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YOUR PATHWAY TO A CAREER IN THE INTERNATIONAL ART WORLD



LONDON

CONTEMPORARY ART

SEPTEMBER 2011 – OCTOBER 2012

MASTER'S DEGREE
POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA

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“Three years ago I worked at a financial institution in New York. Today I am pursuing a career I love at a major auction house in London. It could not have happened without Sotheby’s Institute of Art. Choosing the Master’s degree in Contemporary Art at Sotheby’s Institute of Art – London was a big step for me. I loved every moment and have not looked back and I am now fulfilling my dream and working in the art world.”

Brette Kameny
MA Contemporary Art, 2008
Valuations Co-ordinator, Christies



CONTACT

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CONTEMPORARY ART

MASTER'S DEGREE
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OVERVIEW

For those who wish to study contemporary art in-depth, this programme emphasises the artwork itself and how we approach and interpret art from 1960 to the present day. Analysis of paintings, sculpture, installations, video art, performance, conceptual and participative-based artworks form a regular part of the curriculum, as do topical debates on the theoretical and institutional contexts of the art world today. To emphasise the practical and vocational aspects of contemporary art, students and faculty work together in group visits to London’s museums and galleries and extended study visits to European museums, collections, art fairs, biennials, artists’ studios, and galleries.

Established in 1991, the programme helps students to develop and discuss their ideas in seminar-based discussion groups and one-to-one tutorials, the latter being a distinctive aspect of the programme. Graduates go on to pursue a variety of exciting careers in the contemporary art market and benefit from the exposure to the international perspective of the programme. Working in commercial contemporary galleries or public museums around the world, opening their own galleries or working as curators, editors or knowledge producers, our graduates also keep in touch via the Institute’s Alumni network and contribute to the broader contemporary art network here in London and elsewhere.

SEMESTER 1

September – December 2011

- Art from 1960 – 1990
- Critical issues in contemporary art
- Curating an exhibition in both public and private galleries
- Producing a print and web-based magazine
- Writing and publishing art criticism
- Research methodology
- Study visit to North of England and Northern Germany
- International guest lecture series and artist’s studio visits

SEMESTER 2

January – June 2012

- Art from 1990 to the present day
- Art and its contemporary practices
- Globalisation and art practices
- Art, criticism and contemporary literature
- Research seminars and presentations
- Key global artists, key international exhibitions
- Research methodologies and theory in practices
- Art law and business
- New digital media
- International guest lecture series and studio visits
- Study visit to European Biennial, art fairs and exhibitions

SEMESTER 3

June – October 2012

- Dissertation (MA only)
Students prepare a dissertation under the supervision of their tutor

FACULTY

- Dr Anthony Downey, Programme Director
 - Dr Marcus Verhagen
 - Dr Maxa Zoller
 - Dr Edgar Schmitz
- Plus consultant lecturers including:
- Anna Moszynska
 - Dr Gilda Williams
 - Dr Richard Noble
 - Dr Pierre Saurisse
 - Jennifer Thatcher

Cover & reverse image:
'Nelson's Ship in a Bottle' 2010, Yinka Shonibare, MBE.
Courtesy of the artist and Stephen Friedman Gallery,
London and James Cohan Gallery, New York.
Photo: Steve White.

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