

Job Description

Job Title - Post-doctoral Research Fellow (Transforming Collections)

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College/Service Decolonising Arts Institute via RMA	Location Multiple locations and remote working
Contract Length 2 years fixed-term contract (with possibility to extend up to a further 6 months)	Hours per week / FTE 0.6 FTE
Accountable to Prof susan pui san lok, Director, Decolonising Arts Institute	Weeks per year 52
Salary £39,275-£47,120 (pro-rata)	Grade 5
<p>Purpose of Role:</p> <p>We are seeking 4x 0.6FTE Post-doctoral Research Fellows (PDRF) with experience of applying critical decolonial feminist analytical approaches to collections to work on <i>Transforming Collections: Reimagining Art, Nation and Heritage</i> is a 3-year 'Discovery Project' and part of the major UKRI AHRC programme, Towards a National Collection (TaNC). Led by UAL London's Decolonising Arts Institute in collaboration with UAL's Creative Computing Institute and working closely with Tate, this interdisciplinary project has a further 14 Project Partners and Collaborating Organisations, primarily in the UK. Collections and archives include: Arts Council Collection, British Council Collection, Birmingham Museums, Glasgow Museums, iniva, National Museums Liverpool, JISC Archives Hub, Manchester Art Gallery, MIMA and Wellcome Collection. Transforming Collections aims to enable cross-search of collections, surface patterns of bias, uncover hidden connections, and open up new interpretative frames and 'potential histories' of art, nation and heritage (Azoulay, 2019). It will combine critical art historical and museological research with ethical participatory machine learning design and embed creative activations of interactive machine learning in the form of artist commissions.</p> <p>As Post-doctoral Research Fellow, you will report to Professor susan pui san lok (Principal Investigator) and work closely with Professor Sonia Boyce and Dr Anjalie Dalal-Clayton (Co-Investigators). You will collaborate with other</p>	

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Co-Investigators (Co-Is) across all Project Work Strands and work with specific Project Partners and Collaborating Organisations. You will co-design and co-deliver participatory workshops/seminars to Project Partners, Collaborating Organisations and diverse stakeholders. You will co-design and undertake critical case studies with a focus on specific collections or aspects of collections to be agreed with the PI. You will have responsibility for independent and collaborative academic reporting (conference/symposium papers and journal articles). As one of several research fellows working on the project, you will be expected to work effectively and collaboratively with other core team members to ensure that project deliverables are successfully met.

You will be mentored by a Co-Investigator, participate in regular project team meetings and a peer support network of the project's researchers. You will develop your interdisciplinary research expertise, and develop skills and experience in collaborative, ethical and participatory workshop design and delivery. You will present and/or publish research in progress through the local, national and international spaces and networks generated by the project.

Responsibilities:

- To undertake relevant collections research and review of cross-collections data (including video, audio and text) in collaboration with the core team, with a focus on specific Collections
- To participate in the co-design and testing of new Machine Learning systems to enable cross-search of collections, surface bias, and discover new connections
- To work directly and collaboratively with the cross-disciplinary Project Team, as well as Project Partners, Collaborating Organisations, and diverse stakeholders
- To contribute to, participate in, and lead the development, preparation, delivery and documentation of collaborative workshops with the core team and a range of stakeholders and participants
- To contribute to, and undertake, the analysis of quantitative and qualitative cross-collections data, and prepare findings for dissemination activities in liaison with the PI and PPM
- To monitor project methodologies and data usage to ensure its compliance with legal and ethical frameworks maintained across the University and associated project partners
- To contribute to the drafting of interim and final reports for end-users including presentation materials and graphics
- To contribute to the outcomes and deliverables of the project through involvement in the preparation and presentation of papers at conferences, contributions to refereed journals, and the editing and/or authoring of book chapters where appropriate
- To produce scholarly research outputs suitable for return to the Research

