



Job description

Job title	Conservation Intern
Department	Sculpture and Installation Art
Contract	12-month internship
Salary	£28,178 per annum
Hours	Full-time, 36 hours per week
Location	Tate Britain, Millbank
Reporting to	Sculpture Conservation 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

This will be a 12 month internship sponsored by the Pilgrim Trust. The focus will be on modern materials and kinetic works, focusing on one artwork to assess the condition and treat to make display ready. You will work alongside the conservation team to understand the wider team and department roles and be guided on the documentation processes. You will also gain experience with installation of works and understand the principle of the acquisitions and loans teams.

About your team

Sculpture and Installation art covers single sculptures to full-room, multi-component artworks. They can be made of any material and combination of materials from metal to plastics, to flora and fauna. The artworks can be static or kinetic.

The Sculpture and Installation Art conservation team is responsible for the preservation, acquisition, exhibition, display and loan of these artworks. We are a team of Conservators and Senior Conservation Technicians.

The team is part of the Conservation Department. The Conservation department provides specialist conservation services to support the programme across Tate and is one of four departments in the Collection Care division. Specialist areas in addition to Sculpture are: Paintings, Frames and Workshop, Time Based Media, Paper and Photographs, Conservation Science and Preventive Conservation. The department is led by the Head of Conservation - together, the department brings excellence and innovation to the care of Tate's Collection; preventing damage and deterioration and ensuring that the Collection is available for future generations to enjoy.

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, learn new skills and expand your knowledge of the conservation of modern & contemporary artworks in particular.

What you will do (Main Duties and Responsibilities)

Provide technical expertise for Sculptural artworks in Tate's Collection and care

- Carry out condition checking and treatment proposals for works to make display ready
- Undertake structure and condition report, create artwork files, and install information
- Create installation guides with the Senior Technicians
- Create and update records for Tate's collection management system (TMS) and Conservation Records
- Co-ordinate projects, liaising with your manager, Conservators, Conservation Technicians, Curators, Art Handling Technicians, Registrars and others as required
- Maintain an organised workplace including equipment maintenance as required

Support for Tate programmes

- Assist the manager in delivering the programme on time and within budget
- Provide accurate time and cost estimates for your activities

- Devise maintenance schedules for works spaces; monitor and undertake maintenance duties.
- Support the wider Sculpture and Installation team as requested
- Support workplace activity and implement required Health and Safety measures

Public and Professional Activities

- Keep up to date on current thinking and best practise in own specialist field through continuing professional development.
- Share knowledge and expertise with colleagues

What you will bring to the team

- Professional qualification in conservation (Sculpture or Objects Conservation) or equivalent experience within the heritage sector
- Experience in undertaking assessment, treatment and documentation of objects
- Demonstrable ability to conserve works
- Knowledge and understanding of the ethics and reasoning behind treatment choices
- Effective oral and written communication and interpersonal skills, with the ability to communicate to colleagues with or without a background in conservation.
- Demonstrable organisational, time-management and planning skills with the ability to prioritise workload to meet deadlines
- Ability to work effectively within a large and complex organisation, as part of a team or alone
- Good end-user IT skills including image processing and collection management database software
- An understanding of the principles of equality and diversity in relation to conservation and the ability to apply these in practice at work
- Demonstrable knowledge of Health & Safety regulations and COSHH

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.

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
- 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.
- 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 21 October 2026 by midnight. Interviews will be held in November, with confirmed interview dates to be determined in due course.

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.

