

Contemporary Collections and Collecting in Scotland series

Plenary meeting

Agenda for January Weds 20th

Chaired by Moira Jeffrey

12.30 Intro / Various

- Current position and recent developments vis-à-vis contemporary collections and collecting in Scotland
- What are the areas of focus/priority for future strategic development and future investment?
- Leadership and partnership-working around future development and future investment?
- The creation of a Standing Group?

Finish 15.00

Briefing Notes

As part of the National Collecting Scheme Scotland Phase 2 (Research and Development), the *Contemporary Collections and Collecting in Scotland Series* set out four desired outcomes

- Bring together and engage organizations and individuals who have a stake in the collecting of contemporary work
- Encourage the articulation of priorities, perspectives, partnerships and responsibilities
- Initiate and sustain productive critical discussion about the future of public collections of contemporary art in Scotland.

Whilst the first two events in this Series have gone some way in achieving those desired outcomes, this third plenary meeting provides a context to engage with the fourth:

- Progress thinking about areas of focus and priority for future strategic development and future investment; where responsibilities currently lie; where leadership or partnership working around those areas of focus and priority can be identified, shared, or fostered.

The key aim of the Series is also to consider the usefulness and practicalities of forming a Standing Group, in whom the representation of key issues and the continued future critical practice around the development and presentation of collections of contemporary art could be invested.

Agenda items

Current position and recent developments

Building on the May and October events, we still need a more complete understanding of the following: the current position of those institutions in Scotland building collections of contemporary art, of contemporary collecting within them and more broadly within their wider services and authorities; what other collection models there are; how museums and galleries engage audiences, particularly with more

challenging contemporary work; what the most urgent curatorial needs continue to be; relationships with Scotland's production facilities, lead visual arts festivals, visual arts galleries and commercial galleries; the role a culture of private support might play; Higher Education opportunities in Scotland for aspiring curators or artist-curators, or for CPD, and what research is being undertaken

Areas of focus/priority for future strategic development and investment

What shape should future strategic development and future investment take around the development and use of contemporary collections, and where should it be focused? ACE has worked with the English sector to draft a 'national' strategy around six objectives, but at this stage with no investment offered behind it. In Scotland, how should we envision moving forward with the current context here? How should a model like the NCSS evolve? What about models which offer project-based investment?

Leadership and partnership working around future development and investment

From where should future developments be led? From where can future investment be secured? How do we identify and develop leadership around areas of focus/priority? What leadership already exists? What partnerships already exist? How can these be utilised; what can we learn from them?

The creation of a Standing Group?

What interest is there in the formation of a committee or Standing Group on the promotion, development and use of contemporary collections? What are the practicalities of forming such a group and managing it? Who might lead on that? What might it address itself to in terms of future development or investment, and to whom?