BROOKLYN, NY – A.I.R. Gallery, the historical New York City-based art institution founded in 1972 by a group of twenty radical women artists—Howardena Pindell, Judith Bernstein, Nancy Spero, and Agnes Denes among them—today announced that Executive Director Roxana Fabius has stepped down from her role, effective July 2022, after six years at the helm championing feminist art and artists. A.I.R.’s Board of Directors has selected curator and writer Christian Camacho-Light, who previously served as A.I.R.’s Director of Exhibitions and Fellowship, and who has worked closely in partnership with Fabius, to assume the role of Executive Director. Fabius and Camacho-Light are working closely with A.I.R.’s Board through the leadership transition. Fabius will continue to serve as an advisor to the organization.

Fabius, an Uruguayan curator and art administrator who joined A.I.R. in 2016, was the first Latinx woman in the organization’s history to be named Executive Director. Camacho-Light represents yet another first for the organization: they will be the first non-binary individual to lead the organization, an authentic reflection of its expanded mission to support both women and non-binary artists.

A.I.R.’s Board President Susan Stainman said, “We are deeply grateful to Roxana for her steady leadership over the past six years. Roxana’s commitment to A.I.R.’s vision and legacy, along with her curatorial rigor, helped bring our organization into and through one of its most expansive periods. Throughout her tenure, Roxana has strengthened our community and curatorial program, amplified emerging feminist artistic voices, and has broadened our ability to connect A.I.R.’s mission to new challenges facing our society. Roxana has ensured A.I.R.’s stability for years to come, including through a seamless leadership succession. We look forward to working with Christian in their new role and to advancing A.I.R.’s work well into the future. Roxana leaves A.I.R. in very capable hands.”

“Serving as A.I.R.’s Executive Director has been a highlight of my professional career so far. I firmly believe in this organization, its cooperative structure, its mission, and most importantly, its community. In the last six years I learnt to listen deeply, the meaning of community support, and how together we can make ideas a reality even against all odds. The amount of individual and collective wisdom that has been shared through conversations, meetings and sheer gestures
will stay with me forever. I believe A.I.R. is in a different place today than it was in 2016 and I firmly believe it is fully equipped to navigate the current seas and fight the fights that are as relevant today as they were 50 years ago,” Fabius said.

“I am honored to continue and deepen my work with the A.I.R. community as Executive Director. As a member of this community for half a decade now, I’ve witnessed firsthand—at openings and events, through conversations at the gallery and in artists’ studios—the vital nature of this community and the singular position that A.I.R. holds in the contemporary cultural landscape, both in New York and beyond. I am also deeply grateful for Roxana’s years of dedication to this organization, her unwavering support, and good humor. A.I.R. is indelibly better—financially, programmatically, and in spirit—for her contributions and vision. I am humbled to continue her work championing women and non-binary artists,” Camacho-Light said.

Bringing her extensive knowledge of art history, feminist theory, and arts activism, Fabius oversaw the exhibitions of over 150 women and non-binary artists and launched an extensive range of dynamic programs and initiatives that deepened support for underrepresented artists, including The Unforgettables Reading/Working Group. She can also be credited with securing new sources of support (including a first-time Andy Warhol for the Visual Arts grant this year) and establishing the Coven patron program, efforts which contributed to growing the operating budget by 85% during the course of her tenure. Under Fabius, A.I.R. built a global social media following of 33k+ on the subversive premise that feminist art practice is not only about the kind of work an artist makes but about how they work with others. She can also be credited with amplifying A.I.R. as an unequivocal advocate of reproductive rights and leading conversations to enable the expansion of A.I.R.’s mission to include both women and non-binary artists.

Prior to joining A.I.R. in 2020, Camacho-Light was a Director at Kate Werble Gallery, New York, NY, and an independent curator and writer focused on matters of difference and identity, recognition and resistance, and the relationship between aesthetic and social representation. They have organized exhibitions and programs at A.I.R.; Kate Werble; Cuchifritos Gallery + Project Space, New York, NY; Abrons Arts Center, New York, NY; The Berrie Center for Performing and Visual Arts, Ramapo College, Mahwah, NJ; Knockdown Center, Queens, NY; The International Studio & Curatorial Program, Brooklyn, NY; and the Hessel Museum of Art, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY. From 2017-2019, Camacho-Light was AIRspace Curator-in-Residence at Abrons Arts Center. They hold an MA in Curatorial Studies from the Center for Curatorial Studies, Bard College and a BA in Art History from Vassar College.

Fabius and Camacho-Light will continue to partner on several initiatives around A.I.R.’s 50th anniversary through the coming year.

For more information about A.I.R. Gallery, visit airgallery.org.

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About A.I.R. Gallery
Fifty years ago a group of twenty women artists came together to establish A.I.R. (Artists In Residence, Inc.), which is now the longest running women and non-binary artists’ cooperative gallery in the United States. It is fundamental to our mission today to provide an alternative space for artists who exist on the margins of the contemporary art world and the art historical canon. As a feminist collective, A.I.R. fosters a multiplicity of voices in the arts, facilitates intergenerational dialogue, and nurtures a strong, supportive community of artists and arts practitioners. For additional information, visit www.airgallery.org