

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, March 24, 2017

## \*\*\*MOCA MEDIA ADVISORY\*\*\*

## MOCA ANNOUNCES CURATORIAL STAFF ADDITIONS

# MOCA CHIEF CURATOR HELEN MOLESWORTH APPOINTS AMANDA HUNT AS DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND PUBLIC PROGRAMS AND ANNA KATZ AS ASSISTANT CURATOR





**LOS ANGELES** – The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles (MOCA), announces curatorial staff additions with MOCA Chief Curator Helen Molesworth's appointment of Amanda Hunt as Director of Education and Public Programs and Anna Katz as Assistant Curator.

"Amanda Hunt and Anna Katz possess the best qualities of the emerging generation of museum professionals: they each share a keen commitment to history; to the pressing social causes of our current moment; a belief in the knowledge produced by artists; and a commitment to making all of the above available to the general public. We are thrilled to have them join the growing ranks at MOCA," says Molesworth.

Amanda Hunt recently served as Associate Curator at The Studio Museum in Harlem. Her exhibitions there included *The Window and the Breaking of the Window; Black Cowboy; Tenses: Artists in Residence 2015-16; Rashaad Newsome: THIS IS WHAT I WANT TO SEE; A Constellation; Lorraine O'Grady: Art Is...; In Profile: Portraits from the Permanent Collection. Hunt was the curator of inHarlem: Kevin Beasley, Simone Leigh, Kori Newkirk, Rudy Shepherd, a multi-site public art initiative in four Historic Harlem Parks, currently on view through July 25, 2017. Hunt curated <i>Portland2014: A Biennial of Contemporary Art*, presented by Disjecta Contemporary Art Center in Oregon, and was a curator at the non-profit art space LA><ART from 2011-2014. Hunt helped to produce two major initiatives in Los Angeles, including the Pacific Standard Time Performance and Public Art Festival, co-produced by LA><ART and the Getty Research Institute, and *Made in* 

#### THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART 250 SOUTH GRAND AVENUE LOS ANGELES CA 90012 TELEPHONE 213 621 2766 FAX 213 620 8674

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LA 2012, the first Los Angeles biennial organized by the Hammer Museum in collaboration with LA><ART. Hunt also served as Curatorial Assistant for the Los Angeles City Pavilion for the 9th Shanghai Biennale in 2012. She has worked at various galleries and institutions including Whitechapel Gallery, London; Friedrich Petzel Gallery, New York; the Wattis Institute for Contemporary Arts, San Francisco; and the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Hunt holds her MA in Curatorial Practice from California College of the Arts in San Francisco.

Anna Katz is currently the Wendy Stark Curatorial Fellow at MOCA. Since her appointment in 2015, she has organized *Peter Shire: Naked Is the Best Disguise*; served as curatorial assistant on the exhibitions *Carl Andre: Sculpture as Place, 1958–2010, Doug Aitken: Electric Earth,* and *Catherine Opie: 700 Nimes Road*; and organized the museum's public programs. Previously a Joan Tisch Teaching Fellow at the Whitney Museum of American Art from 2008 to 2013, she holds a Ph.D. from the Department of Art & Archaeology at Princeton University. Her doctoral dissertation is the first book-length study of sculptor Lee Bontecou's oeuvre during the most active period of her production, 1958 to 1971. Katz has taught art history courses at Occidental College, Pomona College, Pratt Institute, and UCLA and has recently contributed to the catalogues *Doug Aitken: Electric Earth* (2016), *Kerry James Marshall: Mastry* (2016), and *Whitney Museum of American Art: Handbook of the Collection* (2015).

Hunt began her new post on March 1, 2017, and Katz will begin hers on May 1, 2017.

Image credit: (left) Amanda Hunt, photo by Bryan Conley; (right) Anna Katz, photo by Myles Pettengill

## THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART, LOS ANGELES (MOCA)

**About MOCA:** Founded in 1979, MOCA's vision is to be the defining museum of contemporary art. In a relatively short period of time, MOCA has achieved astonishing growth with three Los Angeles locations of architectural renown; a world-class permanent collection of more than 6,800 objects, international in scope and among the finest in the world; hallmark education programs that are widely emulated; award-winning publications that present original scholarship; groundbreaking monographic, touring, and thematic exhibitions of international repute that survey the art of our time; and cutting-edge engagement with modes of new media production. MOCA is a not-for-profit institution that relies on a variety of funding sources for its activities.

Hours: MOCA Grand Avenue (located at 250 South Grand Avenue in Downtown Los Angeles) is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 11am to 6pm; Thursday from 11am to 8pm; Saturday and Sunday from 11am to 5pm; and closed on Tuesday. The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA (located at 152 North Central Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90012) has the same hours as MOCA Grand Avenue during exhibitions. Please call ahead or go to moca.org for the exhibition schedule for The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA. MOCA Pacific Design Center (located at 8687 Melrose Avenue, West Hollywood, CA 90069) is open Tuesday through Friday from 11am to 5pm; Saturday and Sunday from 11am to 6pm; and closed on Monday. The MOCA Store at MOCA Grand Avenue (located at 250 South Grand Avenue) is open Monday through Wednesday and Friday from 10:30am to 5:30pm; Thursday from 10:30am to 8:30pm; and Saturday and Sunday from 10:30am to 6:30pm.

Museum Admission: General admission is free for all MOCA members. General admission is also free for everyone at MOCA Grand Avenue and The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA on Thursdays from 5pm to 8pm, courtesy of Wells Fargo. General admission is always free at MOCA Pacific Design Center. General admission at MOCA Grand Avenue and The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA is \$15 for adults; \$8 for students with I.D.; \$10 for seniors (65+); and free for children under 12 and jurors with I.D.

**More Information:** For 24-hour information on current exhibitions, education programs, and special events, call 213/626-6222 or access MOCA online at moca.org.

## MEDIA CONTACTS

Sarah Stifler
Chief Communications Officer
<a href="mailto:sstifler@moca.org">sstifler@moca.org</a>
213/633-5363

Eva Seta
Communications Manager
eseta@moca.org
213/633-5322

