Press Release
October 2017

Margarita Karasoulas Appointed Assistant Curator of American Art at Brooklyn Museum

The Brooklyn Museum is pleased to announce the appointment of Margarita Karasoulas as Assistant Curator of American Art. Karasoulas joined the Brooklyn Museum in October 2017. She has previously held curatorial positions at the Delaware Art Museum, Bruce Museum, and Amon Carter Museum of American Art. Most recently, she curated Electric Paris (2016) at the Bruce Museum and The Puzzling World of John Sloan (2015) at the Delaware Art Museum.

As Assistant Curator, Karasoulas will contribute to the reinstallation of the American art collection and to upcoming exhibition projects. Karasoulas is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Art History at the University of Delaware and holds an M.A. in Art History from Southern Methodist University and a B.A. in Art History and History from Lafayette College. She specializes in nineteenth- and early twentieth-century American art, with a particular focus on early American modernism, issues of race and representation, and the history of photography. She has also contributed to catalogues for the exhibitions Electric Paris and An American Journey: The Art of John Sloan (2017), and her scholarship has been published in Athanor and Panorama: Journal of the Association of Historians of American Art.

Karasoulas is currently at work on a dissertation that examines Ashcan School imagery of immigration in New York at the turn of the twentieth century, for which she has received fellowships from the Luce Foundation/American Council of Learned Societies, Smithsonian American Art Museum, and University of Delaware.

The Brooklyn Museum holds one of the oldest and finest public collections of American art in the world. The American holdings have grown to include paintings, sculptures, watercolors, pastels, drawings, and prints ranging in date from circa 1720 to 1945. Highlights of the eighteenth-century paintings collection include iconic portraits of George Washington by Gilbert Stuart and Charles Willson Peale. Among the famous nineteenth-century landscape and figure painters represented are Albert
Bierstadt, Frederic Church, Thomas Cole, Winslow Homer, George Inness, Eastman Johnson, William Merritt Chase, Thomas Eakins, Albert Pinkham Ryder, and John Singer Sargent. Turn-of-the-century urban realism is well represented by the works of The Eight and the Ashcan School. The collection is also strong in early modernist works, including paintings by Max Weber, Marsden Hartley, Georgia O’Keeffe, Charles Sheeler, and Stuart Davis.

Highlights of the sculpture holdings are William Rush's wood carving *Winter* (1810) and Hiram Powers's famed marble *The Greek Slave* (1866), in which the midcentury Neoclassical style reached its apogee. The collection is especially rich in later nineteenth-century Beaux-Arts bronzes, including works by Augustus Saint-Gaudens, Frederic MacMonnies, and Olin Levi Warner. It includes landmark modernist works in bronze and stone by Elie Nadelman, Gaston Lachaise, and John Bernard Flannagan, as well as exemplary works by Malvina Hoffman and the famed African American carver William Edmondson.