

# Project Brief - Adjunct Curator, Hyundai Tate Research Centre: Caribbean Diasporic Art

### **About Tate**

This Adjunct Curator position will specialize in the art of the Anglophone Caribbean and British artists of Caribbean heritage with a transnational outlook, playing a role supporting Tate to fulfil its ambition of rethinking the history of modern and contemporary art from alternative geographies and multiple vantage points. You will work with the Hyundai Tate Research Centre: Transnational (HTRC: T) and Tate Britain's Curatorial team. At Tate Britain you will work in support of a major exhibition devoted to Caribbean connections in British art since the 1950s, and in the research, acquisition and presentation of modern and contemporary art of the Anglophone Caribbean and British artists of Caribbean heritage with a transnational outlook.

The Adjunct Curator will reflect Tate's existing acquisition strategy and future programming priorities and promote debates and discussions on the subject within and beyond Tate. This post will be held by a curator or researcher with experience and engagement with Caribbean communities, organisations and institutions, either in Anglophone Caribbean nations or in Britain, as evidenced in their writings and/or curatorial projects. A Transnational perspective on British / Caribbean art, and its colonial, anti-colonial and post-colonial contexts, is crucial since a specific regional or national focus should be considered in a broader historic and intellectual remit.

Hyundai Tate Research Centre: Transnational contributes to the transformation of our understanding of international art by highlighting the interconnection, exchange and flow of artists and ideas. The Centre facilitates exchanges of ideas, dialogues and debates with individuals and organisations across the world and shares our explorations with a wide public through a diverse programme.

Integrated within Tate's curatorial vision, the Centre's work is manifested in exhibitions, new acquisitions and collection displays as well as in academic outcomes and public programme. The Centre, which is situated at Tate Modern, works with the wider Tate Modern Curatorial team and with the Learning & Research and Digital departments as well as colleagues at Tate Britain, Tate Liverpool and Tate St Ives, to connect Tate with a wide network of peers and academic partners. The Centre is guided by Tate's internal Steering Committee and an Advisory Board.

More information can be found at: https://www.tate.org.uk/research/research-centres/hyundai-tate-research-centre-transnational

## **Our Requirement**

We are seeking to engage an experienced curator or researcher of modern and contemporary international art with in-depth, specialist knowledge of art from the Anglophone Caribbean and British artists of Caribbean heritage with a transnational outlook, to work on research through Hyundai Tate Research Centre: Transnational. The Adjunct Curator will provide subject specialism while working remotely and carrying out research for Tate.

The Adjunct Curator will work closely and in a collaborative way with colleagues in the Hyundai Tate Research Centre: Transnational as well as curatorial colleagues at Tate Britain, and will liaise with various other Tate departments, such as the Curatorial and Research departments.

Tate already has an extensive network of contacts internationally (including artists, collectors and arts professionals), however the role requires the further development of this network and dissemination of information and knowledge throughout Tate to further develop the internal knowledge base in Anglophone Caribbean art and British artists of Caribbean heritage.

Owing to Tate's status as a National Collection and to avoid any conflict of interest issues we regret that applications from those working for other collecting institutions and/or individuals and those working in the commercial sector (e.g. commercial galleries and auction houses) cannot be accepted.

#### The Role

The Adjunct Curator will be required to provide the following services:

- Undertake original research which will further and compliment strategic priorities for the HTRC: T.
- Contribute towards the formulation of Tate's strategy for the HTRC: T.
- Devise, develop and deliver one discursive event each year. This could include a seminar or workshop, one of which will be in London and the other in a location to be agreed.
- Assist with delivering HTRC: T's publication projects including artists' interviews, both in print and online.
- Publish detailed studies on Tate online and in other forums.
- Create and maintain documentation of research and prepare progress reports.
- Contribute and actively participate in HTRC: T's programme of seminars, talks and conferences.
- Support research towards and around a major exhibition at Tate Britain for 2021 that examines the Caribbean connections in British modern and contemporary art.
- Follow and engage in scholarly debate about Anglophone Caribbean art and British artists of Caribbean heritage with a transnational outlook.
- Work collaboratively and keep in regular contact with HTRC: T's staff
- Contribute towards the formulation of Tate's strategy for Anglophone Caribbean art and British artists of Caribbean heritage in line with the overall vision for the Tate Collection as endorsed by Tate Trustees. Additionally, advise on and deliver specific acquisitions, in collaboration with the curatorial team at Tate Britain.
- Maintain a knowledge and develop a network of contacts among curators, collectors, and dealers of Anglophone Caribbean art and British artists of Caribbean heritage.
- To act as an ambassador for Hyundai Tate Research Centre: Transnational within the networks of Anglophone Caribbean art and British artists of Caribbean heritage, and to assist the museum in the development of further contacts internationally.
- Provide a short written report stating goals and reporting on progress monthly, for circulation within Tate and to the sponsor of the post and the HTRC: T.
- Provide a final report within 2 weeks of the completion of the contract term, for circulation within Tate and to the sponsor of HTRC: T.

To fulfil this brief, you will need:

- Expert knowledge and practical and scholarly involvement in modern and contemporary Anglophone Caribbean art and British artists of Caribbean heritage.
- A track record of publication and research and demonstrable knowledge of the field.
- An established network of contacts, an understanding of the issues surrounding collecting modern and contemporary art for museums and a knowledge of the current scholarly discourse.
- Excellent research and writing skills in English, including the capacity to write authoritative texts for specialist readership as well as accessible texts for a general public.
- Demonstrable excellence in verbal communication and presentation and the ability to represent Tate externally.
- Ability and willingness to travel internationally to meet Tate's objectives.

## **Appointment Details**

This contract is offered on a fixed term two-year freelance contract. The time spent on the work is flexible and discretionary however the institution expects the Adjunct Curator to devote the equivalent to 21.6hours per week to fulfil their obligations under the contract. The presence of the Adjunct Curator may be required on a limited number of agreed trips. The Adjunct Curator will provide expertise for Tate while remaining within a relevant location.

### Fee

£20,000 per annum excluding expenses for agreed travel.

### **Appointment Process**

Please submit a personal statement (no more than 500 words) along with a current CV and a writing sample (published or unpublished) to: htrc.transnational@tate.org.uk by 6 January 2020.

After a shortlisting process, the final selection of candidates will be invited to an interview.