



For Immediate Release

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**Cranbrook Academy of Art Appoints  
Liz Cohen as Artist-in-Residence and Head of the Photography Department**

Bloomfield Hills, MI -- Following a national search, Cranbrook Academy of Art is pleased to announce the appointment of Liz Cohen as Artist-in-Residence and Head of the Photography Department effective July 25, 2008. Cohen is a photographer and performance artist who is most notable for her recent "Bodywork" project to transform an East German 1987 Trabant automobile into a 1973 Chevrolet El Camino. Long one of the nation's highest-ranked graduate programs, the Photography Department at Cranbrook under the leadership Cohen will focus on non-traditional and interdisciplinary methodologies, mirroring the nature of contemporary art practices.

"We are pleased to welcome Liz Cohen to the Academy as its newest Artist-in-Residence. Many thanks go to the search committee, students and faculty for their dedication and conviction in holding up the standards of the Academy's graduate programs and highly recommending the appointment of Liz," said Reed Kroloff, Director of Cranbrook Academy of Art and Art Museum. "She is a talented and committed artist whose critical engagement with photography, studio work, exhibition activities and respect for the reciprocal relationship between the artist-teacher and artist-student will be important in leading the department into the future."

"I am look forward to continuing an intensive studio practice in conjunction with a full teaching career at Cranbrook," said Liz Cohen. "Given the high caliber of the students and the Academy's distinct teaching model, I am extremely interested honored to be appointed as the Artist-in-Residence."

Cohen holds an MFA in photography from The California College of Arts and Crafts, now, California College of the Arts, where she has taught. Cohen grew up in Phoenix, Arizona and received a BA from Tufts University in Philosophy. She also received a BFA in studio art from the School of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. Cohen's honors include a Traveling Scholars' Award from the School of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, an Artist's Project Grant from the Arizona Commission for the Arts, and a Creative Capital Foundation Project Grant, among others. Her work has been exhibited around the globe including galleries and institutions in Paris, Budapest, Brussels, San Francisco, Los Angeles and New York.

### **About Cranbrook Academy of Art**

Cranbrook Academy of Art has earned a worldwide reputation as the preeminent two-year Masters of Fine Arts program in fine arts, design and architecture in the country. Today, with more than 4,00 alumni, the Academy enrolls 150 graduate students from throughout the United States and 35 countries in ten disciplines including 2D Design, 3D Design, Ceramics, Fiber, Metal, Painting, Photography, Printmaking and Sculpture. Students experience an intense, studio-based, self-directed study of their artistic discipline in an extraordinary, national-landmark campus setting designed by Finnish architectural master Eliel Saarinen. Each student defines and develops his or her own master's degree project, with the guidance of the Department Head/ Artist-in-Residence. During the year, the Academy also hosts prominent and accomplished artists, critics, and educators to its campus. Included within the Academy is Cranbrook Art Museum, which offers world-class temporary exhibitions and houses a collection of art objects documenting the contribution of Cranbrook to the history of art, design and architecture as well as the latest in contemporary art. For more information go to, [www.cranbrookart.edu](http://www.cranbrookart.edu).