

BALTIC

BALTIC ANNOUNCES KATE GRAY APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF ENTERPRISE AND PUBLIC VALUE

BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art is delighted to announce the appointment of **Kate Gray** in the role of **Director of Enterprise and Public Value**.

Kate will take up the position in September 2021 and will play a leading role in the direction of BALTIC's strategic development, generating commercial opportunities that enable BALTIC to self-sustain, leverage innate cultural assets, and place civic responsibility and public value at the heart of its business objectives and operation.

Speaking today about the appointment **Sarah Munro, Director of BALTIC** said:

"I am delighted that we have been able to strengthen BALTIC's senior management team through the appointment of Kate Gray. Kate brings a wealth of experience that will be invaluable as we seek to utilise the arts to address key social and environmental challenges and support recovery from the pandemic. This role is a groundbreaking opportunity to support the leadership and transition of our sector and how we work as an art gallery and engage civically with our communities, audiences and stakeholders. We are focused on enabling positive social and economic change for our audiences and ensuring that BALTIC remains relevant and self-sustaining."

Kate has been Director of Collective, Edinburgh since 2009 and led the transformation of the organisation through its successful capital project which repurposed the iconic City Observatory on Calton Hill, Edinburgh. Kate developed a new trading arm with innovative collaborative projects involving chefs, designers, artists and architects. Kate has a track record on involving public in the development and production of contemporary art projects. Prior to becoming Director of Collective she commissioned collaborations within the One Mile Programme based on mutuality between artists and residents of Edinburgh, and worked in general and psychiatric hospital communities developing and delivering collaborative projects. She trained as an artist and graduated from Glasgow School of Art's Master of Fine Art in 1998.

Kate Gray said:

"I am thrilled to join the team at BALTIC, an organisation I have admired throughout my professional life. I believe strongly in contemporary art's ability to contribute to a vision of the future which is now needed more than ever. I look forward to developing new partnerships and opportunities."

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Contacts:

Craig Astley, Head of Communications T: 0191 440 4913 E: craiga@baltic.art

Fiona Russell, Sutton Media Fiona@suttoncomms.com

NOTES TO EDITORS

About BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art

BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art creates and produces exhibitions, events and learning opportunities which explore the role of artists from across the world. Located on Gateshead quayside, BALTIC has 2,600 square metres of exhibition space making it the UK's largest gallery dedicated to the art and artists of today and tomorrow.

BALTIC welcomes visitors free of charge to experience art, talks, performance and activities in a fully accessible building. Over 8 million have been welcomed through its doors since July 2002. Beyond its bricks, BALTIC connects and exchange with communities, individuals and groups exploring creativity, social connections and wider understanding of the world.

During the temporary closure of gallery amid pandemic lockdowns BALTIC physically distributed cultural newspapers, outdoor journey trails, creative care packs, food and creative provision, zines and artist-designed postcards to over 21,000 homes. Digitally BALTIC received 223,760 online visits and engagements across podcasts, virtual exhibitions, digital events and family activity/making videos. Over 106,000 people engaged with BALTIC's learning programmes via distributed doorstep activity, live and recorded digital workshops, school sessions, teacher CPD and community projects. Thirty images of art work created by people based in the North East, featured in BALTIC's Open Submission exhibition, were installed at 920 sites across NewcastleGateshead in Spring 2021 to be happened upon on in daily wanderings and commutes.



Supported by
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BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art
South Shore Road
Gateshead NE8 3BA

Tel: +44 (0) 191 478 1810
Fax: +44 (0) 191 478 1922
www.baltic.art

Opening Hours
Wednesday - Sunday
10.30-18.00
ADMISSION FREE

Exhibitions 2021
Sutapa Biswas: *Lumen* until 20 March 2022
BALTIC Open Submission until 5 Sept 2021
Pakui Hardware: *Virtual Care* until 3 Oct 2021