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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Presents
"Fifth Year Exhibition 2009"
Culminating Exhibition by Six Students after a Year of Independent Study

Boston (April 10, 2009)—The School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (SMFA), is pleased to present the **"Fifth Year Exhibition 2009,"** on view in the Grossman Gallery and Anderson Auditorium April 10–May 2, 2009. The show features six artists from Museum School's Fifth Year Certificate program—**David Luke D'Agostino, Jason Freedman, Trevor Powers, George Rosa, Kate Sinnott, and Kory Leonard Yates**—whose ambitious and highly energetic works address a broad range of topics in a variety of media.

The Fifth Year Certificate program is an intensive year of independent study open to graduates of the School's Diploma program and is designed to foster a period of transformation from art student to independent artist. Balancing self-investigation and community support, pressure, and feedback, students emerge at the end of the process with a new and consistent body of work.

In addition to showcasing work in **"Fifth Year Exhibition 2009"** students who graduate from the program compete for the prestigious Traveling Scholarship Awards—travel grants that annually total \$80,000 to \$100,000. Among the largest endowed art school grant programs in the country, it provides select Fifth Year recipients with funds to further develop and inform their work. After a set time period of travel and artistic exploration, the Traveling Scholarship recipients exhibit in a group show at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

RELATED EVENTS

Admission to the exhibition and all related events is free.

Opening Reception: Friday, April 10, 5–8 pm

Artists' Talk: Wednesday, April 15, 12:30 pm

EXHIBITION LOCATION

"Fifth Year Exhibition 2009"

April 10–May 2, 2009

Anderson Auditorium and Grossman Gallery

School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

230 The Fenway

Boston, MA 02115

Hours: Monday–Saturday: 10 am–5 pm; Thursday: 10 am–8 pm; Closed Sunday and holidays.

For more information about the exhibition, call 617-369-3718 or visit www.smfa.edu/exhibitions.

For high-resolution, digital images contact Brooke Witkowski at 617-369-6305 or

bwitkowski@smfa.edu.

PARTICIPATING ARTISTS

David Luke D'Agostino

D'Agostino (b. State College, PA, 1980) received a Diploma from the Museum School in 2003 and has work in the permanent collection of the Palmer Museum of Art at Penn State University. He has nearly ten years of work experience counseling mentally ill and disabled people through art and video.

As a documentary filmmaker, D'Agostino explores the extremes of human nature. His film *Arthur Knight Hammer: King of the Bears* profiles Knight, a gay man on a mission to create his own interpretation of Christianity after being rejected by the Christian Fundamentalist community.

Jason Freedman

Freedman (b. Easthampton, NY, 1985) received a Diploma from the Museum School in 2008. He has exhibited in Boston and Easthampton.

Freedman believes that art and science go hand in hand in the efforts to unlock the enigmas of the universe. As an artist he is part of this ongoing, mysterious process and his paintings represent his vision of the vastness of galaxies, black holes, and dark matter.

Trevor Powers

Powers (b Burlington, VT, 1985) received a Diploma from the Museum School in 2008. He has recently exhibited at the Photographic Resource Center at Boston University (2009), the Hallway Bathroom Gallery in San Francisco (2008), and the Helm Gallery in Tacoma, WA (2008), among others.

"Every second, somewhere in the world, someone releases a shutter capturing something because he (or she) is fascinated by a certain LIGHT or FACE or GESTURE or LANDSCAPE or MOOD or simply because a SITUATION wants to be captured." —Wim Wenders

With his photographic installation **Powers** investigates the subtle relationship between memories and souvenirs; the photos stand-in for real events, people, places, things. Only after seeing his life story through a year's worth of pictures can we truly see the perfect moments he was searching for.

George Rosa

Rosa (b. Boston, MA, 1980) received a Diploma from the Museum School in 2004. He has exhibited in New Orleans, Austin, New York, and in solo and group shows in many galleries around Boston.

Rosa's artwork is highly influenced by popular culture, advertising, television, cartoons, mass media, and the urban landscape. He recycles discarded remnants of urban surroundings giving them a new life as wall hangings and structures.

Kate Sinnott

Sinnott (b. Palo Alto, Ca, 1983) received a Bachelor of Arts from the University of California, Berkeley in 2005 and Post-Baccalaureate Certificate and a Diploma from the Museum School in 2007 and 2008.

Inspired by a desire to be inside a drawing, Sinnott's installation is created by a constant shifting of materials—like wood, paint, and drywall—within an area. The remnants of past work and architectural elements such as doorways and floorboards trigger further action each day as she

searches for balance and freshness in the ever-evolving space. Experimentation with polarities such as large/small, moving/still, flat/dimensional, and imagined/physical allows her to redefine boundaries and find freedom in-between.

Kory Leonard Yates

Yates (b Columbus, OH, 1986) received a Diploma from the Museum School in 2008.

The essence of natural materials—wood, iron, or stone—is often lost when transformed into manufactured structures. Yates' work searches for connection with the organic roots of our man-made habitat and finds beauty and substance in the history and imbedded memories of his materials.

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 the largest and oldest museum schools in the country. A division of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, the School offers undergraduate and graduate degree programs in partnership with Tufts and Northeastern universities. SMFA also offers an all-studio four-year Diploma and one-year Fifth Year and Post-Baccalaureate certificates. Through Continuing Education, evening and weekend courses and art-making programs for adults and teenagers also are available. For more information, please visit www.smfa.edu.

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