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<p>Excellence Framework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To liaise with PI, PPM and Co-Is to ensure the smooth running of the project• To support and participate in any additional tasks or documentation as required by the project• Complete and return timesheets to the Research Management and Administration Office confirming hours worked on the project as required for project reporting and in line with funder terms and conditions.• If appropriate, to play a proactive role in the generation of future research funding linked to the project and to the output and profile of research at UAL.• To perform such duties consistent with your role as may from time to time be assigned to you anywhere within the University.• To undertake health and safety duties and responsibilities appropriate to the role• To work in accordance with the University's Equal Opportunities Policy and the Staff Charter, promoting equality and diversity in your work.• To undertake continuous personal and professional development, and to support it for any staff you manage through effective use of the University's Planning, Review and appraisal scheme and staff development opportunities.• To make full use of all information and communication technologies in adherence to data protection policies to meet the requirements of the role and to promote organisational effectiveness.• To conduct all financial matters associated with the role in accordance with the University's policies and procedures, as laid down in the Financial Regulations.
<p>Key Working Relationships - Managers and other staff, and external partners, suppliers etc. with whom regular contact is required.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Principal Investigator• Co-Investigators• Post-doctoral Research Fellows• Project and Partnerships Manager• Project Administrator
<p>Specific Management Responsibilities Budgets None - Staff None -</p> <p>Other (e.g. accommodation; equipment) -</p>

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Signed Jerneja Rebernak

(Recruiting Manager)

Date of last review March 2022

Please make sure you provide evidence to demonstrate clearly how you meet these criteria, which are all essential unless marked otherwise. Shortlisting will be based on your responses.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Job Title: Post-doctoral Research Fellow (Transforming Collections)

Grade: 5

Person Specification

<p>Specialist Knowledge/Qualifications</p>	<p>Relevant qualification – PhD research or equivalent professional experience in a relevant area, such as in art historical, curatorial and museological research and practice-based research.</p> <p>Specialist knowledge and active research in art history and critical feminist decolonial theory in relation to historical, modern and/or contemporary black artists' practices from diverse cultural and disciplinary perspectives, where 'black' refers to the usage adopted in the AHRC Black Artists and Modernism project (2015-18), referring broadly to artists of African, Asian and MENA region descent based in Britain.</p> <p>Knowledge of historical and/or contemporary art practices that engage with the politics, practices, histories and legacies of museums and collections. (Desirable)</p> <p>Knowledge of contemporary movements—within and beyond academia — that challenge colonial histories and imperial legacies, and an interest in linking postcolonial, decolonial and intersectional thinking and practice to computing research. (Desirable)</p> <p>Ability to lead the academic and/or professional development of own area of expertise within the University</p> <p>Is regarded as an authority in their field of specialism with both internal and external peers</p>
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<p>Relevant Experience</p>	<p>Relevant experience – PhD (or equivalent professional experience) in a relevant area including in art historical, curatorial and museological research and practice-based research.</p> <p>Experience of conducting rigorous art historical, theoretical and curatorial practice-based research and analysis, engaging with black artists' practice and questioning assumptions and existing knowledge around archives and collections.</p> <p>Experience in writing and publishing academic research, such as art historical, theoretical and curatorial research texts, for instance in peer-reviewed journals, exhibition catalogues and book publications.</p> <p>An excellent record of research dissemination (e.g. through exhibition, performance, publication and conference presentation).</p> <p>Track record of successful applications to external bodies for grants in support individual and/or collaborative research (Desirable)</p> <p>Applies and shares knowledge and experience as necessary across interdisciplinary contexts and with diverse audiences and stakeholders.</p>
<p>Communication Skills</p>	<p>Communicates effectively orally and in writing adapting the message for a diverse audience in an inclusive and accessible way</p>
<p>Leadership and Management</p>	<p>Motivates and leads a team effectively, setting clear objectives to manage performance</p>
<p>Research, Teaching and Learning</p>	<p>Applies innovative approaches in teaching, learning or professional practice to support excellent teaching, pedagogy and inclusivity</p> <p>Applies own research to develop learning and assessment practice</p>
<p>Professional Practice</p>	<p>Contributes to advancing professional practice/research or scholarly activity in own area of specialism</p>
<p>Planning and managing resources</p>	<p>Plans, prioritises and manages resources effectively to achieve long term objectives</p>
<p>Teamwork</p>	<p>Works collaboratively in a team and where appropriate across or with different professional groups</p>
<p>Student experience or customer service</p>	<p>Builds and maintains positive relationships with students or customers</p>
<p>Creativity,</p>	

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Innovation and Problem Solving	Suggests practical solutions to new or unique problems
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