MFA Show
Curatorial Teams 2016

Three guests curators will work alongside a group of 12 SAIC Graduate Curatorial Assistants to engage graduating MFA students in their studios and work together to shape the vision and concept of this culminating exhibition.

These teams and participating artists will also work directly with the Department of Exhibitions staff, including Kate Zeller, the director of this year’s exhibition; with Raquel Iglesias, Curatorial Assistant; and lead staff Steven Plaxco, Director of Exhibition Operations; with many other supporting department staff.

2016 Alumni Guest Curators

Irene Hofmann (MA 1994) is the Phillips Director and Chief Curator of SITE Santa Fe, New Mexico. Most recently, she was the Executive Director and Curator of the Contemporary Museum in Baltimore. She has also held curatorial positions at the Orange County Museum of Art, Cranbrook Art Museum, Walker Art Center, and New Museum of Contemporary Art. She has organized exhibitions and new commissions by artists such as Joseph Grigely, Marjetica Potrc, Mungo Thomson, Jason Dodge, Fabrice Gygi, Enrique Martínez Celaya, Fritz Haeg, Christine Hill, and Iñigo Manglano-Ovalle. Some of her group exhibitions include Agitated Histories (2011), Broadcast (2007), Girls’ Night Out (2003), and the California Biennial (2002 and 2004).
Michal Raz-Russo (Dual MAAH/MAAAP 2009) is the Assistant Curator in the Department of Photography at the Art Institute of Chicago (AIC). Currently she is working on a biennial contemporary photography series for fall 2015. At AIC, she has also undertaken exhibitions on Edward Steichen, Dayanita Singh, Claude Cahun, among others. Raz-Russo was a contributing author to Color Rush: American Color Photography from Stieglitz to Sherman (Aperture, 2013) and author of The Three Graces: Snapshots of Twentieth-Century Women (Yale University Press, 2011). She holds a BA in Architecture from the Cooper Union, New York.

Kelly Shindler (Dual MAAH/MAAAP 2011) has worked in the field of contemporary art exhibition and programming for more than 10 years. She joined the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis (CAM) in 2011. As Associate Curator, she has organized solo exhibitions with Lari Pittman, Anthony McCall, Rosa Barba, Mika Taanila, Ed Ruscha, Geta Brătescu, Takeshi Murata, Ulla von Brandenburg, Kevin Jerome Everson, and Josh Faught, among others. Shindler is the curator of the major mid-career survey, Dear Nemesis, Nicole Eisenman 1993–2013, which traveled from CAM to the Institute of Contemporary Art Philadelphia (2014) and the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (2015). Prior to joining CAM, Shindler was an independent curator, organizing exhibitions such as Chicago-Scope: The Films of Tom Palazzolo 1967–76 at The Art Institute of Chicago, and others for art spaces and festivals worldwide. From 2003–11, Shindler worked at Art21, producer of the PBS documentary series Art:21—Art in the Twenty-First Century. She holds a BA in English Literature from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

2016 Graduate Curatorial Assistants
Frances Dorembaum (MA Art History, Theory and Criticism, 2016)
Annalise Flynn (MA Art History, Theory and Criticism, 2016)
Zoe Goldman (Dual MA Art History, Theory and Criticism and Arts Administration and Policy, 2017)
Lydia Gordon (Dual MA Art History, Theory and Criticism and Arts Administration and Policy, 2017)
Jacelyn Kee (MA Arts Administration and Policy, 2016)
Ariella Miller (MA Art Education, 2016)
Zeenat Nagree (MA Art History, Theory and Criticism, 2016)
Lara Schoorl (MA Art History, Theory and Criticism, 2016)
Veronica Sines (MA Art History, Theory and Criticism, 2016)
Sarah Skaggs (MA Arts Administration and Policy, 2016)
Xinqi Tao (MA Arts Administration and Policy, 2016)
Ian (Gabe) Wilson (Dual MA Art History, Theory and Criticism and Arts Administration and Policy, 2017)