

falmouth.ac.uk/
curatorialpractice

Some recent visiting lecturers

The MA lecture series is open to all students on the Falmouth campus. Guest speakers have included international artists and curators like **Martin Creed, Michael Craig-Martin, Gavin Turk, Katie Paterson, Mark Dion, Teresa Gleadowe, Bob and Roberta Smith, Tania Kovats, Common Culture, Simon Starling, Charles Esche, Alex Katz, Jeremy Millar and Richard Wentworth.**

Course Leader: Kate Southworth

Kate is an artist whose work is informed by net art, distributed networks, healing, protocols and curating. In 2007 Kate organised the Disrupting Narratives conference at Tate Modern, which brought together some of the world's leading media artists, theorists and researchers. In 2011 she organised the Arts Council England-funded Digital Debates series of seminars across the South West, and May 2013 sees the next phase of her Arts Council England-funded Electronic Village Galleries project.

Course Team: Dr Virginia Button

Ginny studied art history at Leeds University and the Courtauld Institute of Art, where she completed her MA and PhD. She worked at Tate (1991-2001) curating the Turner Prize (1993-98); Intelligence, the first Tate Triennial (2000); and managed the permanent collection displays at Tate Britain. Ginny's books include *The Turner Prize* (now in its fifth revised edition), *Christopher Wood, Ben Nicholson* and her companion guide for Tate St Ives was published in 2009. She launched MA Curatorial Practice in 2008 and has been Head of the Department of Art since 2010.

MA Curatorial Practice

- The dynamic interface between contemporary art and its audiences, curatorial practice combines critical thinking, theoretical knowledge and practical skills. Our highly regarded MA fosters these elements, putting dialogue with artists and exploration of the art world at the heart of the learning process.

Developed with curatorial professionals and built around a partnership with a national museum (Tate St Ives) and a publicly funded gallery (Newlyn Art Gallery & The Exchange), the course engages with the challenge of being local and operating globally. You'll test your ideas in real situations and develop your own curatorial position through practice. Cultivating your practical experience and theoretical knowledge, you'll graduate with an in-depth knowledge of the international contemporary art world, ready to engage effectively in an increasingly diverse range of curatorial activity.

Further details

Working closely with staff at our partner organisations and other respected art world professionals, the MA provides a context in which you'll develop and critique curatorial practice, whilst establishing networks and contacts relevant to your individual areas of interest.

Our two main partners – Tate St Ives and Newlyn Art Gallery & The Exchange – ensure you get first-hand experience of curatorial practice from day one. Through practical exhibition-making sessions, workshops and assignments – both on campus and on our partners' sites – you'll develop research and professional skills in relation to your own curatorial ideas.

Alongside this, challenging theory and contextual study will help you develop an advanced understanding of critical judgement, so you can apply imaginative, innovative and independent thought to your practice, enabling you to express your ideas through targeted curatorial communication. ▶

Visiting Professors

Simon Fujiwara
Cornelia Parker

Key facts

Campus: Falmouth
Mode of study: Full-time

Entry requirements

Find out more about entry requirements for our MA courses on **p24** of the Postgraduate Guide

For further information about MA Curatorial Practice at Falmouth, please email **admissions@falmouth.ac.uk** or call Admissions on +44 (0)1326 255764.

Interview

Once you've applied, the course team will assess your application and – if you have potential – invite you to interview. We'd prefer to meet you in person, but we can interview remotely, if necessary.

Fees and funding

For the academic year 2013/2014 MA fees are:

Full-time UK/EU £5,450

Full-time International £12,000

Tuition fees are subject to an annual review and, for further years of study, continuing students may incur a small increase in line with inflation.

Find out more about scholarships, bursaries and funding on **p20-21** of the Postgraduate Guide or at **falmouth.ac.uk**

Course structure

This is a one-year, full-time course spanning 45 weeks.

Study Block 1

The first term is designed to help you develop research and professional skills in relation to your own curatorial ideas. You'll get an understanding of research and its position within personal practice, through visits to studios, galleries and curators as well as lectures and intensive study days. A series of tutor- and student-led seminars will introduce curatorial strategies and concepts, providing opportunity for peer group discussion.

Study Block 2

This term will give you direct experience of the professional curatorial process. Delivered in collaboration with staff at Tate St Ives, you'll devise a hypothetical display of contemporary art for the gallery, using Tate's collection, as well as curate a group exhibition project at Newlyn Art Gallery.

