

Recruitment Pack Curator

Introduction

This pack contains information on the role of Curator, including the job description and person specification, overview of Photoworks and details on how to apply.

Founded in 1995, Photoworks has more than two decades experience working with artists and audiences and having recently appointed a new Director, is embarking on an exciting phase in the organisation's history.

Photoworks is dedicated to supporting and promoting emerging contemporary photographic practice across the UK and internationally. We deliver three core activities: Brighton Photo Biennial, one of the UK's largest international photography festivals; the Jerwood/Photoworks Awards, a unique talent and mentorship award; and *Photoworks Annual*, a journal on contemporary photography. The rich digital content published on our website and social media platforms reaches an online audience of c.180,000 per year. Our events and learning and engagement activities inspire around 9,000 people across the UK every year.

This post is an exciting opportunity for an experienced individual to work with the new Director to help shape the curatorial programme. Within the first six months of taking up the post, the successful candidate will help deliver Brighton Photo Biennial and *Photoworks Annual*, an exciting opportunity for an ambitious individual to build on and develop their existing experience and skill-set.

Photoworks is supported as a National Portfolio Organisation receiving funding from Arts Council England and raises additional income through trusts and foundations, corporate partnerships and areas of earned income including Membership. We are a team of eight passionate and committed employees/freelancers.

Place of employment is at Photoworks, in a contemporary and creative office environment located at 154-155 Edward Street, Brighton hosted by our partners, The University of Brighton.

Thank you for your interest in the post of curator at Photoworks. **Deadline for applications is 16 July 2018.**

Shoair Mavlian
Director, Photoworks

Supporting Information

About Photoworks

Photoworks is dedicated to supporting and promoting emerging contemporary photographic practice across the UK and internationally. We deliver three core activities: the Brighton Photo Biennial, one of the UK's largest international photography festivals; the Jerwood/Photoworks Awards, a unique talent and mentorship award; and *Photoworks Annual*, a journal on contemporary photography. The rich digital content published on our website and social media platforms reaches an online audience of c.180,000 per year. Our events and learning and engagement activities inspire around 9,000 people across the UK every year.

Founded in 1995, Photoworks has more than two decades of experience working with artists and audiences. Photoworks is a fluid and organic organisation and as such does not reside in a permanent space. Instead, we curate and programme activity in museums, galleries and non-traditional spaces throughout the UK and internationally.

Our purpose is to connect artists with audiences. We do this by providing and facilitating opportunities for contemporary artists: by commissioning new work, curating and promoting exhibitions. We contribute to critical theory by publishing new writing on photography circulated through our online platforms and in our annual print publication.

Our objectives are to engage and excite audiences through photography, the most democratic medium of our contemporary visual culture. We present work outdoors and in non-traditional spaces, while our extensive learning and engagement programme engages with a wide and diverse audience. Photoworks is a charitable organisation based at the University of Brighton, UK and is a National Portfolio Organisation of Arts Council England.

Please visit our website, social media platforms and read *Photoworks Annual* to familiarise yourself with our programme and activities.

photoworks.org.uk

bpb.org.uk

Position/Job Title: Curator, Photoworks

Place of Employment: Photoworks Office,
154-155 Edward Street Brighton, BN2 0JG

Our offices are based in Brighton where we encourage a team atmosphere, however, some flexibility can be negotiated.

Line Manager: Director

Salary: £26,000 - 28,000 depending on experience plus workplace pension scheme.

Holiday: 20 days per year, plus bank holidays and Christmas Office closure.

Contract: Permanent

Probation: 6 months

Working hours: Usual working hours are 09.00 to 17.00. 40 hours per week, five days per week, usually Monday to Friday. All Photoworks team are expected to attend Photoworks and partner events (some of which take place in the evenings and weekends) and be part of the cultural life of the organisation.

JOB DESCRIPTION:

PURPOSE OF THE POST

Working closely with the Director, and the wider team, the Curator will play a key role in shaping the organisation’s artistic programme in accordance with its vision and strategic plans.

