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Photographer's Brief – Body Image

Nottingham City Museums and Galleries (NCMG)

About the Project

The exhibition *One Day: Something Happens* is the inspiration for a new community project at NCMG called *Body Image*.

The exhibition was curated by Jennifer Higgle, who is co-editor of the art magazine *frieze* (www.frieze.com/magazine) and was a member of the Arts Council Collection's Acquisitions Committee for two years from 2011. The artists whose work features in the exhibition are a combination of very well-known and less familiar painters, practicing throughout the 20th and 21st century. The artworks selected by Higgle illustrate the different ways of representing the human figure.

Some artists have placed more emphasis on exploring what it feels like to be human representing their individual or internal experiences of life. This is in contrast to some of the artworks, which seek to represent what we look like from the outside or how we are seen. Impressionism in particular was a movement which saw western artists first starting to become interested in the variability and unreliability of human perception and how this can be influenced by feelings and emotional states.

A community group will be working with an artist to explore and capture their own identity to create a collective art piece that will be shown alongside the exhibition at Nottingham Castle. Participants will be invited to consider which artworks in the exhibition provide a more internalised and external view of human nature, encouraging the participants to think about how they view themselves and the choices they make about how they are seen.

Project Aim

To engage an artist to work with a community group to produce a collective art piece (a photographic moving image) that will be shown alongside the exhibition *One Day: Something Happens* at Nottingham Castle Museum & Art Gallery. Participants will be invited to investigate a number of paintings around the themes of 'Being Human – the inside view' and 'Seeing and being seen', exploring body image in society, the media and in art, using the ethnographic Access Artefacts collection as inspiration.



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Project's outcomes

- Participants to learn about how art can be used to explore what it feels like to be human.
- Participants to learn how to use photography to create a piece of art for an exhibition.
- Empower participants to increase skills, confidence and knowledge through creativity and experience.
- Change perceptions, opinions and attitudes towards others.
- Increase capacity for tolerance.
- Improve group and inter-group dialogue.
- Support cultural diversity and identity.
- Help to build capacity for community and voluntary groups.
- Provide safe and inclusive spaces in Nottingham's museums.
- Enable community groups to enjoy life and make a positive contribution.

The role of the photographer:

- Support the recruitment of one community group.
- Plan and deliver the workshops.
- Supervise volunteers.
- Work closely with the project team to edit and produce the art piece for the exhibition at Nottingham Castle.
- Develop knowledge around the paintings in the exhibition and Access Artefact's ethnographic collection in order to help participants use these resources as inspiration.
- Explore the art of photography with the group.
- Liaise with a range of services to produce the final piece.
- Work with the project team to draw in expertise, knowledge and skills.
- Support the evaluation and marketing activity.

Person Specification

Experience

You will have experience of:

- Working with diverse community groups and be able to recognise their needs.
- Working on arts / heritage projects as a creative practitioner.
- Collaborating with others to produce a piece of art.



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Knowledge

You will have a good working knowledge of:

- Delivering creative workshops with diverse community groups.
- Photographic editing and production processes.
- Museums, heritage and exhibitions (desirable).

General skills

- Proven organisation skills to successfully plan, prepare and deliver accessible, creative workshops.
- Effective partnership skills working with a diverse range of people and groups/organisations.
- Ability to ensure participants remain co-authors within a project.
- Be enthusiastic and able to inspire and motivate project participants.
- Be creative in communicating ideas to different group's, ages and cultures.
- Be an advocate for the project.
- Skilled in photography and producing photographic/moving image outcomes.

Communication and interpersonal skills

- Have excellent communication and diplomacy skills and the ability to liaise effectively with staff across all sites and venues, with participants and with external groups/organisations.
- Be well organised and have good time management.
- Be able to solve problems along the way.
- Listen and respect colleagues and participants input.
- Be approachable and personable.

Management

The artist will be supervised by the Community Programmes Officer at Nottingham City Museums and Galleries.



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Schedule, Location, and Fees

The successful candidate will be contracted on a temporary freelance contract through Nottingham City Council to work the equivalent of 6 days (8 hours per day) between June and July 2015.

Candidates must be available for an immediate start from the **w/c 1 June 2015**.

Candidates must be able to work flexibly. More time will need to be spent on the project during busy periods as well as evening and weekend working to fit around the participant availability.

The post holder will be expected to attend meetings and workshops at venues across Nottingham. Home working will be expected.

The fee is £200 per day. A total fee of £1200 will be paid in monthly instalments. This can be invoiced for at the end of each month. Payments by Nottingham City Council are made within 30 days of receiving the invoice.

The successful candidate will be expected to pay their Tax and National Insurance and therefore must be registered as self-employed with the Inland Revenue.

How to Apply

Please submit an expression of interest including your CV, explaining how you meet the above criteria within the role and Person Specification.

The deadline is **10am Monday 18 May 2015**

Please email your application to **melissa.lewis@nottinghamcity.gov.uk**

Further Information

For further information please contact Melissa Lewis, Community Programmes Officer

Email: melissa.lewis@nottinghamcity.gov.uk **Telephone:** 0115 8762738



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