



## ASU-LACMA + PAMM: Innovative Museum Fellowship Program Expands

(Los Angeles, CA and Tempe, Arizona – Tuesday, September 21) The [Los Angeles County Museum of Art \(LACMA\)](#) and Arizona State University's [Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts](#) are pleased to announce that the [Pérez Art Museum Miami \(PAMM\)](#) has joined as a new partner in the [ASU-LACMA Master's Fellowship in Art History](#). PAMM's first fellow, Emily Valdes, joins what is now the third cohort of individuals in the program, along with five new fellows from LACMA.

The ASU-LACMA Master's Fellowship was founded in 2018 as a partnership between [ASU](#) and LACMA with the aim to culturally diversify the leadership of art museums in the United States. The three-year degree program combines rigorous academic training with on-the-job experience to develop a new generation of diverse curators, directors and other museum professionals, with the goal of investing in the existing pipeline of talent and accelerating the careers of individuals already working on museum staffs. The fellows earn their master's degree in art history from the [ASU School of Art's](#) distinguished art history program in the Herberger Institute, while also working at LACMA, the [ASU Art Museum](#), or, beginning this fall, PAMM.

"We are honored to join our esteemed colleagues at LACMA and ASU," said Franklin Sirmans, director of PAMM. "Having seen this program come into existence while working at LACMA and then watching the first cohort rise in the ranks of their institutions, we are delighted to be a part of this important scholarly endeavor, and for Pérez Art Museum Miami to be represented by our first fellow, Emily Valdes. This transformative program is another step in the process of preparing museums, for the new American future, with the diverse, innovative leadership necessary to make museums dynamic and vibrant, and integral to the lives of all."

Michael Govan, LACMA CEO and Wallis Annenberg Director, noted that earlier this summer, ASU and LACMA celebrated the graduation of the first LACMA-ASU Master's fellows. "Our graduates are already building off their academic training to curate exhibitions, further their research, and inform their museum work," Govan said. "Our collaboration with ASU has been deep and fruitful, and we are thrilled to expand our joint commitment to advance the careers of a new generation of museum leaders by partnering with additional institutions around the country."

The inaugural cohort of fellows, which graduated in May 2021, included Dhyandra Lawson, Assistant Curator in LACMA's Wallis Annenberg Photography Department; Celia Yang, Major Gift Officer and Head of Director's Strategic Initiatives, Asia at LACMA; Matthew Villar Miranda, ASU Art Museum's

Curatorial Fellow, and Ariana Enriquez, Assistant Registrar at the ASU Art Museum. Both Lawson and Yang were recently promoted, reflecting the scholarship and skill sets that each has been able to bring to their work through their engagement with the Fellowship program. Enriquez said in a recent interview with ARTnews that the fellowship program helped her become aware of “the ways that I can make transformative change within my department.” (Read the full [ARTnews story](#) about the ASU-LACMA fellowship program.)

“We’re grateful for the many contributions the fellows make in our classes and scholarly lives,” said Angélica Afanador-Pujol, program director for the ASU-LACMA Master's Fellowship. “We are proud to continue to support them in their museum careers, and we welcome the addition of PAMM to the program.”

### **The 2021 ASU-LACMA + PAMM Fellows**

#### **Jayne Manuel**

Jayne Manuel earned her BA in art history, theory and criticism with honors from the University of California San Diego in 2015. Manuel joined LACMA’s registration department in September 2015 and currently serves as the registration administrator for the highly active outgoing loans program. Through an interdisciplinary art history-ethnic studies-transnational feminist approach, Manuel seeks to uplift Pilipino/a/x artists and stories of the diaspora into the institutional canon. She intends to focus on 1980s Philippine art collectives and contemporary Pilipino/a/x artists based in the United States, studying their depictions of intergenerational trauma and understanding of collective memory transmission.

#### **Stephanie Rouinfar**

Stephanie Rouinfar received her BFA in art history in 2015 from the Savannah College of Art and Design. She joined LACMA in August 2015 as a social media intern in the communications department. In March 2016 she joined the Art of the Middle East department as the curatorial administrator. She has assisted with six exhibitions, including the recent exhibition “In the Fields of Empty Days: The Intersection of Past and Present in Iranian Art.” As a fellow in the ASU-LACMA program, Rouinfar plans to further study contemporary art of the Middle East, focusing on works concerning gender and feminism.

#### **Mariama Salia**

Mariama Salia is from Seattle and received a BA in history and cinema studies from the University of Washington in 2014. After working in Seattle’s art scene, she moved to Los Angeles in 2018 to find more diverse creative spaces that allowed for expansion. She began working for the Balch Research Library in 2019 as an acquisitions assistant, purchasing and borrowing books for upcoming exhibitions, including special research projects. Her Ghanaian-Romanian background informs her interest in making art representative and accessible, and she plans to develop an interactive project aimed at engaging with and representing other queer artists of color. Salia intends to utilize the extensive resources within the library and the museum to trace and reassess historical boundaries facing marginalized artists who bridge the cultural divide.

