

THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO NAMES NEW MODERN ART CURATOR

Stephanie D'Alessandro Named Gary C. and Frances Comer Curator of Modern Art

James Cuno, President and Eloise W. Martin Director of the Art Institute of Chicago, has announced the appointment of **Stephanie D'Alessandro** to the position of **Gary C. and Frances Comer Curator of Modern Art** in the **Department of Medieval through Modern European Painting and Sculpture**, effective immediately.

"As we prepare for the opening of the Modern Wing in 2009, we are undertaking significant research and conservation efforts with our modern European painting and sculpture collection," said James Cuno, President and Eloise W. Martin Director of the Art Institute. "Stephanie has been a leader in these efforts, and we are very pleased to recognize her dedication and talents with this endowed curatorship."

Ms. D'Alessandro has been with the Art Institute since 1998, when she arrived as an Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Curatorial Fellow. Previously, she held curatorial positions at the Smart Museum of Art at the University of Chicago, including Assistant Curator from 1991 to 1993 and Associate Curator from 1993 to 1995. Between 1995 and 1998, she served as an exhibition assistant for the Deutsches Historisches Museum, Berlin, while also serving as a lecturer at the University of Chicago. She received both her M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Chicago, the latter with honors in 1997.

At the Art Institute, Ms. D' Alessandro has been involved in numerous institutional and exhibition-related projects—most recently taking a lead on the installation of the Modern galleries in the Modern Wing, serving as the lead author and editor on the three-volume catalogue of the museum's collection of modern European painting and sculpture, and curating a major exhibition on the early career of Henri Matisse, which the Art Institute is co-organizing with the Museum of Modern Art and which will be seen at the Art Institute in 2010.

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FALL/WINTER HOURS:

10:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday

10:30 a.m.–8:00 p.m. Thursday. Target Free Evenings after 5:00 p.m.

10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Saturday, Sunday.

Free all day, every day in February.

Closed Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day.

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Admission: Adults, \$12.00; children 12 and over, students, and seniors, \$7.00; children under 12 free; members always free. Target Free Evenings are free to all, except for certain special exhibitions that may require full or extra admission fee. City of Chicago residents with Chicago Public Library cards can borrow a "Check Us Out" card from any library branch for free general admission to the nine members of Museums in the Park, including the Art Institute of Chicago. Members always have free, unlimited access to the museum, including ticketed exhibitions. Join today at www.artic.edu/aic/joinnow

To reach the Art Institute on the World Wide Web, contact us at: <http://www.artic.edu/aic>

The Art Institute of Chicago is a museum in Chicago's Grant Park, located across from Millennium Park.