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Bechtler Museum of Modern Art Announces Appointment of New Curator

– *Katia Zavistovski Joins Charlotte’s Modern Art Museum from Los Angeles County Museum of Art* –

Charlotte, N.C. – The Bechtler Museum of Modern Art announces the appointment of Katia Zavistovski to the role of Curator. A distinguished scholar, writer, and curator, Zavistovski comes to the Bechtler from the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, where she has served as Assistant Curator of Modern Art since June 2016. In her new position at the Bechtler, Zavistovski will lead the museum’s curatorial program, building upon the museum’s momentum in presenting intriguing, original, and relevant exhibitions in the Charlotte community.

Over the past year, under the leadership of Executive Director Todd D. Smith, the Bechtler Museum of Modern Art has hosted the U.S. museum premier of *Isaac Julien: A Marvellous Entanglement*, a nine-screen film installation by contemporary artist Isaac Julien about the life and work of Italian-Brazilian architect Lina Bo Bardi and *Annemarie Schwarzenbach: Departure Without Destination*, presented in partnership with the Zentrum Paul Klee. Currently on display, *Pop to Now: Warhol and His Legacy* features select works by Andy Warhol, Jean-Michel Basquiat, and Keith Haring and follows their influence on pop culture, music, fashion, and art. Through a mix of works on canvas, unique objects, and memorabilia, the exhibition explores the heady years of the Pop Art movement to today’s cultural landscape of NFTs (non-fungible tokens), digital, and data-driven art through the lens of three contemporary artists.

“While we are a museum founded on the celebration of the European modernist moment through our core collection, we are emerging as an institution that seeks to be accessible and of its moment, striving to share the global legacies of modernism through living contemporary artists,” said Executive Director Todd D. Smith. “Katia is well respected in the field of modern and contemporary art, and her knowledge and experience will be vital in our efforts to continue to expand the Bechtler’s mission through the exhibition and interpretation of modern and contemporary art and artists.”

Zavistovski has curated multiple exhibitions while at LACMA, including *Rauschenberg: The 1/4 Mile*; *Rauschenberg: In and About L.A.*; *Hidden Narratives: Recent Acquisitions of Postwar Art*; *On the Move: A Century of Crossing Borders*; *Frank Stella: Selections from the Permanent Collection*; and the reinstallation of LACMA’s Modern Art Collection Galleries. She also worked on LACMA’s presentations of *David Hockney: 82 Portraits and 1 Still-life*, *Chagall: Fantasies for the Stage*, and *Los Angeles to New York: Dwan Gallery, 1959–1971*. Prior to LACMA, Zavistovski has held curatorial positions at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; The Menil Collection; and the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art; and worked in the Education and Public Programming department at SITE Santa Fe.

“I am very excited to join the Bechtler Museum of Modern Art staff at a moment when the institution is thinking so expansively about the role of modern and contemporary art,” said Zavistovski. “I look forward to helping evolve the Bechtler as a modern art museum, to broadening art historical narratives, and to immersing myself in the Charlotte art community.”

Zavistovski holds a Ph.D. in art history from Rice University, an M.A. from Williams College, and a B.A. from Washington University in St. Louis, also in art history. She has published writings on artists including Vija Celmins, Sol LeWitt, Eva Hesse, Oscar Muñoz, Mark Dion, and LaToya Ruby Frazier, among others.

About the Bechtler Museum of Modern Art

The Bechtler Museum of Modern Art is the only museum in the Southern United States dedicated solely to European and American modern art and its legacies. Capturing a remarkable era of art history from the collection of the Zürich-based Bechtler family, the Bechtler Museum of Modern Art collection includes works by some of the most important and influential figures of modernism, including Alexander Calder, Le Corbusier, Edgar Degas, Max Ernst, Alberto Giacometti, Barbara Hepworth, Jasper Johns, Paul Klee, Alfred Manessier, Joan Miró, Kenneth Noland, Pablo Picasso, Bridget Riley, Nicolas de Staël, Andy Warhol, and a wealth of other 20th-century notables. The museum, designed by Swiss architect Mario Botta, prominently features Niki de Saint Phalle's iconic *Le Grand Oiseau de Feu sur l'Arche* on its entrance plaza. Located in the heart of Uptown, the Bechtler is a light-filled community space created to inspire and engage first-time visitors and long-term supporters alike.

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