

For Immediate Release

EMILY CARR UNIVERSITY WELCOMES AOIFE MACNAMARA

Newly Appointed Dean, Faculty of Visual Art + Material Practice

Vancouver, CAN, August 2, 2013 | Emily Carr University of Art + Design is pleased to announce the appointment of Aoife MacNamara as Dean, Faculty of Visual Art + Material Practice, Audain School of Visual Arts. Dr. MacNamara's appointment will commence in August 2013.

Dr. MacNamara joins the University from Wimbledon College of Art/University of the Arts London, UK, where she has been serving as the Fine Art Program Director. She holds a Ph.D in Fine Art from the University of Ulster, Belfast.

Originally hailing from Nova Scotia, Dr. MacNamara moved to Ireland at a young age. She studied sculpture at Limerick School of Art, and completed graduate degrees in Fine Art (Birmingham, UK) and Social History of Art (Leeds, UK). In the early 1990s, she returned to Canada, where she taught at Concordia University and was active in a number of artist-run centres, including Artistic Director at Gallery 101, Ottawa. Upon return to UK in 1997, she held teaching and administrative positions at Middlesex University, most recently as Director of Programmes for Fine Art and Visual Culture.

Between 2005-2008, Dr. MacNamara was Director of Spaces Buildings Make, an AHRC-funded research project at Middlesex University, London, from which she developed her doctoral thesis Spaces Buildings Make: The Work of Artistic Research on the Experience of Built Space.

Dr. MacNamara has been instrumental in the development of course and program materials at both the undergraduate and graduate level. She is the recipient of numerous awards, grants and fellowships including awards from the Canada Council, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, and the Art and Design Research Institute.

As an artist and curator, she works largely on collective projects and has shown in Ireland, the UK and Canada including the Ottawa Art Gallery, La Mois de la Photo de Montréal, Limerick City Art Gallery, Letterkenny Art Gallery, The Lighthouse: Scotland's Centre for Architecture and the City, MoDA: The Museum of Design and Domestic Architecture and the Walter Phillips Gallery.

"Collaboration with communities, individuals and institutions is central to Aoife's work as an educator and in her artistic research," says David Bogen, Vice-President Academic + Provost, Emily Carr. "She brings a depth of knowledge and experience, and demonstrated ability to lead and inspire innovative work in the arts that will be a huge contribution to our community as we plan for our new campus in 2016."



About Emily Carr University of Art + Design

Emily Carr University of Art + Design, established in 1925, is a world leader in education and research. Encouraging experimentation at the intersection of art, design, media and technology, our learning community merges research, critical theory and studio practice in an interdisciplinary environment. Alumni and faculty are internationally recognized as award-winning creators and thought leaders who have enormous impact on both the cultural sector and economy. We engage students, industry, and society to continuously explore and think differently about creativity and how it shapes our world. Emily Carr is building a state-of-the-art campus for 21st century learning at Great Northern Way. The University will be at the centre of a new social, cultural, educational, and economic engine for British Columbia. Find out more at ecquad.ca.

The Audain School of Visual Arts was created through a gift from the Michael Audain Foundation in the Spring of 2013. It comprises the Faculty of Visual Art and Material Practice at Emily Carr and supports their vision of a studio-based educational and research environment reflective of the diversity and complexity of contemporary art.

For additional information, contact:

Barry Patterson, Executive Director, Communications
604.844.3078 bpatterson@ecquad.ca