



Job description

Job title	Senior Conservation Technician Paper and Photographs
Department	Conservation
Contract	Fixed Term 6 months
Salary	£26,959 per annum
Hours	36 hours per week
Location	London
Reporting to	Conservation Manager Paper and Photographs

About the role

The Senior Conservation Technician, Paper and Photographs provides expertise for the Storage and Operations Project; optimising storage, and access to works of art. Day to day, you will mount, frame and devise display and packing solutions for art on paper and photographs. You'll work closely with the Paper conservator for Storage and Operations to track, document, review and implement storage solutions, across multiple Tate sites, and alongside colleagues from the Collection Care division.

About your team

The Paper and Photographs Conservation team treat a broad range of artworks and enjoy being creative, pragmatic, testing out new ideas, providing solutions and collaborating with colleagues. They work across all programme areas from Loans-out, Acquisitions, Exhibitions & Displays and Library & Archive.

The Conservation department provides specialist conservation services to support the programme and care for Tate's Collection, and sits within the Collection Care division. Specialist areas include Time-based media, Paintings, Frames and Workshop, Sculpture and Installation Art, Paper and Photographs, Conservation Science and Preventive Conservation.

The department is led by the Head of Conservation - together, the department brings excellence and innovation to the care of Tate's Collection, preventing damage and deterioration and ensuring that the Collection is available for future generations to enjoy.

What you will do

Provide technical expertise for paper and photograph artworks in Tate's Collection

- Provide the paper and photograph conservation team with technical support, including installation methods, framing, glazing specifications, bespoke book cradles and storage.
- Design and create specifications, bespoke packing and supports/mounts for art on paper and photography.
- Research and formulate innovative approaches to solve complex technical problems.
- Create and update records for Tate's Collection Management System (TMS) and Conservation records.
- Advise staff at all levels on technical requirements for works of art.

Collections Care and Preventive Conservation Activity

- Active involvement in the design, development and use of long-term collection care procedures, including those for packing, transport, storage, display and installation.
- Assist with preventive conservation activities such as environmental monitoring, integrated pest management and maintenance of works of art on display.
- Maintain an organised workplace including equipment maintenance and material supplies as required.

Support for Tate programmes

- Provide accurate time and cost estimates for your activities.
- Organise and deliver technical input on time and within budget for agreed projects.
- Provide recommendations for art on paper and photography including transport, handling, installation and display for Tate sites and loans programmes.
- Undertake courier activity, overseeing the transport and installation of works of art at Tate and non-Tate sites.
- Create and document display specifications and associated activity.
- Support workplace activity and implement required Health and Safety measures.

Management, Supervision and Training

- Provide support to staff, creating an inclusive environment which enables everyone to thrive at work.
- Act as a mentor to interns and colleagues supporting and developing professional expertise within the Conservation department.
- Contribute to programmes of training and development for Tate staff, interns, specialist and non-specialist audiences, advocating for conservation.

Public and Professional Activities

- Keep up to date on current thinking and best practise in own specialist field through Continuing Professional Development.
- Share knowledge and expertise with colleagues.

What you will bring to the team

- An appropriate craft qualification e.g. carpentry, such as a City and Guilds certificate or equivalent experience.
- Practical experience of frame making, using hand and power tools, and woodwork machinery, for the presentation of works of art on paper and photographs, with knowledge of the health and safety issues.
- Experienced in handling valuable works of art on paper to conservation standards.
- Background knowledge of printed, drawing and painting media, with an understanding of the style and construction of different types of historical mounts, supports and boxes for works of art on paper, photographs and library and archive material.
- Organisational, time management and planning skills with the ability to work well under pressure and prioritise workload to meet deadlines.
- A pragmatic approach to problem solving with consideration of practical and ethical issues.
- Good communication skills, both written and verbal.
- Ability to work effectively as part of a team, along with the ability to work with a high degree of self-supervision.
- Basic I.T. skills, such as working with Word, Excel, Photoshop and databases.
- An interest in and commitment to the work of Tate.

Tate for all

Diversity and Inclusion

Our jobs are like our galleries, open to all.

Our aim is to become a truly inclusive organisation with a workforce and audience as diverse as the communities we serve. This is fundamental to Tate's future success and our ability to continue to contribute to culture and society in the UK.

We want our workforce to be more representative of all sections of society at all levels in the organisation. The range of perspectives and experience diversity brings is an asset to our organisation and we want to create an inclusive, welcoming environment for visitors, artists and all those who work at Tate. Tate expects all employees to contribute to this aim as part of their role. More information about diversity and inclusion at Tate can be found on our website.

Benefits

- Interest-free Season Ticket Loan.
- Cycle to Work scheme – enabling you to buy a bike in a tax efficient way, for travelling to and from work.
- Rental deposit scheme – an interest free advance to help towards the cost of a deposit for privately rented accommodation
- Subsidised staff catering arrangements and discounts in the Tate Restaurants and Cafes.
- Access to Tate Benefits which offers access to discounts in high street stores.
- Access to a 24/7 Employee Assistance Programme to support you with any work, personal or family issues. This includes telephone-based support, as well as comprehensive online resources.
- Free entry to paying exhibitions at Tate Galleries. Opportunities for family and friends to visit the major exhibitions out-of-hours.
- Discounts on items purchased in the Tate shops.
- Free access to a number of other galleries and museums throughout the UK on production of a valid staff pass.

Safer Recruitment

Tate is committed to providing a safe environment for all those who work at Tate and all those who come into contact with Tate as visitors to the galleries, as participants in Tate activities, and online. The safe recruitment of all those who undertake work on behalf of Tate is the first step to ensuring that we are fulfilling this commitment.

All positions at Tate are offered subject to the following conditions:

- Receipt of satisfactory references covering the last 3 years of your employment or education.
- Health clearance
- A satisfactory Disclosure Check.
- Proof that you are legally entitled to work in the UK

You can find out more information about our pre-employment checks and what they mean for you in our 'Guidance Notes for Applicants' document.

How to apply

Our opportunities are open for you to apply online. Please visit:

www.tate.org.uk/about/workingattate/ to create an account by registering your details or, if you are an existing user, log into your account.

For all opportunities we ask candidates to complete an online application form for the vacancy they are interested in. If you need an application form in an alternative format, please call us on 020 7887 4997. Once you have submitted your application you can keep track of its progress by logging into your account.

The closing date for the submission of completed application forms is **4 July 2021 by midnight**.

