



Recruiting now...

Curator, Contemporary Art (Part-time)



The Migration Museum is the UK's missing museum. We explore how the movement of people to and from these shores has shaped who we are, and where we are going. After a decade-long journey of thriving in temporary spaces, we will be opening a landmark permanent museum in the City of London in 2028.

Leading up to our opening, we are seeking an experienced, strategic, and self-driven Curator with expertise in contemporary art to join our team on a part-time basis for a fixed-term contract. At this foundational stage, the curator will support the development and delivery of a contemporary arts strategy for the museum, building key relationships with artists, galleries and partners, supporting fundraising, and ensuring our offer meets the needs of our broad audiences. This is a unique opportunity to shape the Migration Museum's inaugural temporary exhibitions programme and leave your mark on the UK's most exciting new museum.

Job description and person specification

Job title	Curator, Contemporary Art
Contract type	3 days per week. One year contract.
Salary	£24,000 p.a. (£40,000 FTE equivalent) plus matched 5% pension contribution
Location	City of London, On-site / In-person required
Working Hours	9:30am – 5:30pm, with occasional evening and weekend work required
Deadline for applications	18 October 2026
Interviews expected	Week beginning 2 November 2026

Background

The Migration Museum has always been driven by a mission to shine a light on the many ways migration has shaped who we are — as individuals, as communities, and as nations. As we look toward the future, we are embarking on our most ambitious chapter yet. In 2028, we will officially open the doors to our new permanent home. This transition allows us to expand our reach, scale our ambitions, and anchor our presence in the cultural landscape.

At the heart of our curatorial vision is a commitment to multidisciplinary storytelling with personal experiences at its heart. We uniquely mix social history with contemporary art to create meaningful experiences that surprise and delight. We believe that curation extends

beyond traditional gallery walls, and we want every space in our museum to be a storytelling destination in its own right.

Our permanent site has been designed to reflect our open, inclusive, and ambitious curatorial vision. The new museum will feature multiple distinct spaces including

- **Ground Floor Gallery:** A double-height gallery space that can be seen directly from the street. This multi-functional space will be home to our temporary exhibitions programme, designed to capture public imagination and draw visitors inside. This will be a space for thematic exhibitions by emerging and established artists and creatives, and for integrated events and workshops.
- **Core Exhibition Galleries:** The anchor of our museum, this space will house our semi-permanent narrative, enriched by targeted, high-impact artistic commissions.
- **Integrated Public Spaces:** Our courtyard, cafe, and shop are integrated into the museum's layout as extended spaces for storytelling and audience engagement.

In keeping with our vision, we are seeking a highly strategic and visionary Curator. You will lead the development and planning for a dynamic temporary exhibitions programme from the ground up. You will also develop a public programming strategy that activates the temporary exhibitions and draws in diverse audiences. You will collaborate closely with the wider museum team to support and deliver high-impact artistic commissions that enrich the narrative of the Core Exhibition Space. You will actively seek opportunities to weave contemporary art and storytelling into our integrated public spaces (courtyard, cafe, and shop), ensuring a cohesive visitor experience throughout the museum.

Key responsibilities

Curatorial Strategy & Exhibition Planning

- **Strategic Support:** Work closely with the Artistic Director to refine a comprehensive strategy for a temporary exhibitions programme
- **Concept Development:** Research, conceptualise, and plan high-quality thematic and solo exhibitions for our ground floor gallery
- **Gallery Design:** Work with the Artistic Director and museum architects and designers to ensure our purpose-built temporary exhibition spaces are fit for purpose
- **Core Exhibition Support:** Provide curatorial support, oversee artistic commissions, and act as a liaison for artists featured in the museum's core exhibition
- **Co-Curation:** Champion co-creation frameworks, collaborating closely with guest curators, creative collectives, and the public

Artist Relations & Commissions

- **Artist Liaison:** Work with living artists to commission new works and site-specific installations or arrange loans of existing works
- **Industry Relationship Management:** Maintain strong working relationships with commercial galleries and multi-disciplinary creators across visual arts, animation, film, and performance
- **Contract Management:** Draft and execute contracts and letters of agreement, leading all negotiations and contractual conversations with artists and partner galleries

Public Accessibility & Writing

- **Audience Engagement:** Translate complex concepts into world-class, public-facing exhibitions that deeply resonate with the Migration Museum's audiences
- **Writing & Interpretation:** Write accessible and engaging exhibition proposals and gallery text

Financial Management & Development

- **Budgeting:** Create project budgets, process and code invoices, keeping all project budgets strictly up to date, and regularly monitor financial management reports
- **Fundraising Support:** Assist the Development team with project proposals and identifying potential funding partners for programmes and projects
- **Stakeholder Reporting:** Assist with accurate, timely, and effective reporting to project funders and key stakeholders

Requirements & Experience

Essential Experience

- **5+ years of experience** working as a curator, with a strong track record of commissioning and liaising with artists and commercial galleries. We are especially looking for curators who are entrepreneurial and have experience of delivering major projects with small teams
- Track record of **developing strategic plans** for an arts programme, including partnership development, fundraising, resource allocation and risk management
- Extensive experience working across multiple artistic disciplines, including visual arts, animation, film, and performance
- Proven experience in **co-curation and co-production**, including successful collaborations with guest curators and creative collectives

- Demonstrated experience in **community engagement**, specifically working with diverse communities and young people

Skills & Knowledge

- Deep, up-to-date knowledge of the contemporary art landscape
- Existing network of commercial gallery contacts
- Excellent communication and diplomacy skills
- Strong practical understanding of co-creation frameworks within a museum or gallery setting
- A solid understanding of arts fundraising and how to leverage partnerships to support creative projects
- Exceptional writing and communication skills, with the ability to adjust tone for academic outputs, grant applications, funding reports, and public audiences
- Strong organisational and financial administration skills

The Curator will report directly to the Artistic Director and work with various teams including Development, Comms and Learning. There are no line management responsibilities in this role. This position is offered as a one-year fixed-term contract, which may be extended subject to future funding.

How to apply

To apply for this position, please e-mail a copy of your CV and a covering letter of no more than 500 words to Aditi Anand: recruitment@migrationmuseum.org with the subject heading 'Curator, Contemporary Art'.

Please also complete our [Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form](#), stating the position you are applying for as 'Curator, Contemporary Art'. These monitoring forms will be stored and assessed separately and will not be linked to your application.

Because our core mission is to explore how the movement of people has shaped who we are, we actively and warmly encourage applications from individuals with lived experience of migration. We are dedicated to ensuring our recruitment process is inclusive and accessible for everyone. If you require any reasonable adjustments during the application or interview stage, or if you need this job description and application instructions in an alternative format, please contact Aditi Anand at aditi@migrationmuseum.org in complete confidence.

The deadline for applications is 11.59pm on Sunday, 18 October 2026.

The post requires proof of eligibility to work in the UK and 2 satisfactory references.

You will be notified whether you have been shortlisted for interview via email and interviews will be held the week commencing 2 November 2026

If you have any questions about the role, please contact aditi@migrationmuseum.org.