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**Contact:**

Rachel Roberts  
Senior Account Coordinator, Cultural Counsel  
[rachel@culturalcounsel.com](mailto:rachel@culturalcounsel.com)

Jo Urtasun  
Account Coordinator, Cultural Counsel  
[joana@culturalcounsel.com](mailto:joana@culturalcounsel.com)

**The Newark Museum of Art Welcomes Atteqa Ali as the New Associate Curator  
of Arts of Global Asia**



Atteqa Ali, The Newark Museum of Art's Associate Curator, Arts of Global Asia

**NEWARK, NJ – January 13, 2023** – The Newark Museum of Art is honored to announce Atteqa Ali as its new Associate Curator, Arts of Global Asia. She assumed the position on January 9, 2023.

“I am excited to join The Newark Museum of Art and look forward to collaborating with the team to present innovative and thought-provoking exhibitions and programs on the Arts of Global Asia,” said Ali.

Born in Pakistan, Ali has independently curated several exhibitions including *Back to the Future: History and Contemporary Art in the Middle East, North Africa, and South Asia* at Twelve Gates Gallery in Philadelphia, a project that considered the work of artists utilizing historical references to address current social and political events.

In addition to her previous curatorial work, Ali also published a series of studies on socially engaged art in the extended Middle East region, including *Collaborative Art and Contemporary Art Experiments in the MENASA* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2020). Her book *Play: Subversive Contemporary Art in Pakistan and the Diaspora* examines playful practices in socially and politically engaged Pakistani art at the turn of the millennium. Ali has also authored essays on fundamentalism, terrorism, art in Pakistan as well as the role of arts organizations in the UAE on the development of contemporary art in the region.

“We’re thrilled to welcome Dr. Ali to our robust curatorial team,” said Catherine Evans, the Museum’s Deputy Director, Collections & Curatorial Strategies. “Not only does she bring deep expertise in the art histories and complexities of the Asian continent, but also in the polycultural contemporary scene and its global diaspora.”

Along with Ali’s proficiency and experience in the field as a curator and author, she has taught at several prominent colleges and universities in the United States and around the world, including Colby College, Pratt Institute, Zayed University, and the National College of Arts in Pakistan.

The Museum was founded in 1909 with the purchase of a collection of several thousand Japanese artworks from Newark pharmacist George T. Rockwell. Since then, the Museum’s Arts of Global Asia collection has grown to nearly 30,000 objects, including the largest Tibetan collection in North America.

In February 2022, the Museum presented *Carlos Villa: World in Collision*—the first-ever major museum retrospective highlighting the works of the Filipino artist. Currently on view in the Arts of Global Asia gallery, a related installation, *Worlds In Collision: Selections from the Asian Pacific Collection*, draws from the Museum’s distinguished holdings of Oceanic ethnographic and Filipino art. The examples on view are similar to the ethnographic objects referenced throughout Villa’s 2022 exhibition, including kris daggers, a 19th-century Hawaiian cape, and a carved memorial board from Papua New Guinea. For more information, please visit the Museum’s [website](#).

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### **About the Newark Museum of Art**

Founded in 1909, The Newark Museum of Art (NMOA) is the largest museum in New Jersey and ranks twelfth nationally in collection size, with more than 130,000 artworks and significant holdings of science and natural history. The NMOA is committed to the values of Diversity, Equity, Accessibility, and Inclusion by responding to the evolving needs and interests of diverse audiences through participation, visitor experiences, and community engagement.

From the ancient world to contemporary art, the Museum boasts a renowned collection of

exceptional quality and depth, spanning concentrations in the Arts of Global Africa; Arts of Global Asia, featuring a Tibetan Buddhist altar; Arts of the Americas; American Art, with a particular strength in Native American art; Decorative Arts; Arts of the Ancient Mediterranean; and Science.

With a focus on welcoming everyone with inclusive experiences that spark curiosity and foster community, the NMOA offers groundbreaking exhibitions, engaging programming, a research library with 60,000 volumes, paid internships, and impactful local and global partnerships. A four-acre campus includes the Ballantine House (1885), a National Historic Landmark; the Ward Carriage House (1860); the Old Stone School House (1784); the Alice Ransom Dreyfuss Memorial Garden; and Horizon Plaza. Under the leadership of Director and CEO Linda C. Harrison, the NMOA has launched an era of transformation to create an engaged citizenry by reimagining the role of the art museum in the 21st century.