

# BRITISH ART NETWORK – TWO-DAY SEMINARS

*Hold a two-day seminar for members of the British Art Network and beyond*

The British Art Network is offering **two bursaries** of £7,000 each for members of the network to devise and deliver two-day seminars in late spring 2021.

This opportunity is open to British Art Network members who are freelance, university affiliated or museum / gallery / heritage / arts affiliated. We particularly welcome applications from art workers who are Black, Asian and minority ethnic, working class, have disabilities, or in any other way under-represented in the curatorial and research landscape.

The seminars will bring together professionals working with British art across the UK and at different stages in their career. We also welcome an interdisciplinary approach and audience where this is desired.

One day should be held online, while the other can be online or in person. The two days do not need to be consecutive. Your seminars can take place between March and May 2021. There may need to be some flexibility on dates to allow for adequate time between events.

Seminars run by BAN bursary awardees in 2019–2020 have been:

*Art Science Nature* (Colchester & Ipswich Museums)

*Imperial Subjects: (Post)colonial Conversations between Wales and South Asia* (Glynn Vivian Art Gallery)

*Decolonising British Art* (University of the Arts London)

For more information on past seminars, please visit the [British Art Network webpage](#).

## WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR

- Clear research question(s) that are relevant, un(der)explored, timely and specifically address aspects of British art
- Process and values-driven goals around sector support, networking and learning, as well as research goals
- Creativity, openness and flexibility regarding event formats
- Demonstrable commitment to equity and inclusion
- Desire to build and maintain connections within the British Art Network
- Advocates for the wider British Art Network who will 'spread the word'

## WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT FROM US

- Support from the British Art Network Convenor in honing research questions, writing a call for papers, assessing applications
- Support from the British Art Network Coordinator in organising letters of agreement, branding, marketing, opening registration and tracking bookings
- Support from the British Art Network external evaluator in integrating feedback and evaluation throughout the planning and delivery process
- Support from invited consultants and peers in exploring and testing methodology to go beyond a traditional seminar format
- A team and project that is committed to equity, justice, accessibility, anti-racism and LGBTQI+ rights. Please note that we are currently taking vital time to reflect and hold conversations around Diversity and Inclusion goals for our work.

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## TO APPLY

To apply, please download the application form, anonymous monitoring form and employer's letter of support (where relevant) and send completed versions to [britishartnetwork@tate.org.uk](mailto:britishartnetwork@tate.org.uk) by **Monday 14 September 2020, 10:00 BST (UTC +1)**.

If you would like to apply in another format, such as video, this is also welcomed. Please contact [britishartnetwork@tate.org.uk](mailto:britishartnetwork@tate.org.uk) if you would like to discuss this.

If you currently have an employer, you should get their permission before applying to hold a British Art Network two-day seminar, as the planning, delivery and follow-up activity should be considered part of your working hours. We ask for a form from employers (where relevant) as part of your application, to express support and highlight any potential challenges.

## FAQs

### What is the time commitment for this programme?

Successful applicants will work with invited consultants, the British Art Network team as well as other bursary awardees to explore and test methodology to maximise the impact of their programmes.

- 14 October 2020, Introductory meeting and Programme Design workshop 1, online (half day)
- Mid to late October 2020 (date tbc), Programme Design small group workshop, online (two hours)
- 2 February 2021, Programme Design workshop 2, online (two hours)

You will also be expected to be in regular touch with the British Art Network team in the organisation of your two-day seminar.

You will twice be expected to send the British Art Network team a short formal report: once in February 2021 (to secure the release of the second part of your bursary) and once post-event. You will also need to provide clearly organised financial records covering your bursary spend (including all receipts).

It is also important to take into account post-event activity which will include:

- Collecting and collating monitoring data on event attendees
- Follow-up conversation with the British Art Network evaluator
- Working with the British Art Network team on the post-production of conference film(s) including selecting highlights, liaison with speakers, branding

In total, we estimate the planning, delivery and post-event activity to be approximately 18 days' work, spread out between October 2020 and June 2021.

### How does the bursary work? And what can I do with the bursary?

You will receive the first half of your bursary at the start of the programme (October 2020) and the second half in February 2021. The second payment will be dependent on plans for your two-day seminar being in place and the submission of a report.

You will need to keep all receipts and invoices and manage and organise your budget, keeping and passing on clear records to the British Art Network team.

