



Hull Museums in partnership with Arts Council England presents...

Queer Voices In Museums: Two Years On

Two years ago, Hull Museums hosted its inaugural Queer Voices in Museums online symposium. Two years later and we are back.

With a new programme of seven expert voices working to expand museum narratives and reconsider how we talk about queer heritage, this symposium offers an update on how queer museum practices are continuing to develop. The big headliner in 2020 was the establishment of the Queer Heritage and Collections Network. This year it's the news that the UK's first-ever Queer Museum will be opening this Spring in King's Cross, London. Featuring museum professionals alongside multidisciplinary artists, the symposium will showcase how museum spaces are being reinvented and reimagined through new practices and an increasing focus on inclusion and diversity.



Presentation Recordings -

Facilitator - Holly James Johnston

Wednesday 23rd March

Dawn Hoskin - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tTR4zhKhAVI>

Orion Isaacs - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1FhnSwxqyXo>

Lauren Field - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=almZo50a008>

Thursday 24th March

Dan Vo and Holly James Johnston - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QI2YKb4fBcg>

Sophie Meyer - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nycvLIGsRog>

Rowan Frewin - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_GbGZTsF7Vc



Pride in Our City, Hull Museums

About the Symposium

Hull Museums working in partnership with Arts Council England, are committed to LGBTQ+ representation within all that we do. We have been working on increasing the inclusion of LGBTQ+ narratives in our research, interpretation, and programming through new approaches to community engagement and co-curation since late 2019. For this second Queer Voices in Museums event, we have invited expert guests who work across the region and around the country to help us think about how we can continue to bring Pride to our collections and help us show that we honestly and completely represent the communities around us.



Pride in Our City, Hull Museums

Wednesday 23rd March Speakers

Holly James Johnston pronoun indifferent

Holly James Johnston is a recent graduate from the University of Oxford. She is the founder and coordinator of the LGBTQ House Tours project at Strawberry Hill House. Alongside her academic and heritage work, she performs as a drag king under the name 'Orlando'. Using drag to educate and entertain, she has worked with organisations such as the V&A and Tate, and regularly performs in London. She currently works at the Sotheby's Institute of Art.

Tate 'The Art of Being a Dandy' - <https://www.tate.org.uk/art/artists/aubrey-beardsley-716/art-being-dandy>

Orlando in Lockdown - <https://adventuresintimeandgender.org/wormholes/orlando/>

Orlando in Lockdown prints - <https://www.henri-t-artist.com/prints>

Twitter - https://twitter.com/orlandrag_

Instagram - https://www.instagram.com/orlandrag_/?hl=en

Dawn Hoskin she/her

Dawn Hoskin is a Cultural Heritage Curator with the National Trust and Curatorial Lead for their LGBTQ+ Steering Group. She is currently providing curatorial and collections support to Queer Britain, is a Steering Group member of the Queer Heritage & Collections Network and a member of the Queer British Art research group. Dawn previously worked at the Victoria & Albert Museum in a variety of curatorial roles and as Co-Chair of the LGBTQ+ Working Group programmed an array of LGBTQ+ focused events, instigated the V&A's online LGBTQ+ hub and blog and created the Out on Display guides. She has a background in Fine Art and is particularly enthusiastic about making collections more accessible; highlighting issues of gender, sexuality and identity; encouraging greater diversity within cultural institutions; and supporting social justice movements.

National Trust work - <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/profiles/dawn-hoskin->

V&A Blog - <https://www.vam.ac.uk/blog/author/dawnhoskin>

Orion Isaacs they/them

Orion Isaacs is a multidisciplinary performance artist, musician, curator & writer. Their work often explores personal cultural politics and its complex relationship to social realities. They have exhibited and performed at the V&A Museum, The Southbank Centre, Live Art Development Agency (LADA), The Royal Festival Hall, and across London's LGBTQ+ performance venues. Their most recent immersive exhibition, 'Passing Gloves', celebrates the lost and forgotten histories of Jewish boxers across the UK and will launch with Rich Mix in March 2022. Isaacs is currently developing their debut album, which brings their operatic vocals together with electronic, punk sonics.

