

Written by

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The Walker Art Center is embracing its mission as a multidisciplinary art center with a commitment to research and scholarship through a number of new appointments that diversify the talents and expertise of its curatorial team.



Fionn Meade will join the Walker as senior curator of Cross-Disciplinary Platforms, effective May 5, and Isla Leaver-Yap will become the Bentson Visiting Film Scholar effective March 3.

A curator, writer, and faculty member at the Center for Curatorial Studies at Bard College and New York's Columbia University, Meade will serve as key partner to Walker executive director, Olga Viso, in leading and shaping the artistic vision of the Walker across the art center's curatorial areas and programs.

"Fionn's diverse curatorial experience working in the arenas of film, performance, and museum practice makes him uniquely qualified to take on this new curatorial role at the Walker," said Viso.

Viso said the title Senior Curator of Cross-Disciplinary Platforms reflects a fresh approach being taken by the institution. The Walker houses multiple artistic disciplines (visual, performing, design, and film/media arts) and has hosted numerous artists that work across these platforms; however, specifically assigning a curator with the task of overseeing the strategic interplay between program areas will be new for the institution.

"I look forward to taking on this unique position that cuts across artistic disciplines," said Meade, whose early assignments include the Walker's presentation of *Radical Presence*, an exhibition that examines the history of Black performance in visual art from the 1960s through the present, and a future exhibition that explores the many visual artists who collaborated with choreographer Merce Cunningham. "It is a great privilege and honor to join the Walker, a vital institution that I have followed and admired for many years. With such a singular and long-standing presence as a cross-disciplinary leader in the field, I am eager to build on the Walker's commitment to working in-depth with the exemplary artists and innovators of our time."

In addition to serving in this expansive new curatorial role, Meade will serve as the interim head of the visual arts department while the search continues for a permanent leader. He will also oversee Bentson Visiting Film Scholar, Isla Leaver-Yap who will work closely with Sheryl Mousley, senior curator, film/video.

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