

DENVER ART MUSEUM

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Jordan Casteel: Returning the Gaze

Exhibition Bios

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CHRISTOPH HEINRICH, FREDERICK AND JAN MAYER DIRECTOR, DENVER ART MUSEUM



Since his tenure as the Frederick and Jan Mayer Director of the Denver Art Museum (DAM) began in 2010, Christoph Heinrich has continually pushed the boundaries of traditional art museum experiences and made the DAM one of the most sought-after tourist destinations in the Rocky

Mountain West. Through immersive, world-exclusive exhibitions such as *Becoming Van Gogh* (2009) and *Brilliant: Cartier in the 20th Century* (2014), Heinrich has elevated the DAM's reputation for creating original content to a new high. His vision for engaging audiences with the collections in new and meaningful ways has resulted in four campus-wide exhibitions tied to a single theme. These presentations—including *Dance!* (2016), *In Bloom: Painting Flowers in the Age of Impressionism* (2015), *Spun* (2011) and *Marvelous Mud* (2009)—saw unprecedented collaborations across departments to showcase the breadth and depth of the museum's collections.

In addition to highlighting the collections through exhibitions, Heinrich has championed landmark acquisitions, including a bequest of more than 20 Impressionist landscape paintings in 2014, which came as a result of the acclaimed exhibition *Nature as Muse*, curated by Heinrich.

Prior to his director role, Heinrich served as the DAM's deputy director and curator of modern and contemporary art. He curated the 2009 exhibition *Embrace!*, which offered 17 contemporary artists from around the world the opportunity to create installations inspired by the unique architecture of the museum's Frederic C.

Hamilton Building. In addition to curating renowned exhibitions at the DAM, Heinrich has juried several exhibitions, written articles including book reviews for the weekly magazine *Die Zeit* and compiled numerous catalogs for various exhibitions.

Heinrich originally hails from Germany. Before joining the DAM, Heinrich was at the Hamburg Kunsthalle where, during his 12-year tenure, he organized more than 50 exhibitions. Some of his most prominent exhibitions there included *Andy Warhol: Photography*, which also toured at the International Center for Photography in New York, *Francis Bacon: The Portraits*, *Mahjong: Contemporary Chinese Art from the Sigg Collection* and *Daniel Richter: A Major Survey*.

Heinrich attended the Universität Wien in Vienna, which is the oldest university in the German-speaking world. There he studied art history, German literature and dramatics. He earned his M.A. and Ph.D. at the Ludwig-Maximilian-Universität in Munich, Germany.

REBECCA R. HART, VICKI AND KENT LOGAN CURATOR OF MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY ART, DENVER ART MUSEUM



Rebecca R. Hart joined the Denver Art Museum (DAM) as the curator of modern and contemporary art in 2015. Hart oversees the DAM's broad collection encompassing over 12,500 works. Hart is currently curating *Jordan Casteel: Returning the Gaze*, Casteel's first major museum exhibition.

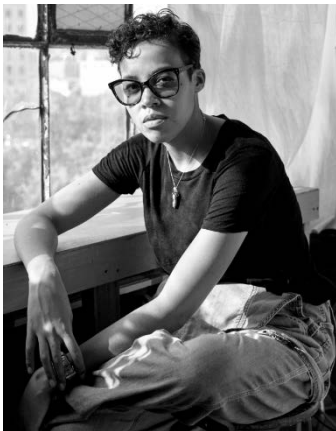
While at the DAM, Hart has had many successful exhibitions starting with the well-received exhibition, *Audacious: Contemporary Artists Speak Out*. She also curated *Mi Tierra: Contemporary Artists Explore Place*,

featuring 13 site-specific installations by Latino artists that express experiences of contemporary life in the American West, and the landmark exhibition *Shade: Clyfford Still / Mark Bradford* in collaboration with the neighboring Clyfford Still Museum.

Previously, Hart served as the curator of contemporary art at the Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA) where she planned innovative exhibitions and programs and led an active acquisition program for artworks made after 1950, including works by Matthew Barney, Julie Mehretu, Shirin Neshat and Owusu-Ankomah. In addition to her talents as a curator, Hart is also an author and teacher. She has lectured at regional institutions, including the Cranbrook Academy of Art, College for Creative Studies and Wayne State University. She has authored and contributed to more than 15 publications, including *Matthew Barney Alchemist* (2014), *Gentle Blow to the Rock* (2013) and *Shirin Neshat* (2013).

Hart received a master's of arts in art history from Wayne State University in Detroit and a master's of fine arts degree in fiber from the Cranbrook Academy of Art in Bloomfield Hills, Mich.

JORDAN CASTEEL, ARTIST



Jordan Casteel (born 1989) received her Bachelor of Arts from Agnes Scott College, Decatur, Georgia, for Studio Art (2011) and her Master of Fine Arts in Painting and Printmaking from Yale School of Art, New Haven, CT (2014). Casteel's one-person exhibitions include *Visible*

Man (2014) and *Brothers* (2015) at Sargent's Daughters in New York and *Nights in Harlem* at Casey Kaplan, New York, and *Harvey B. Gantt Center*, Charlotte, NC (2017).

She has exhibited in contemporary art exhibitions worldwide, including at Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art (2018), MOCA Los Angeles (2018), MASS MoCA (2017), the Studio Museum in Harlem (2017 and 2016), Boston University Art Galleries, Boston, MA (2017), HOME, Manchester, UK (2016),

University of Denver School of Art (2016), and Kenyon College, OH (2015).

Born and raised in Denver, Casteel has been an artist-in-residence at Yaddo, Saratoga Springs, NY (2015), Lower Manhattan Cultural Council Process Space, Governors Island, NY (2015), Studio Museum in Harlem (2015) and the Sharpe-Walentas Studio Program, Brooklyn, NY (2016). She is an assistant professor of painting in the Department of Arts, Culture and Media at Rutgers University Newark. She lives and works in New York City and is represented by Casey Kaplan.

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Image Credit Lines

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