



## **Project Brief - Adjunct Curator, Hyundai Tate Research Centre: Transnational Africa & African Diaspora**

### **About Tate**

Since Tate Modern opened in 2000, its programme of major temporary exhibitions, collection displays, commissions, live performance, and film programme has developed in diversity, scope and profile. In 2016 Tate Modern opened the Blavatnik Building increasing the scope and breadth of the exhibition programme and collection displays. The Hyundai Tate Research Centre: Transnational is part of Tate Modern's curatorial team and contributes to the content and delivery of this programme.

The Adjunct Curator will position Africa and the African Diaspora at the heart of this role and be able to connect the current practices of the continent to diaspora practices across the world. The focus could include the triangle of East Africa/ South Asia/ UK, and Black Atlantic discourse and more general areas of displacement, migration and colonial legacies.

Hyundai Tate Research Centre: Transnational (HTRC: T) 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 Modern's curatorial vision, the Centre's work is manifested in our exhibitions, new acquisitions and collection displays as well as in academic outcomes and public programme. The Centre works with the wider 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 the art of Africa and African Diaspora to work on the research through Hyundai Tate Research Centre: Transnational. The Adjunct Curator provides regional expertise while remaining within Africa and carry out research for Tate.

The Adjunct Curator will work closely and in a collaborative way with colleagues in the Hyundai Tate Research Centre: Transnational, and within the Curatorial department at Tate Modern. The research will support Tate's exhibition programme and contribute to the development of the strategy for representing the art of Africa and the African Diaspora. 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 this field.

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 the strategic priorities for HTRC: T.
- Contribute towards the formulation of Tate's strategy for the HTRC: T.
- Devise, develop and deliver two discursive events over two years. This could include a seminar or workshop, one of which will be in London and the other in an African 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, when required.
- Create and maintain documentation of research and prepare progress reports.
- Contribute and actively participate in HTRC: T's programme of seminars, talks and conferences.
- Follow and engage in scholarly debate about modern and contemporary art in Africa and the African Diaspora.
- Work collaboratively and keep in regular contact with HTRC: T's staff.
- Provide advice on the acquisition of works for the Tate Collection through the African Acquisitions Committee (AAC), if and when required.
- To act as an ambassador for HTRC: T within the networks of art from Africa and African Diaspora, to be the public face of HTRC: T 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 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 the modern and contemporary art of Africa and the African Diaspora.
- 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 are essential.
- 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.
- Ideally fluent speaking and academic-standard writing skills in the language of your area of expertise.
- Demonstrable excellence in verbal communication and presentation and the ability to represent Tate externally.

- Ideally based in Africa and with an ability and willingness to travel internationally to meet Tate's objectives.

### **Appointment Details**

The freelance contract will be for 2 years. The time spent on the work is flexible although will likely require three days per week. The presence of the Adjunct Curator may be required on a limited number of agreed trips.

### **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 to [htrc.transnational@tate.org.uk](mailto:htrc.transnational@tate.org.uk) by 15 July 2019.

After a shortlisting process, the final selection of candidates will be invited to an interview on 18-19 July 2019.