Associate Curator (Exhibitions)

Reports to: Museum Director  
Works closely with: Heads of Departments  
Role type: Full-time  
Location: Bangalore  
Contract: Permanent  
Salary: Competitive, dependent on experience  

About the Museum of Art & Photography
The Museum of Art & Photography (MAP) is a bold, dynamic and ambitious project committed to building and sustaining a new museum of international standards in South India. Its mission is to exhibit, interpret and preserve a growing collection of art and cultural artefacts, motivated by a belief that museums can play a positive role in society.

MAP is the custodian to a growing collection of over 18,000 art works, predominantly from the Indian subcontinent and dating from the 12th century to the present. Its flagship site will include five galleries, an auditorium, an art and research library, education centre, a multimedia centre and a specialised research and conservation facility. From here, MAP will produce exhibitions, encourage and foster new academic research and improve access and understanding for the visual arts in India, with a key focus on inclusively building new audiences.

While the museum's physical space is being built, MAP is carrying out its mission by actively reaching out to the local community, in particular to schools in Bengaluru, through a variety of programs and projects, including artist loans, art exhibitions, workshops and lectures. MAP's long term strategy is to be a sustainable and scalable model and catalyst for further positive change in the museum sector in India, through capacity building and knowledge-sharing.

Exhibitions Department
The Exhibitions Department is a small and active department at MAP. The main objective of the department is to ideate and execute a strong permanent and temporary exhibition calendar, ensuring that it is efficiently managed. The Exhibition Department oversees on-site and off-site exhibitions and artists commissions, which include loans and any special projects at the MAP Project Space in Kochi. The department forecasts and works at least three years in advance to ensure all deadlines related to exhibition planning, design and publications are met on time and that each project is enriching for the multiple target audiences we cater to. The Exhibitions Department is constantly coordinating with the other departments such as Education and Outreach, Collections, Communications and Development for exhibitions.

Role Overview
The Associate Curator (Exhibitions) is an integral member of a small and busy team at the Museum of Art & Photography. They will report to the Museum Director and will work directly with the senior team to conceive and realise exhibitions, play a key role in
designing and managing the exhibitions programmes and will be supported by an Assistant Curator.

The role involves providing curatorial leadership and collaborating with internal and external curators working on various collections at MAP, which include Modern & Contemporary Art, Photography, Popular Culture, Pre-Modern Art, Textile, Craft & Design, Folk & Tribal amongst others, to achieve the best and highest standards of exhibition design and execution. While working with multiple cultural agents across India and overseas, the role at MAP is one that encourages innovation leading to an overall growth of an individual in and not limited to art history, curation, publications, exhibition design and gallery programming.

Responsibilities

- To lead curatorial research and realisation of exhibitions from the inception to uninstallation, maintaining checklists to ensure that exhibitions are designed and installed to a high standard.
- To coordinate with the Collections team to recommend newer acquisitions as well as maintain proper records for any movement of works.
- In association with the Development team, work on funding applications for exhibitions proposals.
- Monitor all internal and external loan requirements, ensure that loan conditions are met for both institutions.
- Keep ‘The Museum System’ (TMS) updated
- Travel for research whenever required.
- Work closely with the Education and Outreach team to plan events alongside every exhibition.
- Work with other departments in the Museum.
- Monitor and maintain budgets for each program with the assistance of the Administrator.
- Maintain condition reports as per museum standards for all internal and external exhibitions, and coordinate with the restorers for any conservation that may be required to be carried out.
- Work with the Administrator and Registrar in cases of insurance claims.
- Inspect the galleries for their upkeep and ensure that any damages are informed to the Administrator.
- Write wall texts and any didactic material including labels, newsletter and website content.
- Manages the administrator in arranging accommodation, travel and per diem for visiting artists and curators.
- Document and archive material for every exhibition and program on Team Drives.
- Contribute, as necessary, towards the workload in publishing catalogues for exhibition.
- Conduct gallery tours when requested.
- Any other task given by the line manager.

Required competencies

Candidates should:

- A Graduate degree in Arts History or Museum Studies and a Masters in any specialised field of art are the basic requisites of applying for the job, with at least 7-8 years of work experience in a museum or a gallery.
- A good knowledge of Indian modern and contemporary art practices is required. Knowledge or interest in other fields such as classical Indian art, folk art, jewelry are also added advantages.
- Self-motivated individual to conduct and push research boundaries leading to well-designed exhibitions.
- Ability to multitask in an environment that is challenging and dynamic.
- Should have the ability to travel and adapt to certain situations that may arise while on research projects.
- Should know the basics of art handling and upkeep of the artworks, as well make condition reports.
- Ability to write academically as well proficiency in written communication is an important qualification.
- Excellent organisational skills and impeccable attention to detail is a strong requirement.

Equality & Diversity

MAP is an equal opportunities employer. It opposes all forms of discrimination and believes that all people, regardless of their identity or membership of any group deserve to be treated equally, consistently and fairly. MAP welcomes creativity, excellence and different perspectives that individuals of all backgrounds and abilities bring to our work.