

SUTTON

HOLT-SMITHSON FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES THE APPOINTMENT OF THE INAUGURAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Lisa Le Feuvre, Executive Director, Holt-Smithson Foundation. Photo courtesy of Claudine Hartzel.

The newly formed Holt-Smithson Foundation is very pleased to announce the appointment of Lisa Le Feuvre as its first Executive Director.

"It is a great honor to join the Nancy Holt and Robert Smithson Foundation as the inaugural Executive Director," Ms. Le Feuvre stated, "Our ambitions are to develop the legacy and values of Holt and Smithson, and to reinforce the importance of art in understanding our place in the world."



Robert Smithson and Nancy Holt at Spiral Jetty, Great Salt Lake, Utah, 1970 Photograph: Gianfranco Gorgoni ©Holt-Smithson Foundation/Licensed by VAGA, New York, NY

The Holt-Smithson Foundation exists to continue the creative and investigative spirit of the artists Nancy Holt and Robert Smithson, who, over their careers, developed innovative methods of exploring our relationship with the planet, and expanded the limits of artistic practice. Through public service, the Foundation will engage in programs that increase awareness of both artists' creative legacies, continuing the transformation they brought to the world of art and ideas.

Ms. Le Feuvre has curated exhibitions in museums and galleries across Europe, worked as an educator in a wide range of cultural institutions and universities and has been published extensively in international journals and academic publications. Since 2010 Ms. Le Feuvre has led the Henry Moore Institute in Leeds, UK – the research arm of the Henry Moore Foundation. Directing the research component of the largest artist foundation in Europe, she led a program of education, research, publications and exhibitions, was responsible for the Leeds Museums & Galleries Sculpture Collection, and served a member of the Foundation's Grants Committee and its Strategic Management Team. During her tenure, Le Feuvre raised the international profile of the Institute, initiated sustainable links with local communities and developed and implemented a sound framework for the organization. She is also a member of the 2018 Turner Prize Selection Committee and is a non-executive director of Book Works.

“Lisa Le Feuvre brings the perfect combination of scholarship and experience, and a passion for creative inquiry that is consistent with the spirit of Holt and Smithson,” said Board President Matthew Coolidge. “The entire board looks forward to her joining our team as we effectuate this exciting new Foundation.”

Contacts

<http://www.holtsmithsonfoundation.org>
info@holtsmithsonfoundation.org

Press Queries

press@holtsmithsonfoundation.org

Notes to editors

Holt-Smithson Foundation

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Nancy Holt

Born in Worcester, Massachusetts, Nancy Holt (April 5 1938 – February 8 2014) grew up in New Jersey and graduated from Tufts University, where she majored in biology. In 1963 she married Robert Smithson (1938-1973).

Holt is an artist known for her Land art, public sculpture and installation work. Her large-scale environmental works 'Sun Tunnels' (1973–76, Great Basin Desert, Utah) and 'Dark Star Park' (1970–84, Arlington County, Virginia) are her most discussed outdoor site-specific sculptures. An analytical thinker, Holt's oeuvre ranges from permanent works to ephemeral gestures: she made films, videos, photography, audio works, concrete poetry and artists' books.

Holt's work is held in major public collections, including: Museum of Modern Art, New York; Whitney Museum of American Art; Utah Museum of Fine Arts; and Museum für Gegenwartskunst. In 2010-12 the retrospective exhibition *Nancy Holt: Sightlines* (curated by Alena J. Williams) traveled from the Wallach Art Gallery, Columbia University to Badischer Kunstverein in Karlsruhe, Tufts University Art Gallery in Boston, the Graham Foundation in Chicago, Santa Fe Arts Institute and the Utah Museum of Fine Arts in Salt Lake City. In 2013 Holt was presented with a Lifetime Achievement Award by the International Sculpture Center in New York.

Robert Smithson

Born in Passaic, New Jersey, Robert Smithson (January 2 1938 – July 20 1973), spent his formative years in New Jersey. In 1963, Smithson married Nancy Holt (1938–2014).

Smithson is best known for his earthworks 'Spiral Jetty' (1970), 'Broken Circle/Spiral Hill' (1971) and 'Amarillo Ramp' (1973). Smithson changed notions of contemporary art by taking it out of the gallery and into the uncultivated landscape. A provocateur and autodidact, Smithson was fascinated by concepts of duality and entropy. Attracted to industrial wastelands, rock quarries and fringe landscapes, his works of the late 1960s broke with conventional notions of sculpture.

Smithson's writings on art, western culture, graphic texts, and interviews, are published in *The Writings of Robert Smithson*, edited by Nancy Holt (1979, New York University Press, with an expanded version published in 1998). His works are in numerous museum collections, including Chicago Art Institute, Dia Art Foundation, Museum of Modern Art New York, National Museum of Modern Art Tokyo, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, Tate and Whitney Museum of American Art.