

Subject Specialist Network
EUROPEAN
PAINTINGS
PRE-1900

BRITISH ART
subject specialist
NETWORK

Understanding
British Portraits

Museum Collections on Prescription: Health, Wellbeing and Inclusivity
A joint Subject Specialist Network online series 15, 22, 29 April 2021

Arts and culture for health and wellbeing and inclusivity.
29 April 2021, 15:00–17:00 (BST)

Convened by Dr Errol Francis, Artistic Director and CEO of Culture&

Convenor and contributors' biographies



Dr Errol Francis, convenor of the webinar, is artistic director and CEO of Culture&. Errol studied photography and fine art at Central Saint Martin's, UK. His doctoral research at the Slade School of Fine Art at UCL, focused on postcolonial artistic responses to museums.

Errol's background in mental health activism has influenced his arts practice such as his role as head of arts at the Mental Health Foundation and his directing of the *Anxiety Arts Festival* 2014, *Hysteria* 2017-18, *Cyborgs* 2019 and his work in the curatorial research group PS/Y.

Errol is currently content producer for the Culture Box research project at University of Exeter which promotes social interaction and public health through the arts in the time of Covid-19 for people living with dementia in care homes. He is visiting lecturer at the University of Greenwich, Goldsmith's University of London and Sotheby's Institute of Art.



Professor Victoria Tischler is Associate Professor at the University of Exeter's European Centre for Environment and Human Health (Medical School) and Honorary Professor at the Geller Institute for Ageing and Memory (School of Biomedical Sciences), University of West London. She is a Chartered Psychologist and Associate Fellow of the British Psychological Society.

Victoria has a PhD in psychology from the University of Nottingham where she worked for 12 years. She retains an honorary position at the University of Nottingham Medical School. Her research interests focus on creativity and mental health and multi-sensory approaches to dementia care. She is the co-executive editor of the journal *Arts and Health: an international journal for research, policy and practice*. She serves on the scientific advisory board for Boots UK archive.

Presentation: *The evidence supporting different uses of collections for health and wellbeing*



Bárbara Rodríguez Muñoz is Curator at the Wellcome Collection, London. Her exhibitions include *This is a Voice* (2016), *Bedlam* (co-curated with Mike Jay, 2016), *Ayurvedic Man* (2018), *Jo Spence and Oreet Ashery: Misbehaving Bodies* (co-curated with George Vasey, 2019–20) and *Un encuentro vegetal / Rooted Beings* / (forthcoming: La Casa Encendida / Wellcome Collection).

Bárbara is Guest Editor of the anthology *Documents of Contemporary Art: HEALTH* (Co-published by the MIT Press / Whitechapel Gallery, Oct 2020). She has written for *Afterall*, *Concreta*, *Les Laboratoires d'Aubervilliers*, *MARG* and *Mousse Publishing*. She holds a Masters in Curating Contemporary Art from the Royal College of Art, London.

Presentation: *Objects of violence and healing: Ayurvedic Man & Misbehaving Bodies*



Daniel Regan is a photographic artist specialising in exploring complex and difficult emotional experiences, focusing on the transformational impact of arts on mental health, building on his own lived experience. As part of his practices he shoots commissions and runs socially engaged projects. He regularly exhibits and speaks at events across fine art, educational and clinical institutions in the UK and worldwide. Daniel is represented by Bethlem Gallery in London. Daniel is the Executive Director of the Arts and Health Hub, a not-for-profit organisation that nationally supports artists that work in the arts and health sector. Daniel has a particular interest and focus on practitioner support for artists with

lived experience of mental health difficulties. Daniel is the Artistic Director of the Free Space Project, a pioneering arts and wellbeing charity embedded into primary care in the NHS, supporting over 30,000 patients across a primary care network in the borough of Camden, London.

Slide show: *King George III: The Mind Behind The Myth — Amplifying the Voices of Men with Lived Experience*



Miranda Lowe is a Principal Curator and museum scientist at the Natural History Museum, London. With over two decades worth of collections management and curatorial skills she cares for a plethora of historically important specimens, she also presents lectures on both curatorial research and science. Her scientific expertise is in peracarid crustacea and in coral taxonomy. Miranda manages both the Crustacea, cnidarian and associated minor phyla collections.

Miranda is Chair of London arts charity Culture&, a founding member of Museum Detox, and mentors students as part of the Social Mobility Foundation 'Aspiring Professionals' scheme and the Prince's Trust. In 2013, Miranda was one of three finalists for the National Diversity Awards 'Positive Role Model Award for Race, Religion & Faith',

receiving a Certificate of Excellence for her achievement. Most recently she was listed in BBC Radio 4 Women's Hour Power List 2020: *Our Planet*.

Presentation: *The wellbeing potential of natural history collections*



Dr Rob Berkeley MBE is an award-winning busybody and recovering academic. Rob Berkeley is founding editor of BLKOUT_UK, the asset-based community development agency, and collaborative leadership network for and by Black queer men. He was Director of the UK's leading racial justice think-tank, Runnymede Trust (2009-14). A writer on education, social justice and community organising, a 2019 Simon Industrial Fellow at the University of Manchester, he has presented and co-produced short form documentaries, and lectured across the UK and beyond (even when lecturers left their sofas to do so!). Rob is a trustee of three charities delivering change through arts, film and philanthropy. Dr Berkeley was awarded an MBE in 2015 for services to equality. Typically biting the hand that feeds, he is working with other honourees to change the Order's name to better reflect Britain's multicultural future over its imperial

past.

Presentation: *'Good Mirrors Are Not Cheap' Visibility without vulnerability beyond the White Gayze*



Adam Zmith is a writer, producer and arts events organiser, the author of *Deep Sniff* (Repeater Books, 2021) and a former audience engagement editor at *The Economist*. He was the recipient of the London Writers Award 2019-20, and has authored several shortlisted and published short stories. Adam produced the introductory and closing audio for this session entitled Excerpts from *The Log Books Podcast of Untold Stories from Britain's LGBTQ+ History*. The podcast used records from Switchboard's Archive, held at Bishopsgate Institute, which contains records from London Gay Switchboard, a helpline for LGBTQ people established in 1974. Adam is from the team behind *The Log Books*, an award-winning podcast featuring untold stories from Britain's LGBTQ+ history and conversations about being queer today. The podcast was winner of Gold in the Best New Podcast category at the British Podcast

Awards 2020.

Audio: *The Log Books Podcast of Untold Stories from Britain's LGBTQ+ History*