FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 19 AUGUST 2019

The Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery announces the appointment of the new RBC Curatorial Fellow - Presenting Donors Nancy McCain & Bill Morneau

Through the Emerging Curator Program at The Power Plant, generously supported by Nancy McCain & Bill Morneau and Royal Bank of Canada (RBC), the gallery is pleased to announce Amin Alsaden as its fourth Curatorial Fellow.

Amin Alsaden is a Toronto-based curator and scholar. Prior to joining The Power Plant, he worked as an independent curator and contributed to several exhibitions including *Art and Architecture between Lisbon and Baghdad* (Gulbenkian Museum, Lisbon), *Thirty Years of Arab Art* (Darat al Funun, Amman), *Dubai Next* (Vitra Design Museum, Weil am Rhein), and *Intransigent Architectures* (GSD Gallery, Cambridge MA). His curatorial practice focuses on cross-cultural exchanges and the blurred boundaries between art and architecture, with a commitment to disseminating inclusive narratives that challenge existing canons and hegemonic power structures. Alsaden holds graduate degrees from Harvard and Princeton, has published and lectured widely and his work has received numerous awards. He studies modernism in the Global South and recently completed his doctoral dissertation on post-WWII Baghdad. He is also editing a book that examines the ways in
which knowledge about modern and contemporary art from the Arab world is produced today, and how precarious archives and scarce resources shape incomplete and lopsided global narratives.

On his appointment: "It is an honour to be awarded the RBC Curatorial Fellowship, supported by Nancy McCain & Bill Morneau and to join The Power Plant, an institution I respect deeply. This is a unique place that offers exceptional exhibitions and programming free to the multicultural public of this city, while engaging brilliant international artists who are addressing some of today’s most pressing issues. I am grateful that Toronto has an institution of this calibre, one that is committed to ensuring that the city’s art scene is open to curators of different voices, backgrounds, and interests. I am especially excited about learning from the stellar team here, and familiarizing myself with the complex operations that sustain a successful and rigorous contemporary art gallery. Equally, I am looking forward to making a strong contribution to this institution."

Established in 2014, the Emerging Curator Program is designed to revolutionize the standard for curatorial fellowships in Canada. The two-year program provides the Fellow with direct, hands-on curatorial and exhibitions experience at The Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery. The program represents an important investment in the Canadian arts community by fostering the development of curators and the next generation of visual arts leaders for Canada and supports The Power Plant’s goal to encourage greater career opportunities within the museum field. The aim at the end of the program is for the Emerging Curatorial Fellow to play a prominent role within the world of contemporary art galleries and museums both in Canada and internationally.

The Power Plant thanks RBC for supporting the Emerging Curator Program in its first five years, and looks forward to the continued success of the Fellowship program thanks to the generosity of Nancy McCain and Bill Morneau.

The first RBC Curatorial Fellow, Clara Halpern, following the completion of the program, was appointed to the role of Assistant Curator at Oakville Galleries. Halpern is currently Assistant Curator at the Art Gallery of York University. The second RBC Curatorial Fellow, Nabila Abdel Nabi, expanded her skills and responsibilities at The Power Plant, as she was subsequently promoted to the roles of Assistant Curator and then Associate Curator. Abdel Nabi is now Curator of International Art at Tate Modern. Justine Kohleal, the third RBC Curatorial Fellow, is now Assistant Curator at The Power Plant.
Presenting Donors
Nancy McCain & Bill Morneau

About The Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery

The Power Plant is Canada’s leading public gallery devoted exclusively to contemporary visual art. It is a vital forum for the advanced artistic culture of our time that offers an exceptional facility and professional support to diverse living artists, while engaging equally diverse audiences in their work. The Power Plant pursues its activities through exhibitions, publications and public programming that incorporate other areas of culture when they intersect with visual art.

Director: Gaëtane Verna

ADMISSION: ALL YEAR, ALL FREE
presented by BMO FINANCIAL GROUP

Providing as many people as possible with access to these programs and events remains the gallery’s top priority. The initiative leading these efforts is a renewed partnership with BMO Financial Group, whose support of the ALL YEAR, ALL FREE initiative is vital to expanding and diversifying audiences by eliminating the cost of admission to The Power Plant’s exhibition program.

For bios, images, interview requests or more information please contact:
Marketing & Communications
media@thepowerplant.org / 416.973.4949

For more information please visit:
thepowerplant.org

Connect with us:
facebook.com/ThePowerPlantTO
twitter.com/ThePowerPlantTO
instagram.com/ThePowerPlantTO

#ThePowerPlantTO