March 2019

WYSING ARTS CENTRE
INTERIM CURATOR

Wysing Arts Centre is a thriving cultural campus of ten buildings across an 11 acre rural site in south Cambridgeshire which hosts experimental residencies for UK and international artists, and delivers a critically acclaimed public programme of gallery exhibitions and events including conferences, symposia, workshops and music events.

The post of Interim Curator will work within the programme team during Wysing’s 30th anniversary year to deliver experimental and high-quality events, including the project management of symposia, tour performances, conferences, artist residencies and planned exhibitions.

We are looking for a freelance curator who will be available to start ideally within April. Flexible working arrangements would be considered and days are negotiable subject to day rate. The deadline for applications is Friday 12 April 2019.

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THE ROLE

Position: Interim Curator
Hours: Part-time, negotiable
Fees: Based on day rate
Contract: Fixed term for up to 6 months
Reporting to: Interim Executive Director/Artistic Director

The post of Interim Curator will work within the programme team during Wysing’s 30th anniversary year to deliver experimental and high-quality events, including the project management of symposia, tour performances, conferences, artist residencies and planned exhibitions.

Main Responsibilities

- Manage the 2019 programme of events, exhibitions and artists’ residencies on and off Wysing’s site and deliver said activities on time and within agreed budgets.
- Project management of artistic programme activity will include liaison with artists, national arts and partner venues, budget monitoring, and managing contracts and freelancers. Activities planned for the contract period include:
  - Delivery of three weekend Symposium events in May/June, supporting Curator in Residence Taylor Le Melle;
  - Delivery of the Rural Assembly conference event on 20-22 June, in partnership with the Whitechapel Gallery;
  - Support the New Geographies Project Manager in overseeing the delivery of Wysing’s public art commission at Wicken Fen;
  - Support and delivery of a Future Assembly residency exchange in May;
  - Support with Ravioli Me Away touring exhibition and performance that will go on to three other venues in May and June;
  - Working with Wysing’s studio artists to support development of their projects off site; and
  - Along with the Wysing team, support the delivery of Wysing’s annual music event.
- Work with Wysing’s staff team to ensure that detailed information on all artistic activity is provided for marketing, planning and other purposes. This includes producing estimates of costs and income and initiating meetings to discuss organisation.
- Support and collaborate on the educational programme with Wysing’s education manager.
- Continue to support relationships and dialogue with a range of artists and arts organisations with whom we are developing co-commissions or projects or otherwise provide curatorial support to.
- Represent Wysing externally by attending planning meetings with artists and partners and implement agreed programmes of work.
- Contribute to fundraising to support artistic activity.
- Maintain high standards of professional delivery for everyone accessing our organisation including artists, partner organisations and visitors.
• Work in accordance with Wysing Arts Centre’s Health & Safety and Equality, Diversity and Inclusion and Safeguarding Policies at all times.

Personal Attributes, Skills & Experience Essential

• Good knowledge of current trends in contemporary art
• Excellent and demonstrable project management skills
• Demonstrable event management experience
• Ability to meet deadlines and manage budgets
• Exemplar interpersonal skills and experience of working with artists and arts organisations
• Ability to work and contribute as part of a team
• Negotiation skills and the ability to see a situation from all sides
• Ability to develop relationships and partnerships to support artistic programming
• Strong verbal and written communication skills
• A good level of computer literacy
• Willingness to work occasional evenings and weekends as required
• An thorough understanding of and empathy with the aims of Wysing Arts Centre
• An already established artistic network
“Wysing, a modernist campus which means business... a hotbed of study, a hub of artistic industry, a nationwide resource for art theory and a factory of inspiration” Mark Sheerin, Artdependence Magazine

WYSING’S VISION
To be a progressive and inclusive arts organisation that develops new ways to support artists, and to enable art and ideas to reach a wide range of people in unexpected ways.

WYSING’S MISSION
To enable artists of all backgrounds and ages to thrive, by providing a discursive environment within which they can experiment, make new work, develop new networks and collaborators, and reach new audiences.

