

**Call for filmmakers: Co-curation documentary for South Asia Gallery, a British Museum Partnership Gallery**

Manchester Museum, part of The University of Manchester, would like to announce a call to creative filmmakers for proposals to produce a film that will capture the approach adopted, showcase the members of the South Asia Gallery Collective (SAGC) and illustrate the process taken.

**About the South Asia Gallery**

The South Asia Gallery will be an exceptional new space (350 m<sup>2</sup>) creating the first permanent gallery in the country dedicated to exploring the stories, experiences, cultures and contributions of South Asian diaspora communities in the UK.

Presenting a dynamic, contemporary take on South Asian and British Asian culture, it will bring world-class material from the British Museum to Manchester, to be displayed alongside the very best of Manchester Museum's own South Asian collections and those of some of our partners across the city. The South Asia Gallery will have significance far beyond Manchester. It is an unprecedented opportunity to work with communities of South Asian heritage – regionally, nationally and internationally.

A place for emotional connections and new perspectives, the gallery is being designed and built with a spirit of collaboration and co-production, with a unique Collective of educators, community leaders, artists, historians, journalists, scientists, musicians, students and others from the South Asian diaspora. Studio C102 and Mobile Studio Architects have been appointed as the design team to create this exceptional new co-curated and co-designed space.

The gallery's displays will be created using an 'anthology-based' approach, sharing multiple voices and perspectives around key overarching themes: British Asian / Movement and Change / Past and Present / Sound and Dance / Innovation and Language / Environments

At the heart of the gallery will be a space, dedicated to showcasing the very best live music, dance and performance from and inspired by South Asia. This performance space will be shaped by ideas and contributions from South Asian diaspora communities and programmed in collaboration with both local and international artists and performers.

**The SAG Co-curation film** will form part of the gallery lobby space and will be seen directly by visitors at either the start or end of their journey around the South Asia Gallery. The film will give visitors a better understanding of the approach Manchester Museum has adopted for the creation

of the South Asia Gallery. Co-curated and co-designed with Manchester's South Asia Diaspora communities, the film will capture how this was done and the people involved in this process. It will include interviews with the SAGC, which includes 31 community co-curators/members in various settings, within their own environments and meaningful personal spaces. It will credit and recognise the SAGC members' involvement and give an insight into their reasons for being involved with co-curating South Asia Gallery.

Important points to note about the SAG Co-curation Film

- Film Quality Format and Resolution; min 4k landscape with social media package refinement to portrait
- Aspect Ratio 16.9 landscape and vertical/square formats for use in varying platforms for communications and marketing, social media, websites
- Accessible: subtitles/captioning
- Total number of films: 3 (three) 1x promo/trailer 1min 1x gallery display 5mins 1x fuller extended version 30mins
- To capture key moments/key stages of SAG co-curation and the progress of the gallery now until the opening

We are looking for filmmakers who can capture the look and feel of people, spaces and context. Proposals to be considered on;

- Cost – please provide a fee schedule
- Quality – please provide links to examples of previous work
- Meeting the client brief – Please provide a methodology for production of the film

**Deadline for proposals is Friday 4 June 2021**

**Please email proposals to [nusrat.ahmed@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:nusrat.ahmed@manchester.ac.uk)**

There is more information about the South Asia Gallery on the Manchester Museum website:  
<https://www.museum.manchester.ac.uk/about/hellofuture/southasiagallery/>

**ENDS**

**Notes:**

**About Manchester Museum**

Manchester Museum, part of The University of Manchester, first opened in 1890. It is the UK's largest university museum with a collection of about 4.5 million items from every continent. Its combination of the academic and the popular is what makes the Museum so distinctive and lies at the heart of its widespread appeal. The Museum's vision is to build understanding between cultures and a sustainable world. Every year over half a million people visit. Manchester Museum is working towards an exciting new £13.5 million project *hello future*, to transform and develop the Museum becoming more inclusive, imaginative and caring to the diverse communities it serves.

The *hello future* transformation includes:

- A beautiful two-storey extension
- A new Exhibition Hall
- South Asia Gallery
- Lee Kai Hung Chinese Culture Gallery
- Belonging Gallery
- A new space for learning and environmental action
- New entrance and visitor facilities with focus on inclusive and accessible design

[www.manchester.ac.uk/museum](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/museum)

@mcrmuseum

**About Studio C102 and Mobile Studio Architects**

Studio C102 and Mobile Studio Architects have formed a consortium to collaborate on the design and delivery of the South Asia Gallery project. The consortium will be headed by the two studios' respective principals.

- Studio C102 was founded by Kyriakos Katsaros in 2013 and is based in Dalston, East London. The studio works on the principle that good design should be accessible to everyone and not just limited to the few. Studio C102's recently completed projects include the fit-out for a new gallery in Deptford for architectural photographer Gareth Gardner.

Principal Kyriakos Katsaros has previously taught at The Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL, and is currently a Visiting Lecturer at the University of Brighton. [www.studio-c102.com](http://www.studio-c102.com)

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Mobile Studio Architects was founded by Chee-Kit Lai in 2010 and is based in Dalston, East London. The studio has extensive experience in the design of exhibitions, with a portfolio of academic and public engagement shows. Mobile Studio Architects was awarded The ARUP Prize for Emerging Talent in Architecture, at the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition in 2016.

Principal Chee-Kit Lai is a Senior Teaching Fellow at The Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL, and also holds a part-time position as Director of Exhibitions at The Bartlett.

[www.themobilestudio.co.uk](http://www.themobilestudio.co.uk)

### **About The British Museum's National Programmes**

The British Museum has a national presence, working with hundreds of partner organisations across the UK each year through its wide-ranging National Programmes activity. This includes single-object Spotlight Loan tours, touring exhibitions, Partnership Galleries, as well as both short-term and long-term loans, with the lead support of the Dorset Foundation in memory of Harry M Weinrebe. In 2019/20, over 2,800 objects were loaned to 105 venues in the UK, reaching 10 million people outside London. National Programmes also facilitates knowledge exchange programmes and trainee schemes to help young people to break into the museum profession. The Museum will continue to develop partnerships across the UK as part of its commitment to sharing the collection as widely as possible.

A UK Partnership with

The British  
Museum

With thanks



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