

## Peter Scott Gallery Charitable Trust (PSGCT)

### Background, Role Description of Chair and process of selection



Visitors at the Peter Scott Gallery for Jez Dolan and Garth Gratrix's exhibition *How do you make a Queer ritual?* in 2023. Photo Credit: Mark Battista

### **Background**

The Peter Scott Gallery is part of Lancaster Arts (LA), a National Portfolio organisation (NPO) of Arts Council England (ACE) and integral to Lancaster University. It is also an Accredited Museum responsible for the care and oversight of the art collections of Lancaster University. LA is a Combined Arts organisation, with three venues, a concert hall, black box theatre and the Peter Scott Gallery and is a part of the Faculty of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences. The gallery has been in its current location as part of the Great Hall Complex since 1988 and has been accredited since 2009.

The Peter Scott Gallery Charitable Trust is a registered charity with full legal governance responsibilities. The Trust works closely with Lancaster Arts to grow and develop the Peter Scott Gallery collection. We are now seeking a new Chair to begin in the summer of 2026 as our outgoing Chair, [Charles Hadcock](#) has completed his term of leadership. [Lindsey Taylor](#), Director of the Salford Museum and Art Gallery will be supporting [Jocelyn Cunningham, Director of Lancaster Arts](#) in the

appointment process for the new Chair and joined by Professor Edward Simpson as the University Council appointed Trustee. The Terms of Reference are [here](#).

Lancaster Arts adopts annual themes in order to enable a necessarily complex programme of multiple artforms that also responds to and works across the whole university. In 2025, this was Land, in 2026, Dissent and for 2027, this will be Time.



Visitors at Tony Heaton's *Serial Dissenter* exhibition in 2026. Photo Credit: Mark Battista

Please see [About Us](#) on our website for an overview. Our themes inform the gallery exhibition programme and also influence the acquisition strategy. The Lancaster Arts mission is committed to social and environmental justice which drives change for our future and is inspired and provoked by artistic practice. The Museum forms part of the Lancaster Arts strategic plan which takes into consideration artistic direction, plans and objectives such as strategic engagement, audience development, financial planning, sustainability and the social and political environment in depth.

## Collections

Art collections have been part of Lancaster University from our first decade, demonstrating early recognition of the vital role that university collections can play in contributing to a distinctive cultural identity and to the offer for students and staff as well as offering a rich resource for the city, region and country. Please see our [summary on our website](#). The collection is remarkably diverse and includes prints, paintings, drawings, sculpture, ceramics, antiquities and contemporary works. It spans thousands of years, from the archaeology of ancient Egypt and Greece to contemporary work created by international artists as well as those working in the North West. Major artists represented include Barbara Hepworth, L S Lowry and Terry Frost.

The Peter Scott Gallery Charitable Trust was established in 2001, initially to have a custodial role over the Irene Manton bequest, a substantial holding of artworks bequeathed in 1988 by Professor Irene Manton F.R.S. (1904-1988). The Manton bequest includes Chinese and Japanese watercolours and prints, Twentieth Century British and European works and a small collection of antiquities. In 1994 and

then 2002, the Museum received a substantial gift and then bequest of Pilkington Tile & Pottery Company ceramics, designs and related archive material from Miss Mary Chambers. The majority of the collection is housed in the Peter Scott Gallery with further works displayed around the campus including major works of public sculpture. The collection is a very valuable resource, worth far more than the monetary value of the collected works and represents un-tapped opportunities.

### **Key Responsibilities of the Chair**

The Chair of the Peter Scott Gallery Charitable Trust will be an arts professional with an international profile and a breadth of scope and understanding of the cultural sector, in particular, museums and galleries.

The Chair will:

- Lead the Peter Scott Gallery Charitable Trust to fulfil its Terms of Reference, ensuring the Trust maintains and contributes to the accreditation standards with all relevant policies, plans and documentation over the subsequent Accreditation period to 2028.
- Chair the quarterly Trust meetings. The Curator acts as Secretary for the Trust and the Chair and Curator will work closely together to ensure smooth and transparent management and collective decision-making.
- Support the development of the collection in alignment with the acquisition strategy and alongside the Trust.
- Support the financial resilience of the Trust and ensure we continue to thrive with the capacity to grow and develop the collection, alongside the Trust.
- Foster a collaborative and dynamic board culture in which members are active, informed, and mutually supportive.
- Act as ambassador for the collection and the Peter Scott Gallery Charitable Trust.
- Liaise regularly with the Director of Lancaster Arts and University Council appointed Trustee to ensure consistent communications and visions with both the university and Arts Council England.
- Encourage imaginative thinking and creative responsive to change.

### **Board Development**

- Work with the Curator and LA Director to ensure effective recruitment, induction, and rotation of Board members.
- Contribute to the periodic evaluation of the Board's effectiveness and impact.

### **Attributes and Experience**

The Chair will have:

- A strong track record of leadership in the cultural sector. National or international reputation is desirable.
- A strategic outlook and the ability to navigate the intersection of higher education and the arts.
- Skilled facilitation and communication, with confidence in convening diverse stakeholders.
- A clear commitment to inclusion, environmental responsibility, and socially engaged arts practice.
- Capacity to act as an ambassador and connector for the the Peter Scott Gallery and Lancaster Arts.
- An enthusiasm for Lancaster Arts and an understanding of our work.

Each role is voluntary and not remunerated other than expenses and relevant costs.



*Sena Başöz's 'Forough' from her installation in the Peter Scott Gallery in 2024. Photo Credit: Rich Berry*

## **How to Apply**

The recruitment period is from April 1 to June 30th when we hope to have a Chair in place. The deadline for Expressions of Interest is May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026 with interviews in early June.

Please get in touch with us to speak about the role and the organisation in the first instance to know more and see if it is for you. [recruitment@lancasterarts.org](mailto:recruitment@lancasterarts.org)

If this is something you would be keen to take further, please write a cover letter demonstrating why the role is of interest and how you meet the personal specifications.

**Deadline for applications is 24th of May 2026** followed by shortlisting. Please send your cover letters to [recruitment@lancasterarts.org](mailto:recruitment@lancasterarts.org)

We will invite successful candidates to interview in the first two weeks of June and would prefer a live visit to see the gallery, some of the collection and meet the team. Interviews will take place with a small panel of internal and external members.

We have flexibility on when a new Chair might start but we would hope over the summer months.