

Theatrum Mundi, Researcher

Part-time, fixed term contract (12 months from start date)

Deadline: 12.00 on Monday 16th October

Introduction

Theatrum Mundi is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation that acts as a platform for debate and research on questions in urban culture and politics through exchange between artistic and built environment practices. Initiated as a research project at LSE Cities in 2012 by Professor Richard Sennett, Theatrum Mundi has evolved into an independent centre with even more freedom to set and pursue its own research agenda and partnerships.

We are now looking for a highly motivated Researcher to join our small team at our Somerset House office in London, to develop and write materials for an ambitious range of activities in the UK, the US, Beijing, China and Continental Europe. This represents an exciting opportunity for a promising young researcher to take a key role in animating and shaping the activities of a new organisation with a strong existing network and research record. The appointment will be for an initial 1-year period, with immediate start (with potential to extend for a further fixed-term period).

Summary

The Researcher will work directly under the Director to assist in devising and intellectually developing research activities, drawing on a strong personal knowledge of contemporary issues and thinking across urban culture, society, and design. This development work includes identifying relevant research, writing proposals for the board, finding participants from both within and outside of TM's networks, and reviewing existing work in the area. The Researcher will be required to develop background materials - including literature reviews, project framings, and briefings for event participants - as well as writing reports and papers based on diverse forms of research including conversations, design charrettes, and creative experiments. The Researcher will also work together with the Coordinator to support the delivery of activities: this could include writing communication materials for different audiences, maintaining event-specific contact lists, and contributing innovative ideas for creative approaches to research and events. The Researcher would likely hold a

Master's level degree in the humanities, social sciences, arts, or built environment disciplines, with a track record of producing innovative ideas and methods. Experience of working in research, whether in a think tank, laboratory, arts organisation, or university context is essential. A well-developed personal creative and/or research practice will be a benefit. Experience of working in a cross-disciplinary context across the arts, humanities, and urban design, will be of significant benefit.

Person Specification

Essential:

- Experience of working in research
- Excellent administrative and organisational skills
- Advanced MS Office and internet research skills
- MSc / MA or equivalent in one of the following broad areas: sociology, anthropology, urban studies, cultural studies, or similar
- Experience of conducting independent research
- Experience of writing project proposals and reports on research activities
- Excellent communication skills, including the ability to communicate clearly and accurately in English, both orally and in writing, with people at all levels.
- Ability to manage own work efficiently and effectively without supervision
- Ability to exchange information effectively and ensure that stakeholders are kept informed and updated
- Excellent organisation and administrative skills, including the upkeep of data sets and contact lists

Desirable

- Creative, independent thinking
- Experience of working within the cultural sector
- A flexible attitude towards work and ability to delegate and share responsibilities
- Experience of writing communication materials for a variety of audiences, including public, academic, and artists
- Familiarity with current conceptual debates within the social sciences and specifically within critical urban studies

3 Invite: Can we design the conditions for culture?

- A record of published work, whether peer reviewed or in other settings
- Experience of presenting research
- Experience of publishing in different registers, including peer-reviewed journals and more journalistic settings
- Experience of liaising with individuals from different disciplines and professions.
- A track record of self-started research and/or creative initiatives
- Ability to work in one of the following languages: French, Mandarin Chinese

Hours

The position is offered on a part-time basis of 16 hours per week (40% FTE). Regular days are to be agreed with the Manager, with flexibility for other commitments and work requirements outside of agreed hours.

Location

The post holder will be required to work at Theatrum Mundi's office in Somerset House. Applicants must be able to prove their right to work in the UK. A valid passport will also be required as the job will involve some international travel.

Salary

A salary of £35,000 is offered on a 40% FTE basis

Contract duration

The appointment will be for an initial 1-year period, with immediate start (with potential to extend for a further fixed-term period)

How to apply

Please send your CV and a cover letter to fiona@theatrum-mundi.org by 12:00 on Monday 16th October 2017. Early applications are welcome.

Interviews

Interviews will be held the week commencing 23rd October.

We value diversity and wish to promote equality at all levels.

theatrum-mundi.org