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For Immediate Release  
Monday, December 1, 2003

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## Karen Rossi Donates Holiday Tree to Wadsworth Atheneum Museum's Festival of Trees and Traditions

Hartford, Conn.—Artist and designer Karen Rossi is donating a “Rossi-ized” Christmas tree to the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art’s 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Festival of Trees and Traditions this December. The festival is the museum’s major fundraising event and asks local artists and businesses to donate a quality item or service for a silent auction held at a Gala Preview Party the first day of the event. There have been a multiple of times throughout Karen’s long artistic career she has either been commissioned to create a piece of artwork for the event or donated one of her pieces. Her pieces have often been the most sought after at the auction in the past, and Karen hopes that this tradition continues!

The Rossi Christmas tree is made out of metal, with numerous ornaments and charms hanging from each branch. At the top flies a signature Rossi female Flight in holiday garb toting holiday charms. The ornaments on the branches come in all shapes and sizes, including many miniature Flight characters from the Gardener, Angel, Businessman and Drummer, to the full-sized specialty Mark Twain Flight and Pink Dance Academy Cat. There are also hand-painted bulbs, a

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Rossi Star photo frame with a dangling crystal and clouds, and many other fun charms and jewels!

The festival begins this year on December 5<sup>th</sup> with the Gala Preview Party on Friday evening to which more than 600 of the Museum's most ardent supporters attend. The festival then continues through the 13<sup>th</sup>, bringing in over 17,000 people and raising over \$200,000. The Women's Committee of the Wadsworth Atheneum sponsors the festival and the proceeds go toward the museum's operating budget, which provides funding for special exhibitions and educational art programs for children and adults. It is a tradition that will celebrate its 30<sup>th</sup> year this December.

Karen Rossi is the founder and owner of Rossi Studios, Windsor Locks, Conn. She is recognized worldwide for her charming, highly original portraits and metal sculptures of people, places and lifestyles, which can be found in more than 100 galleries in the United States, Europe, Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand and the Caribbean, et al, as well as in many private and public collections. Rossi's growing licensee list includes Bernina (embroidery sewing cards), Great American Puzzle Factory, New Creative Enterprises (cast resin garden gifts and accessories), SCI Promotion (cosmetic bags), and Silvestri (decorative home accents, jewelry, chimes, etc.) For more information, visit [www.karenrossi.com](http://www.karenrossi.com).

***ARTWORK: Karen Rossi product images are available upon request. Please send your request to Jenny Hartung at [info@karenrossi.com](mailto:info@karenrossi.com). Please specify digital format and size.***

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