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**Robyn Kennedy**  
**Chief, Renwick Gallery**

Robyn Kennedy has served as head of the museum's Renwick Gallery since 2004. She manages daily operations as well as long-term planning at the Renwick Gallery, the Smithsonian American Art Museum's branch museum for contemporary craft and decorative arts. Her responsibilities include short- and long-term policy formulation, overseeing research, publications, acquisitions, collections and exhibitions, as well as managing the budget and supervising staff.

During her tenure, the museum's biennial Renwick Craft Invitational series has flourished, and the Renwick Gallery has hosted several landmark exhibitions, including *Grant Wood's Studio: Birthplace of American Gothic* (2006), and *Ornament as Art: Avant-Garde Jewelry from the Helen Williams Drutt Collection* (2008). Major artworks have entered the collection, including Beth Lipman's tour-de-force glass sculpture *Bancketje (Banquet)* (2003), several large-scale ceramic pieces by Toshiko Takaezu, and a significant tapestry, *The Silk Rainforest*, by Sheila Hicks.

Kennedy came to the Smithsonian American Art Museum in 1990 as an exhibitions designer. In 2003, she served as acting chief of the museum's Exhibitions Office, and the following year was appointed interim manager of the Renwick Gallery.

Kennedy holds a bachelor's degree in fine arts from Virginia Commonwealth University, in Richmond. In 2008, she participated in the prestigious professional development program, the Museum Leadership Institute, which is part of the Getty Foundation's Getty Leadership Institute.

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