

The Museum of Modern Art

MoMA ANNOUNCES CURATORIAL PROMOTIONS OF OLUREMI C. ONABANJO, SAMANTHA FRIEDMAN, AND LUCY GALLUN

NEW YORK, February 8, 2024—The Museum of Modern Art announced today a dynamic slate of full Curator promotions for Oluremi C. Onabanjo, Samantha Friedman, and Lucy Gallun. All three have begun their new roles and will continue their work to expand the expertise and perspectives of MoMA’s curatorial leadership cohort, build and strengthen relationships with artists, and reach the Museum’s audiences in new and meaningful ways.

Oluremi C. Onabanjo was promoted to The Peter Schub Curator in the Department of Photography in January 2024. Since joining MoMA in 2021, she organized the recent and acclaimed exhibitions *Projects: Ming Smith (2023)* and *New Photography 2023: Kelani Abass, Akinbode Akinbiyi, Yagazie Emezi, Amanda Iheme, Abraham Oghobase, Karl Ohiri, Logo Oluwamuyiwa*. A 2024 Center for Curatorial Leadership fellow, Onabanjo is currently co-chair of the Museum’s Early Modern Working Group and deeply involved in the ongoing reinstallation program of MoMA’s collection. Previously, Onabanjo worked as Director of Exhibitions and Collections of The Walther Collection and served on the curatorial team of the 8th Triennial of Photography Hamburg. She lectures internationally on photography and curatorial practice, and her writing has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Revista ZUM*, *Tate Etc* alongside publications by MoMA, The Art Institute of Chicago, RISD Museum, and The Studio Museum in Harlem, among others. A 2020 Andy Warhol Foundation Arts Writers Grantee, Onabanjo is the author of *Ming Smith: Invisible Man, Somewhere Everywhere (2023)* and the editor of *Marilyn Nance: Last Day in Lagos (2022)*. She is a PhD Candidate in the Department of Art History and Archaeology at Columbia University, and holds an MSc in Visual, Material, and Museum Anthropology from Oxford University.

Samantha Friedman was promoted to Curator in the Department of Drawings and Prints in October 2023. She organized the new-on-view collection exhibitions *Brice Marden: The Form of a Plane* and *Nature Symbolized* and the recent and publicly acclaimed loan exhibition *Georgia O’Keeffe: To See Takes Time (April 9-August 12, 2023)*. She currently serves as co-chair of the Museum’s Early Modern Working Group that focuses on the ongoing reinstallation program of MoMA’s collection. Since joining MoMA in 2008, Friedman has contributed to and organized many well-received presentations including *Stage Pictures: Drawing for Performance (2009, with Jodi Hauptman)*; *Exquisite Corpses: Drawing and Disfiguration (2012)*; *Henri Matisse: The Cut-Outs (2014-15, with Jodi Hauptman and Karl Buchberg)*, *Dadaglobe Reconstructed (2016, with Adrian Sudhalter)*, *Lincoln Kirstein’s Modern (2019, with Jodi Hauptman)*; *Degree Zero: Drawing at Midcentury (2020-21)*, and *Cézanne Drawing (2021, with Jodi Hauptman)*. She produced a special edition facsimile of one of Ellsworth Kelly’s sketchbooks for his 2023 centennial celebration, and she authored *Georgia O’Keeffe: Abstraction Blue (2022)* for MoMA’s One on One series as well

as the children's books *Matisse's Garden* (2014) and *What Degas Saw* (2016). Friedman has contributed to travelling exhibitions of MoMA's collection presented at the High Museum of Art, Atlanta; the Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth; and the National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne: *Picasso to Warhol: Fourteen Modern Masters* (2011-12), *Fast Forward: Modern Moments, 1913-2013* (2012-13), *Van Gogh to Warhol: The World Reimagined* (2013), and *MoMA at NGV* (2018). She earned her bachelor's degree in Art History and English from Northwestern University, and her master's degree in Modern Art History from Columbia University.

Lucy Gallun was promoted to Curator in the Department of Photography in July 2023. She is currently working on the newly announced exhibition *Life Dances On: Robert Frank in Dialogue*, slated to open in September 2024 to coincide with the centennial of Frank's birth this fall. Since joining MoMA in 2010, Gallun has curated many exhibitions and collection presentations including three notable iterations of the Museum's New Photography exhibition series (*Companion Pieces: New Photography 2020*, *Being: New Photography 2018*, and *Ocean of Images: New Photography 2015*), and two well-received iterations of the Elaine Dannheisser Projects exhibition series (*Projects: Gabrielle L'Hirondelle Hill* at MoMA and *Projects 108: Gauri Gill* at MoMA PS1). She has organized numerous collection exhibitions including three currently on view: *Fields and Figures*, *Ernest Cole's House of Bondage*, and *Photography and Language*. Other MoMA exhibitions she has curated or co-curated include *Artist's Choice: Yto Barrada—A Raft* (2021-22); *Unfinished Conversations: New Work from the Collection* (2017); *Nan Goldin: The Ballad of Sexual Dependency* (2016-17), and *Soldier, Spectre, Shaman: The Figure and the Second World War* (2015-16), among many others. Gallun was co-editor and contributing author of *Photography at MoMA*, a three-volume history, and she has published widely within and outside MoMA. She serves on many committees at the Museum including the Midcentury Working Group, the C-MAP Asia Group, and the Equity Council. Born and raised in Philadelphia, Gallun earned her bachelor's degree with honors from the University of Pennsylvania. She is also a graduate of the Whitney Museum Independent Study Program and holds an MPhil in Art History from the Graduate Center of the City University of New York.

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