

Curator

Job Description

May 2023

Job Description:

The Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art in Nusantara (Museum MACAN), is Indonesia's leading museum of modern and contemporary art, which is housed in a purpose-built facility with over 2,500 square meters of gallery spaces, education, conservation and storage areas. The Museum looks after a collection of over 800 objects with important holdings of modern and contemporary art from Indonesia and around the world.

The Museum is looking for a Curator to join the Curatorial and Collections department to work across exhibitions and the collection. As a member of the curatorial team, the Curator contributes ideas to the Museum's program, and is an essential member of the museum team that liaises with internal departments and with the professional art world. Working within the Curatorial and Collections Department, the Curator manages a small team to realize the ambitious program of the museum, including temporary exhibitions and commissions; special international exhibitions and collection programming; publishing and educational and public program activities. The Curator will work collaboratively with artists, studios, partners and the Museum MACAN team to deliver high level exhibition outcomes.

The Curator will report to the Director, and will manage a small department of Assistant Curators; the Curator will also work effectively with the Registrar, Conservator and the Exhibitions Team. The position will be responsible for the delivery of exhibitions within the program; proposing, developing and implementing exhibitions that reflect and strengthen the mission of the museum; manage collection research; drive and contribute to publications; work with artists, lenders and other arts institutions and work effectively with registration and exhibition teams.

Principal Responsibilities (Essential Functions) include:

- Contribute to research directions for exhibition and collection development in line with the Museum's mission with an emphasis on Modern and Contemporary art from Indonesia and the world
- Manage a small department of curators and lead exhibition curatorial project teams,
- Conceive, plan and execute exhibitions and programs including negotiations with lenders and collaborative institutions
- Work with other internal departments to provide content and to deliver museum wide programs, including talks, tours and lectures for audience engagement
- Manage collection development strategies in line with the Museum's Strategic planning
- Conduct research and present its outcome at internal and external events (gallery talks, symposiums, conferences, publishing such as exhibition catalogues, journals).
- Assist with the development of junior curatorial colleagues in the execution of exhibitions and programs.
- Handle ad-hoc assignments as and when required
- Record keeping and database management.

Skills and abilities

- Developed curatorial knowledge, with at least five years' experience working within the curatorial field
- Excellent knowledge and understanding of museums and their processes

- A working knowledge and established professional network of Indonesian and international contemporary visual artists and professionals.
- Excellent knowledge of Indonesian art history, with a developed understanding of South East Asian and international art
- Exemplary written, verbal, and listening communication skills and a demonstrated ability to communicate clearly and professionally in Bahasa Indonesia and in English
- Effective interpersonal skills as well as group interaction and leadership skills
- Demonstrated organizational planning, project management, problem-solving and collaboration skills with impeccable attention to detail
- Excellent communication and accuracy in written communication
- Excellent public speaking skills
- Ability to lead and motivate colleagues and to work as part of a team and independently, remaining calm under pressure
- Good negotiation skills and the ability to handle sensitive situations with diplomacy
- Collaborative and energetic with the ability to inspire and creatively engage colleagues, senior management, and board members
- Ability to work independently and effectively; self-directed
- Responsible and accountable for his/her decisions
- Excellent interpersonal skills, including demonstrated understanding and use of diplomacy, influencing, advocacy, negotiation and conflict resolution.
- Interest to contribute to the museum's overall strategy and management

Experience and Qualifications Include:

Education:

- Degree in Art History, Theory or Practice, or extensive equivalent experience
- A demonstrated commitment to the development of contemporary visual arts practices in Indonesia.
- Experience with the care and handling of art works, including condition reporting and packing procedures
- Experience of publishing in print and/or online
- Experience of print production
- Experience of publishing in print and/or online

Behavioral Competencies

- Teamwork & Cooperation – a motivated team play with the ability to work cooperatively across the organization to achieve goals
- Results Orientation – concern for surpassing a standard of excellence
- Service Orientation – focusing one's efforts on discovering and meeting the needs of others
- Engaging External Partners – identify and involve external stakeholders, in order to foster beneficial partnerships
- Commitment to the highest ethical standards and ability to work effectively, diplomatically and discreetly.