

The Noguchi Museum Appoints Amy Hau Next Director



Amy Hau. Photo: Cindy Trinh. © The Isamu Noguchi Foundation and Garden Museum, New York / Artists Rights Society

New York (December 8, 2023)— The Board of Trustees of **The Isamu Noguchi Foundation and Garden Museum** announced today the appointment of **Amy Hau** as its next director. Hau has a long history with the institution, having begun her career as Isamu Noguchi’s assistant in 1986 and helped steward the legacy of the artist’s estate and foundation into a world-renowned museum. She continued her engagement with the Museum for almost 30 years, working in various roles until 2015. For the last eight years, she has served as a Managing Principal at the New York-based firm WXY Architecture and Urban Design. Hau, who was chosen after an international search, will begin her position on January 8, 2024.

“We are thrilled to welcome Amy Hau back to The Noguchi Museum to serve as our next director,” says Susan Kessler, Board Co-Chair who served on the search committee. “While we met many talented candidates during our rigorous and expansive search, Amy’s resume was unique. Her experience coupled with her first-hand knowledge of the Museum and its history, and her deep connections to Queens, made her our top choice.”

As the Museum’s next director, Hau will lead the institution into a new era by completing its capital campaign and fully developing the Museum campus, celebrating the institution’s 40th anniversary in 2025, and developing and implementing a new strategic vision.

“Amy represents not only the profound legacy of the Museum, but also embodies its dynamic, polyvocal future,” says Spencer Bailey, Board Co-Chair who served on the search committee. “She is an accomplished leader whose experience, management skills, and drive make her exactly the right person for the job. She has a vast knowledge of Noguchi’s life and work, and deeply understands the importance of collaboration and of creating a shared vision. As we move into our next chapter, we are confident that Amy will help the Museum make long-lasting impacts near and far.”

“As a young woman who began my career in Isamu Noguchi’s studio, it is the greatest honor to be chosen to become the next director of his museum,” says Amy Hau. “The exposure and experience I received from my work with Isamu, and later his foundation and museum, forever shaped my professional journey. I look forward to putting this education to good use while working with the Museum’s dedicated Board of Trustees and wonderfully talented staff, as we continue to advance the Museum’s mission, bring forward the creative thinking of artists, strengthen its role as a resource for the people of Queens and beyond, and most of all, honor Isamu’s legacy.”

Prior to joining WXY, Hau spent almost three decades at The Noguchi Museum. In her various roles, she helped it grow and evolve as well as strengthen its connections throughout its community. She played a significant role in increasing the Museum’s capacity, expanding its outreach and programs, overseeing its multi-phase \$23 million capital projects for the restoration and renovation of the Museum building and garden, and helping spearhead the master plan for an expanded campus. Hau most recently served as the Director of Administration and External Affairs, working closely with the director and trustees on the implementation of a strategic plan, development of a new master facilities plan, and the reorganization of its sister museum in Japan. She also oversaw all of the Museum’s administrative, marketing, and human relation functions, and liaised with New York City agencies and local civic partners. Her previous roles at the Museum included Administrative Director, Assistant to the Executive Director, and Assistant to Isamu Noguchi.

Hau moved from Hong Kong to Astoria with her family as a young child. She has lived in Queens for most of her life and continues to play an important role in her community. She has served on Community Board 1, Queens, since 2014 and as First Vice Chair since 2022. She also is a board member at Socrates Sculpture Park, and was a founding member of the Long Island City Cultural Alliance. Additionally, she serves on the board of the Asian American Arts Alliance and as a member of ARTtable. Hau received a MBA from the Zicklin School of Business at Baruch College, City University of New York, and a BA cum laude from Hunter College of the City University of New York, New York.

ABOUT THE NOGUCHI MUSEUM

Founded in 1985 by category-defying artist Isamu Noguchi (1904–1988), 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. Located in Long Island City, Queens, the Museum itself is widely viewed as among the artist’s greatest achievements. Holding the world’s largest collection of Noguchi’s works, it features open air and indoor galleries in a repurposed 1920s industrial building and an outdoor sculpture garden. Accompanying the permanent installations placed by Noguchi, the Museum presents temporary exhibitions exploring themes in Noguchi’s work, his milieu and collaborators, and his enduring influence today among contemporary practitioners across disciplines. It exhibits a comprehensive selection of Noguchi’s material culture, from sculpture, models, and drawings to his personal possessions, and manages the artist’s archives and catalog raisonné. Through its rich collection, exhibitions, and programming, the Museum facilitates scholarship and learning for audiences of all ages and backgrounds. noguchi.org | [@noguchimuseum](https://www.instagram.com/noguchimuseum)