

MASS MoCA

MASS MoCA APPOINTS EVAN GARZA AS CURATOR



Evan Garza. Photo: Emil Cohen

North Adams, MA, July 23, 2024 – MASS MoCA has announced the appointment of Evan Garza as Curator after a national search and selection process. Garza is currently one of the six Curatorial Fellows through the museum’s new Curatorial Exchange Initiative (CEI). As part of CEI, they will be mounting the exhibition *Steve Locke: the fire next time*, opening on August 3, 2024 at MASS MoCA. Garza will begin in their new full-time role as part of MASS MoCA’s Curatorial team — which includes chief curator Denise Markonish, senior curator Susan Cross, curator Alexandra Foradas, and curatorial assistant Meghan Clare Considine — beginning September 3, 2024.

“A landmark institution dedicated to supporting the work of living artists, MASS MoCA is a community, campus, and contemporary visual and performing arts center unlike any other in the world. I’m deeply honored to join MASS MoCA’s curatorial team at this exciting moment in Kristy Edmunds’s new leadership, and at this particular cultural moment in which global artists are grappling with significant political, social, and economic shifts,” states Garza.

About Evan Garza

Evan Garza, a Texas native, is a curator, global contemporary art scholar, and currently a Curatorial Exchange Initiative (CEI) fellow at MASS MoCA in North Adams, Massachusetts. Garza was the 2021–2022 Fulbright Scholar at the Irish Museum of Modern Art in Dublin, and concurrently was Visiting Research Fellow in History of Art and Architecture at Trinity College Dublin. Before arriving at MASS MoCA, Garza was Artistic Director and co-curator of the 2021 Texas Biennial, a statewide project including more than fifty artists and five Texas partner museums. Garza is the former Director of Rice Public Art at Rice University in Houston, where they oversaw programming and care of James Turrell's *Twilight Epiphany* Skyspace and acquired artworks by Ursula von Rydingsvard and Sol LeWitt. Previously, Garza was Assistant Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at the Blanton Museum of Art at the University of Texas at Austin. In 2011, Garza was cofounder of Fire Island Artist Residency (FIAR), a New York nonprofit and the first residency program in the world exclusively for LGBTQ+ artists. Their writing has been published in several books and monographs, and by *Flash Art International*, *ART PAPERS*, and *Artforum*. Garza earned their M.A. from the Williams Graduate Program in the History of Art at the Clark Art Institute.

About MASS MoCA

MASS MoCA is currently celebrating its 25th Anniversary Season under Director Kristy Edmunds, not only as the largest, multidisciplinary, contemporary art museum in North America, but also as a creative campus with a regional, national, and global impact. MASS MoCA is one of the world's liveliest centers for making and enjoying today's most evocative art, and is an indispensable home for artists who stretch toward what has yet to be created. From its beginnings as the major textile mill Arnold Print Works in the mid-19th century, to its days as the Sprague Electric Company in the mid-20th century, to its current iteration as a globally renowned contemporary art museum and fabrication center, the 24-acre MASS MoCA campus has a rich history of serving as the economic engine of the city of North Adams and the surrounding region. With vast galleries and a stunning variety of indoor and outdoor performing arts venues, MASS MoCA is able to embrace art in all forms. For more information visit www.massmoca.org or follow on Instagram at [@massmoca](https://www.instagram.com/massmoca).

The position is supported in part by the national Leadership in Art Museums (LAM) initiative, funded by the Alice L. Walton Foundation, the Ford Foundation, the Mellon Foundation, and Pilot House Philanthropy. LAM was launched to support museums across the U.S. as they work to address racial equity within staff leadership roles.

For more information, please contact:

Jen Falk
Director of Communications and Content
jfalk@massmoca.org