

# SCHOOL OF ARTS AND CULTURES

## Media Culture Heritage

### Art Museum and Gallery Studies Pre-Programme Reading List

2020-2021

You might find it useful to read some of these books in advance of beginning your chosen programme. They will help to introduce key topics. **Please note we do not expect you to read all items listed below. Feel free to choose the ones you find most interesting or easy to find.** More extensive reading lists will be provided with each module.

Texts in bold are available as online (either via the library or the link given).

#### If you'd like an overview of key issues and ideas:

*BBC Radio Four – The Forum* (2016) 'The New Curators: Who Decides What's Culturally Important?' [radio show] <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b086kf18> [28mins]

**Corsane, G. (ed.) (2005) *Heritage, Museums and Galleries: An Introductory Reader*. London: Routledge**

**Greenberg, R., Ferguson, B.W. and Nairne, S. (eds.) (1999) *Thinking about Exhibitions*. London: Routledge**

**L'Internationale Online [ed] (2015) *Decolonising Museums*. [online] Available at [https://www.internationaleonline.org/library/#decolonising\\_museums](https://www.internationaleonline.org/library/#decolonising_museums)**

**Mason, R, Robinson, A and Coffield, E (eds) (2018) *Museum and Gallery Studies: The Basics*. Abingdon: Routledge**

Marincola, P. (ed.) (2007) *What Makes a Great Exhibition?* London: Reaktion Books

#### If you're interested in learning more about the history of curating/art exhibitions/learning in the gallery space:

Altshuler, Bruce, (2008) *Salon to Biennial: 1863-1959 v. 1: Exhibitions That Made Art History*. Phaidon Press

Altshuler, Bruce. (2013) *Biennials and Beyond: Exhibitions That Made Art History 1962-2002*. Phaidon Press

Bishop, C. (2014) *Radical Museology: Or, What's Contemporary in Museums of Contemporary Art?* Walther König

Cain, A. (2017) 'How the White Cube Came to Dominate the Art World' *Artsy* [23 Jan] [online] Available at <https://www.artsy.net/article/artsy-editorial-white-cube-dominate-art>

Fox, D. (2013) 'Being Curated'. In *Frieze* [April] [online] Available at <https://frieze.com/article/being-curated>

Graham, B. and Cook, S. (2010) *Rethinking Curating: Art After New Media*. Cambridge: MIT Press

Greena, C., and Gardner, A. (2016) *Biennials, Triennials and documenta: The Exhibitions that Created Contemporary Art*. West Sussex: Wiley Blackwell

Green, A. (2018) *When Artists Curate: Contemporary Art and the Exhibition as Medium*. London: Reaktion Books

Hoffman, J (2014) *Show Time: The 50 Most Influential Exhibitions of Contemporary Art*. D.A.P Karp, I., Kratz, C.A. and Swaja, L. (eds.) (2007), *Museum Frictions: Public Cultures/Global Transformations*. Durham North Carolina: Duke University Press

Mörsch, C., Sachs, A., and Sieber, T. (2016) *Contemporary Curating and Museum Education*. De Gruyter.

O'Doherty, Brian (2000), *Inside the White Cube: The Ideology of the Gallery Space*. California: University of California Press

O'Neill, P. and Wilson, M. (2010) *Curating and the Educational Turn*. Amsterdam: de Appel

Obrist, H.-U. (2008) *A Brief History of Curating*. Zurich: JRP Ringier.

Pringle, Emily (2006) *Learning in the Gallery: contexts, processes, outcomes*, London: engage <https://engage.org/resources/learning-in-the-gallery/>

Rugg, J. and Sedgwick, M. (2007) *Issues in Curating Contemporary Art and Performance*. Bristol and Chicago: Intellect Books

Simon, N. (2010) *The Participatory Museum* - <http://www.participatorymuseum.org>

If you're thinking/worried about writing about art (and I mean writing of all kinds here - including labels, panels, essays and articles):

Rule, Alix and Levine, David (2012) 'International Art English', *Triple Canopy* 16 (July). (Available online [https://www.canopycanopycanopy.com/issues/16/contents/international\\_art\\_english](https://www.canopycanopycanopy.com/issues/16/contents/international_art_english))

Williams, G. (2014) *How to Write About Contemporary Art*, London: Thames & Hudson

Whitehead, C. (2012) *Interpreting Art in Museums and Galleries*, London: Routledge

### If you're interested in learning more about art history:

BBC Radio 4 (2018) *An Alternative History of Art*. [online] Available at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b09w070t> (10 episodes, each 15 mins long)

Becker, H. S. (1928 / 2008) *Art Worlds*. London: University of California Press

Berger, John (1972) *Ways of Seeing*. London: Penguin Books. (also online at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0pDE4VX\\_9Kk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0pDE4VX_9Kk) )

Edwards, S. (1999) *Art and its Histories: A Reader*. New Haven Conn: Yale University press in association with The Open University

Freeland, C. (2003) *Art Theory: A Very Short Introduction*. OUP Oxford.

Shiner, L. (2001) *The Invention of Art*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

### Other resources/ideas

- There are a huge number of journals and magazines dedicated to art in the UK – *Art Monthly* is a good place to start. *Museum & Society*, *Curator Magazine*, *On Curating*, bits of *Frieze*, and *Art Newspaper* (and many, many more) are all free and open access. Keep trying until you find one you like!
- AIM and engage (<https://www.engage.org/publications-and-resources>) (and many more) make a whole load of resources available for free download.
- If you are on Twitter – join in with #MuseumHour. Follow venues and (potential) colleagues you like, as well as academics and groups with relevant interests (e.g. you might want to look up @NEEMP). If you're not on twitter (and don't want to join) find and follow all the local galleries and museums on other social media, or add your email to venue's mailing lists - they'll send you news about exhibition openings and special events.
- Visit local galleries, museums, artist-led spaces, festivals, libraries, public artworks – everything (this also works online)!