



San Antonio
Museum
of Art

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**San Antonio Museum of Art Hires Lucia Abramovich as
Associate Curator of Latin American Art**

San Antonio, TX—February 28, 2019—The San Antonio Museum of Art (SAMA) announced today that it has hired Lucia Abramovich as the Museum’s new Associate Curator of Latin American Art, following the completion of an international search. Abramovich brings to the Museum extensive curatorial, research, and community engagement experience, including at the New Orleans Museum of Art, Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection of Harvard University, and the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of the American Indian.

“The San Antonio Museum of Art’s commitment to the presentation of Latin American Art spans almost 40 years. Lucia Abramovich will step into a role defined for all American institutions by the dedication and brilliance of Marion Oettinger, Jr., whose leadership and dedication defined the field as we presently know it,” said Kelso Director Katherine Crawford Luber. “Lucia will be a worthy successor and will continue the Museum’s broad and deep engagement with the arts of all Latin America. I am particularly appreciative of her work in engaging New Orleans’ diverse community. I know she will bring her passion and enthusiasm for community engagement to our city.”

The San Antonio Museum of Art’s Nelson A. Rockefeller Center for Latin American Art encompasses more than 12,000 objects in the areas of Ancient America, Spanish colonial, Republican-era, Modern, Contemporary, and Folk Art. Among her projects at SAMA, Abramovich will reconceptualize and reinstall the Museum’s Latin American Folk Art collection, one of the most important collections of its kind in the United States. “Lucia is an up-and-coming scholar of the arts of both ancient and viceregal Latin America, who brings an exceptional suite of talents to the San Antonio Museum of Art, and it will be a pleasure to watch what she will do in this important post,” said Joanne Pillsbury, Andrall E. Pearson Curator in the department of the Arts of Africa, Oceania, and the Americas at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Abramovich will begin work in San Antonio in June 2019.

Abramovich worked as a Curatorial Fellow for Spanish Colonial Art at the New Orleans Museum of Art (NOMA) from 2013–2016. At NOMA, her focus was on the research and digitization of the Spanish Colonial collection—which includes paintings, sculptures, furniture, and silver—and had not been on public view for decades. “Lucia is an exciting scholar-curator who brings great energy, a broad knowledge of Latin American art, and a real passion for sharing her expertise

with the public. You can count on her to build the collections, to develop sensational exhibitions and programs, and to grow the audience for Latin American art," said Elizabeth Boone, Martha and Donald Robertson Chair in Latin American Studies at Tulane University.

"Having grown up between Argentina and the United States in a Pan-American household, I developed a lifelong passion for Latin American art and culture. I am thrilled to begin working at the San Antonio Museum of Art, which itself brings together a range of cultures through art," said Lucia Abramovich. "The Museum has an exceptional reputation, one to which I look forward to contributing, bringing in my knowledge of Pre-Columbian art, colonial Latin American, and Folk Art. I am excited about exploring how these objects can help us to better understand the lives of different peoples, past and present."

Abramovich will receive her PhD at Tulane University in April 2019. Her dissertation is titled *Precious Materiality in Colonial Andean Art: Gold, Silver, and Jewels in Paintings of the Virgin*. She completed her Masters at the University of East Anglia's Sainsbury Research Unit in 2012. Since beginning her career, Abramovich has received numerous grants and awards, including a grant to support travel for research and is a recipient of the Donald Robertson Award for Best Graduate Paper in the Humanities at Tulane. She has presented her work at a range of conferences in both the United States and Latin America.

About the San Antonio Museum of Art:

The San Antonio Museum of Art serves as a forum to explore and connect with art that spans the world's geographies, artistic periods, genres, and cultures. Its collection contains nearly 30,000 works representing 5,000 years of history. Housed in the historic Lone Star Brewery on the Museum Reach of San Antonio's River Walk, the San Antonio Museum of Art is committed to promoting the rich cultural heritage and life of the city. The Museum hosts hundreds of events and public programs each year, including concerts, performances, tours, lectures, symposia, and interactive experiences. As an active civic leader, the Museum is dedicated to enriching the cultural life of the city and the region, and to supporting its creative community.

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