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The bursary can cover:

- Venue / AV / personnel hire
- Catering
- Filming and film post-production
- Speaker fees (£150–250)
- Seminar app / delegate pack
- Speaker travel and accommodation
- Softwares/subscriptions to run online event
- Closed captioning for online event
- BAN member travel and childcare fund (at least £1,000)
- Other access costs

**I'm already planning a two-day event for Spring 2021. Can I apply for the bursary as a top-up fund to support its delivery?**

This bursary is designed to allow members of the British Art Network the opportunity to contribute towards the Network's programme. As such, events should be designed for British Art Network members and there will need to be flexibility regarding programming. Outputs such as video content will be expected to sit on the British Art Network's platforms. If you have a fixed plan for content and delivery format, we would suggest that this isn't the best opportunity for you. Please note that we will be prioritising applications where the opportunity to put on the events would not be possible without this bursary.

**I'm not yet a member of the British Art Network. Can I still apply?**

We are always looking to expand and diversify our membership and very much welcome applications from new members. Please do mention in the body of your application email that you are yet to become a member and we will sign you up. Membership is always free and open, and includes a number of networking activities including thematic and topical research seminars, a quarterly newsletter and the opportunity to join the register of expertise.

**I don't have a 'venue'. Can I apply?**

Yes – it is not mandatory for either of your events for the two-day seminar to take place in person. If you do wish to hold an event in person, the bursary can be used partly to cover venue hire. You may wish to start research into fully accessible venues that might be suitable for an in-person meeting and to include this information in your application.

**I don't have a job currently / I am a freelancer – can I still apply?**

We very much wish to support and continue engagement with British Art Network members who may have been made redundant or are experiencing precarious working situations, especially during the Covid-19 crisis. If you are not currently working, we still encourage you to apply if you feel able to commit to delivering the event in Spring 2021. For those not in employment, we will be assessing eligibility for a modest honorarium to acknowledge your time and contribution on a case-by-case basis.

**I have a disability and might need extra support to be able to run the two-day seminar - can you give more information on how you'll make this possible?**

## BRITISH ART NETWORK – TWO-DAY SEMINARS

The British Art Network team are fully committed to ensuring this opportunity is open and accessible to all, and there is budget in place for access needs. We subscribe to the social model of disability and seminars should take place in fully accessible venues or on accessible online platforms. If you are unsure whether our provision will cover your needs as a seminar organiser, we would be very happy to have a chat with you to discuss how support could be planned and put your mind at ease. We appreciate such conversations can be difficult to have and promise to keep any information shared fully confidential. Please contact [britishartnetwork@tate.org.uk](mailto:britishartnetwork@tate.org.uk) if you would like to talk this through with a member of our team.

### How should I formulate my research question(s)?

Research has three characteristics that apply across activities and disciplines: questioning, a structured process of enquiry and the creation of original knowledge that goes out into the world.

Any research question should be rooted in the subject and/or activity that sparks your interest or that you feel needs urgent attention. Sub-group research questions might focus on a specific genre or area of British art, or they might centre around curatorial or research practice more widely.

The questions below can serve as useful prompts. There are also numerous helpful online resources, for example: <https://www.scribbr.com/research-process/research-questions/>

- What is interesting or problematic?
- What is unresolved?
- What interests and/or bothers you about a subject or how something is currently being done?
- Has your question been comprehensively addressed elsewhere?
- What might your research contribute to ongoing debates?
- Is it possible to address this question systematically – is it too broad or narrow?
- Is it likely to lead to new insights that are useful to others as well as yourself?
- What methods might you employ to explore the question?
- Will you be embedding the investigation into your practice? What might that look like?
- Will you be working with others?
- Test out your question with colleagues – are they as captivated by it as you are?

**The research question I have in mind isn't solely about or relevant to British art – does this matter? And what are you classifying as 'British art'?**

We consider British art a global phenomenon and encourage transnational and decolonising approaches. The British Art Network supports curatorial practice and research into British art in all its forms, across time periods and geographical locations. As such, we welcome proposals that expand discussion outwards from the 'British' while also highlighting and emphasising relevance to members working with British art collections and history.

**I'm not based in the UK but I work with British art – can I apply?**

The British Art Network is working on expanding its international reach and membership – we very much welcome British art researchers and curators outside the UK applying for this opportunity. Please note that if you wish to undertake an in-person event as part of your two-day seminar, this would need to take place in the UK and therefore the British Art Network team may need to take a more active role in supporting its organisation.