HYUNDAI TATE RESEARCH CENTRE: TRANSNATIONAL

In partnership with HYUNDAI

Job description

Job title	Senior Curator, International Art (Hyundai Tate Research Centre: Transnational)
Department	Tate Modern Division
Contract	Permanent
Salary	£50,000 to £55,000 per annum
Hours	Full-time, 36 hours per week
Location	Tate Modern, Bankside, London
Reporting to	Head of Curatorial, Tate Modern
Responsible for	A team of Curators

Background

Tate's vision is to serve as artistically adventurous and culturally inclusive art museums for the UK and the world. We deliver this through activities in our four galleries across the UK (Tate Liverpool, Tate St Ives, Tate Britain and Tate Modern), our digital platforms and collaborations with our national and international partners. At the heart of Tate is our collection of art, which includes the national collection of British art from the 16th century to the present day, and international modern and contemporary art from 1900 to the present day, spanning all continents. We seek to expand access to the collection and deepen understanding of art in all its diversity.

Tate is a leading global institution, and we influence critical thinking about art practice. Tate is committed to maintaining free entry for audiences to our collections. We see access to art for everyone as a universal human right and we see our galleries as sites of creative learning. We want to champion the importance of making art and encourage people to explore the many ways in which art is created and develop their own creative potential.

We want to welcome audiences that better reflect the towns and cities in our nation and attract a diverse international public. Our reach is already powerful. We intend to increase its impact across society, with art that resonates around the world.

Everyone who works at Tate has a role to play in achieving these goals. We offer exciting work built around our love for art, and have a strong commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion, with the aim to have our workforce and audience as diverse as the communities we serve. And everything we do is only possible thanks to our fantastic colleagues, who really know their stuff, support each other and want to do the best for our audiences.

We hope you will consider joining our team.

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

About the role

The Hyundai Tate Research Centre: Transnational transforms how Tate develops and shares art-historical knowledge around the world. Its research contributes to exhibitions, displays, acquisitions and events across Tate's four galleries as well as with a wide network of national and international collaborators.

The word 'transnational' encourages us to challenge and revise dominant art histories. It highlights global exchanges and the circulation of artists and ideas. Transnational embraces the diverse perspectives that have shaped artistic practice.

Having been established in 2019, the Centre has grown from strength to strength and has received renewed funding through to 2036.

You will work with Tate's curatorial teams to conceive and deliver a visionary and innovative programme for the Hyundai Tate Research Centre: Transnational (HTRC:T) that corresponds to and complements the museum's wider strategies and reinforces the programme within the museum's portfolio of national and international programme priorities and activities. You will support the programme by researching, developing and curating exhibitions and projects, leading and managing teams, supervising development and installation design, contributing texts and editorial supervision to a range of publications.

As a senior manager at Tate Modern, you will provide strategic leadership and management to the Curatorial team by promoting, encouraging and maintaining innovative thinking and best practice among colleagues. This includes the oversight of the day-to-day running of relevant curatorial activities and working within a line management structure to provide support and guidance to both junior and senior colleagues.

Hyundai Tate Research Centre: Transnational (HTRC:T) is funded by Hyundai Motor.

About your team

Since Tate Modern opened in 2000, its programme of major temporary exhibitions, Collection displays, commissions, live performance and film has developed in diversity, scope and profile. In 2016, Tate Modern opened the Blavatnik Building, increasing the scope and breadth of the exhibition and Collection displays. The Tate Modern curatorial team sits within the Tate Modern Division and ensures the highest standards of content and delivery of this programme.

What you will gain

Motivated, and skilled people are key to our continued success, and we want everyone at Tate to have the opportunity to develop and thrive. In this team, you will be encouraged to contribute your ideas, realise your potential, and learn new skills and knowledge.

What you will do (Main Duties and Responsibilities)

Hyundai Tate Research Centre: Transnational

- Working closely with Tate's vision and mission, set the strategy and direction for the Hyundai Tate Research Centre: Transnational (HTRC:T), integrating its research within Tate's curatorial planning and programme and translating key findings from transnational artistic and academic discourses into the Centre's priorities.
- Lead, coordinate and manage the HTRC:T programme, liaising with Tate Curators, external stakeholders and collaborators to ensure delivery in line with Tate's objectives.
- Develop and manage partnerships with prospective and existing collaborators, negotiating and confirming agreements to enhance the Centre's impact, visibility and profile, and to cultivate opportunities for its national and international growth.
- Collaborate with departments across Tate — including Live, Learning, Research, Publishing and Digital — to integrate HTRC:T's work across the museum and support its logistical, administrative and marketing needs.
- Chair and devise cross-site meetings to share the Centre's programmes and priorities across all Tate sites, enabling joined-up research and programming.
- Commission and supervise digital content and platforms, including HTRC:T's landing page on Tate's website.
- Devise, supervise and deliver events, including performances, talks, seminars and conferences in fulfilment of HTRC:T's strategic aims and the terms of the Hyundai sponsorship agreement.
- Working with the Programme Manager, take responsibility for the HTRC:T budget and key schedule dates, managing accurate estimates for expenditure and income to obtain best value without compromising standards.
- Recruit, manage and coordinate Adjunct Curators in line with the Centre's research priorities and networking needs.
- Collate and execute programme evaluations to inform strategic priorities.
- Act as champion and spokesperson for HTRC:T nationally and internationally, presenting research and critical thinking through conferences, symposia, publications and public debate.
- Manage and coordinate the HTRC:T Advisory Board.
- Maintain a close and positive relationship with the principal corporate sponsor, Hyundai, through the Development team.

