

NEWS

Contact:

Ann Trinca
Marketing & Events Manager
707.226.5991 x34
ann@dirosaart.org

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Di Rosa Hires Curator Amy Owen

NAPA, CA– December, 2012. The Board of Directors of di Rosa is happy to announce the appointment of Amy Owen as Curator of the renowned di Rosa collection and Gatehouse Gallery. Owen comes to di Rosa from Yerba Buena Center for the Arts (YBCA) in San Francisco, where she was Senior Exhibitions Manager.

Originally from Abilene, Texas, Owen holds a M.A. in Curatorial Studies from the Center for Curatorial Studies at Bard College in New York and a B.A. in Art History from Southern Methodist University in Dallas. Owen has over ten years of experience working in the contemporary art field at a number of institutions including Artists Space, one of New York City's oldest alternative non-profit gallery spaces; Independent Curators International (ICI), a non-profit organization that produces exhibitions, events and publications for diverse audiences around the world; and the Dallas Museum of Art, a renowned hub for international contemporary art.



As Director of Exhibitions at Artists Space, Owen worked with an international scope of curators, artists, and organizations to establish partnerships for a range of projects and public programs. During her tenure, she co-organized a collaborative project with the Istanbul-based Platform Garanti Contemporary Art Center entitled *The Columns Held Us Up*, providing a locus for exchange amongst artists based in New York and Turkey. The exhibition included a week-long series of roving events that took place in various New York City locations such as a local pub, a mid-town rooftop, and a SoHo street corner. While at Artists Space, Owen also organized the exhibition *Salad Days*, a project that engaged local emerging artists and curators through a multi-faceted exhibition platform including performances and screenings, as well as an accompanying publication that highlighted the artists' processes.

Executive Director Kathryn Reasoner states, "Amy impressed us immediately with her energy and ideas for di Rosa's future programming and role, both locally and nationally. She brings a fresh approach, coupled with a strong institutional background and understanding of the range of artists working today. Di Rosa's Board and Staff look forward to working with her at this exciting time in di Rosa's growth and development."

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Other curatorial projects have been mounted at Art in General and the New York Center for Art and Media Studies where she co-curated the group exhibition and performance series *Other Certainties*. Owen has also served as guest lecturer for programs such as ICI's Curatorial Intensive and the Bronx Museum of the Arts Artist in the Marketplace; participated on panels for the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council and the Bronx Museum of the Arts; and served on the advisory committee for Flux Factory, an artist run center in Queens.

Moving to San Francisco in 2010, Owen has become entrenched in the local Bay Area arts community through the organization of group and solo exhibition projects at YBCA, such as their signature triennial "Bay Area Now" exhibition.

About her new position, Owen states, "I am thrilled and honored to be joining the team at di Rosa. The impressive depth of the collection, coupled with the organization's commitment to emergent artistic practices from the Bay Area, make it a particularly dynamic context for the development of innovative exhibitions and programs. I am excited to participate in further expanding the awareness of this astonishingly rich cultural resource, both locally and beyond, and I look forward to contributing to di Rosa's evolving vision.

ABOUT THE DI ROSA

Located on 217 extraordinarily beautiful acres in the Carneros Region of southern Napa Valley, di Rosa is a place that provokes the imagination and artistic spirit of our time in an extraordinary landscape through celebration of the art and artists of the Bay Area. The renowned di Rosa collection covers more than half a century of work from many noted and distinguished artists, attracting thousands of visitors annually for exhibitions, tours, lectures, and family events.

CURRENT EXHIBITION:

Renaissance on Fillmore 1955-65

On view through January 27, 2013

GATEHOUSE GALLERY HOURS: *Wednesday– Sunday, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM. Call 707-226-5991 x 25 or visit www.dirosaart.org for information.*

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T 707.226.5991 F 707.255.8934 dirosaart.org

5200 Sonoma Highway Napa, California 94559