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East Bay Premiere of *Cartography of Ashes*
Oakland Museum of California, Friday, August 4, 2006

(Oakland, CA) – *Cartography of Ashes*, the new documentary from San Francisco filmmaker Dolissa Medina about the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire, has its East Bay premiere at the Oakland Museum of California on Friday, **August 4**, at 7 p.m.

Cartography of Ashes is a highlight of the museum's "Shaken, Not Stirred" First Fridays After Five event and the **Aftershock: Voices From the 1906 Earthquake and Fire** exhibition programming.

Medina's 45-minute, poetic documentary combines oral history, folklore, journalism, and experimental storytelling to recount tales from the firestorm that destroyed San Francisco in the aftermath of the 1906 earthquake. Significant for its documentation of a historical moment (100 years after the quake in the wake of the New Orleans disaster) *Cartography of Ashes* is also one of the last films to document San Francisco on Kodak Kodachrome Super-8 film.

Cartography of Ashes features stories from the firestorm narrated by Bay Area firefighters, who reflect on the legacy of the disaster on modern-day San Francisco. The film showcases a new recording by Bay Area vocalist Wendy Allen (Clothesline Revival, Paula Frazer/Tarnation) and her haunting interpretation of the turn-of-the-century ballad "The Burning of Frisco Town."

"I'm delighted that *Cartography* will screen at the Oakland Museum in conjunction with its **Aftershock** exhibition," said Medina, who collaborated with the museum on the film and is also a featured installation artist in the exhibition. "The East Bay premiere is an opportunity for a new audience to see the film, which includes information on disaster preparedness."

Completed in April 2006 for the 100th anniversary of the disaster, *Cartography* had its world premiere on April 21, 2006, at an outdoor screening on the wall of a fire station in the Mission District.

The "Shaken, Not Stirred" program also includes blues and jazz from the Bay Area Blues Society, comedians Mo Jones and Larry "Bubbles" Brown, and a talk by author Richard Schwartz. Hours are 5–9 p.m., and all events are included in general museum admission.

For more information on *Cartography of Ashes*, please contact Dolissa Medina, at 415/621-4054 or sfashes06@yahoo.com, or visit www.ashes06.org.

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The Oakland Museum of California is located at Oak and 10th Streets in Oakland, one block from the Lake Merritt BART. Museum hours are Wednesday to Saturday, 10 to 5; Sunday, noon to 5; first Friday of the month open until 9. Admission is \$8 for adults, \$5 seniors and students with ID, free for kids five and under and members. For information, call **510/238-2200** or visit www.museumca.org.