**CONTEMPORARY COLLECTIVE**

**COURSE OUTLINE**

This course is designed to give an in-depth knowledge of working in contemporary visual art today, as a curator and/or arts manager. A specific focus on operating in KSA will be provided by support and advice from local practitioners who will inform our UK-based “experts”, and give their own presentations and case studies as part of the curriculum.

To provide a practical core to their studies, throughout the programme participants will be developing and realizing an exhibition project using the British Council Art Collection. This exhibition will open in Riyadh and Jeddah in Autumn 2017.

**Module 1: An Introduction to Curating and Arts Management**

**Matilda Pye, Course Leader**

**London, August 15 - 19**

An introduction to the course including the basics of what “curating” means and what curators and arts managers can do. This module will encompass a visit to the British Council Art Collection and focused meetings with curators and arts managers at contemporary art spaces including Tate Modern, Delfina Studios, Liverpool Biennale, British Museum, Gasworks and the Serpentine Gallery.

**Module 2: Creating Contemporary Art Exhibitions Course**

**Whitechapel Gallery curators**

**London, August 22 - 26**

Participants will develop an exhibition proposal using the British Council’s art collection, as a taster of what is feasible for their final project. They will be given an overview of interpretation, developing an exhibition plan, logistics and the practicalities of curation and arts management. This module will take place at the Whitechapel Gallery alongside other aspiring curators from a diverse selection of international art spaces.

**Module 3: Critical Thinking and Writing**

**Nicola Freeman**

**Riyadh, September 6-8**

An in-depth examination of research practices, thinking about and around art themes and how they interact with contemporary issues. Looking at key texts and relating this to the development of a final exhibition project. Also covering the use of language and terminology in the art world, and presentation skills. There will be a case study looking at research and art history in the Saudi context.

**Module 4: An Overview of Arts Management**

**Ann Jones**

**Jeddah, October 2-4**

A step-by-step guide to the practicalities of presenting work and administering an art space or project. Looking at financial planning, renumeration of artists, shipping, art handling, installation, working with clients. Also covering planning and running an art project – fundraising, working with co-curators; writing and implementing a comms strategy; organising timelines and teams.

**Module 5: Engaging audiences**

**Matilda Pye**

**Jeddah, October 5-6**

Looking at strategies of engaging audiences in art projects and presentations through education programmes, outreach activities, interpretative materials, publications. PR and media. Looking at innovative methods of engagement and 360 degree audience impact. The module will be built with consideration to the local context.

**Module 6: The Ecosystem of Contemporary Art**

**Ann Gallagher**

**Jeddah, October 31 – November 1**

Examining the intricacies of the art world ecosystem and how the curator negotiates within these complex structures and networks. Looking at private collections, corporate collections, public collections, the non-profit sector, institutions, academic bodies, the commercial art world/art market, key art fairs, biennales and their role, auctions. It will include an examination of how the Saudi contemporary and modern art scene has and does interact with international networks.

**Module 7: Curating beyond the gallery**

**Karen MacKinnon**

**Riyadh, November 14 - 16**

Commissioning and presenting site-specific work and looking at how unconventional spaces, can be animated and re-interpreted with contemporary art. Showing how working with local communities and groups beyond a gallery can create impactful public art projects and how digital media has created a parallel means to reach new audiences and present work in new ways.

**Module 8: Curating in the Region**

**Various**

**Dubai, Sharjah and Abu Dhabi, December 4 - 8**

Participants will travel to the United Arab Emirates to explore different models and developments in modern and contemporary arts in the region. They will explore regional and geographical essentialism, issues of language and translation and stereotypes. These challenges will be balanced against seeing the abundant opportunities and creative developments in the region that will inform how they might develop their own careers in KSA.