



# Socially Engaged Photography Network

## Curating is Changing...

**“Re-Framing Culture”** is a free six week training programme for museum, gallery, library and independent professionals working within curating and programme development to explore the potential value and impact of delivering socially engaged photography commissions.

This training programme is funded and supported by Art Fund, as part of their reimagine grants.

We are keen to hear from curators and producers from all different backgrounds, and with differing levels of experiences, whether you are a recent graduate, self-trained or have been working in culture for many years.

We are aiming to engage up to fourteen professionals within each of the four participating regions (North West, Midlands, North West and South West). The programme will culminate in a final full day session, which brings all participants from across each region together for a sharing day towards the end of all four training programmes.

The training programme will cover both the theory and artistic practice of socially engaged lens based media, as well as the logistical and ethical considerations to this type of commissioning with their audiences / constituents.

The training programme will also explore how photography from local archives - as well as participant produced images - can animate cultural and library collections.

This training programme is brought to you by **Open Eye Gallery, Heart of Glass, GRAIN, NEPN (North East Photography Network) and Fotonow CIC**, who are all members of the Socially Engaged Photography Network (SEPN). Working with organisations, photographers, community groups, academics and curators from across the country, we have been building

this network to discuss and accelerate the practice of socially engaged photography. In the spirit of social practice, SEPN is shaped collaboratively by its users and has been running as a distributed network since October 2019. We now have over 380 members and 25 organisational partners supporting its development and delivery.

## **Dates:**

### **North West Training Programme Dates:**

Every Monday from Monday 13 June to Monday 18 July (10am - 1pm including breaks).

\*Delivery will be online except for the last session on Monday 18th July session which will be in person at Open Eye Gallery, Liverpool and will run 11am - 2pm to allow for extra travel time. Travel costs for this session are included in the opportunity.

**The North West training programme by Open Eye Gallery and Heart of Glass** will cover topics ranging from approaches to co-commissioning and co-curation with multiple partners, and reanimating collections and archives with young people, to practical considerations to commissioning (including budgeting, contracts, safeguarding, project planning, consent and GDPR, and ethical concerns and community legacy around socially engaged commissioning.

The programme will also share case studies, delivered in partnership with both art and non art partners, including a young people's photography programme with the Atkinson Museum and projects working with participants within criminal justice settings with Novus and the Preus Museum.

**The Midlands, South West and North East training dates will be this Autumn - full details and dates coming soon.**

### **Also included in the training programme across all regions.**

\*We will offer a micro writing commission to two participants off the course to reflect upon their learning programme, shared via our SEPN 'A spotlight on' articles and the wider network and participating cultural partners.

\*We will also produce a tool kit of resources containing links to a digital introduction, live projects, example evaluation, participant questionnaire, guidelines for GDPR, safeguarding and legal aspects. The tool kit will act as a legacy document for participants involved in the programme.

\*Recordings of each region's events will be shared across the whole training programme so that participants benefit from the wider training delivered nationally. Wider sessions will cover topics including digital participation, digital collections, self-care for socially engaged practitioners and approaches to evidencing social impact.

## HOW TO APPLY

For the North West programme you must be a practitioner living or working within the North West England region.

Please submit a current CV and either a written (one page) statement or video recording (3minutes) to [liz@openeye.org.uk](mailto:liz@openeye.org.uk) explaining

- a) A little bit about you and you are interested in this opportunity
- b) What you hope to bring to the programme as either an early career, mid-career or established curator/ producer
- c) What does 'socially engaged practice' mean to you?

\*We understand that practitioners may work across curating, producing and artist practitioner so we welcome people to self-define their practice within the application

Please submit your application by **9am, Wednesday 1st June**. Successful applicants will be notified by 5pm, Thursday 2nd June. The first session will begin on Monday 13th June (and we will send the programme overview and zoom details a week before).

If you have any questions about the opportunity you can email [liz@openeye.org.uk](mailto:liz@openeye.org.uk)

**This training programme is funded by:**

# Art Fund\_