurelton Hall. The window will be featured in the Morse Museum’s upcoming exhibition Quest of Beauty – Louis Comfort Tiffany’s Life and Art. For additional images contact us at [pubaffairs@morsemuseum.org](mailto:pubaffairs@morsemuseum.org).*

WINTER PARK, Fla. – The highlights of the Morse Museum’s upcoming season include a vignette on the 19<sup>th</sup>-century art world phenomenon Orientalism, a biographical exhibition examining Louis Comfort Tiffany’s art at various stages of his life, and, from November through April, a slate of free Friday Night at the Morse events that include live music and gallery demonstrations.

### **Exhibitions**

*Orientalism – An Eye for the Exotic* opens Aug. 16, 2007 and will run through August 2008 (*Closing date TBD*). This vignette presents objects collected by Hugh and Jeannette McKean that richly express the late-19th and early-20th century fascination of the West with the art and design of such exotic places as Japan, North Africa, Iran (Persia), Turkey, Algeria, India and China. It will include a selection of works designed by Tiffany Studios, Rookwood Pottery, as well as artists of the period, both known and unknown, who were inspired by the Orient.

In the 19th century, technology, trade, and politics opened exotic locations to both travel and the imagination. In homes and galleries, as in this vignette, imported objects from exotic lands mingled with European and American versions of Oriental art, designs, scenes and life.

*The Quest of Beauty – Louis Comfort Tiffany’s Life and Art* opens Nov. 6, 2007 and will run through 2008 (*Closing date TBD*). Alongside some of the main known facts of Louis Comfort Tiffany’s life (1848-1933), this exhibition presents some of the personal objects Tiffany owned, various records and awards, and many of his artistic creations to provide an appreciation that biography can bring to art. Objects will range from an 1865 sketch album brought by a 17-year-old Tiffany on his first visit to Europe to silver-and-ivory cuff links worn by the artist.

The exhibition will also include some leaded-glass windows and other works from the most extensive personal project of Tiffany’s career, the country estate he built on Long Island between 1902 and 1905. The Morse Museum’s collection of objects from that estate, Laurelton Hall, were recently exhibited in a major six-month exhibition at The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York (Nov. 21, 2006 through May 20, 2007). In 1916, Tiffany characterized his work across various media as a lifelong “quest of beauty.” If this quest serves the broadest understanding of Tiffany’s art, the intent of the exhibition is to show that different phases of his life can provide more particular insights. The Morse is home to the world’s most comprehensive collection of works by Tiffany.

## **Public Programs**

The museum’s public programs for the season include free lectures, films, family tours and many opportunities to visit the galleries at no charge. From November through April at Friday Nights at the Morse, the museum will provide free admission from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Evening events include live music every Friday in November and December and gallery demonstrations and family tours on Nov. 9, Dec. 14, Feb. 8, and April 11. Family tours will also be available through the galleries every Tuesday in June and July.

As is tradition, the museum will have open house events and free admission at Christmas (Dec. 23), Easter (March 21-23), and on Independence Day (July 4).

The 29<sup>th</sup> annual Christmas in the Park event, in which the Morse lights up century-old Tiffany windows in downtown Winter Park and a free outdoor concert by the 150-voice Bach Festival Society choir, will be Thursday, Dec. 6 from 6:15-8 p.m.

The Morse Museum is open 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 1-4 p.m., Sunday with additional Friday hours of 4-8 p.m. November through April. Admission is \$3 for adults, \$1 students and free for children under 12. All visitors are admitted free 4-8 p.m. on Fridays November through April. Visit [www.morsemuseum.org](http://www.morsemuseum.org) for details.

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