

Post: Curator, International Art

Ref: TG0534

Band: Senior Advisory

**Department:** Curatorial, Tate Modern

Contract: Permanent Hours: Full-time

Reporting to: Head of Exhibitions
Responsible for: Assistant Curators
Location: Bankside, London

## **Background**

The aim of Tate is to increase public awareness, understanding and enjoyment of British art from the 16<sup>th</sup> century to the present day, and of international modern and contemporary art.

## **Curatorial Department, Tate Modern**

The Curatorial Department, Tate Modern is responsible for the delivery of exhibitions, collection displays, live performances and film programmes, ensuring the highest standard of content and delivery of this programme. It is also responsible for building the modern international aspect of Tate's collections.

An experienced curator of modern international art, with specialist knowledge of the period 1900-1965 is required to devise, develop and deliver exhibitions and collection displays, as well as contribute to Tate Modern's programme including research and propose acquisitions within Tate's acquisition strategy. The successful candidate will lead and manage project teams, supervise exhibition and collection display development and installation design, contribute texts and editorial supervision to a range of publications, and manage budgets. As a member of the curatorial team at Tate Modern, the post holder will support the senior management team and contribute to the overall vision of Tate.

You can find further information about Tate on our website: www.tate.org.uk

# Purpose of the job

To devise, develop and deliver exhibitions and collection displays, and to research and propose acquisitions within Tate's acquisition strategy.

## Main Activities/Responsibilities

### **Research and Development**

Within the context of Tate's research programme and goals, you will:

- Draw upon art historical and curatorial expertise to research and develop existing and new concepts for exhibition and collection display projects.
- Present research and critical thinking about art historical and museological issues as well as Tate's programme.
- Follow and engage in scholarly debate about modern and contemporary art.
- Maintain and expand expertise in your specialist area(s).
- Contribute to Tate's overall research programme.
- Increase expertise in specialist areas by visiting exhibitions, researching and writing papers or articles, presenting lectures, attending conferences, etc.

## **Exhibitions & Collection Displays**

Within the context of Tate Modern's programme, you will:

- Lead, co-ordinate and manage exhibition and display project teams, as required, to ensure smooth delivery of projects. This will involve negotiation of loans and liaison with artists, collectors, public and private institutions, and responsibility for budgets.
- Write informative and scholarly texts for Tate exhibition catalogues; edit exhibition exhibition catalogues.
- Responsibility for establishing and maintaining key schedule dates for projects.
- Responsibility for project budgets; drawing up, managing and monitoring accurate detailed budget estimates for expenditure and income, to obtain best value without comprising high standards of presentation.
- Research existing or new proposals for exhibition and collection display projects.
- Write and present project descriptions for Tate Trustees, Tate Modern Council, funding bodies etc.
- Write accessible gallery wall texts and captions.
- Lead tours and presentations of displays and collection exhibitions.

### Acquisitions

Within the framework of the acquisition strategy, you will:

- Research and propose acquisitions, and contribute generally to the work of the team of curators that focuses on acquisitions as well as new areas of collecting.
- Maintain and develop an appropriate network of contacts among artists, artists' estates, gallerists, critics, scholars and auction houses.
- Liaise with Development department and build relationships with possible benefactors.

### Administration and management

To assist with the smooth running of the department and to contribute to the achievement of departmental goals, you will:

- Deputise for senior management, when requested.
- Line management of staff
- Attend Tate events.
- Participate in staff recruitment when required.
- Take on administration-related tasks and projects, when required.

- Provide valuations of works of art
- Give expert advice to external bodies, as required.

# **Person Specification**

#### **Essential**

- Expert knowledge of international art in the period 1900-1965 as well as a keen interest in contemporary art.
- A relevant degree and post-graduate degree in the history of art or related field.
- Substantial and relevant work experience in an art gallery, museum, or with a collection.
- Extensive experience of the processes involved in staging displays and exhibitions, including managing budgets.
- A high level of knowledge and understanding of issues surrounding collecting modern and contemporary art within a global museum context.
- A well-developed visual sense and understanding of issues involved in the display of works of art in a public gallery.
- Awareness of issues of equality and cultural diversity as they affect the work of a major museum.
- Well-developed interpersonal skills, with the capacity to lead, yet flexible enough to work well within a team, and work collaboratively across Tate and beyond.
- Skilled negotiator with aptitude for managing different types of relationships
- Demonstrable excellence in verbal communication and presentation.
- First-class research skills as well as excellent writing skills, including the capacity to write authoritative texts for a specialist readership as well as accessible texts for a general public.
- Excellent organisation, planning and administrative skills, with ability to prioritise and coordinate multiple activities to meet deadlines.
- Ability and willingness to travel and to attend out of hours functions, as required, to meet Tate's objectives.
- An interest in and commitment to the work of Tate.

#### **Desirable**

- Knowledge of at least one foreign language
- Knowledge of Tate's Collection.
- Knowledge of the scope of UK collections as they relate to Tate.
- An established network of contacts in the field of modern and contemporary art.

## **Pay and Benefits**

## **Type of Contract**

This appointment is offered on a permanent contract.

# **Working Hours**

This post is offered on a full-time contract working 36 hours per week – Monday to Friday.

### **Salary**

This post is graded in the Senior Advisory Band of Tate's Pay Bands which is as follows:

Minimum	+1	+2	+3	+4	+5	Target	Uncapped
£27,422	£28,028	£28,785	£29,795	£30,805	£31,941	£32,573	Uncapped

An appointment to this post will be made up to £31,941 per annum dependent upon the skills and experience of the successful applicant.

A review of pay is undertaken annually at Tate through negotiation with the recognised trade unions. Any increases to individual salaries, will be subject to the terms of Tate's annual pay settlement and will be applied from 1 April.

#### **Annual Leave**

Annual leave is 25 working days per annum rising to 27 working days per annum after three years' service.

#### **Safer Recruitment**

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

#### **Pension Benefits**

An important part of the pay and reward package Tate offers employees is the option to join the Civil Service Pension arrangements. These arrangements offer a choice of two types of pension:

- **nuvos**. This is a high quality, index-linked defined benefit occupational pension scheme that currently has a member contribution rate which ranges from 3.5% to 8.25% dependant on your salary. As your employer we meet the rest of the cost of the scheme. Further information about this can be obtained from <a href="https://www.civilservice.gov.uk/pensions">www.civilservice.gov.uk/pensions</a>
- partnership pension account. This is a stakeholder pension with a contribution from ourselves. How much we pay is based on your age. We pay this regardless of whether you choose to contribute anything. You do not have to contribute but, if you do, we will also match your contributions up to 3% of your pensionable earnings. The contributions are in addition to the age-related contribution mentioned above.

If you have previously worked for an employer who participated in the Civil Service Pension scheme different conditions may apply.

## **Other Discretionary 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.
- Subsidised staff catering arrangements and discounts in the Tate Restaurants and Cafes.
- Childcare Vouchers Scheme offering savings on tax and national insurance.
- 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.

#### Selection

Our opportunities are open for you to apply online. Please visit: <a href="www.tate.org.uk/about/workingattate/">www.tate.org.uk/about/workingattate/</a> 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 in to your account.

The closing date for the submission of completed application forms is Sunday 12 May 2013 by midnight.

Our jobs are like our galleries, open to all.