Website - <https://www.orionorion.co.uk/>

Passing Gloves - <https://richmix.org.uk/events/passing-gloves/>

Lauren Field she/her

Lauren Field is the Community Curator: Social History at Hull Museums and the Pride in Our City Project Lead. She has been working with the collections across Hull Museums for over six years, becoming familiar with the narratives they hold and the gaps that are now starting to reveal themselves. She has spent the past three years, both digitally during the Covid-19 pandemic and onsite during the popular Pride in Our City exhibition at the Ferens Art Gallery, looking at their new approaches to community engagement and co-curation. Working on a wider project which aims to increase representation across all interpretation, research and programming, and engaging with various communities throughout Hull to ensure that the museums are safe and welcoming spaces for all - providing authentic inclusion alongside complete and honest representation.

Pride in Our City Project – <http://humbermuseums.com/projects/pride-city-project-2/>

Pride in Our City Digital Exhibition - <http://humbermuseums.com/exhibitions/pride-in-our-city/>

Pride in Our City Exhibition – <http://humbermuseums.com/exhibitions/pride-ferens-2/>

Twitter - https://twitter.com/Ren_Field87

Thursday 24th March Speakers

Dan Vo he/him

Dan Vo is a media producer and museum professional specialising in queer history and inclusive museum practice. In 2021 he led the V&A Academy's A Queer History of Objects course. He has developed volunteer-led LGBTQ+ tours for several museums in the UK, most notably the V&A Museum, Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge and Amgueddfa Genedlaethol Caerdydd National Museum Cardiff. Dan has also provided training and support to dozens of heritage organisations as the co-project manager of the Queer Heritage and Collections Network, a partnership formed of English Heritage, Historic England, Historic Royal Palaces, National Trust and the Research Centre for Museums and Galleries, supported by the National Heritage Lottery Fund and Art Fund. Other clients have included Imperial War Museum, National Archives and Tate Britain. A regular guest lecturer, he has been invited to speak at the Courtauld, Central Saint Martins, University of Cambridge and other universities. Dan is a patron of LGBTQ+ History Month, trustee of Culture24 and sits on steering committees for Historic England, Imperial War Museum, Pitt Rivers Museum and Queer Britain. He was co-presenter of BBC Arts programmes Museum From Home and Museum Passion, and currently is a Course Leader for the Gap Year programme at the Sotheby's Institute of Art.

Website - <https://www.dannouveau.co.uk/>

Twitter - <https://twitter.com/DanNouveau>

Sotheby's Faculty page - <https://www.sothebysinstitute.com/why-sothebys/our-faculty-and-guest-speakers/dan-vo>

Sophie Meyer she/her

Sophie Meyer is the founder and director of Queer Kernow CIC, a queer-led non-profit that researches and promotes LGBTQ+ Cornish history. Through Queer Kernow, Sophie consults with Cornish museums, archives, galleries, and libraries in highlighting and promoting LGBTQ+ Cornish history. Sophie has a BA and MA in archaeology and has worked in the heritage sector for over ten years, alongside her work at Queer Kernow.

Queer Kernow - <https://queerkernow.co.uk/>

Rowan Frewin they/them

Rowan Frewin is a freelance illustrator and a research assistant on the RAMM and University of Exeter project Out and About: Queering the Museum. They are particularly interested in examining ways that we can re-frame trans history as well as looking at ways that information about LGBTQ history in general can be made more accessible within museum and heritage space.

Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/rowanfrewin/?hl=en>

Etsy shop - <https://www.etsy.com/uk/shop/RowanFrewinArt>

Resources - Links shared in chat function for Queer Voices in Museums: Two Years On

Queer Heritage and Collections Network Newsletter - <https://mailchi.mp/46de0e53f704/qhcn>

LGBTQ+ History Month Links -

<https://lgbtplushistorymonth.co.uk/book-a-presentation/>

<https://lgbtplushistorymonth.co.uk/news/your-events/>

<https://lgbtplushistorymonth.co.uk/shop/>

<https://lgbtplushistorymonth.co.uk/2022-resources/>

<https://lgbtplushistorymonth.co.uk/calendar/>

'What Counts as Trans History?' –

http://www.midlandshistoricalreview.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/What-is-%E2%80%98trans-history-anyway_.pdf