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Shanay Jhaveri joins Barbican as new Head of Visual Arts

Shanay Jhaveri has been appointed the new Head of Visual Arts at the Barbican.

Shanay joins the Barbican from the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, where he was Associate Curator of International Art from 2016-2022, after having completed his PhD at the Royal College of Art in London.

Among the many exhibitions Shanay has curated are the ground-breaking retrospective *Phenomenal Nature: Mrinalini Mukherjee* at the Met Breuer in 2019, and Huma Bhabha's Met Roof Commission *We Come in Peace* in 2018. He has published widely in various art journals, and has written books including *Western Artists and India: Creative Inspirations in Art and Design*, *Outsider Films on India: 1950–1990*, and *America: Films from Elsewhere*.

In his new role as Head of Visual Arts at the Barbican, he will oversee the Centre's programme of ground-breaking exhibitions, solo artist commissions and public events encompassing contemporary and modern art, design, architecture, performance, film and photography.

On joining the Barbican, Shanay Jhaveri, said: *'The Barbican's Visual Arts programme has over the course of four decades distinguished itself for its aesthetic ambition and intellectual rigor. It will be my privilege to work closely with a remarkable team to evolve a programme that since its inception has been cross-disciplinary and international in scope. We will endeavor to develop exhibitions, projects and commissions, that will continue to probe what has always been at the heart of the Barbican's original charge, how do we live with the arts, and what can we learn from them.'*

Will Gompertz, Artistic Director at the Barbican, said: *"We're thrilled Shanay is joining the Barbican. Shanay's outstanding career to date demonstrates his deep commitment to championing artists and audiences. This is such an exciting time to join the Barbican, and Shanay will build on the extraordinary achievements of our Visual Arts team and bring his unique vision to our upcoming exhibitions programme that will explore the interconnections between disciplines, periods, and cultures."*

This announcement follows the Barbican's recent launch of its [2023 Visual Arts programme](#) which will feature the largest exhibition to date in the UK of American artist **Alice Neel**, new commissions for The Curve gallery by Architectural practice **RESOLVE Collective** as well as by poet, visual artist and filmmaker **Julianknxx**; a major survey of American artist **Carrie Mae Weems**, and in the autumn, a major group exhibition **RE/SISTERS** surveying the relationship between women and ecology to identify the systemic links between the oppression of women and the degradation of the planet.

ENDS

Notes to Editors

Press Information

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About the Barbican

A world-class arts and learning organisation, the [Barbican](#) pushes the boundaries of all major art forms including dance, film, music, theatre and visual arts. Its creative learning programme further underpins everything it does. Over a million people attend events annually, hundreds of artists and performers are featured, and more than 300 [staff](#) work onsite. The architecturally renowned centre opened in 1982 and comprises the Barbican Hall, the Barbican Theatre, The Pit, Cinemas 1, 2 and 3, Barbican Art Gallery, a second gallery The Curve, public spaces, a library, the Lakeside Terrace, [a glasshouse conservatory](#), conference facilities and three restaurants. The City of London Corporation is the founder and principal funder of the Barbican Centre.

The Barbican is home to Resident Orchestra, [London Symphony Orchestra](#); Associate Orchestra, [BBC Symphony Orchestra](#); Associate Ensembles the [Academy of Ancient Music](#) and [Britten Sinfonia](#), Associate Producer [Serious](#), and Artistic Partner [Create](#). Our Artistic Associates include [Boy Blue](#), [Cheek by Jowl](#), Deborah Warner, [Drum Works](#) and [Michael Clark](#). The [Los Angeles Philharmonic](#) are the Barbican's International Orchestral Partner, the [Australian Chamber Orchestra](#) are International Associate Ensemble at Milton Court, and [Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra](#) are International Associate Ensemble.

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