The curator will be responsible for developing and producing the programme of activities including artists’ commissions, exhibitions, events, digital content, writing for the website, *Photoworks Annual* and Brighton Photo Biennial.

MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES

Writing/publishing

Responsible for delivering and co-editing *Photoworks Annual*.

To provide high-quality written material for publications, interpretation material, website and press etc.

Regularly writing articles to be published on the Photoworks website which are engaging and accessible to a wide audience.

To identify publishing opportunities both in print and online to ensure all publishing opportunities are integrated into the programme, commercially viable, and profitable.

Exhibitions

Alongside the Director, the Curator will be responsible for overseeing and delivering the Jerwood/Photoworks Awards in collaboration with our partners.

To define and develop, with the Director and wider team, the artistic programme, oversee all projects and ensure the success and impact of the overall programme.

To identify artists commissions and work closely with the artists on supporting and realising these projects including Brighton Photo Biennial.

To manage the creative team for Brighton Photo Biennial, including curators, artists, partners, writers, interns and volunteers.

To contribute creative ideas to the digital content programme and co-ordinate approaches and publishing.

To oversee the production, development and delivery of all projects.

To proactively seek and develop partnerships and collaborative opportunities across all visual arts, photography specific and related sectors.

Events

To help oversee the delivery of all events.

To represent the organisation at public-facing events, deliver talks and exhibition tours and attend industry activities such as portfolio-reviews on behalf of Photoworks.

Other

To contribute to the learning and engagement programme and audience development strategy.

To ensure Photoworks' artistic mission is supported and achieves greater impact through effective fundraising and operational excellence.

To proactively seek marketing, media and other promotional opportunities for the effective and persuasive communication of the organisation's programme of activities.

To assist the team in the efficient day-to-day running of the organisation when needed.

To adhere to the aims and values and act as an ambassador for the organisation.

ESSENTIAL COMPETENCIES

Knowledge & Experience:

Relevant curatorial experience, or relevant experience in the field of publishing/editing (2 years minimum)

Strong writing skills with the ability to deliver short texts for a variety of uses on a short turn-around.

Significant knowledge of photography and the visual arts.

Strong understanding and engagement with current themes, trends and issues in contemporary art and photography.

Experience managing commissions and work produced by photographers and artists.

Experience of publishing, including commissioning writers, working with designers and overseeing print production.

Experience of festivals/curatorial planning and delivery.

Experience of initiating and managing collaborations with a diverse stable of partners.

Capacity to build commercial and partnership opportunities, reshape ideas in response to changing funding opportunities/external pressures.

Experience leading tours and delivering talks to large audiences and comfortable with public speaking.

Skills:

Ability to communicate effectively and passionately the vision of the organisation to partners, funders, the visual arts sector and the wider community.

Ability to speak confidently about photography and the visual arts.

Ability to develop an artistic programme and implement this successfully through excellent project management.

Excellent negotiating skills with ability to establish partnership opportunities and relationships.

Understanding of finances especially developing, and keeping within, budgets, and commercial acumen.

Attributes & Personal Qualities:

Ability to work and respond effectively under pressure.

Creative thinker, flexible and open to new ways of working.

Leadership and influencing skills, including effective people management.

Team player.

DESIRABLE

The desire to be active in the cultural community and build a strong network both in the UK and internationally.

Knowledge, understanding and experience of participation & learning models of practice.

Understanding of the current funding landscape, mechanisms and priorities in relation to publicly-funded bodies, trusts and foundations and a successful track record in securing funding for projects.

Experience of fundraising or a willingness to support the wider team with income generation.

One language other than English desirable.

HOW TO APPLY

Deadline for applications is 9am Monday, 16 July 2018.

To apply send a CV, covering letter outlining your suitability, and a completed [equal opportunities monitoring form](#) to zoltan@photoworks.org.uk

Photoworks is an equal opportunities employer and committed to encouraging applications from diverse candidates.

Interviews will be w/c 23 July 2018 in Brighton. (Please let us know if you have holidays booked and we can attempt to accommodate).