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**"SMFA Traveling Scholars" Celebrates SMFA Traveling Scholarship Award Recipients at
the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston**

On view April 10–May 31, 2010, exhibition showcases work by the 2008 Scholars

Boston, MA (April 10, 2010)—The School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston's (SMFA), Traveling Scholarship Awards is one of the largest art school travel grant programs in the country. Since 1899, the Museum School has given these awards—annually totaling \$80,000–\$100,000—to select Fifth Year students and alumni to further develop their work through travel and artistic exploration, culminating in an exhibit at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (MFA).

The 2010 "SMFA Traveling Scholars" will be on view April 10–May 31, 2010 in the MFA's Foster Gallery and showcases work by the 2008 Traveling Scholarship artists. The five recipients were selected from the Museum School's intense, all-studio Fifth Year Certificate program (**Lizi Brown** and **Wendy Jean Hyde**) and from alumni submissions (**Liz Cohen**, **Michael Bühler-Rose** and **Christopher Lamberg-Karlovsky**). The Traveling Scholars program has provided critical, early career support for notable alumni including Nan Goldin, Mike and Doug Starn, Ellen Gallagher, Omer Fast, and recent graduates like Cliff Evans and Rachel Perry Welty.

"SMFA Traveling Scholars" provides fresh insight into the investigations of today's young artists and characterizes the creative risk-taking fostered at the Museum School. While there may be changes in what and how artists study and where Scholars travel, these experiences continue to be vital to their education.

Selections of this year's Traveling Scholarship Award recipients were made in 2008 by two independent juries—one jury reviewed work by alumni, while the other selected artists from the Fifth Year program.

"Since the two juries based their decisions exclusively on the objects submitted, the resulting exhibition combines very diverse bodies of work," says Joanna Soltan, SMFA curator. "Painting, photography and installation dominate, and are frequently informed by the travels the artists made, either for the very first time or to revisit places as they continued with on-going projects."

Lizi Brown, who traveled to Europe, presents a series of paintings forming a narrative; photographer Michael Bühler-Rose, who spent time in India, continues exploring issues surrounding the exotic; Liz Cohen revisited Germany to expand on her *Bodywork* project; Wendy Jean Hyde's installation is based on her research in Iceland; and Christopher Lamberg-Karlovsky explored New England, expanding his installation of paintings.

Exhibition Location

"SMFA Traveling Scholars"

April 10–May 31, 2010

Foster Gallery, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
465 Huntington Avenue
Boston, MA 02115

Related Events

Wednesday, April 21, 6 pm

Hear Lizi Brown, Michael Bühler-Rose, and Wendy Jean Hyde discuss their work in the exhibition.
(Meet at the Sharf Information Center)

For more information about the exhibition, visit www.smfa.edu/exhibitions or call 617-369-3718.
For high-resolution images contact Brooke Witkowski at 617-369-3605 or bwitkowski@smfa.edu.

Traveling Scholarship Award Recipients

The three alumni recipients, chosen from a pool of nearly 180 candidates, are:

Michael Bühler-Rose (b. New Brunswick, NJ, 1980) received a Master of Fine Arts in 2008 from the University of Florida and a BFA in 2005 from the SMFA/Tufts University. Bühler-Rose's work explores the conventions of the figure in painting and photography through the lens of historical colonial and Indian art and questions the identity of the "exotic other."

Liz Cohen (b. Phoenix, AZ, 1973) received a Master of Fine Arts in 2000 from California College of Arts and Crafts and a BFA/BA in 1996 from the SMFA/Tufts University. Cohen's project transforms an East German Trabant 601 deLuxe into a Chevrolet El Camino, while exploring her parallel journey from photographer to automotive fabricator and automotive bikini model.

Christopher Lamberg-Karlovsky (b. New Haven, CT, 1965) received a Master of Fine Arts from the SMFA/Tufts University in 1999 and a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in 1996 from the SMFA. Lamberg-Karlovsky explores persistence of personal memories through the "erasure" series of canvases reduced to reveal barely recognizable subject matter and the "archival" series which brings to mind the nomadic nature of paintings and the precarious condition of untenanted wilderness.

The two Fifth Year recipients are:

Lizi Brown (b. Putnam, CT, 1954) received a Diploma in 2005 and Fifth Year Certificate in 2006 from the SMFA. Brown's paintings form a narrative story about her friends, Woody and Peg, whose relationship and collaboration embody the rough elegance of lesbians of Brown's generation.

Wendy Jean Hyde (b. Boston, MA, 1964) received a Diploma in 1989 and a Fifth Year Certificate in 2008 from the SMFA. Hyde's installation is formed around the shifting boundaries of the earth's surface, documenting her exploration of Iceland's landscape (under water and on the ground).

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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