Exhibitions & Collection displays

- Draw upon art-historical and curatorial expertise to conceive, research, develop and deliver existing and new concepts for distinguished, imaginative and ambitious exhibitions and Collection displays that appeal to broad audiences, enhance Tate Modern's reputation for scholarship and quality, and contribute to the programme strategy.
- Lead, coordinate and manage exhibition and display project teams according to the project planning process to ensure efficient and cost-effective delivery of projects.
- Negotiate loans and liaise with artists, collectors, public and private institutions.
- Hold responsibility for establishing and maintaining key schedule dates for every project.

- Hold responsibility for project budgets; drawing up, managing and monitoring accurate, detailed budget estimates for expenditure and income, to obtain best value without compromising high standards of presentation.
- Write informative, accessible and scholarly texts for Tate exhibition catalogues; edit exhibition catalogues.
- Write accessible gallery wall texts and captions.
- Write and present project descriptions for Tate Trustees, Tate Modern Council and funding bodies.
- Lead tours and presentations of displays and Collection exhibitions.

Management

- Provide effective leadership to the Curatorial team, creating a sense of common purpose and direction and an ethos of collaboration, as well as an environment in which learning is valued, ensuring that colleagues are equipped with the right skills, knowledge and approach to meet Tate Modern's current and future needs. HTRC:T should serve as a bridge between research for acquisitions, exhibitions and the development of Collection displays.
- Work collaboratively in a spirit of inclusive leadership with colleagues across many different departments including Tate Publishing, Marketing and Audiences, Press, Learning and other relevant departments.
- Represent internal and external activity to the Exec and senior colleagues in terms of potential acquisitions, research topics, displays and exhibitions.
- Foster interdisciplinary and trans-historical curatorial practice.
- Mentor junior members of the team both in building expert knowledge and in excelling as aspiring museum professionals in the wider field of visual arts.
- Maintain and develop an appropriate network of contacts among artists, artists' estates, gallerists, museums, collectors and potential patrons, as well as academics, so that new developments are reflected at Tate.
- Deputise for senior management, when requested.
- Attend and represent Tate Modern at Tate-wide meetings.
- Line-manage Curators, Assistant Curators and temporary staff, as well as supervising contractors.
- Undertake Tate advocacy, including attending Tate events, where appropriate.
- Participate in recruitment when required.

General

- Contribute to Tate's Research Strategy and publishing projects to ensure that curatorial expertise is valued, articulated and developed.
- Give expert advice to external bodies, as required.
- Supervise doctoral research in your area.
- Write project descriptions for, and present to a range of audiences such as Tate Trustees, Tate Modern Council and funding bodies.
- Provide valuations of works of art.

What you will bring to the team

Essential

- Expert knowledge of modern and contemporary art, with a particular focus on transnational discourse.
- Substantial and relevant work experience in an art gallery, museum or a collection.
- Extensive experience of programming diverse and imaginative projects, symposia and conferences as well as fluency in the processes involved in staging events.
- Extensive experience in leading on exhibitions and displays, including managing budgets.
- Evidence of significant research and publication.
- Awareness of, and commitment to, issues of equality and cultural diversity as they affect the work of a major museum and evidence of having incorporated diversity strategies into curatorial practice and exhibition programmes.
- Experience of engaging broad and diverse audiences in art.
- A well-developed visual sense and understanding of issues involved in the display of works of art in a public gallery, with an understanding of Tate's 'audience first' ethos.
- An inclusive leadership style with a proven ability to lead, motivate and develop staff and manage change.
- Well-developed interpersonal skills, with experience of strategic leadership and management of a team, the ability to lead and motivate others, and experience of line-managing and mentoring staff.
- A constructive and considered contributor at a senior management level, able to think strategically and work collaboratively with colleagues across the organisation on shared projects or initiatives to deliver results.
- Fluency in written and spoken English.
- A skilled negotiator with an 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 the general public.
- Excellent organisation, planning and administrative skills, with the ability to prioritise and coordinate multiple activities to meet deadlines and within budget.
- Ability and willingness to undertake extensive national and international travel, and to attend out-of-hours functions, as required, to meet Tate's objectives.
- Computer literacy – able to use IT applications to support their own workload.
- A strong interest in and commitment to the work of Tate.

The requirements listed here are guidelines, not hard and fast rules. You don't have to satisfy every requirement and we welcome candidates who bring transferable skills. Applying gives you the opportunity to be considered.

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.

Our Values

- **Open**: we're welcoming, generous-spirited and inquisitive, with an open-source attitude that thrives on collaboration.
- **Bold**: we have the courage of our convictions, we're willing to take imaginative risks: we aren't afraid of failure - so long as we learn from it.
- **Rigorous**: we'll win people's trust if we're accountable for our actions and excellence underpins everything we do.
- **Kind**: we value and respect each other, our partners, and our visitors, striving to make every encounter memorable and enriching.

Employee Benefits

- Birthdays off each year
- 25 days leave per year, rising to 27 (pro rata for part time colleagues).
- A pension scheme with generous employer contributions.
- Life Assurance and Income Protection for DC scheme members.
- 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
- 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.
- Free access to other galleries and museums abroad through the International Council of Museums (ICOM) membership

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: https://jobsearch.tate.org.uk/ 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 4987. 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 24 November 2026 by midnight.

Where vacancies attract large volumes of applicants, we reserve the right to close this vacancy early. Therefore, if you are interested, please try to submit your application as early as possible.



