

Institute of Contemporary University Art of Pennsylvania

118 S. 36th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104
(215) 898-7108, icaphila.org

NEWS RELEASE

CURATOR KATE KRACZON TAKES ON NEW APPOINTMENT AT DAVID WINTON BELL GALLERY AT BROWN UNIVERSITY

August XX, 2019

Philadelphia, PA



Kate Krazcon, 2018. Artwork: Ree Morton, *The Plant That Heals May Also Poison*, 1974. Five lightbulbs, enamel and glitter on wood and celastic. 46 x 64 inches. FWA – Lieve Van Gorp Foundation for Women Artists. © Estate of Ree Morton. Photo: Constance Mensh.

The Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA) at the University of Pennsylvania announces the departure of Kate Krazcon who assumed her new post as curator at the David Winton Bell Gallery at Brown University on August 1. Most recently, she held the position of Laporte Associate Curator at ICA where she organized over thirty exhibitions. In her role as curator, she will be responsible for the conceptualization and implementation of the Bell Gallery's exhibition and educational programs and managing the care and growth of Brown's permanent collection.

This year, the Bell Gallery officially joined the Brown Arts Initiative (BAI), a consortium of six arts departments, the Bell Gallery and Rites and Reason Theatre at Brown comprising the performing, literary and visual arts. Anne Bergeron, BAI managing director, said, "While we have been collaborating with the Bell since the BAI's launch in 2017, this formal partnership allows us to deepen the student experience at Brown and our engagement with the Providence community. We look forward to continue working with our Bell Gallery colleagues as we explore new ways to examine contemporary culture through the arts."

Jo-Ann Conklin, director of the Bell Gallery, said, "We are delighted to welcome Kate to Brown. Her experience in a university gallery of ICA's caliber will inform her work organizing exhibitions and developing programming that explore complex issues. Her deep knowledge of contemporary art and curatorial expertise will enrich our offerings as we officially join the BAI to present leading-edge contemporary art in Brown's cross-disciplinary ecosystem."

Since joining the ICA in 2008, Krazcon championed emerging artists, notably curating *Alex Da Corte and Jayson Musson: Easternsports* (2014) and *Basel Abbas and Ruanne Abou-Rahme: The Incidental Insurgents* (2015), as well as solo exhibitions by artists such as Karla Black, Suki Seokyeong Kang, and Becky Suss. Her most recent exhibition, *Ree Morton: The Plant That Heals May Also Poison*, is a reassessment of an innovative artist whose poetic approach to language and symbolism progressively distanced her work from easy categorization. The exhibition spans a single decade of artistic

MEDIA CONTACTS

For additional information,
Jill Katz, Institute of Contemporary Art
Philadelphia, 215-573-9975,
katzj@ica.upenn.edu
Libby Mark or Heather Meltzer, Bow Bridge
Communications, LLC, New York City,
347-460-5566, info@bow-bridge.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

ICA IS LOCATED AT:
118 SOUTH 36TH STREET AT THE UNIVERSITY
OF PENNSYLVANIA

(215) 898-7108
WWW.ICAPHILA.ORG

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MUSEUM HOURS
WEDNESDAY, 11AM–8PM
THURSDAY- SUNDAY, 11AM–6PM

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production before Morton's untimely death in 1977 at the age of 41. It was awarded a commendation by the inaugural Sotheby's Prize, for an "exhibition that breaks new ground" and was featured in *Artforum's* "Best of 2018" issue. The exhibition will be presented at the Frances Young Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery at Skidmore College in fall 2019 and travel to the Institute of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles in 2020.

Before her eleven-year tenure at the ICA, Kraczon served as curatorial administrative assistant at the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago from 2005 to 2008. She received her B.A. from Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH, and M.L.A. from University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.

ABOUT THE INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

The Institute of Contemporary Art at the University of Pennsylvania is a non-collecting institution presenting exhibitions at the forefront of contemporary practice and culture that challenge audiences to think in new ways. The ICA is free for all to engage and connect with the art of our time. Since its founding in 1963, ICA has served as a laboratory for the new, introducing and supporting the production of urgent and important contemporary art, beginning with ICA's inaugural show of paintings by Abstract Expressionist Clyfford Still, followed by the first museum show of works by Andy Warhol in 1965. Throughout its history, ICA has been instrumental in identifying and developing many promising artists before they attained prominence within the international art world, some of whom include—in addition to Warhol—Laurie Anderson, Richard Artschwager, Vija Celmins, Karen Kilimnik, Barry Le Va, Glenn Ligon, Robert Mapplethorpe, Agnes Martin, Pepón Osorio, Tavares Strachan, and Cy Twombly.