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## **ERIC CARLE MUSEUM EXHIBIT TO FEATURE RARELY SEEN ORIGINAL SEUSS MATERIAL**

*Four Points of the Compass: The Many Paths of Dr. Seuss*  
on view May 7 – July 11, 2004

Amherst, Mass. (April 28, 2004) – The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art announced today that its next special exhibition, opening to the public on Friday, May 7 and running through Sunday, July 11, 2004, will provide visitors with insights on Dr. Seuss's working methods as well as his strong political convictions. *Four Points of the Compass: The Many Paths of Dr. Seuss* has been organized by the Museum in honor of the year-long celebration of the master storyteller's birthday centennial.

The exhibition comprises original art from Dr. Seuss's first (*And to Think That I Saw It on Mulberry Street*), last (*Oh, The Places You'll Go!*), and two most politically-charged books (*The Lorax* and *The Butter Battle Book*). States Museum Director and exhibition curator, Nick Clark, "The opportunity to exhibit the only two bodies of work (*Mulberry* and *Lorax*) which are not in the main Seuss Archive at the University of California at San Diego, and to gain fresh perspective on Theodor Geisel's fertile imagination and personal politics was too good to pass up, especially given our proximity to the real Mulberry Street and to the Dr. Seuss National Memorial, both in Springfield, MA."

The *Mulberry Street* drawings have never been exhibited before, having been in private hands until only recently—when they were donated to the Princeton University Library—and the *Lorax* drawings are housed at the LBJ Library in Austin, Texas—the gift of Geisel in honor of Lady Bird Johnson's championing of environmental issues. On loan from the Seuss Archive will be art for *The Butter Battle Book*, which addresses the issue of nuclear proliferation, and *Oh, the Places You'll Go!*, which has become a graduation season favorite. "Another point of interest for visitors to the exhibition", says Clark, "is the chance to see first-hand the now outdated process of creating a "finished" Seuss image using a combination of ink drawings and color roughs that served as color-separation guides for the printer."

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The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art is the first full-scale museum in this country devoted to national and international picture book art, conceived and built with the aim of celebrating the art that we are first exposed to as children. Through the exploration of images that are familiar and beloved, it is the Museum's goal to foster connections between visual and verbal literacy and to provide visitors of all ages and backgrounds with the confidence to explore their own creativity and to appreciate and enjoy art of every kind.

The Museum—which houses three galleries dedicated to rotating exhibitions of picture book art, a hands-on Art Studio, a Reading Library, an Auditorium, and a popular Café and Museum Shop—is located at 125 West Bay Road, Amherst, MA. Museum hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday 12 noon to 4 p.m. Admission is \$4 for adults, \$2 for children under 18, and \$10 for a family of six. For further information and directions, call 413-658-1100 or visit the Museum's website at [www.picturebookart.org](http://www.picturebookart.org).

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