

The Noguchi Museum Announces Staff Promotions

Matthew Kirsch, promoted to Curator and Director of Research, and Kate Wiener, promoted to Curator, expand their roles at The Noguchi Museum



Matthew Kirsch. Photo: Justin R. Baez.
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Kate Wiener. Photo: Justin R. Baez.
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New York (October 2023) – **The Isamu Noguchi Foundation and Garden Museum** is proud to announce the promotions of two dedicated members of its curatorial team: **Matthew Kirsch**, to **Curator and Director of Research**, and **Kate Wiener**, to **Curator**. These promotions highlight the Museum’s commitment to advancing its curatorial and research initiatives.

Matthew Kirsch, formerly Curatorial Associate and then Curator of Research and Digital Projects, has been appointed to the position of **Curator and Director of Research**. As a staff member of sixteen years, Kirsch’s new role furthers his involvement with the Museum’s exhibitions, public programs, publications, and editorial projects. He has been a major contributor to internationally renowned exhibitions and monographs, including as co-curator for the traveling exhibition *Changing and Unchanging Things: Noguchi and Hasegawa in Postwar Japan* (2019) and associate editor of its companion monograph, and co-editor for the publication *The Saburo Hasegawa Reader* (both published by University of California Press). He provided invaluable research support to the recent European touring retrospective *Isamu Noguchi* (2021–23). Kirsch has also curated a series of in-house and off-site exhibitions, including *Salvaged Time* (2022), *Noguchi as Photographer: The Jantar Mantars of Northern India* (2015), *Hammer Chisel Drill: Noguchi’s Studio Practice* (2012–13), *Tracks: Animal Drawings from Noguchi’s Travels* (2011), and *Isamu Noguchi: We Are the Landscape of All We Know* at the Portland Japanese Garden (2013). He co-curated *Isamu Noguchi* (2013) at Instituto Tomie Ohtake in São Paulo, Brazil. In addition, he has written, edited, and overseen numerous articles exploring various facets of Noguchi’s work and life for the Digital Features online journal on The Noguchi Museum’s website, noguchi.org.

Kate Wiener has been promoted to the role of **Curator**. Previously Assistant Curator, Wiener has been a driving force behind several impactful projects at the Museum. Among her recent accom-

plishments are the organization of the exhibition *A Glorious Bewilderment: Marie Menken's 'Visual Variations on Noguchi'* (September 27, 2023–February 4, 2024) and the co-organized exhibitions *Noguchi Subscapes* (2022–23), *Noguchi: Useless Architecture* (2021–22) and *Noguchi's Memorials to the Atomic Dead* (2021). She is a co-curator for the major national touring retrospective *Toshiko Takaezu: Worlds Within* (2024–26), and is a co-editor of the related monograph *Toshiko Takaezu: Worlds Within* (Yale University Press, forthcoming March 2024). She has done extensive research and writing on Noguchi's life and work for online and print publications including *Looking Up: The Skyviewing Sculptures of Isamu Noguchi* (Giles, 2022), and has contributed to various other publications including *Trigger: Gender as a Tool and a Weapon* (New Museum, 2017) and *Out of Bounds: The Collected Writings of Marcia Tucker* (Getty Research Institute/New Museum, 2019).

“I am thrilled to see Kate and Matthew grow with us and develop illuminating exhibitions that explore new ways to display and learn from Noguchi's work, while presenting new scholarship on the artistic production of his collaborators and contemporaries and highlighting Noguchi's continuing influence today through projects with multidisciplinary practitioners,” says Noguchi Museum Interim Director **Jennifer Lorch**. “They have proven to be sincerely committed to the Museum's future while upholding Isamu Noguchi's values.”

These appointments represent the Museum's dedication to fostering talent within its staff. The Museum remains a beacon for Noguchi research and appreciation, maintaining the world's largest collection of the artist's works. To learn more about The Noguchi Museum and its exhibitions and public programming, please visit noguchi.org and follow [@noguchimuseum](https://www.instagram.com/noguchimuseum) on Instagram.

ABOUT THE ISAMU NOGUCHI FOUNDATION AND GARDEN MUSEUM

Founded by the category-defying sculptor Isamu Noguchi (1904–1988) and opened to the public in 1985, The Isamu Noguchi Garden Museum (now known as The Noguchi Museum) was the first museum in the United States to be established, designed, and installed by a living artist to show their own work. Comprising the artist's estate and renowned Museum in Long Island City, Queens, The Isamu Noguchi Foundation and Garden Museum is a 501(c)(3) public charity and accredited by the American Alliance of Museums (AAM). The organization manages Noguchi's archives and catalogue raisonné, serves as an international hub for research, and is dedicated to the stewardship of Noguchi's art and legacy worldwide.

The Noguchi Museum, itself viewed as one of the artist's greatest achievements, comprises two floors of galleries in a converted factory building and a serene outdoor sculpture garden. Featuring much of Noguchi's original installation, the Museum offers an ever-evolving view of his influence through changing exhibitions and programs. noguchi.org | [@noguchimuseum](https://www.instagram.com/noguchimuseum)

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