

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EL MUSEO DEL BARRIO WELCOMES SUSANNA V. TEMKIN AS CURATOR

NEW YORK, NY, August 3, 2018 - El Museo del Barrio is pleased to announce that Susanna V. Temkin has joined the institution as Curator. Prior to this, Temkin was Assistant Curator at the Americas Society, where she co-curated an exhibition of Brazilian artist Jose Leonilson. In addition, under Deborah Cullen, then Chief Curator of El Museo del Barrio, she supported the department with the exhibitions *Nexus New York*, *Phantom Sightings: Art After the Chicano Movement* and *Retro/Active: The Works of Rafael Ferrer*. In her new role, Temkin will be responsible for all aspects of the production and implementation of temporary, Permanent Collection, and travelling museum exhibitions, as well as related programming and printed matter. Moreover, Temkin will interface with a broad public, including artists, community members, colleagues and students, regarding the art, artists, and programs related to El Museo.

"I am honored to be returning to an institution that has long held a special significance in both my personal and professional development. I have a unique opportunity, through our Curatorial programming, to reflect and honor El Museo's institutional history and its founding Puerto Rican community," said Temkin. "I feel that it is critical for El Museo to continue to serve as a strong platform for artists, and I look forward to engaging with emerging and established Latinx and Latin American artists in El Barrio and beyond."

Previously, Temkin served as the research and archive specialist at Cecilia de Torres, Ltd., where she assisted in co-authoring the digital catalogue raisonné of artist Joaquín Torres-García. Her curatorial experience also includes a 2014 sculpture exhibition by Argentinean New York-based artist Marta Chillindron at NYU's Institute of Fine Arts, whose work is included in El Museo del Barrio's Permanent Collection. Temkin has also published essays and reviews in the *Rutgers Art Review, Burlington Magazine*, and *Hemispheres*, and has authored the chronology of *Concrete Cuba: Cuban Geometric Abstraction from the 1950s*, produced by David Zwirner Books. She earned her master's and PhD degrees from the Institute of Fine Arts, New York University, where her research focused on modern art in the Americas.

"We are delighted to have Susanna join our growing Curatorial team. I am confident she will build upon El Museo's established relationships with Latinx and Latin American artists, and grow our scholarly contribution in these areas." said Patrick Charpenel, Executive Director, El Museo del Barrio.

The museum's Director Emerita, Susana Torruella Leval, added, "It is wonderful news that Susanna Temkin has joined El Museo's staff as Curator. For a decade, I have observed her interesting work in Caribbean academic research; in curatorial projects,

at El Museo and other Latinx and Latin American-oriented galleries and museums; and in fine contributions to exhibition catalogues and scholarly publications. Her comprehensive approach to scholarship, lovely personality, and strong empathy with El Museo's Caribbean roots, make her a perfect choice to help usher in the next phase of El Museo del Barrio's important work."

ABOUT EL MUSEO DEL BARRIO

El Museo del Barrio, founded by a coalition of Puerto Rican educators, artists, and activists, is the nation's leading Latino and Latin American cultural institution. The Museum welcomes visitors of all backgrounds to discover the artistic landscape of these communities through its extensive Permanent Collection, varied exhibitions and publications, bilingual public programs, educational activities, festivals, and special events.

The Museum is located at 1230 Fifth Avenue at 104th Street in New York City. The Museum's Galleries are currently undergoing renovations and will reopen to the public in the fall of 2018.

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