

Nina Simon

Nina Simon has been called a “museum visionary” by Smithsonian Magazine, a Silicon Valley Business Journal “40 under 40,” and Santa Cruz County Woman of the Year for her innovative community leadership. She is the Executive Director of the Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History and the founder/CEO of the OF/BY/FOR ALL movement.

Nina is the best-selling author of *The Participatory Museum* (2010), *The Art of Relevance* (2016) and the popular Museum 2.0 blog. She lives off the grid in the Santa Cruz mountains with 20 people, 24 chickens, 5 dogs, and 1 zipline.



Esme Ward



Esme Ward was appointed Director of the Manchester Museum, the UK’s largest university museum, in April 2018 and is the first woman to hold the role in its 125-year history. Prior to this, she was Head of Learning and Engagement at Manchester Museum and the Whitworth, where she worked alongside Maria Balshaw on the £15 million redevelopment of the Whitworth.

She is leading a significant capital development at Manchester Museum, renewing the creative and civic mission of the organisation with the ambition to become the most inclusive, imaginative and caring museum.

In 2016/17 she was a fellow on the Clore Cultural Leadership Programme, exploring social and civic purpose, leadership and the future of museums. Her career has been driven by these values and a longstanding commitment to make museums more inclusive and relevant to the communities they serve. In 2018 Esme was awarded Honorary Professor of Heritage Futures from the University of Manchester.

Esme is also the Culture Strategic Lead for Age Friendly Manchester and the Greater Manchester Ageing Hub, which heavily influences her work at the museum, ensuring culture in the city is accessible to all generations.

Liz Moreton



Liz Moreton is Director of Creativity and Social Change at Battersea Arts Centre. Liz has spent the last 15 years working in the heart of the producing team at Battersea Arts Centre developing programmes which use art and culture for social transformation.

Liz leads *The Co-Creating Change Network* – a network of over 100 people and organisations who are exploring the role artists and cultural organisations can play with community partners to co-create social change across the UK.

Liz co-leads *The Agency* a National partnership programme which uses a creative process to support young people from underserved areas of England, Wales and Northern Ireland to develop their own social initiatives for change. The Agency has been running for six years and Liz led for Battersea Arts Centre along with Contact and People's Palace Projects the translation of the methodology from Marcus Faustini's *Agência de Redes para Juventude* from the favelas of Rio de Janeiro.

Matt Fenton

Matt Fenton is Artistic Director/Chief Executive at Contact in Manchester, the leading UK arts venue to place young people at the decision-making heart of the organisation. Matt leads on Contact's innovative public performance and event programme for young and highly diverse audiences. Each year Contact delivers a wealth of young people's creative and leadership activity, including flagship projects *The Agency*, *ReCON*: young programmers, and *Future Fires*. Matt is currently overseeing Contact's major £7m capital redevelopment to include a new arts and health research



studio in partnership with Wellcome Trust, a recording studio, and a creative industries hub for emerging arts professionals.

Matt Peacock

Matt Peacock MBE is Director of [With One Voice](#), a movement aiming to connect and strengthen arts and homelessness around the world. He is passionate about the arts being integrated into homelessness, helping people to thrive and not just survive.



Matt is a former support worker, Clore Leadership Fellow and founder of Streetwise Opera where With One Voice was set up. He is one of Gordon Brown's *Everyday Heroes*, a Southbank Centre 'Changemaker' and one of *Evening Standard's* Most Influential Londoners. He was awarded an MBE in 2011.

David Tovey

David Tovey is a formerly homeless artist, educator and activist who works in a range of media. He is a photographer, painter as well as an installation artist and performance-maker. At the heart of David's practice is a very special quality - the ability to bring you to the subject in ways both beautiful and hard-hitting in equal measure in order to raise awareness about the social issues he tackles.



David has exhibited internationally in locations such as the Atsa Festival Montreal, Somerset House, Tate Modern and Tate Liverpool and he is also the founder of the UK's first One Festival of Homeless arts. He speaks regularly at housing and homelessness events and teaches art to people experiencing homelessness at the Pilion Trust and Passage Day Centre. His Man on Bench performances have earned him significant acclaim and have taken place on the pavement of the London's Southbank, The Mayfield Depot Manchester and the halls of Tate Exchange.

He is also the creative producer for the international arts and homelessness movement With One Voice.

Elinor Morgan

Elinor Morgan has been Senior Curator at Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art (MIMA) since June 2015 where she has worked to develop it as an institution that is led by its context and publics. She co-edited 'The Constituent Museum' (2018), a reader on how arts institutions might work differently with their publics.

Since 2008 Elinor has curated public art projects, residencies, exhibitions, public and education programmes across the UK working at institutions in Norwich, Cambridge, Birmingham and on independent projects in London. From 2012, she was ESP and Public Programmer at Eastside Projects, Birmingham, and worked on a large public art commission for the city. Prior to this, she was Artists and Programmes Curator at Wysing Arts Centre, Cambridge and advisor on the public art programme in Great Kneighton, Cambridgeshire.

She has written numerous reviews and essays for magazines and publications and has contributed to various undergraduate and postgraduate courses. Elinor is on the Board of Grand Union, Birmingham, and is a Trustee for Investing in People and Culture, a refugee-led charity that promotes the social and economic inclusion of new and emerging communities.



Alison Clark

Alison Clark is Director for Northwest England and National Director, Combined Arts for Arts Council England (ACE) the national funding and development agency for Arts & Culture in England. She is a 2018 fellow of the DeVos Institute of Arts Management at the University of Maryland in Washington DC, a trustee of Northern Film and Media and previously a Governor at Teesside University.

She's responsible for ACE's development, advocacy and investment work in the northwest and for policy, innovation development and investment overview for the combined arts portfolio across the country including festivals, arts centres, participatory art, outdoor arts and live art.

Originally starting out as an educator, Alison became involved in the community arts movement before developing a strong interest in better connecting communities and audiences, gained qualifications in marketing and moved into arts marketing for contemporary festivals with a focus on reaching unengaged communities. Her passion for connecting people with excellent and innovative creative practice has continued ever since, from creating cultural strategies for local government, to working as a Director for the ground-breaking Arts Education programme Creative Partnerships to the design and leadership of the £35 million ACE funding programme *Ambition for Excellence* that supported a range of remarkable large scale projects with creative excellence and community legacy at their core.