



MDC MUSEUM of ART+DESIGN

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MUSEUM MEDIA CONTACT
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Miami Dade College's Museum of Art + Design Appoints New Curatorial Advisory Board

Miami, October 9, 2013 - Miami Dade College's (MDC) Museum of Art + Design (MOAD) has announced the appointment of five members to the Museum's inaugural **Curatorial Advisory Board**. Joining the newly-formed group are **Hunter Braithwaite, Maggy Cuesta, Ralph Provisero, Elisa Turner, and Angela Valella**. Board members will provide leadership and guidance over the programming of exhibitions and public engagement opportunities, in direct relation Museum's mission as well as that of its constituents/patrons. They will also assess educational outreach and aid in promoting exhibitions and museum events. Appointed members are limited to two-year terms, creating a dynamic and diverse spectrum of guidance as the Museum builds its identity amongst the many South Florida cultural institutions.



Hunter Braithwaite, Artist Arnold Mesches, & Art Critic Kim Levin, MDC Museum of Art + Design, 2013.

"We are thrilled to appoint the inaugural members of the MDC Museum of Art + Design's Curatorial Advisory Board," said Jeremy Mikolajczak, MOAD's executive director. "Each member brings a unique perspective in guiding the Museum's programming, both in the form of exhibitions presented and educational opportunities we provide to the community and beyond. As the institution grows and continues to gain momentum, our Curatorial Advisors play an important role in the future of the museum and its stature within the fabric of Miami's visual arts institutions."

Hunter Braithwaite

Hunter Braithwaite is a Miami-based writer and educator. He edits *The Miami Rail* and writes about contemporary art for a variety of publications. After graduating from the College of William & Mary with degrees in English Literature and Cultural Theory, he worked briefly at *National Geographic Travel Books* in Washington, D.C. In 2009, he moved to Shanghai, where he covered the contemporary art scene for publications such as *City Weekend Shanghai*, *Time Out Shanghai*, and *Asian Art News*, as well as websites like *artforum.com*, *artslant.com*, *artinfo.com*, and *cnn.com*. He relocated to Miami in 2011 and continued to work as a correspondent for the same publications, and others such as *Art in America*, *Guernica*, and *Modern Painters*. He also teaches a digital journalism course at the Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami. He has worked on several exhibitions in the Miami area, most recently GATTACA at the Michael Jon Gallery.

Maggy Cuesta

Maggy Cuesta was born in Cuba, and grew up in Texas. She earned a Bachelor's of Fine Arts in Graphic Design from Texas Tech University. After graduation, she moved to Houston where she worked as a graphic designer. In 1985, she received her Master's Degree in Graphic Design from California Institute of the Arts, and subsequently moved to Miami where she worked for local design firms before establishing a partnership in The Image Designers Group. She worked both professionally and as an Associate Professor Senior at New World School of the Arts until 2005 when she was named Dean of Visual Arts for New World School of the Arts. She has served on the board and as President of the American Institute of Graphic Arts [AIGA]-Miami Chapter and in 2004 was given the AIGA Fellows Award. Cuesta has been involved in the AIGA both locally and nationally on collaborative exhibitions such as ¡propaganda! Cuban Political and Film Posters, Power of Typography, and Sharing Dreams of Peace with the AIGA Cross Cultural Committee. Her work has been published in *Communication Arts*, *Print*, *Print Casebooks*, *AIGA, Graphics* and *Hot Graphics USA*.

Ralph Provisero

Ralph Provisero earned a Master of Fine Arts in Sculpture from the University of Miami and a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Sculpture from the Kansas City Art Institute. In 2007, he received the Atlantic Center for the Arts/Joan Mitchell



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Foundation Scholarship for Visual Artists. Provisero has exhibited nationally and internationally at such venues as the Martin Z. Margulies Collection, the Museo de Arte Contemporaneo Ateneo de Yucatan, the Bass Museum, and Chicago's Navy Pier. His work is featured in *Miami Contemporary Artists*, a book by Paul Clemence and Julie Davidow (2007), and *The Martin Z. Margulies Collection: Painting and Sculpture* (2008). He Lives and works in Miami and is currently represented by the Gallery, LYNCHTHAM, in New York City.

Elisa Turner

An award-winning art critic, blogger and journalist, Elisa Turner is a member of the International Association of Art Critics, U.S. Section, and ArtTable. She is a lab instructor in the College Prep Writing Lab of Miami Dade College, Kendall Campus, and holds an M.A. in Comparative Literature from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She's guest-lectured at the University of Miami and New World School of the Arts. From 1995 to 2007, she was the primary art critic for *The Miami Herald*, with international assignments to Cuba, Haiti, Italy, and Switzerland. She is the Miami correspondent for *ARTnews* magazine, based in New York, and columnist for *Art Circuits*, a print and online guide to the arts in Miami. Other publications she has written for include the magazines *Art + Auction*, *Arte Al Dia*, *ARTPULSE*, and *Whitewall*. She is a founding planning group member of ARTtuesdays/MIAMI, which organizes panel discussions for South Florida's cultural community.

Angela Valella

Angela Valella is an artist and educator born in Cuba, based in Miami. She is the director of The Nightclub project, a nomadic platform established in April 2012 which aims to create dialogue among diverse artistic practices and practitioners through curated exhibitions presented in various venues for one night only. From 2005 to 2011, she co-founded 801 Projects, a contemporary space dedicated to promote the arts that included exhibitions, workshops, and talks. One of the founding members of Design and Architecture School, DASH, in South Florida, she has organized curatorial shows and conferences among other projects. Valella's works in a variety of media including painting, collage, installation, and video. She investigates problems of perception, selective accumulation and non-linearity. Her work has been exhibited at Museo Nacional de Arte Moderno in Guatemala City, Guatemala, Centro Cultural Español in Miami, the Miami-Dade Public Library, The Art Center at Colorado, and the Colby Gallery in Chicago.

About MDC Museum of Art + Design

MDC Museum of Art + Design (MOAD) is Miami Dade College's flagship institution dedicated to the presentation and exhibition of visual art and design, housed at the National Historic Landmark Freedom Tower at Miami Dade College in Downtown Miami. The mission of the Museum is to promote the appreciation and understanding of art and its role in society through direct engagement with original works of art from within the College's extensive permanent collection and temporary exhibitions. Furthermore, the Museum presents year-round lectures, symposiums and art related events to expose, educate, and engage the greater public through related creative processes.

The MDC Museum of Art + Design provides its patrons and visitors access to unique cultural, historical and educational exhibitions that enrich the greater community while building and preserving an expansive permanent art collection. Miami Dade College has been collecting art since the 1960s. Over the years, the collection has grown to contain more than 1,600 works in all mediums and genres, specifically within the movements of minimalism, pop art of the '60s and '70s, conceptual art and contemporary Latin American art. The College and Museum actively acquire works by emerging and under-recognized artists, as well as major figures in modern, post-modern and contemporary art.

For more information about the MDC Museum of Art + Design, please contact the Museum at 305-237-7702 or museum@mdc.edu. Additional information may be found on the museum website: www.mdcmoad.org.

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