



Nassau County Museum of Art Appoints Charles A. Riley II as New Director

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by Pat Rogers

Nassau County Museum of Art has appointed Charles A. Riley II, Ph.D. as the new director of the Long Island art museum, announced Angela Susan Anton, president of the board of trustees. Riley assumes his role as director today, August 14, 2017. Riley has a long association with [Nassau County Museum of Art](#) as both a curator-at-large and a presenter of lectures in conjunction with the museum's exhibitions. As a curator, he contributed to the museum's Picasso, Surrealism and Abstract Expressionists exhibitions. Most recently, he curated a permanent exhibition of Western Art for a new private museum in Taiwan. Riley has also curated exhibitions in Berlin, Amsterdam, Lausanne, New York and on Long Island's East End.



Dr. Charles A. Riley II

Dr. Riley succeeds Karl E. Willers, Ph.D. who served as director for seven years. Dr. Willers's tenure at the Museum included numerous accomplishments such as the recent opening of The Manes Family Art & Education Center and the mounting of many critically acclaimed exhibitions, among them "[Milton Avery & The End of Modernism](#)," "[Rimer Cardillo Jornadas de la memoria](#)," "[Out of the Vault: 25 Years of Collecting](#)" and "[Kenny Scharf/Glamorous Graffiti](#)."

Among his most recent accomplishments, Charles A. Riley II published [his latest book](#), "[Free as Gods: How the Jazz Age Reinvented Modernism](#)," in June 2017, bringing the number of books he's authored to 32. Other books include "The Jazz Age in France," "The Art of Peter Max," "Art at Lincoln Center," "The Arts and the World Economy," "Color Codes" and "The Saints of Modern Art." His next book, a study of Rodin in Chinese and English, will be published by the [Chimei Museum](#) in fall 2017. Riley's monographs include those on Ben Schonzeit, [Fritz Bultman](#) and Peter Max, with most published by Abrams.

A prolific arts journalist, reviewer and essayist, Riley is a former *Time Inc.* reporter and covered the art market, and Washington, D.C. for *Fortune*. His writing has appeared in major art publications including *Art & Auction*, *Art & Antiques* and *Antiques and Fine Art*. Charles A. Riley II has [contributed art reviews and essays](#) to [Hamptons Art Hub](#) since 2015.

Riley was also the editor-in-chief of *WE magazine*, a bimonthly devoted to people with disabilities. In connection with this work, Riley won awards from the Mayor's Office of the City of New York, Easter Seals, United Cerebral Palsy and the National Recovery Alliance among other organizations.

As a sought after guest commentator on the art market as well as other topics, Dr. Riley has appeared on CNN, NBC, MSNBC, CBS, ABC and Fox News. He began his publishing career at Doubleday, where he edited several books with Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis. He was a tenured professor at the City University of New York (CUNY), has been a visiting professor in Shijiazhuang (mainland China) and teaches in Clarkson University's management program.

Born and raised in Manhasset, Charles A. Riley II is a summa cum laude graduate of Princeton University and received his Ph.D. from The Graduate Center of CCNY. He and his wife, Dr. Keming Liu, a noted translator of Chinese poetry and a professor at CUNY, live in New York and Cutchogue on the North Fork.

Nassau County Museum of Art is located at One Museum Drive, Roslyn Harbor, N.Y. The museum presents changing exhibitions and has a permanent outdoor sculpture park. For exhibition and programming information, visit www.nassaumuseum.org.

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