

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ART PAPERS HIRES NEW EDITOR + ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Atlanta, GA – (April 26, 2019) – Art Papers is pleased to announce the hiring of Sarah Higgins as editor + artistic director. Higgins was most recently curator at the Zuckerman Museum of Art and has served as interim editor of ART PAPERS magazine since June of 2018.

"It has been an absolute pleasure working with Sarah over the past ten months," stated Saskia Benjamin, executive director of Art Papers. "We delayed hiring a full-time editor while undertaking a strategic planning process, as the outcome of the plan would inform our new hire. Sarah graciously stepped in to fulfill the editorial needs of the organization during this time. With the plan concluded, we recognized that Sarah's background as an artist and curator, along with her experience developing educational and public programming made her the perfect fit for this position and for Art Papers."

"I'm delighted to join the Art Papers team, an organization that consistently nourished and inspired me as an artist first, then as an educator and curator," stated Higgins. "Art Papers has a great legacy of innovation, experimentation, and impassioned critique, and I look forward to building on that legacy and contributing to its future."

Following a year-long series on *Art of the Built Environment*, Sarah will introduce her artistic directorship with issues and programs exploring shared social and political landscapes, and the intersection of art and human rights. The series will begin with the theme Art + Activism, an inquiry into the give and take between art production and political action.

"We were struck by Sarah's commitment to the Atlanta arts community, as well as her broad national and international network. We feel strongly that now is the perfect time in the trajectory of the organization for leadership to come from within our local community," said William Muller, Art Papers board president.

"Moving forward, Art Papers will continue to offer deep thematic investigations of the art and culture of our time, with renewed emphasis on the voice of the artist, supplemented and expanded with web-exclusive content, live events, and programs that connect our audience to challenging and inspiring ideas," said Higgins.

To learn more about Sarah Higgins and her vision for the future of Art Papers, a conversation with Executive Director Saskia Benjamin is available at <u>www.artpapers.org/sarah-higgins</u>.

## **ABOUT SARAH HIGGINS**

Sarah Higgins (b. Hopkinsville, KY) is the Editor + Artistic Director of Art Papers. Previously, she was curator at the Zuckerman Museum of Art at Kennesaw State University from 2015-2018. There, she produced catalogs and exhibitions including *Gut Feelings*, *Tomashi Jackson: Interstate Love Song*, and *A View Beyond the Trees*. She has curated over 40 exhibitions featuring a diverse range of emerging, established, and international artists for institutions such

as the Hessel Museum of Art, Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art, Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia, and Atlantic Center for the Arts.

From 2013-2015, Higgins worked as graduate program coordinator under the direction of Paul O'Neill at the Center for Curatorial Studies, Bard College. She was exhibition coordinator for the 2013 MFA Thesis Exhibition, Milton Avery Graduate School of the Arts, Bard College, a member of the curatorial team for *199A–199B*, a retrospective of works from the 1990s by Liam Gillick in the Hessel Museum of Art, and curatorial fellow under Lauren Cornell at the New Museum, NY. She was community arts director and curator of Atlantic Center for the Arts' Harris House in New Smyrna Beach, Florida from 2007–2011. There, she developed multidisciplinary arts and residency programs, community outreach and educational programming. Before 2007, she worked as an Educator at Artpace, in San Antonio, Texas. Higgins holds a BFA in Printmaking & Sculpture from the Atlanta College of Art and a M.A. in Curatorial Studies from the Center for Curatorial Studies, Bard College.

## **ABOUT ART PAPERS**

Atlanta-based and globally engaged, Art Papers serves the creative community and the culturally curious by expanding the dialogue around contemporary art and culture, exploring the ways they affect and reflect human experience. We do this in print, online, and through public programming. <u>www.artpapers.org</u>

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Saskia Benjamin Executive Director 404.588.1837 x18 <u>director@artpapers.org</u> Hi-res image available upon request.

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