

## Artadia: The Fund for Art & Dialogue To Hold First “Art & Dialogue: Houston” with Museum of Contemporary Art Santa Barbara Executive Director

On Wednesday, October 21 at The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston

[Jo-Carolyn Goode](#) | 10/19/2015, 3:56 p.m.



Miki Garcia, Executive Director at the Museum of Contemporary Art Santa Barbara

HOUSTON, TX - Over the last 15 years, the national nonprofit organization Artadia: The Fund for Art & Dialogue has supported visual artists with unrestricted, merit-based awards and fostered connections to a network of opportunities. Houston is one of six participating award cities.

Now Artadia brings its national Art & Dialogue program, which is designed to expand support for Artadia's growing network of Awardees, to Houston on Wednesday, October 21, at 7 p.m. at The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston in the Beck Building at 1001 Bissonnet St. Houston Arts Alliance is the sponsor of the Art & Dialogue series in Houston.

Artadia currently supports over 300 Awardees working in a diverse array of disciplines in six cities across the country. Developed through in-depth research of artists' needs, Art & Dialogue bridges connections between visual artists, curators and diverse publics in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, and San Francisco through a series of studio visits, public programs, and online engagement.

For the first Art & Dialogue: Houston, Miki Garcia, executive director at the Museum of Contemporary Art Santa Barbara (MCASB), will present a talk focused on the process of curatorial decision making within a contemporary art institution. She will discuss a few upcoming exhibitions at the MCASB and her role in organizing the projects as Chief Curator and Director. Garcia will talk through the curatorial process – using past exhibitions as examples – and offer insight into how exhibitions are made and how artists are selected.

As part of Art & Dialogue: Houston, Garcia will also conduct studio visits with ten local Artadia Awardees from October 21 - 23.

Artadia's programming in Houston is made possible by the Brown Foundation, Houston Arts Alliance, the Houston Endowment, Artadia's Board of Directors and Council members, and many generous individuals throughout the country.

For more information, visit [www.artadia.org](http://www.artadia.org).

### **About Miki Garcia**

Miki Garcia has been the Executive Director at the Museum of Contemporary Art Santa Barbara (MCASB) since 2005, where she has curated exhibitions such as Flights from Wonder (2012); Michele O'Marah: Video Portraits and Home Show, Revisited (2011); Parallax: Peter Rostovsky and Paul Winstanley (2010); Sanford Biggers: Moon Medicine (2010); An Expanded

Field of Possibilities (2009); Glass Love: Contemporary Art and Surf (2007 - 08), and Marc Swanson: Beginning to See the Light (2007) among several other group and solo projects with local, national, and international artists.

Previously, Garcia worked at the Public Art Fund, New York, and at the Museum of Contemporary Arts San Diego. She has also participated as a guest curator at El Museo del Barrio, New York, NY, and as a lecturer and panelist for various organizations including California Community Foundation, Art Matters Foundation, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, and the City of New York Department of Cultural Affairs.

Garcia holds an M.A. in Art History from the University of Texas at Austin and a B.A. in Art History from Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY.

### **About the 2015 Houston Artadia Awards**

Artadia Awardees are selected through a two-tiered jury process that combines local expertise with outside perspective from leading curators and artists. A preliminary panel will evaluate all online submissions and select ten finalists in late October. A second panel of curators will visit Houston in late November to conduct studio visits with each finalist and select Awardees to receive unrestricted Artadia Awards between \$5,000 and \$20,000. The 2015 Houston Awardees will be announced at the end of November 2015.

For more information, visit [www.artadia.org](http://www.artadia.org).