



## **Job description**

<b>Job title</b>	<b>Curator, Historic British Art, c.1730–1850</b>
<b>Department</b>	<b>Curatorial Department, Tate Britain</b>
<b>Contract</b>	<b>Permanent</b>
<b>Salary</b>	<b>£36,106 (includes Market supplement)</b>
<b>Hours</b>	<b>36 hours a week</b>
<b>Location</b>	<b>Millbank</b>
<b>Reporting to</b>	<b>Senior Curator, Historic British Art</b>

## **Background**

Tate Britain aims to increase public awareness, understanding and enjoyment of British art from the 16th century to the present day. Tate Britain's Curatorial team is responsible for researching and delivering exhibitions and displays, for researching, building and advocating for Tate's Collection of British Art. The Curatorial Department is divided into three teams of curators with period expertise (Historic, Modern and Contemporary), together with a Programme Management team.

You can find further information about Tate on our website: [www.tate.org.uk](http://www.tate.org.uk)

## **About the role**

We are seeking a curator with significant curatorial experience and specialist knowledge of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century British art and its many contexts (social, cultural, political, economic, and international). As well as being an innovative and resourceful curator, you will be a team player with the capacity to lead and work collaboratively. You will have excellent organisational and administrative skills, and demonstrable ability to work to tight budgets and deadlines. You will be confident to negotiate externally at a senior level and to be an active and prominent advocate for Historic British art at Tate. You will bring a sensitive and well-informed perspective on issues of equality and diversity in relation to British art and its research and presentation.

## **About your team**

Within the Historic British Art team, you will work to the Senior Curator, Historic British Art, to devise, develop and deliver exhibitions and collection displays; to research and propose acquisitions; to carry out research relating to and be a visible advocate for the collection, with a particular focus on British art of the period c.1730–1850. You will undertake these activities in alignment with Tate's priorities, including those concerning our audiences, our environmental impact, and our staff values (to be open, bold, rigorous and kind).

# What you will do

## Collection

- maintain and develop a high level of specialist expertise on British Art, specifically of the period c.1730–1850, and its wider contexts (social, cultural, political, economic, and international)
- conduct research that addresses priorities in the interpretation of Tate's collection, particularly with reference to diversifying the collection and widening the canon, decolonisation, and the histories of slavery and Empire
- contribute to the formulation of the acquisitions strategy with specific reference to your period of responsibility
- pro-actively identify and propose acquisitions in accordance with collection priorities, following internal acquisition procedures and ensuring proper liaison and communication within Tate during the process
- write short texts, board notes and other types of writing around the collection (for presentation in-gallery and online), writing in a clear, accessible prose and according to Tate house style
- maintain and develop an appropriate network of contacts among artists, estates, galleries, collectors, critics and auction houses
- liaise with the Development department and build relationships with possible benefactors
- maintain and develop awareness of the art market and current valuations; provide valuations
- provide expert advice as required to statutory bodies on Tate's behalf
- share knowledge with the team and nurture the skills and confidence in these areas of any Assistant Curator working with you
- provide academic supervision where required for doctoral and other students associated with Tate's research programme

## Displays

- contribute to the planning of permanent and changing displays at Tate Britain, including the forthcoming rehang of the collection
- conceive, develop and deliver displays, in collaboration or individually, drawing up lists of works and layouts; nominate swaps as required
- lead, coordinate and manage display project teams
- write accessible texts to accompany displays in the gallery and for the online presentation of the Collection
- provide talks and tours of displays as required, sometimes out-of-hours

## Exhibitions

- contribute to the planning and development of the programme of exhibitions at Tate Britain by proposing and project-leading exhibitions that are popular, scholarly, innovative and show, in both concept and delivery, a commitment to diversity

- conceive, develop and deliver exhibitions, in collaboration or individually, drawing up lists of works and layouts
- lead, assemble and manage project teams, including external consultants, to deliver exhibitions from conception to completion on-budget and ensuring deadlines are met and in accordance with policies and procedures
- write critically engaged, lively and accessible texts for Tate exhibition catalogues compliant with house style
- edit exhibition catalogues and work collaboratively with colleagues in Tate Publishing
- work with colleagues in Tate's Learning and Audience departments on appropriate interpretation strategies and publicity materials
- work with Visitor Experience and Security to ensure the installation meets all essential requirements in these areas
- support the exhibitions programme through talks, tours and other events for a variety of audiences

### **Administration and Management**

- Manage projects as required
- Attend events as an advocate for your area of specialism and collection responsibility
- Manage, coach and develop any Assistant Curator working to you
- Supervise interns as required

### **What you will bring to the team**

- Significant curatorial experience of working with a collection and on large-scale loan exhibitions and displays
- Relevant degree and / or postgraduate qualification or equivalent experience
- Demonstrable specialist knowledge of mid-eighteenth- to mid-nineteenth-century British art, its cultural history, European and international contexts
- Awareness of live debates and active and emerging areas of research concerning pre-1900 British art and the ability to reframe such debates and research in critically innovative, inclusive and engaging ways
- Track record of devising and delivering exhibitions for a range of audiences within budget and to deadline
- A demonstrable team-player with well-developed interpersonal skills with the capacity to lead and nurture a team, work collaboratively across the organization, and negotiate externally at a senior level
- An established network of national and international contacts within the specified area of expertise
- Excellent writing skills in English, including the capacity to write both authoritative texts for a specialist readership and texts for the wider public
- Excellent organisational, planning and administrative skills, with ability to prioritise and coordinate multiple tasks, manage colleagues and delegate as appropriate
- Ability and willingness to travel, and to attend out of hours functions, as required, on behalf of Tate
- A commitment to audience development and an up-to-date understanding of interpretation

- Knowledge of UK, European and international collections as they relate to Tate
- Demonstrable awareness and commitment to equality and cultural diversity
- Interest in and commitment to Tate's work, objectives and vision

## 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/](http://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 by 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2021 midnight.**

