Art Museum University of Toronto

Justina M. Barnicke Gallery University of Toronto Art Centre



### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Art Museum is thrilled to announce the appointment of Liz Ikiriko to the inaugural position of Curator, Collections and Art in Public Spaces



February 21, 2023 (Toronto, ON)— The Art Museum is thrilled to announce the appointment of Liz **Ikiriko** to the inaugural position of Curator, Collections and Art in Public Spaces. Ikiriko comes to the Art Museum with over 15 years of experience working with national institutions and museums. She has curated major exhibitions, most recently as a member of the curatorial committee of Bamako Encounters African Biennial of Photography in Mali, West Africa. She has published curatorial and critical

writings internationally; held appointments on several gallery, conference, and publication Advisory Boards; and has received funding from municipal, provincial, and national arts funding bodies. Ikiriko will begin her tenure at the Art Museum in March 2023.

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Prior to her appointment to the Art Museum, she held the position of Curator of Collections and Contemporary Engagement at the Art Gallery of York University. Within this role, she secured Ontario Arts Foundation funding for collections-based research projects to create and stimulate international dialogue on institutional collecting practices, and secured a major collection of artworks to the university and chaired the Acquisition Committee, among other responsibilities. She is the recipient of a Sector Innovation and Development Canada Council for the Arts funding.

"Institutional collections are tangled affairs that hold histories both celebrated and obscured. I look forward to contributing to the Art Museum's ongoing research and bringing forward the vital, active stories that inform our sense of identity, citizenship, and which deserve our attention," says Liz Ikiriko.

"With her international recognition and commitment to public art and collections-focused research, Ikiriko will be able to newly engage the University of Toronto community in the study of the visual arts and create greater local and global visibility for the University of Toronto's growing art collections comprising over 7,000 objects," says Barbara Fischer, Executive Director/Chief Curator at the Art Museum. "I am especially excited about her assuming the leadership of our transformative Art in Public Spaces initiatives on the University of Toronto's campus, prioritizing the mandates set forth in the Art Museum's strategic plan and building toward the University's 200th anniversary in 2027."

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# About the Art Museum at the University of Toronto

The Art Museum is one of the largest gallery spaces for contemporary visual art exhibitions and programming in Toronto. The Art Museum organizes and presents an intensive year-round program of exhibitions and events that foster—at a local, regional, and international level—innovative research, interdisciplinary scholarship, and knowledge of art and its histories befitting Canada's leading university and the country's largest city.

## **Our Supporters**

The Art Museum gratefully acknowledges operating support from the Canada Council for the Arts, the Ontario Arts Council, and the Toronto Arts Council.

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