### **Jennifer Snow**

Jennifer Snow is manager of corporate partnerships at LACMA. Since joining the museum's development department in 2015, she has served an integral role on the corporate partnerships team supporting LACMA's relationships with key corporate partners, including Hyundai Motor Company, Gucci, Snap Inc., Audi, The Walt Disney Company, SpaceX and more. During her time at LACMA, she successfully launched and managed special institutional projects such as [LACMA's first-ever Kickstarter campaign](#) in 2017, bringing the world's smallest contemporary art museum, NuMu, across three borders to Los Angeles, and most recently, [LACMA x Snapchat: Monumental Perspectives](#), a multi-year initiative that uses augmented reality to explore monuments and murals, representation, and history.

Snow earned her BA in art history and communications in 2012 from the University of California, San Diego, and in 2014 received her M.A. in humanities from the University of Chicago. She is excited to resume her studies at Arizona State University, researching the convergence of art and technology and the role of museums within this intersection.

### **Deliasofia Zacarias**

Deliasofia Zacarias is the Snap Research Fellow based in the Director's Office for the LACMA x Snapchat: Monumental Perspectives, an initiative that explores monuments, history, and representation in public space using augmented reality. In addition to the various special projects in the Director's Office, Zacarias directly supports the collaboration among the curatorial team, artists and technologists to realize the augmented reality lenses as part of Monumental Perspectives. Zacarias joined the museum in August 2019 as a LACMA Emerging Arts Professionals (LEAP) Fellow—part of the Diversifying Art Museum Leadership Initiative supported by the Walton Family Foundation and Ford Foundation. Zacarias also serves on the board of the Arts Administrators of Color Network.

At Arizona State University, Zacarias intends to research the intersection of contemporary art, feminist theory and landscape architecture and make use of LACMA's and ASU's rich collection. She holds a BA in studio art and business administration from Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas, where she was the recipient of the Mach Fellowship and received an Excellence in Art Award.

### **Emily Valdes**

Emily Valdes graduated from the University of Miami with a BA in art history in 2015. Since then, she has held a variety of positions at the Wolfsonian FIU, Margulies Collection at the Warehouse and Lowe Art Museum. Today, she works collaboratively with curators, artists and preparators as assistant registrar at Miami's flagship art museum, Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM). At PAMM, Valdes plays an active role in the execution of a robust exhibition schedule, as well as day-to-day collections management efforts. As a first-generation Cuban American, Valdes is particularly interested in female, Latin artists who have failed to receive equal recognition to their male contemporaries, or female, Latin artists whose practices are deeply rooted in intersectional feminism. Though it is still nascent in conception, she is eager to produce a successful body of research significant to the advancement of Latina representation in museums and the acknowledgement of their unique contributions to the art historical canon.

### **About LACMA**

Located on the Pacific Rim, LACMA is the largest art museum in the western United States, with a collection of more than 147,000 objects that illuminate 6,000 years of artistic expression across the globe. Committed to showcasing a multitude of art histories, LACMA exhibits and interprets works of art from new and unexpected points of view that are informed by the region's rich cultural heritage and diverse population. LACMA's spirit of experimentation is reflected in its work with artists, technologists, and thought leaders as well as in its regional, national, and global partnerships to share collections and programs, create pioneering initiatives, and engage new audiences.

Location: 5905 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90036. [lacma.org](http://lacma.org)

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### **About ASU**

Arizona State University has developed a new model for the American Research University, creating an institution that is committed to access, excellence and impact. ASU measures itself by those it includes, not by those it excludes. As the prototype for a New American University, ASU pursues research that contributes to the public good, and ASU assumes major responsibility for the economic, social and cultural vitality of the communities that surround it.

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### **ABOUT PAMM**

Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM), led by Director Franklin Sirmans, promotes artistic expression and the exchange of ideas, advancing public knowledge and appreciation of art, architecture, and design, and reflecting the diverse community of its pivotal geographic location at the crossroads of the Americas. The 37-year-old South Florida institution, formerly known as Miami Art Museum (MAM), opened a new building, designed by world-renowned architects Herzog & de Meuron, on December 4, 2013 in Downtown Miami's Maurice A. Ferré Park. The facility is a state-of-the-art model for sustainable museum design and progressive programming and features 200,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor program space with flexible galleries; shaded outdoor verandas; a waterfront restaurant and bar; a museum shop; and an education center with a library, media lab, and classroom spaces.

Accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM) is sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Arts and Culture and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture. Support is provided by the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners. Additional support is provided by the City of Miami and the Miami OMNI Community Redevelopment Agency (OMNI CRA). Pérez Art Museum Miami is an accessible facility. All contents ©Pérez Art Museum Miami. All rights reserved.



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