Job description

Job title	Senior Art Handling Technician
Department	Curatorial, Tate Modern
Contract	Permanent
Salary	£32,674 per annum
Hours	Full-time, 36 hours per week
Location	Bankside
Reporting to	Production & Installation Manager

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

To provide technical installation expertise to individual exhibition and collection display based projects. To lead a team of technicians and participate in the handling, installation, packing, movement and storage of artworks on site.

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)

- To lead and supervise teams of art handling technicians; delivering temporary exhibitions, displays & site-based projects.
- To provide art installation expertise on projects from planning to completion. Finding technical solutions to installation problems and advising the Production & Installation Manager on risks and achievable schedules.
- Liaise and work with Registrars, Curators & Conservation to devise installation schedules.
- Advise on planning the workload of a team of technicians and the production of risk assessments and method statements to ensure safe working practices where needed.
- To liaise with the Production & Installation Manager as well as other project team members. Applying a safe but flexible approach to shifting deadlines.
- To collaborate successfully with all relevant departments, Conservation, Collection Care as well as the Production & Installation Manager and other Senior Art Handling Technicians on site.
- Advise on specifications for required equipment and be responsible for the care, maintenance and storage of art handling equipment and materials.
- Ensure Art Handling, Registration and Conservation standards are maintained relating to documentation, security, collection care and presentation of displays to the public.
- To undertake small scale fabrication and adjustment of object mounts, plinths and other display furniture. Ensure all display furniture is cared for and stored appropriately to enable its future use.
- To liaise with external partners and couriers accompanying loaned works to Tate.
- Undertake specialist installation equipment training including forklift and scissor lifts.

What you will bring to the team

Essential

- A high level of expertise in the handling, installation and care of a variety of complex artworks.
- Significant understanding of the issues involved in the display of works of art in a public gallery.
- Proven ability to work on a number of projects at the same time with meticulous attention to detail.

- Well-developed interpersonal skills including the ability to work effectively as part of a team and to work collaboratively with colleagues across Tate.
- A pragmatic approach to problem solving.
- The ability to lead and motivate a team.
- Excellent diplomatic and communication skills to be able to advise a variety of stakeholders on technical issues
- The ability to work confidently and accurately under pressure, on a wide range of tasks, often on own initiative.
- Demonstrate a flexible and adaptable approach to working.
- An awareness of and commitment to principles of diversity and inclusion, and how to apply them to your work.
- Ability and willingness to work outside of core hours to realise projects
- An interest in and commitment to, the work of Tate.
- Previous experience of working with access equipment including: Scissor lifts, Forklifts, Gantry cranes.

Desirable

- Fabrication skills including basic carpentry.

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 **5 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 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 21st April 2026 by midnight. Interviews will be held on 1st May 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.