



## Women in Film and Television – Toronto and Kodak Canada announce winner of 2006 Kodak New Vision Fellowship

(TORONTO – Wednesday, September 6, 2006) Women in Film and Television – Toronto ( WIFT-T), in partnership with Kodak Canada Entertainment Imaging, is pleased to announce the winner of the 2006 **Kodak New Vision Fellowship**: Rosamund Owen . Owen will be honing her creative and business skills in the upcoming months with acclaimed Canadian filmmaker Patricia Rozema (*I've Heard the Mermaids Singing*, *Mansfield Park*) and senior executive Laurie May, Co-President of Maple Pictures Corp.

“On behalf of Kodak, I would like to congratulate Rosamund Owen as this year’s winner of the Kodak New Vision Fellowship,” said Johanna Gravelle, Kodak Canada Entertainment Imaging, Country Manager.

“We’re thrilled that an internationally acclaimed filmmaker like Patricia Rozema and a senior executive of Laurie May’s stature have agreed to become mentors for Rosamund. It’s the support of prominent industry leaders like these that confirms the importance of the Kodak New Vision Fellowship in nurturing the talent and vision of Canadian female filmmakers.”

"I am excited to again be involved in the Kodak New Vision Fellowship mentorship program, helping advance the opportunities for women in film," said May. "Roz has an impressive background in the industry and we are confident that she will greatly benefit from this program and flourish into an important creative voice in Canada."

"I'm pleased to mentor Rosamund Owen," said Rozema . "She has a tremendous amount talent and what little I can offer I will."

"The Kodak New Vision Fellowship award is just the shot in the arm I needed," said award winner Owen.

"After stepping away from directing to have a child and focus on my screenwriting I am now ready with my new script, *Open & Shut*, to put my director's cap back on. I am thrilled with the opportunities this award gives me and can't wait to kick things off at the Toronto International Film Festival."

Owen's credits include her first award-winning short film *A Precaution Against the Inevitable*; the half-hour

dramatic film *A Love of Contradiction*, which premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival; and the Genie-nominated short film *You Love Me I Hate You*, which had its world premiere at The Locarno International Festival in Switzerland and its Canadian premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival. Her television directing credits include *JETT JACKSON*, *Ready or Not* and *Real Kids Real Adventures*. Most recently, Roz directed *Journey to Freedom*, a one-hour fundraising documentary for Interval House, the first women's shelter in Canada. She is slated to direct *Open & Shut* in spring 2007. In 2008, she will direct *Look Both Ways*, a \$5 million co-production with the U.K.

The **Kodak New Vision Fellowship** is presented annually to one emerging Canadian female filmmaker. The award offers the invaluable opportunity to prepare for the Toronto International Film Festival through intensive industry coaching and a post-festival creative mentorship.

Each year WIFT-T announces a call for applications for talented candidates who meet the criteria that include having at least one film (short) screened at a major Canadian film festival and a minimum of one feature film project in development. The award winner receives the following benefits:

- \$3,000 in-kind donation of Kodak Motion Picture film stock
- Preparation for the 2006 Toronto International Film Festival with Laurie May
- One-on-one, two-month post-TIFF mentorship with Patricia Rozema
- Complimentary TIFF registration and access to professional seminars and training at the festival
- Announcement of Fellowship Winner at the WIFT-T Festival Reception on September 10, 2006
- \$1,200 Programming Pass to use for any professional development programming presented by WIFT-T's [centre for media professionals]
- Award presentation at the Crystal Awards Gala Luncheon on December 4, 2006
- Guidance for post-TIFF follow up

Women in Film and Television – Toronto (WIFT-T) is a leading internationally affiliated professional organization that recognizes, trains and advances women in screen-based media. WIFT-T offers a year-round slate of skills development, networking events and industry awards, providing the tools to succeed in Canada's global entertainment industry. In operation for 20 years, WIFT-T serves more than 3,000 women and men in Canadian screen-based media, connecting them to close to 10,000 leading film, television and new media professionals worldwide.

Kodak's Entertainment Imaging division offers a variety of imaging solutions for the television, feature film, commercial, music video, and documentary segments. A leader in motion picture film, Kodak has developed collaborative pre-visualization technologies such as the Look Manager System, and is the number one independent supplier of digital pre-show solutions with the Kodak Digital Cinema system.

For more information, please contact:

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