

## **Front International: Cleveland Exhibition for Contemporary Art Fellowship**

### **Associate Curator/Exhibition Manager**

#### **Background**

The FRONT Exhibition Corporation was formed in July 2016 to plan and produce the Front International: Cleveland Exhibition for Contemporary Art, a three-month exhibition of contemporary art, which will launch with various projects in 2017 and finds its conclusion with a public exhibition opening in July of 2018. Jens Hoffmann and Michelle Grabner have been appointed artistic directors and together they will develop a program that will feature local, national and international artists at venues and sites throughout Cleveland and vicinity. The artistic platform of the exhibition has been named “An American City” and it will use Cleveland as a case study to examine the relationship between local issues and their global connections and meanings.

In order to firmly plant the artistic program in Cleveland and to provide strong links and communication between artists from outside the region and the local artistic community, FRONT Exhibition Corporation is conducting a national search for a Curator/Exhibitions Manager for a two-year fellowship based in Cleveland to work with the Artistic Directors and The Executive Director to plan and produce this ambitious program. The FRONT Curatorial Fellowship has been made possible with generous support from the George Gund Foundation.

#### **Two-Year Fellowship at the Cleveland Museum of Art**

The position of Curator/Exhibitions Manager will be a two-year fellowship (calendar year 2017 and 2018) at the Cleveland Museum of Art funded by the FRONT Exhibition Corporation. The position will report to the exhibition Artistic Directors with a dotted line to the Executive Director. Human resources and benefits support will be through the Cleveland Museum of Art. The FRONT Curatorial Fellow will greatly benefit from the extensive scholarly and professional resources of the Cleveland Museum of Art. The platform of this renowned institution will strengthen the curatorial voice and influence of the exhibition both locally and internationally.

## **Collaboration and coordination with the Presenting Partners.**

The power of Front International: Cleveland Exhibition for Contemporary Art is the collaboration of the Presenting Partners, the key visual arts institutions of Cleveland and its surrounding region. The Presenting Partners include the Cleveland Museum of Art, MOCA Cleveland, the Cleveland Institute of Art, SPACES, Transformer Station, The Allen Memorial Art Museum, and the Akron Art Museum, among others. A key responsibility of the Curator/Exhibitions Manager will be to communicate, collaborate and coordinate with the Presenting Partners to facilitate a vibrant and holistic artistic conversation between the exhibitions and programming of each institution.

## **Artistic Community Outreach, Education and Professional Development**

Jens Hoffmann and Michelle Grabner, Co-Artistic Directors of the exhibition are highly enthusiastic about the opportunity to bring artists of international reputation together with local and regional artists. The Curator will both guide the local research process as well as serve as a resource to the regional artistic community to learn how they can participate in the exhibition and leverage the opportunities and experience that it can bring to their practice.

The FRONT Curatorial Fellow will work closely with the Artistic Advisory Board of FRONT, which will be composed of creative professionals and opinion leaders in the community whose insight, input and buy-in to the project will be key to its successful and authentic connection to the community. We expect that the Artistic Advisory Board will be a key resource for the FRONT Curator for access to the talent of the community.

As a way to further engage the community during the planning and presentation of the exhibition, FRONT will convert Transformer Station into a temporary art academy. The FRONT Curatorial Fellow will be responsible for planning and coordinating activities at Transformer Station in order to create a lively hub for learning, discovery and engagement.

## **Exhibition planning and management**

The FRONT Curator will play a key role working with the Executive Director and the Co-Artistic Directors in planning, managing and implementing this complex multi-venue exhibition. The Curator will be the daily eyes and ears of the Artistic Directors in Cleveland to ensure that the planning, preparation and presentation of the exhibition meets their vision and artistic standards. The Curator will work closely with the Executive Director to manage and direct the project management team to secure

locations, prepare and implement public art projects in non-conventional locations and venues across the city. The Curator will also manage communications with and between the Presenting Partners to ensure that their participating exhibitions and programs are integrated seamlessly with the triennial exhibition themes and messages while retaining the unique character and point of view of their respective institutions and artistic intentions.

### **Qualifications:**

Candidates for this two-year position should have a MA or PHD in Art History or a Museum/Curatorial Studies degree with two to five years experience in developing and presenting exhibitions or installations of contemporary art in significant institutional or public settings. Candidates should have distinctive portfolio of critical writing, scholarship and publications. Strong artistic and curatorial vision is a must along with wide relationships, experience and knowledge of the international contemporary art community. The successful candidate will have excellent communications skills and be comfortable as a frequent public spokesperson for the Exhibition to the public, artistic community and the press. Salary: \$50,000 to \$60,000

### **Job Responsibilities**

- Reporting to the Exhibition Artistic Directors, serve as the local member of the curatorial team to ensure that local and regional artists are represented and presented alongside international artists at the highest level of curatorial excellence.
- Serve as a resource to the Artistic Directors to ensure that their plans and programs are relevant and meaningful to local and regional communities
- Working with the Director, serve as the local face of the Exhibition and its mission to the community.
- Reporting the to Artistic Directors and collaborating with the Presenting Partners, coordinate and manage the planning and implementation of the exhibition.
- Solicit proposals for participation in the Exhibition from the local and regional artistic community. Work closely with the Artistic Advisory Board to gain insight, input and support for the Exhibition and strong local artistic community participation
- Conduct research into the local artistic community and identify local and regional artists and artist's projects with potential to participate in the Exhibition.

- Working with the Artistic Directors select participating artists and projects for the exhibition and match them with appropriate venues and exhibition plans
- Develop and coordinate a robust public outreach program including speeches, seminars and symposia designed to inform, educate and engage the artistic community and the general public in the planning and implementation of the Exhibition and its programming
- Act as Exhibition Manager working with the Artistic Directors to plan and design exhibitions and installations. Supervise project managers and art handlers to install exhibitions and installations.

Interested parties should submit a letter of interest, resume/CV, contacts for three references and a relevant writing sample to [info@FRONTArt.org](mailto:info@FRONTArt.org)