



Santa Fe Art Institute

For immediate release
February 18, 2005

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Evening of Film to Benefit Santa Fe Art Institute

7pm, Friday, March 18, 2005
The Screen, College of Santa Fe Campus
\$8.00 General, \$4.00 Students and Seniors

Santa Fe Art Institute (SFAI) presents an evening of film about land and water in New Mexico: Santa Fe premier of "*Off the Map*," a film directed by Campbell Scott, and the award winning short, "*Nuestras Acequias*," by Santa Fe's own Doug Crawford, at the Screen on Friday, March 18, 2005, at 7pm. Tickets are \$8.00, \$4.00 students/seniors, with all proceeds benefiting Santa Fe Art Institute.

Off the Map stars Joan Allen, a three-time Oscar® nominee, Valentina de Angelis, Sam Elliott, J.K. Simmons, Jim True-Frost and Amy Brenneman. Santa Fe Artist Stan Berning created the paintings for the film. The centerpiece, a 40 foot long watercolor stands in the movie as being painted by one of the characters in the film during the arc of the story, and is central to the movie's spirit, texture and authenticity.

Across the ancient high desert landscape of northern New Mexico, an extraordinary family embarks on a lyrical journey of self-discovery that reveals unexpected moments of grace and the unpredictable but enduring nature of love. In Campbell Scott's movie, *Off the Map*, based on Joan Ackermann's play, the poetry of a time and a place marked by simplicity comes into full bloom. It's 1974 and the harshly beautiful wilds of Taos are home to 11-year-old Bo Groden (Valentina de Angelis) and her free-thinking family. While constantly yearning for escape from her sparse environment, Bo passes the time with flair and imagination.

Off the Map premiered at Sundance in February of 2003 as an unfinished film, opened the Taos Talking Pictures Festival in April and was invited to Cannes as part of their Critic's Choice Week. Starring Joan Allen and Sam Elliot, this feature film is opening in New York and Los Angeles on Friday, March 11th and nationwide over the following few weeks. *Off the Map* marks Campbell Scott's second solo turn as a director. In 2001, he made his solo directorial debut with *Final*, an InDigENT film starring Hope Davis and Denis Leary. Previously, Scott had co-directed *Big Night* in 1996 with Stanley Tucci and, in 2000, he collaborated with Eric Simonson on *Hamlet*, in which he also starred.

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For his performance in his latest film, *The Dying Gaul*, Scott received the National Board of Review Award and an Independent Spirit Award nomination for Best Actor. Most recently he starred opposite Hope Davis in Alan Rudolph's, *The Secret Lives of Dentists*. Scott's first film roles were in the highly praised, *Longtime Companion* and in Bernardo Bertolucci's, *The Sheltering Sky*. He later appeared in *Dead Again*, directed by Kenneth Branagh; *Dying Young*, co-starring Julia Roberts; Cameron Crowe's *Singles*; and John Schlesinger's *The Innocent*. More recently, he co-starred with Steve Martin in David Mamet's *The Spanish Prisoner*. Scott's credits also include *The Daytrippers*, *Other Voices* and *Delivering Milo*.

"*Nuestras Acequias*" (20:00)(2004), directed by Douglas Crawford, looks at the culture, history and traditions of the acequia system (water delivery and irrigation) of northern New Mexico told primarily through the voices of young people concerned about preserving their unique cultural and traditional values. It also examines the necessity of community cooperation and the sharing of a very precious resource-water.

The film was produced for Rivers and Birds of Taos, NM whose mission is to promote environmental and cultural sustainability in New Mexico and around the world, and won the Spirit of New Mexico Award and the Third Place Governor's Cup Award at the Santa Fe Film Festival, 2004.

Peabody and Emmy award winning Director and Director of Photography, Douglas Crawford of Delighted Eye Video, has spent over twenty years in television journalism and broadcast communications producing award-winning television for documentary television, education, corporate communications, commercials and films. Mr. Crawford crafts video with beauty and the richness of film, and the efficiency and clarity of news documentary. Mr. Crawford is known for his direction and filming of the award winning PBS film *Surviving Columbus: The Story of the Pueblo People* and as Director of Photography for the award winning six hour TBS series *The Native Americans*.

Santa Fe Art Institute's mission is to explore the intersections of art and society by using artistic imagination to delve into issues, expand discourse, and enhance understanding of the role of the arts in contemporary society. SFAI is dedicated to the presentation of substantive programs that give unprecedented access to the ideas of contemporary thinkers in the arts, humanities, and sciences.