



For Immediate Release

**MEREDITH MONK/THE HOUSE FOUNDATION FOR  
THE ARTS ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF  
OLIVIA GEORGIA AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Meredith Monk/The House Foundation for the Arts has announced the appointment of Olivia Georgia as its new executive director, effective immediately.

“The House Foundation is entering a new and exciting moment in its history,” notes Chair and President Ellynn Skove. “Meredith is creating amazing new work, we are moving to a new location in Tribeca, augmenting our Board, and developing initiatives to strengthen the organization. The Board is thrilled to enlist such a qualified and adventurous executive director as Olivia.”

Artistic Director Meredith Monk echoes the sentiments of Skove: “I am very gratified to have the opportunity to work with Olivia Georgia, who is an energetic and creative executive director.”

Ms. Georgia brings a strong arts management background to The House with experience in senior positions at four contemporary arts organizations. Most recently, she served as executive director of the Bronx Museum of the Arts from 2003–2005, where she implemented a \$15 million capital project to construct a 12,000 square foot addition to the museum.

While at the museum, she oversaw new program initiatives, marketing, special events and board development. She led fundraising efforts to sustain the \$2 million annual budget and quadrupled the reach of the museum’s educational programs.

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Ms. Georgia served as director of visual arts at the Newhouse Center for Contemporary Art/Snug Harbor Cultural Center in Staten Island from 1989–2003 and as the first executive director of Maryland Art Place (MAP) from 1983–1989. She was also the assistant director of Washington Project for the Arts (WPA) from 1979–1983.

With a wealth of experience in finding resources for new and innovative work, Ms. Georgia is looking forward to the new position. “My most rewarding professional accomplishments have been providing opportunities and support for artists to create new work and connect with new audiences,” said Ms. Georgia. “This position with The House Foundation for the Arts affords a significant platform to work closely with one of the most important American artists of our time. I am eager to help Meredith foster new projects and collaborations, as well as develop new means to channel her existing work.”

In addition to her grounding in the visual arts, Ms. Georgia has overseen many performance and interdisciplinary programs. Her first encounter with Ms. Monk was in the early 1980s while at the WPA. “I vividly remember how professional and gracious she was in working on every detail of the concert,” Ms. Georgia said. While at MAP, Ms. Georgia conceived a multi-discipline workshop, *Diverse Works*, which enlisted visiting artists such as jazz musician Carl Grubbs, choreographer Stephanie Skura and puppeteer Theodora Skipitaris. In 1994, Ms. Georgia included the work of Meredith Monk in *Outside the Frame: Performance and the Object*, an exhibition on the history of performance art for the Cleveland Center for Contemporary Art; *Outside the Frame* was then presented at the Newhouse Center in 1995. Ms. Monk also participated as a panelist in *The Buddhism Project*, a city-wide program on the interface between Buddhism and contemporary art that Ms. Georgia had spearheaded.

Ms. Georgia has been a panelist and consultant for organizations such as the National Endowment for the Arts, New York State Council on the Arts, New Jersey State Arts Council and the Florida State Arts Council. A Fellow at the

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Museum Management Institute, she studied art criticism and studio art at Hampshire College and liberal arts and painting at American College in Paris. She currently sits on the Boards of Directors of The Exhibition Alliance, the Verrazano Foundation and MultiArts Projects and Productions.

Ms. Georgia succeeds Barbara Dufty, who, after heading the company for 25 years, stepped down this past spring. Created by Meredith Monk in 1968 and incorporated in 1972, The House Foundation for the Arts provides management, administration and executive production services for Ms. Monk, as well as for Meredith Monk & Vocal Ensemble and The House Company.

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