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IN HONOR OF ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY ARTTABLE SELECTS FOUR NEW LEADERSHIP AWARDEES

Awardees represent ArtTable's nationwide community

December 10, New York, NY— Today **ArtTable**, the foremost national organization for professional women in the visual arts, announces the selection of four women that represent the pillars of ArtTable's mission of advocacy, mentorship, community, diversity, and engagement.

In recognition of ArtTable's 40th Anniversary in 2020, the organization is presenting four NLA's representing the four decades of the organization's influence in the visual arts community. ArtTable is thrilled to award: Wassan Al-Khudhairi (Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis), Erin Christovale (Hammer Museum), Lauren Haynes (Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art), and Jami Powell (The Hood Museum of Art, Dartmouth). Additional details on each recipient can be found below.

"We are privileged to recognize such an outstanding group of women as we look to ArtTable's future during our 40th anniversary year. We look forward to their contributions and achievements during this pivotal time for women." says ArtTable executive director, Jessica L. Porter.

The New Leadership Awardees (NLAs) will be honored at the ArtTable Annual Benefit & Award Ceremony on April 24, 2020 at Capitale in New York City and celebrated at The Standard in West Hollywood on February 12, 2020 with a private reception from 6 - 8 PM.

2020 NLA Awardees



Wassan Al-Khudhairi is the Chief Curator at the Contemporary Art Museum in St. Louis, where she has organized Stephanie Syjuco: *Rogue States*, Bethany Collins: *Chorus*, Paul Mpagi Sepuya, Lawrence Abu Hamdan: *Eartwitness Theatre*, Guan Xiao: *Fiction Archive Project*, Hayv Kahraman: *Acts of Reparation*, Trenton Doyle Hancock: *The Re-Evolving Door to the Moundverse* and *SUPERFLEX: European Union Mayotte*. Prior to her position at CAM, Al-Khudhairi was the Hugh Kaul Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at the Birmingham Museum of Art where she organized the first large-scale exhibition of the museum's contemporary collection, *Third Space / shifting conversations about contemporary art*. She was invited to be a Curator for the 6 th Asian Art Biennial in Taiwan in 2017 and Co-Artistic Director for 9 th Gwangju Biennial in South Korea in 2012.

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Serving as the Founding Director of Mathaf:Arab Museum of Modern Art in Qatar, Al-Khudhairi oversaw the opening of the Museum in 2010 and co-curated *Sajjil: A Century of Modern Art* and curated *Cai Guo-Qiang: Saraab*.



Erin Christovale is the Associate Curator at the Hammer Museum and the co-founder of Black Radical Imagination with Amir George. Notable exhibitions include *a/wake in the water: Meditations on Disaster* (2014) at the Museum of Contemporary African Diasporan Arts, *Memoirs of A Watermelon Woman* (2016) and *A Subtle Likeness* (2016) at the ONE National Gay and Lesbian Archives, *S/Election: Democracy, Citizenship, Freedom* (2016) at the Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery, the critically acclaimed *Made in L.A. 2018* (2018) with Anne Ellegood and *belonging* (2019) at the Hammer Museum.



Lauren Haynes is Curator, Contemporary Art at Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art and Curator of Visual Arts at the Momentary in Bentonville, Arkansas. Haynes was co-curator of the 2018 Crystal Bridges' exhibition *The Beyond: Georgia O'Keeffe and Contemporary Art* and is co-curator of the 2019 exhibition *Crystals in Art: Ancient to Today*. Haynes is currently leading the curatorial team working on the forthcoming iteration of *State of the Art*, scheduled to open at both Crystal Bridges and the Momentary in February 2020. Prior to joining Crystal Bridges in October 2016, Haynes spent nearly a decade at The Studio Museum in Harlem. As a specialist in African-American contemporary art, Haynes curated dozens of exhibitions at the Studio Museum and contemporary art institutions in New York. Haynes was a 2018 Center for Curatorial Leadership fellow. Haynes is co-curator of the inaugural Tennessee Triennial for Contemporary Art taking place across Tennessee in 2021.



Jami Powell is the Hood's first associate curator of Native American art and was recently appointed as a lecturer in Native American Studies at Dartmouth. Powell is a citizen of the Osage Nation and has a PhD in anthropology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Prior to working at the Hood, she was a faculty lecturer at Tufts University. She has also worked as a research assistant at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, was a Mellon Fellow at the Peabody Essex Museum, and has conducted research projects at the Field Museum of

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Natural History and the Denver Art Museum. Powell's research examines representations of Indigenous peoples in museums as well as the interventions contemporary Indigenous artists make through creative acts of self-representation. Powell is currently working on a book manuscript from her dissertation titled *Stitching an Osage Future: Aesthetic Resistance and Self-Representation*. She has also published articles in *Museum Anthropology*, *Panorama*, *Museum Management and Curatorship*, and is an editorial advisor for *First American Art Magazine*. Powell has served on curatorial advisory boards for the Philadelphia Museum of Art and Yale University. She is currently working on several exhibitions including *Form and Relation: Contemporary Native Ceramics*, *Critical Indigenous Photographic Exchange (CIPX) Dartmouth*, and *This Land: American Engagement with the Natural World*.

About The New Leadership Award

The New Leadership Award was first introduced as part of ArtTable's 25th anniversary celebration in 2005. It recognized women whose early career accomplishments and distinguished service merited national and international recognition in the professional visual arts community. Previous recipients include: Alexandra Chang, Naima J. Keith, Lauren Cornell, Sara Raza, Naomi Beckwith, Amy Sadao, Sarah Douglas, Cecilia Alemani, Shamim Momin and Christine Y. Kim, Sarah Elizabeth Lewis, Andrea Barnwell, Melissa Chiu, Fairfax Dorn, Virginia Lebermann, Laura Hoptman, Marysol Nieves, Jeanne Greenberg Rohatyn, and Olga Viso—all women who continue to exemplify ArtTable's mission and make significant contributions to our arts profession.

In addition to the New Leadership Award, ArtTable also awards a woman with the Distinguished Service to the Visual Arts Award. Both the Distinguished Service to the Visual Arts and New Leadership Awards are presented each year at ArtTable's Annual Benefit and Award Ceremony. The 2019 ceremony will take place on Friday, April 24, 2019 at Capitale in New York. For more information visit,

<http://arttable.org/event/arttables-annual-benefit-and-award-ceremony/>

About ArtTable

ArtTable is the foremost professional organization dedicated to advancing the leadership of women in the visual arts. Through our national membership network and community initiatives, we expand opportunities for women from diverse backgrounds and at all stages of their careers, fostering a stronger future for all women in the arts.

For more information contact

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