

EXHIBITION OF SHARON LOCKHART FILM AND PHOTOGRAPHY TO BE SHOWN AT HARVARD'S ARTHUR M. SACKLER MUSEUM

Installation at Harvard is the Conclusion of the Project's International Tour



Sharon Lockhart, *Pine Flat*, 2005, *Still from a color film in 16 mm, 138 minutes.* © Sharon Lockhart, Courtesy Gladstone Gallery, New York, Blum & Poe Gallery, Los Angeles, and Neugerriemschneider Gallery, Berlin.

CAMBRIDGE, MA (June 30, 2006)— **Sharon Lockhart: Pine Flat**, an exhibition featuring photography and film segments from internationally renowned film maker Sharon Lockhart, will be presented by the Harvard University Art Museums from August 26 to November 19, 2006. The gallery installation at the Arthur M. Sackler Museum will feature daily screenings of segments from the film *Pine Flat*, as well as 19 portraits of the film's subjects taken by Lockhart. The Harvard Film

Archive will also show the film in its entirety throughout the course of the exhibition in conjunction with an accompanying series of related films featuring children.

Shot over the course of one year, the latest film from Sharon Lockhart is set in a small, rural village in the foothills of California's Sierra Nevada Mountains. During a three year period, Lockhart immersed herself in the life of the pastoral, working-class bedroom community. Because of its geographic location and rural setting, the town offers its residents little beyond its topographical beauty, and many of the town's residents must travel to work in nearby cities, leaving their school-age children alone for long periods of time. Lockhart spent most of her time observing these kids during their parents' absence. The activities the children devised for themselves, using little more than their natural surrounds, provide the basis for Lockhart's film. More than just an anthropological look at adolescence, **Sharon Lockhart: Pine Flat** takes

advantage of a specific location, a self-contained village on the edge of the wilderness, to look at a place through its progeny.

The 16mm film comprises two one-hour reels, each of which is further divided into six, ten-minute segments. Part one features individual adolescents in solitary activities typical of their rural environment; part two presents groups of children interacting together in activities similarly characteristic of their bucolic setting. None of these activities, such as swimming, reading, hunting, or playing on a swing, would seem to offer inherent dramatic appeal. However, Lockhart's directorial approach, including foregoing a professional film crew in favor of more intimate interaction with her subjects, reveals unexpectedly charged mixtures of pleasure and anxiety in the film. For presentation in the gallery, two segments from the film, one individual scene and one group scene, will be shown in continuous loops each day on a six day rotation. Thus, the installation reflects the relationship between the two parts of the full-length film.

The exhibition was organized by Linda Norden, Associate Curator of Contemporary Art at the Harvard University Art Museums, and has traveled to the Sala Rekalde in Bilbao, Spain and the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, MN before coming to Harvard's Arthur M. Sackler Museum. The related film series was developed by Lockhart with Bruce Jenkins, former Director of the Harvard Film Archive and current Dean of Undergraduate Studies at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. "Lockhart's work celebrates the habits and activities most of us fail to register as important," said Norden. "In her film making and photography, Lockhart resists spectacle and dramatization and works with her subjects to stage movements and poses that owe more to the late 1960s dance choreography of artists such as Yvonne Rainer and to painterly composition than to documentary film or photography."

In addition to the film, the exhibition will feature 19 color photographs taken by Lockhart over the course of the year following the film's completion. Setting up her temporary residence in the community as an open studio, she invited the children to come in at their will and pose for her still camera. The resulting portraits evoke a sense of performance and offer an illuminating addition to the more elaborately structured and time-based film segments. "This exhibition encourages the exploration of the complex relationship between film and photography and

presents a provocative juxtaposition of the two media in the gallery,” said Thomas W. Lentz, Elizabeth and John Moors Cabot Director of the Harvard University Art Museums. “In this case, the photographs create an additional dialogue that is both separate from and complementary to the film, which itself has been reconceived for gallery presentation.”

Film Series

The full-length version of *Pine Flat* and other films featuring children will be screened at the Harvard Film Archive over the course of the exhibition. See the HFA Bulletin or www.harvardfilmarchive.org for a list of films and screen times.

Catalogue

The exhibition will be accompanied by a 148-page catalogue produced by Lockhart. Conceived as a photo album, it includes stills from the film, all 19 portraits from the exhibition, and text from curator Linda Norden, director of the Walker Art Center Kathy Halbreich, and artist/writer Frances Stark.

The Harvard University Art Museums

The Harvard University Art Museums are one of the world's leading arts institutions, with the Arthur M. Sackler, Busch-Reisinger, and Fogg art museums, the Straus Center for Conservation, the Center for the Technical Study of Modern Art, the HUAM Archives, and the Archaeological Exploration of Sardis, in Turkey.

The Harvard University Art Museums are distinguished by the range and depth of their collections, their groundbreaking exhibitions, and the original research of their staff. As an integral part of the Harvard community, the three art museums and four research centers serve as resources for all students, adding a special dimension to their areas of study. The public is welcome to experience the collections and exhibitions as well as to enjoy lectures, symposia, and other programs.

For more than a century, the Harvard University Art Museums have been the nation's premier training ground for museum professionals and scholars and are renowned for their role in the development of the discipline of art history in this country.

Location and Hours

The Fogg Art Museum and the Busch-Reisinger Museums are located at 32 Quincy Street, Cambridge. The Arthur M. Sackler Museum is located next door at 485 Broadway. Each museum is a short walk from the Harvard Square MBTA station.

Hours are Monday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m., Sunday 1:00–5:00 p.m.; closed on national holidays. Admission is \$7.50; \$6 for seniors; \$6 for students; and free for those under 18 years of age. The Art Museums are free to everyone on Saturday mornings, 10:00 a.m.–noon. The Harvard University Art Museums receive support from the Massachusetts Cultural Council. More detailed information is available at 617-495-9400 or on the Internet at www.artmuseums.harvard.edu.

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