



Job description

Job title	Assistant Curator, Eighteenth-Century British Art
Department	Tate Britain, Curatorial
Contract	Permanent
Salary	£32,674 per annum
Hours	Full-time, 36 hours per week
Location	Tate Britain, Millbank, London
Reporting to	Curator, British Art c.1730-1850

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

Sitting within the Historic British Art team (pre-c.1915) and focussing on eighteenth-century British art, you will help to deliver exhibitions and collection displays; to research the historic collection and potential acquisitions; to write interpretation and website texts; and to organise and participate in research events.

The ideal candidate will bring strong research and organisational skills, enthusiasm for eighteenth-century British art, and a commitment to contributing to the diversification of British art histories. Experience working with collections or exhibitions is desirable.

We particularly welcome candidates who can bring fresh, under-represented perspectives to our work, and who will enjoy helping us to expand our understanding of historic British art.

You will undertake work 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).

About your team

Tate Britain aims to increase public awareness, understanding and enjoyment of British art from the sixteenth century to the present day.

Tate Britain's Curatorial team is responsible for researching and delivering exhibitions and displays, as well as 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 will be part of the Historic British Art team, working alongside the Senior Curator, four Curators, three other Assistant Curators and occasional temporary colleagues.

What you will gain

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

What you will do (Main Duties and Responsibilities)

Exhibitions and Displays

- Support the curation of changing displays at Tate Britain
- Contribute to the planning and delivery of a range of exhibitions relating to eighteenth-century British art
- Manage loan correspondence, keep project records updated and maintain filing
- Liaise with lenders, registrars and conservators to meet display requirements

- Process invoices, monitor the budget and contribute to budget planning
- Liaise with the installation team and build contractors, providing detailed layouts and display case or build requirements
- Contribute to interpretation and publications
- Provide talks and tours as required, sometimes out-of-hours

Collection and Research

- Develop and share your specialist expertise on eighteenth-century British art and its wider contexts (social, cultural, political, economic, and international)
- Support research that addresses priorities in the interpretation of Tate's collection, particularly with reference to diversifying the collection and expanding the canon
- Assist in the identification, discussion and administration of potential acquisitions of artworks from the historic period, in accordance with the collection strategy
- Write a variety of texts relating to the collection (for presentation in-gallery and online) in a clear, accessible prose and according to Tate house style
- Organise and participate in research activities, including seminars, conferences and events

Administration and Management

- Answer enquiries about the collection and programme
- Assist in providing valuations and expert advice to statutory bodies on Tate's behalf
- Contribute to the management of curatorial files and administration

What you will bring to the team

- Demonstrable knowledge of one or more aspects of eighteenth-century British art
- Research skills, experience and curiosity; awareness of new directions in art historical research around this period
- Curatorial experience, ideally gained from working with a collection
- Experience of working on loan exhibitions and on changing displays
- Proven track record of collaborative and team-based working, with a commitment to applying principles of equity, diversity and respect for all in the workplace
- Highly organised approach to work, with demonstrable ability to work under pressure and to deadlines
- Excellent writing skills and presentation skills
- Experience using Microsoft and collections databases (training on specific applications, like TMS, used at Tate will be provided)
- 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:

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 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 Monday 25th May 2026 by midnight. Interviews will be held on either the 18th or 19th June 2026.

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.