WYSING’S VALUES
We believe that art and artists have a vital role to play in society and that opportunities in the arts have not always been fairly shared or accessed by all. Working closely with artists from a diversity of backgrounds and at different points in their careers, we develop programmes that offer time and space for personal development, artistic growth and experimentation, and access to supportive networks. We are committed to establishing national and international partnerships and collaborations that support innovative and experimental art to be created, and for art to be experienced by existing and new audiences.

ORGANISATIONAL OBJECTIVES 2018 – 2022

1. ARTISTS: Enable artists of all backgrounds to thrive
   - Develop a range of programmes that support artists and artistic practice
   - Increase the diversity of artists we support
   - Develop local, national and international strategic partnerships and networks

2. AUDIENCES: Enable a range of audiences to access contemporary art
   - Deliver high quality public and education programmes
   - Be strategic in targeting audiences for art
   - Work beyond our geographic boundaries

3. ASSETS: Enable financial and organisational resilience
   - Develop and sustain new models of self-generated and contributed income
   - Invest in staff development and governance
   - Maximise the potential of our unique site

STRATEGIC OVERVIEW

Through its innovative work, Wysing influences the development of the visual arts sector in the UK, Europe and, increasingly, the wider world. As a respected and well-connected institution operating outside the usual gallery system and urban context, Wysing is uniquely positioned to develop programmes that provide opportunities for the exchange of knowledge and ideas, and which reflect on the role of art, artists, and arts organisations in society; acting
as a testing ground for new ideas that are fed productively back into the art mainstream through extensive networks and partnerships.

Integral to Wysing’s ethos is the provision of space, support and finance to enable a diversity of artists to progress their ideas. Artists of all backgrounds and at all stages in their lives participate in a range of programmes that are developed in response to their needs. Artists often speak of Wysing as a defining moment in the development of their practices. In addition, there are specialist programmes for young artists, which include free studio provision, mentoring, workshops and public presentations.

Wysing delivers a range of public programmes that provide different entry points for a wide range of interests and abilities to access contemporary art. Public programmes reflect the complexities of contemporary life and have included explorations in race, gender, ecology, societal issues, and alternative educational and learning structures. To develop programme content Wysing draws on the resources of neighbouring Cambridge University as well as its significant artist alumni which includes Turner Prize winners and artists who have been awarded the prestigious Paul Hamlyn Award.

Wysing ensures that the innovative work developed by artists participating in its programmes reaches a wide range of audiences through digital and online initiatives, and through a range of partnerships that enable it to reach audiences regionally, nationally and internationally. Established in 1989, Wysing’s large site in rural Cambridgeshire has been significantly developed and encompasses artist studios, a large gallery, a music recording studio, educational and project spaces, onsite accommodation, ceramics facilities, outdoor space with sculpture, and a café.

"Wysing has established a brave and imaginative emphasis on experimentation and critical discussion in which the Wysing community and the broader community, are given every opportunity to participate. They offer the practical support of space, time and resources for artists to engage with the more challenging aspects of their creative activities and to bring these to fruition." Phyllida Barlow CBE, Artist representing the UK at the Venice Biennial 2017

www.wysingartscentre.org
Twitter: @wysingartscentr
Insta: wysing.arts.centre
Facebook: Wysing Arts Centre
RECRUITMENT PROCESS

The deadline for applications is Friday 12 April 2019

Shortlisted candidates may be invited for interview on Wed 17 April.

Applications should be made online via Submittable, here.

Once you have set up a Submittable account you can return to your application any time up until the deadline which is midnight on Friday 12 April 2019. Please allow enough time to approach us with any questions or queries in using the Submittable website. We are not able to accept applications after the deadline.

Please include:

1) Details of your previous employment and relevant work experience. List each employer and give a short description of your role alongside dates of employment and reason for leaving.
2) What interests you about the post and working at Wysing Arts Centre? Please use this section to articulate why you want to work at Wysing in this role.
3) Information on how your skills, abilities, and experience match the key points in the job description and person specification.
4) Preferred approach to the work, including your day rate, flexibility and any other terms or conditions.
5) Evidence of public liability and professional indemnity insurance
6) Your contact details.
7) Contact details for two referees.

Wysing’s Interim Executive Director, Mark Osterfield, is available to have an informal conversation about the position. Please call 01954 717102 or email mark.osterfield@wysingartscentre.org