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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Alumna, filmmaker Cindy Kleine Announced as SMFA's 2010 Commencement Speaker

Boston, MA (May 24, 2010)—The School of Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (SMFA), is pleased to announce that alumna Cindy Kleine will be the 2010 Commencement speaker.



Cindy Kleine, *PHYLLIS AND HAROLD*
(still of Phyllis, circa 1950), 2008. Film.
Courtesy of the artist.

Cindy Kleine—who received a Bachelor of Fine Arts in 1982, a Studio Diploma in 1983 and a Fifth Year Certificate in 1984—is a film and video artist whose career began when she was an undergraduate at the Museum School and at the MIT Film/Video Section. Kleine has developed a central body of documentary work about family dramas: camera visits with her grandmother and her sister, and intense probes of her parents' fifty-nine years of a dubious, fractured marriage. Additionally, she has gone outside of family for films about odd artists and off-the-wall musicians and gone inside her self for some deeply personal, poetically framed psychodramas about love lost, the spirit gained.

Kleine's films have been screened at international festivals including: Telluride, Seattle, San Francisco, Salsomaggiore, and Vancouver, and at such venues as the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, the Knitting Factory and Anthology Film Archives in New York City, the ICA, London and the Center d'art Contemporain in Lyon, France. Her film, *Doug and Mike, Mike and Doug*, about artists the Starn twins, was broadcast on PBS's POV Film Series.

Her film *Phyllis and Harold*, an astoundingly frank journey through a disastrous 59-year marriage, opened theatrically in New York in February and Los Angeles in April. It has received critical acclaim from filmmakers such as Mike Nichols and Ken Burns, who called the film "a masterpiece."

Kleine has received awards and fellowships from the American Film Institute, the U.S. S-8 Film and Digital Video Festival, the MacDowell Colony, the Bard College MFA Fellowship Program, and the New England Regional Fellowship Program. She has taught filmmaking at Boston College, Harvard University, SMFA and the New School for Social Research.

Visit www.cindykleine.com to learn more about her work.

About the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston:

Founded in 1876 and accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design, the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (SMFA), is one of only three art schools in the country affiliated with a major museum—the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Our mission is to provide an education in the fine arts that is interdisciplinary and self-directed for motivated artists; our graduates are pioneers who help shape the future of contemporary art. For more information about our programs and partnerships, visit www.smfa.edu.

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