

ICA Miami Expands and Strengthens Curatorial Team with Promotions and New Appointment

Stephanie Seidel Promoted to Curator

Donna Honarpisheh Appointed Assistant Curator of Research for the Knight Foundation Art + Research Center; Amanda Morgan Promoted to Assistant Curator

Miami, FL – March 24, 2021 – The Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami (ICA Miami) today announced that it is bolstering its curatorial team with the promotion of **Stephanie Seidel** to Curator and **Amanda Morgan** to Assistant Curator. **Donna Honarpisheh** joins ICA Miami in the newly-created role of Assistant Curator of Research to support the museum's recently expanded research department, the Knight Foundation Art + Research Center (A+RC).

"ICA Miami's exhibitions, collections, and programs have strengthened significantly in recent years, thanks to the groundbreaking work of our curatorial team," said Artistic Director **Alex Gartenfeld**. "Stephanie has organized some of ICA Miami's most defining exhibitions to date, and Amanda has been integral to supporting the development of those exhibitions, as well as managing our growing publications program. We are pleased to welcome Donna as we continue to expand the scope and impact of the Art + Research Center's graduate-level programs and digital initiatives. Her scholarship will add considerable further dimension to our curatorial department."

In her five-year tenure at ICA Miami, Seidel has co-curated many significant exhibitions, including the first solo museum presentations for Janiva Ellis, Tomm El-Saieh, and Diamond Stingily, and curated exhibitions of William Copley, Louise Nevelson, Carlos Sandoval de Leon, Edward and Nancy Kienholz, and Louise Bourgeois, among others. She is also co-curator of the ICA Miami exhibitions *Allan McCollum: Works Since 1969, Judy Chicago: A Reckoning*, and *Thomas Bayrle: One Day on Success Street*, which marked the artist's first solo museum presentation in the United States. Seidel has additionally made integral contributions to ICA Miami's wider programming, including the organization of the symposium "They Failed to Remember Us: Expanding Intersectional Feminisms" in 2019. Forthcoming, Seidel is co-organizing *Chakaia Booker: The Observance*, opening in April, and curating *Betye Saar: Serious Moonlight*, opening this October. She is also co-organizing the forthcoming ICA Miami exhibition *Michel Majerus: Progressive Aesthetics*.

Seidel said, "Being a part of ICA Miami's curatorial department has allowed me to work with some of the most important artists of our time while bringing their work to wider audiences and expanding research and scholarship of their art and ideas. I am excited to continue my role in presenting the most innovative contemporary artists to audiences in Miami and beyond."

A PhD candidate in the Department of Comparative Literature and Designated Emphasis in Critical Theory Program at the University of California, Berkeley, Honarpisheh has specialized her research and curatorial practice in postcolonial studies, aesthetics, global modernisms, and theories of the global south. As Assistant Curator of Research, Honarpisheh supports the expansion of the A+RC, evaluating its impact and upholding the high-level of scholarship produced in collaboration with local and international partners. In addition to supporting the ICA Miami A+RC academic partnership with the University of Miami's Africana Studies program, she will oversee the creation of robust digital products and e-publications.

"It is an honor to join ICA Miami in this new role and I look forward to extending the depth, reach, and impact of the A+RC in this critical moment of expansion," added Honarpisheh.

Since joining ICA Miami in 2017, Morgan has held the successive positions of Curatorial Assistant, Curatorial and Programs Assistant, and Research Fellow, supporting the research and development of exhibitions of Allan McCollum and Robert Grosvenor. As Assistant Curator, Morgan will continue to work with Gartenfeld, Seidel, and the museum's curatorial department to support exhibitions, while taking a leading role in the development of the museum's wide-ranging publications program.

About the Knight Foundation Art + Research Center

ICA Miami's Knight Foundation Art + Research Center (A+RC) is South Florida's only museum-based research department and serves as the museum's research and educational initiative. Led by Knight Foundation Art + Research Director Gean Moreno, the program develops and presents signature education programs, publications, and interdisciplinary research. It includes application-based, graduate-level workshops and public presentations by leading thinkers and theorists in the humanities and social sciences, and is dedicated to promoting advanced arts literacy, fostering a generation of artists and cultural leaders, and exploring pressing cultural, environmental, political, and social issues in relation to contemporary art. Learn more at icamiami.org/research/arc/.

About the Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami

The Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami (ICA Miami) is dedicated to promoting continuous experimentation in contemporary art, advancing new scholarship, and fostering the exchange of art and ideas throughout the Miami region and internationally. Through an energetic calendar of exhibitions and programs, and its collection, the ICA Miami provides an important international platform for the work of local, emerging, and under-recognized artists, and advances the public appreciation and understanding of the most innovative art of our time.

Launched in 2014, ICA Miami opened its new permanent home in Miami's Design District on December 1, 2017. The museum's central location positions it as a cultural anchor within the community and enhances its role in developing cultural literacy throughout the Miami region. The museum offers free admission, providing audiences with open, public access to artistic excellence year-round.

The Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami is located at 61 NE 41st Street, Miami, Florida 33137. www.icamiami.org

Media Contacts:

<u>National and International Media:</u> Jill Mediatore / Folake Ologunja / Barbara Escobar, Resnicow and Associates jmediatore / fologunja / bescobar@resnicow.com, 212.671.5164 / 5163 / 5174

Regional Media

Allie Schwartz Grant / Isabelle Hernandez, Schwartz Media Strategies allie / isabelle@schwartz-media.com, 305.308.6351 / 305.776.4878