

WHITNEY

Whitney Museum
of American Art
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PRESS RELEASE

THE WHITNEY MUSEUM APPOINTS NOLAN JIMBO AS ARNHOLD ASSOCIATE CURATOR



New York, NY, October 26, 2026 — The Whitney Museum of American Art has appointed Nolan Jimbo as Arnhold Associate Curator. In this role, Jimbo will organize exhibitions, produce publications and public programs, contribute to the growth and interpretation of the Museum's collection, and collaborate with artists and colleagues across the institution. His appointment reflects the Whitney's ongoing commitment to championing artists and expanding narratives of American art through exhibitions, collections, scholarship, and public engagement. Jimbo's first day at the Whitney is November 16.

"Nolan is a star among a new generation of curators with fresh perspectives on art both past and present. He brings to the Whitney a range of experience from museums across the country, along with keen intellectual rigor and a deep commitment to artists," said Scott Rothkopf, Alice Pratt Brown Director of the Whitney Museum of American Art. "His work moves fluidly between exhibitions, performance, and scholarship, and his expertise in Asian diasporic artists will add to new narratives in American art. We are thrilled to welcome him to the Whitney and look forward to the contributions he will make to our collection and program."

Jimbo joins the Whitney from the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago (MCA), where he served as Assistant Curator and organized exhibitions, performances, and interdisciplinary projects with a focus on Asian diasporic artists and abstraction. Over five years at the MCA, Jimbo organized solo, group, and collection-based exhibitions, including *Kenzi Shiokava* (2026), the artist's first solo museum survey, accompanied by his first monograph; *Chicago Works | Mike Cloud: Worldless Obstruction* (2026); *Endless* (2023); *Interiors* (2022); and *Chicago Works: Gregory Bae* (2022). He also served on the curatorial teams for the major group exhibitions *Dancing the Revolution: From Dancehall to Reggaetón* (2026) and *Forecast Form: Art in the Caribbean Diaspora, 1990s–Today* (2022), both organized by Carla Acevedo-Yates. His curatorial practice extended beyond the galleries to performance and experimental programming, including projects featuring artists Kioto Aoki, Kikù Hibino, David Lamelas, Tanya Lukin Linklater, Devin T. Mays, Will Rawls, and Wu Tsang.

Jimbo also worked extensively with the MCA's collection as co-director of the MCA DNA Research Initiative, a multiyear program supported by the CHANEL Culture Fund that commissioned interdisciplinary scholarship, digital content, and public programs focused on the museum's collection and archives.

"I am deeply honored to join the curatorial team at the Whitney, an institution that I have long admired for its extraordinary history of supporting artists, presenting paradigm-shifting shows, and tapping into the cultural zeitgeist of the United States," said Jimbo. "I look forward to building upon this legacy while advocating for emerging and overlooked artistic practices, particularly at this moment when the museum is attracting ever younger and more diverse audiences. Relationships are at the heart of this work and I am very excited to collaborate closely with artists as well as the Whitney's vibrant community of colleagues and supporters."

Previously, Jimbo held curatorial positions at the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art (MASS MoCA), where he organized *Close to You* (2021), a group exhibition focused on kinship, and the Dallas Museum of Art, where he produced the mural commission *Nicolas Party: Pathway* (2016). His writing has appeared in numerous exhibition catalogues and publications, including *Whitney Biennial 2024: Even Better Than the Real Thing* (2024), for which he contributed texts on several participating artists.

Born and raised in Los Angeles, Jimbo holds an M.A. from the Williams Graduate Program in the History of Art and a B.A. in Art History and French from Tufts University.

PRESS CONTACT

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ABOUT THE WHITNEY

The Whitney Museum of American Art, founded in 1930 by the artist and philanthropist Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney (1875–1942), houses the foremost collection of American art from the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Mrs. Whitney, an early and ardent supporter of modern American art, nurtured groundbreaking artists when audiences were still largely preoccupied with the Old Masters. From her vision arose the Whitney Museum of American Art, which has been championing the most innovative art of the United States for ninety years. The core of the Whitney's mission is to collect, preserve, interpret, and exhibit American art of our time and serve a wide variety of audiences in celebration of the complexity and diversity of art and culture in the United States. Through this mission and a steadfast commitment to artists, the Whitney has long been a powerful force in support of modern and contemporary art and continues to help define what is innovative and influential in American art today.

Whitney Museum Land Acknowledgment

The Whitney is located in Lenapehoking, the ancestral homeland of the Lenape. The name Manhattan comes from their word Mannahatta, meaning “island of many hills.” The Museum's current site is close to land that was a Lenape fishing and planting site called Sapponckanikan (“tobacco field”). The Whitney acknowledges the displacement of this region's original inhabitants and the Lenape diaspora that exists today.

As a museum of American art in a city with vital and diverse communities of Indigenous people, the Whitney recognizes the historical exclusion of Indigenous artists from its collection and program. The Museum is committed to addressing these erasures and honoring the perspectives of Indigenous artists and communities as we work for a more equitable future. To read more about the Museum's Land Acknowledgment, [visit the Museum's website](#).

VISITOR INFORMATION

The Whitney Museum of American Art is located at 99 Gansevoort Street between Washington and West Streets, New York City. Public hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 10:30 am–6 pm; Friday, 10:30 am–10 pm; and Saturday and Sunday, 10:30 am–6 pm. Closed Tuesday. Visitors twenty-five years and under and Whitney members: FREE. The Museum offers FREE admission and special programming for visitors of all ages every Friday evening from 5–10 pm and on the second Sunday of every month.

Image credit:

Nolan Jimbo; Photo Credit: Guanyu Xu