Study Block 3

In your final term, you'll complete an MA project allowing you to identify and explore an aspect of curatorial practice pertinent to your own interests and desired career path. Project options include curatorial dissertation, an extended arts-based essay, an independent exhibition project and a fully developed exhibition or curatorial project proposal.

Course delivery

The MA is delivered through both taught and independent research modules, including your final MA project, which carries the highest credit rating. Although you'll be supported by tutors and art world professionals, a high level of independent study, collaborative engagement and commitment will be required throughout.

You'll engage with the course through individual and group tutorials, group critiques, peer-led research, exchange group seminars, lectures from the course team, partner staff and visiting speakers, and visits to artists' studios and galleries.

Some recent contributors to the course

- Miguel Amado, independent curator and critic
- Katja Davar, artist
- Charles Esche, Director, Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven
- Andy Harper, artist
- Paula Orrell, independent curator
- Zoe Shearman, independent curator and Founding Director of Relational

Building professional experience

Industry-facing and created in collaboration with art organisations, MA Curatorial Practice is designed to foster professional



Case study

Amarachi Okafor

“MA Curatorial Practice gave me the understanding of what it means to be critically and professionally involved within a contemporary global art context. I’ve been able to explore and develop my approach to curating, which involves attention to socio-economic topics, culture, religion and history.

As part of the course I co-curated *Scattered Plots & Routes We Take*, a solo exhibition of animated drawing by Katja Davar at Newlyn Art Gallery. It has equipped me with new skills needed in my practice.

Art, purposefully created for change, motivates me and my time at Falmouth has refined that. I hope to instigate an artists’ space in Nigeria that provides a forum for art practice and discourse and offers curatorial guidance to artists.”

amarachiokafor.com

Industry connections

Strong industry links you’ll benefit from:

- Tate
- Newlyn Art Gallery and The Exchange
- Independent artist networks like CAZ, CMR



skills and awareness from the outset. Through contact with our collaborating partners and a range of other national and international art world professionals – including artists, curators, educators and critics – the course provides you with opportunities to both develop and critique curatorial practice, and to establish networks and contacts relevant to your individual areas of interest.

Course assessment

- Evaluation after the completion of each module
- Written feedback to track your progress

Facilities

- Teaching takes place in historic Arwenack Avenue building
- Access to Photography and Media Centre
- Comprehensive library resources

Find out more about Falmouth’s facilities at: falmouth.ac.uk/facilities

Career opportunities

Potential careers include:

- Curator at a gallery or museum
- Independent curator
- Project manager
- Further study and research
- Teaching
- Gallery educator/learning curator



“Working with the MA Curatorial Practice students from Falmouth was an energetic and immersive experience. Their dynamic, hands-on approach was refreshing. Simultaneously, their knowledge of current international art theoretical discourse was impressive.”

Katja Davar
Artist

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Postgraduate
Guide

“Cornwall offers a unique context for considering and developing curatorial practice. Working with Tate St Ives, the Falmouth course offers students the opportunity to reflect in this particular situation whilst engaging with Tate’s curatorial staff and national collection.”

Mark Osterfield
Executive Director, Tate St Ives



“I really enjoyed teaching on the MA Curatorial Practice. The concentrated atmosphere was exceptional and I was struck by the degree of collaboration between students, encouraged by faculty members. Studying in Falmouth allows students to benefit from a rich regional art history and an active contemporary community while building up experience for a career in the international art world.”

Charles Esche
Director of the Van Abbemuseum in Eindhoven, Holland,
and visiting lecturer on MA Curatorial Practice



WHERE ARE THEY NOW? Some graduate careers...

1

Phil Rushworth is an independent curator, co-directing FEAST-funded 24hr Comic Etc in 2011 and producing The Penzance Convention in May 2012. She’s currently Curatorial Practice intern on our Penryn campus; a one-year full-time internship available to graduates of the course.

24hrcomicetc.co.uk
philrushworth.com
thepenzanceconvention.com

2

Ruth Gooding was appointed curator of the Oriel Davies Gallery in Wales in 2011. She’s currently working as an independent curator while pursuing a doctorate at the University of Reading and the postgraduate programme in curating at Zurich University for the Arts.

oriel Davies.org

3

Andrea Poças is currently working as freelance curator and writer, as well as at Galeria Graça Brandão in Lisbon.

galeriagracabrandao.com