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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston Announces 2012 SMFA Traveling Fellows

BOSTON, MA (March 1, 2012)—Throughout our long and distinguished history, the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (SMFA) has been fortunate to be the beneficiary of bequests designed to support student work. None has been as important or as enduring as the Traveling Fellowships, which were created in 1894 to encourage post-graduate work and travel. While the selection criteria have changed through the years, the awards have consistently provided support to launch individual careers through independent work, travel and exhibition opportunities. The jury met February 24 and, from 95 submissions, selected the 2012 Traveling Fellows:

Cathy Akers, Bachelor of Fine Arts 1996
Thaddeus Beal, Studio Diploma 1989
Samantha Fields, Master of Fine Arts 2005
Randy J. Garber, Studio Diploma 1998
Evelyn Rydz, Master of Fine Arts 2005
Nabila Zoraya Santa-Cristo, Bachelor of Fine Arts 2009
Ben Sloat, Master of Fine Arts 2005
Ellen Wetmore, Master of Fine Arts 2000
Sung Won Yun, Master of Fine Arts 2010
Chen Zhang, Master of Fine Arts 2010

The jury was comprised of Mohamed Abla, Cairo-based artist and educator; Jed Spear, artist and Director of Mobius, Inc. and Alise Uptis, Visiting Scholar at the Center for Advanced Visual Studies at MIT.

Recipients have approximately one year to complete their travels. At the conclusion of those travels, their works will be reviewed again and one artist from this distinguished group will be selected for a solo presentation at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, to be held in 2014.

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—for undergraduate and graduate artists—that is interdisciplinary and self-directed. This education values cultural, artistic and intellectual diversity; it embraces a wide range of media; it stresses the development of individual vision and its relation to culture in general; it values equally the knowledge gained by thinking and doing; it is deeply engaged with the world as a whole. If the mission is constant, its practice is always transforming. For more information about our programs and partnerships, visit www.smfa.edu.

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