

Jennifer Complo McNutt: Biography

Jennifer Complo McNutt has been with the Eiteljorg Museum since 1991, two years after it opened. She started as an education assistant and eventually became curator of contemporary art.

McNutt, 50, earned a bachelor's degree in painting and drawing from Indiana University and a master's in painting from the Tyler School of Art at Temple University. She then left her job with a Philadelphia after-school program to move to Indianapolis, despite being a single mother with a young son and no employment lined up.

She worked with the Indiana Arts Commission and as an assistant art professor at DePauw University in Greencastle before joining the Eiteljorg. One of her first major shows in 1995, featuring works by 13 women artists, made a lasting impression. It involved painting the gallery black, with recorded voice-overs and the skeletal remains of animals turned into bipedal puppets.