

****PRESS RELEASE****

**ALCINA PICTURES commences principal photography on
SU RYNARD'S feature film debut KARDIA**

Toronto February 27, 2005

Alcina Pictures is pleased to announce the commencement of principal photography of *KARDIA*, the long awaited feature film debut of writer/director Su Rynard. A meditation on the heart. A mystery of the soul. *KARDIA* weaves fiction, science and metaphor to tell a tale of love and loss.

Starring Mimi Kuzyk (*The Human Stain, The Day After Tomorrow, Lost and Delirious*) as HOPE, a pathologist who embarks on an unusual journey to unlock the secret of her past. *KARDIA* also stars Peter Stebbings (*The Limb Salesman, Traders, Tripping The Wire*), and Kristin Booth (*Foolproof, The Newsroom, The Tommy Douglas Story*).

An original screenplay by Rynard, *KARDIA* is being produced by Paul Barkin (*Apartment Hunting*) and Larissa Giroux (*white out*). Rynard and Barkin were residents at the Canadian Film Centre in 1996.

An award winning filmmaker and media artist Rynard has numerous narrative, documentary and art films to her credit. Artistically inspired by uncle Michael Snow and aunt Joyce Wieland, Rynard's films have been screened at festivals worldwide including the Toronto International Film Festival, Rotterdam International Film Festival, Hamburg International Short Film Festival, Sarajevo Film Festival, Oberhausen Short Film Festival, Mediawave, and Tampere International Short Film Festival.

Her works have been exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, Harvard Film Archive, the National Gallery of Canada, and the Tate of the North in the U.K.

Also a freelance documentary filmmaker, Rynard directed the National Film Board documentary *Dream Machine*, and the Gemini nominated television programs *Kink*, *Opening Soon*, *Little Miracles* and *The Surgeons*.

Lensing the picture is Rynard's longtime collaborator Kim Derko (*Yokali Hotel, The Law of Enclosures*) who recently received a 2004 Gemini Award for Best Cinematography. Other key creative are Production Designer Aidan Leroux (*The Dark Hours, I Claudia*), Costume Designer Joanna Syrokomla (*Twist, Century Hotel*), Editor Michele Francis (*Citadel, Dragonwheel*), and Sound Designer Phillip Strong (*Year of the Lion*).

Of technical interest, *KARDIA* will be the first super-16mm feature film in Canada to undergo a completely 'tapeless' digital intermediate process. Developed by John Furniotis of Toronto-based Film Effects, this unique workflow allows for greater control and latitude by treating the film as one complete optical effect.

KARDIA is financed with the participation of Telefilm Canada, the Canada Council for the Arts, the Ontario Arts Council and the Joan M. Chalmers Fellowship. Canadian television pre-sales have been made to The Movie Network, Movie Central and Chum Television. Canadian and International distribution plans have yet to be determined.

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For further information please contact:

Larissa Giroux
Alcina Pictures
T: +1 416 364 3777 F: +1 416 364 7123
larissa@alcinapictures.com

