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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Kitchen presents *REMOTE VIEWING*, a solo exhibition from Video artist Cauleen Smith, January 7—March 5

New York, NY, February 5, 2011—The Kitchen will present the premiere of *REMOTE VIEWING*, filmmaker and video installation artist **Cauleen Smith**'s first solo exhibition in New York. *REMOTE VIEWING* features three large-scale video installations, which triangulate iconic site-specific land art practices of the seventies with historical narratives to reveal nuances of contemporary shifts in the displacement of people and of the natural landscape. Curated by **Rashida Bumbray**, the exhibition will be on view **January 7—March 5, 2010**. The Kitchen's gallery hours are **Tuesday through Friday, 12:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.** and **Saturday, 11:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.** Admission is free. There will be an opening reception for the exhibition at The Kitchen (512 West 19th Street) on **Friday, January 7** from **6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.**

In addition, Smith will curate a special screening of (what/whose work?) in the gallery on **Monday, February 28** at **7:00 P.M.**

Cauleen Smith is best known for Afro-futurist cinematic works that weave intimate narratives of love, yearning and the dream-world with histories, imagined landscapes and cultural symbolism to activate collective memory. With *REMOTE VIEWING*, Smith debuts three new distinct but interrelated sculptural video works dealing with the transformation of land-space and contemporary relationships to land. She draws from abstracted historical narratives of absence, loss, displacement, burial and excavation in these videos. But, while the works speak in the language of cinema, Smith denies the viewer a complete narrative. She intends for the viewer to enter the graphic space of the moving images and discover the tensions inherent in the spectacle of trauma (obscenity) and the advocacy of history (protest).

Shot in California during the recent financial crisis, Smith utilized a stalled construction site to stage the iconic land art practices. The figures in the videos activate and contextualize the land-space, indicating potential narratives while never closing off the formal investigations of the images and the process of transformation.

REMOTE VIEWING is presented in three sections, two floor-to-ceiling single panel projections—*REMOTE VIEWING* and *THE GRID*—and a third arrangement of flat screen monitors—*THE VANISHING*.

Cauleen Smith is a California-based filmmaker, screenwriter and video installation artist. She is currently acting associate professor at the University of California San Diego's Visual Arts department. She has received grants or fellowships from Rockefeller Inter-Cultural Media Arts Fellowship, the American Film Institute Independent Film and Videomaker Program, the

National Black Programming Consortium, and a Western States Regional Fellowship, Artmatters, and Creative Capital. Smith is utilizing the Creative Capital sponsorship to produce *REMOTE VIEWING*, a series of digital videos that re-enact historical instances in which a traumatic human gesture of negation resembles earth sculpture or land arts projects from the early seventies.

In 2007, Smith was commissioned by Creative Time and Paul Chan to produce a video response to the city of New Orleans post-Katrina. The project, called *The Fullness of Time*, premiered at The Kitchen and won the Jury Award for Best Film at the New Orleans International Film Festival. Her screenplay adaptation for the Martha Southgate novel, *Third Girl From The Left* is being produced by Washington Square Films, with George C. Wolfe as director and Kerry Washington as executive producer. Smith is currently shooting an experimental psycho-geographic film on Sun Ra, improvisation, and creative music in Chicago, IL. Canyon Cinema and Video Data Bank distribute Smith's short films.

As a community building curatorial project for San Diego, Smith opened the Carousel Microcinema, a roving cinema space dedicated to the viewing and discussion of the moving image. The programs combine historical avant-garde and conceptual works with contemporary and emerging works ranging in genre from performance video to structuralist materialist filmmaking.

Funding Credits

REMOTE VIEWING is a project of Creative Capital. This exhibition is made possible with support from Dedalus Foundation Inc., The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, and with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs and the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency.



About the Kitchen

The Kitchen is one of New York City's oldest nonprofit performance and exhibition spaces, showing experimental work by innovative artists, both emerging and established. Programs range from dance, music, and theatrical performances to video and media arts exhibitions to literary events, film screenings, and artists' talks. Since its inception in 1971, The Kitchen has been a powerful force in shaping the cultural landscape of this country and has helped launch the careers of many artists who have gone on to worldwide prominence.

Box Office Information:
212.255.5793 ext. 11
Tue-Sat, 2-6pm

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