

## Laura Copelin Appointed Associate Curator at Ballroom Marfa

Eileen Kinsella, Monday, February 2, 2015



Ballroom Marfa, the dynamic nonprofit contemporary art space in West Texas, has appointed Laura Copelin as associate curator of the space. Copelin comes to Ballroom Marfa after four years at the Santa Monica Museum of Art in California.

Copelin, along with co-founder and artistic director Fairfax Dorn, and executive director Susan Sutton are all in charge of the programming. The post, which is a relatively new position, was previously held by Erin Kimmel.

“There is a great team taking shape at Ballroom and a precedent of extraordinary commissioned artworks and artist-driven projects, so I am excited to jump into the program,” Copelin told artnet News over email. “Right now, we are gearing up for the opening of Sam Falls’ exhibition as well as the New Myths music festival in March—both will be amazing.

The Falls show, which opens March 13, will showcase works created during Falls' residency in Marfa in July 2014, where the artist engaged directly with materials and forms unique to the Far West Texas landscape.

Copelin said she was initially drawn to Ballroom Marfa through the documentation of Prada Marfa and Hello Meth Lab in the Sun—"works that resonated far beyond West Texas and yet felt like they could have only happened in this sublime, singular landscape."

While Copelin said "it is definitely challenging to organize projects in such a remote place—you have to be resourceful and build in more time for logistics and materials," she noted that it is an opportunity to bridge two totally unique cultural landscapes. "LA has a diverse, seemingly limitless creative community and incredible resources and institutions," she said, "and Marfa has an exceptional artistic, intellectual, and cross-cultural ferment and a rich art-historical legacy, and now I am connected to both."