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Gideon Kramer: "*becOMing - a love story*"

From April 8 – March 8, the Center on Contemporary Art (CoCA) will feature an exhibition of the work of Gideon Kramer. Weaved around the story of his life-long relationship with his wife Ruth, this exhibition touches on all aspects of Gideon's work as a visionary designer, artist, inventor, teacher, builder, lecturer, and businessman. An Artists' Reception, Book Release, and 93rd Birthday Party from 6 – 9 pm on Thursday, April 8, is free with ample parking at CoCA's Ballard Gallery at 6413 Seaview Ave NW, 98107. Gallery hours are M - Sat., 9 am -5 pm; otherwise by appointment.

Seattle's Gideon Kramer is a true renaissance man. Long fascinated by the relationship between materials, technology, design, and function -- and given to flights of insightful socio-cultural and philosophical musings -- Kramer is recognized as one of the greatest industrial designers of our age. A graduate of the renowned engineering program at Chicago's Institute of Design, his achievements are myriad. Kramer devised the first truly ergonomic chair in 1946; began conceiving radically new truck designs in the early 1950's; started teaching Industrial Design at the University of Washington in 1957 and architectural workshops at the University of Oregon in 1960. In 1966 the American Institute of Architects (AIA) honored his "outstanding achievement in fine arts, allied professions [and] craftsmanship in the industrial arts" by bestowing on him their coveted Industrial Arts Medal. Kramer had penned essays for the *AIA Journal*, *The Argus*, *The Arts*, the *World Institute Journal of the United Nations*, and other industrial arts and design publications.

Now in its 30th year, CoCA serves as a catalyst and forum for the advancement, development and understanding of contemporary art.