



DATE: FEBRUARY 12, 2009
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
UNTIL: APRIL 12, 2009

SUBJECT: SASKIA BENJAMIN APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

On February 2, Saskia Benjamin joined the Atlanta Contemporary Art Center staff as Director of Institutional Advancement. Benjamin was selected following an extensive search; she offers a wide range of experience and accomplishment in various arts, fundraising, governmental, and environmental communities.

Speaking of her new position, Saskia said, "This is a really exciting time to work at the Contemporary. Recent programs have been outstanding, and support for and interest in the Contemporary is growing stronger. My goal is to continue raising the profile of the institution and solidifying its role as a leader in the arts."

About the appointment, Board President Jonathan Shils stated, "We are very pleased to have somebody as well qualified and capable as Saskia Benjamin join the Contemporary in this vital position. She brings years of experience at the intersection of fundraising, strategic planning, and arts advocacy. The support of the Marilyn Cox Douglas Foundation has been instrumental in our being able to secure such a talented professional."

Most recently, Benjamin has been the Growth Management Program Manager for the Georgia Conservancy, fundraising for the Blueprints for Successful Communities program, and developing strategic plans for various business, government, and community partnerships. Prior to this, she worked at the Center for Quality Growth and Regional Development in Atlanta, dealing with projects in housing, health, transportation, and preservation. From 1998-2004, she worked at the High Museum of Art, in Arts Administration positions including Exhibitions Coordinator and Assistant to the Deputy Director. Benjamin has Masters Degrees in City and Regional Planning (Urban Design) from Georgia Institute of Technology, and in Art History from the University of Southern California. She also has a Bachelor of Arts (Art History and Latin) from Emory University.

Founded in 1973, the Atlanta Contemporary Art Center is a non-profit multidisciplinary arts organization dedicated to excellence, experimentation, and education in all forms of contemporary art. The Contemporary is located at 535 Means Street, NW, Atlanta, GA 30318. 404 688 1970, www.thecontemporary.org.

For More Information Contact:
Stan Woodard
Communications Director
Atlanta Contemporary Art Center
535 Means Street, NW
Atlanta, GA 30318
404 734 4353 x213
swoodard@thecontemporary.org
www.thecontemporary.org

###