

The Museum of Modern Art

Ugochukwu-Smooth C. Nzewi

**Steven and Lisa Tananbaum Curator, Department of Painting and Sculpture
The Museum of Modern Art**

Ugochukwu-Smooth C. Nzewi is The Steven and Lisa Tananbaum Curator in the Department of Painting and Sculpture at The Museum of Modern Art, where he participates in the Museum's acquisitions program, the installation of the collection galleries, and the development of special exhibitions and catalogues. He leads the Museum's Contemporary and Modern Art Perspectives (C-MAP) Africa group, which is MoMA's internal research and exchange initiative devoted to art in a global context. Prior to joining the Museum's curatorial staff in 2019, Nzewi was the Curator of African Art at the Cleveland Museum of Art as well as at Dartmouth College's Hood Museum of Art. Nzewi has organized and curated a variety of exhibitions, including a site-specific commission by Nigerian artist Emeka Ogboh called *Ámà: The Gathering Place* (2019, with Emily Liebert), *Second Careers: Two Tributaries in African Art* (2019) *Eric van Hove: The Craft of Art* (2016), *Inventory: New Works and Conversations around African Art* (2016), *Ukara: Ritual Cloth of the Ekpe Secret Society* (2015), and *The Art of Weapons: Selections from the African Collection* (2014). While at the Hood Museum, Nzewi acquired an array of important works by artists such as Kader Attia, Candice Breitz, Ibrahim El-Salahi, Julie Mehretu, and Obiora Udechukwu. He is co-editor of *Dak'Art: The Biennale of Dakar and the Making of Contemporary African Art* (Routledge, 2020), *Condition Report: On Art History in Africa* (Motto, 2020), and *New Spaces for Negotiating Art and Histories in Africa* (LitVerlag, 2015). Nzewi received a BA in sculpture from the University of Nigeria, Nsukka; a postgraduate diploma in the African Program in Museum and Heritage Studies from the University of Western Cape; and a PhD in art history from Emory University.

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11 West 53 Street
New York, NY 10019