The Kramlich Collection Fellowship

Initiated by Isaac Julien and Mark Nash with the Humanities Institute at UC Santa Cruz, The Kramlich Collection Fellowship is a yearlong program in partnership with the Kramlich Collection, a world-renowned collection of moving image artworks with a purpose-built residence and exhibition space designed by Herzog and de Meuron in the Napa Valley. The fellowship will begin with the Fall Quarter of 2024 completing with a final project the following year.

Playing an integral role in the long-term research and exhibition initiatives taking place at the Kramlich Residence and Collection, the fellow will be allowed access to all the artworks in the collection with their corresponding archives and libraries. With this access a fellow will assist in the production of a publication of an in-depth exhibition catalogue for the exhibition, Portraits, currently installed at the Residence and Collection. Concurrently a fellow will contribute to the research and realization of future exhibitions and programs at the institution.

A final project will be conceptualized by the fellow at the beginning of the program. This project can take the shape of a small publication, the organizing of a symposium or series of lectures, an intimate off-site exhibition, or any other approved proposal developed with Isaac, Mark, and the Collection.

The ideal candidate possesses a deep interest in contemporary art with a focus on the moving image, new media, and performance. An independent research and work ethic, with the ability to collaborate with a team when necessary. As well as the ability to interact with artists in the collection and interfacing with viewers attending the exhibition. Excellent writing skills with the ability to adapt and translate long-form research into short-form museum didactics. Given the distance of the fellow’s university and the Residence and Collection, this position will be hybrid, with the requirement of being onsite at least once per month. If feasible for the fellow more frequent onsite work is encouraged, housing accommodations can be provided.

The Collection

Recognized internationally as one of the most influential private holdings of media art, the Kramlich Collection encompasses over 200 works of film, video, slide, and installation, as well as over 250 significant works of photography, sculpture, painting, and drawing by more than 230 artists from around the world, The Collection features seminal holdings of risk-taking and renowned artists who are advancing the field through their work. The continued growth and evolution of _the Collection is guided by the Kramlichs’ dedication to supporting those artists whose works embrace a range of artistic techniques and reflect upon bracing social and cultural themes.


The Residence

Located in the beautiful landscape of Napa Valley, California, the Kramlich Residence is both a home for the Kramlichs and a dedicated space for the Collection. Designed by Herzog & de
Meuron and developed over the course of two decades, the Residence serves as a testing ground for innovation in preserving, presenting, experiencing, and living with media art.

The Residence’s galleries, totaling 8,000 square feet, are custom-designed and reconfigurable to accommodate the space, sound, light, and technical needs of the art on view. Works are viewed one-at-a-time and at a pace dictated by the works themselves, fostering thoughtful consideration of each. While there is some delineation between gallery and living space, the Residence embraces a fluidity between art and life, setting an unprecedented model for how to present and live with media art.

Exhibitions at the Residence

Drawn exclusively from the Collection, exhibitions at the Kramlich Residence are curated thematically to explore resonant themes. The inaugural exhibition, Human Conditions, featured 22 provocative installations of media art from the Kramlich Collection, including works by Dara Birnbaum, Pierre Huyghe, William Kentridge, Steve McQueen, Bruce Nauman, Shirin Neshat, and more. Supported by a complementary selection of painting, photography, sculpture, and drawing spread across three floors, Human Conditions investigated a range of urgent political and psychological issues.

On view since May 2023, Portraits, considers the lineage of portraiture throughout art history and its persistence in relation to the moving image. Comprising of 20 installations featuring work by Fiona Tan, Tacita Dean, Steve McQueen, Wilhelm Sasnal, Jeff Koons, among others.

The Publications

As part of their commitment to education and public engagement, the Kramlichs have produced book publications in relation to the Collection and the Residence.

The Kramlich Residence and Collection, published by Hatje Cantz in 2019, explores the evolution of the Kramlich Residence and its implications for the field of media art. Featuring essays and conversations with Pamela and Richard Kramlich, Jacques Herzog and Pierre de Meuron, Aebhric Coleman, Nicholas Olsberg, Nicholas Serota, Dara Birnbaum, and Lynne Cooke, as well as new photographic commissions by Lothar Baumgarten, Luisa Lambri, and Catherine Wagner, each contribution in the book explores intersections between architecture, nature, moving images, sound, and spaces to live and gather.

The Human Condition: Media Art from the Kramlich Collection, I documents and interprets Human Conditions, the first exhibition at the Kramlich Residence. Edited by Shannon Jackson and published by Thames & Hudson, the catalog features lush photography of each work in the exhibition, as well as 27 provocative essays commissioned from luminaries in the field such as Chrissie Iles, Barbara London, Isaac Julien, Stuart Comer, Adrienne Edwards, Catherine Wood, Omar Kholeif, and many more.

The Portrait: Media Art from the Kramlich Collection II is forthcoming.