

# Turner

## Curatorial Research Residency Generation Landscape: JMW Turner

Freelance

**Start date: June 2026**



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## Curatorial Research Residency Generation Landscape: JMW Turner

Location: **Hybrid (with travel as required)**

Contract Type: **Freelance**

Start Date: **June 2026**

Fee: **£5,000 inclusive of £2,200 research travel allowance**

Turner Contemporary is seeking an early-career curator or researcher for a Curatorial Research Residency, supported by the Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art as part of the Generation Landscape research programme.

The residency will support original, in-depth curatorial research towards up to two Turner-related displays to be realised at Turner Contemporary over the next few years. We are particularly interested in proposals that offer a fresh, contemporary perspective on JMW Turner, with new thinking on Turner's relationship to Margate and the town's ongoing cultural, social, and environmental significance.

Working closely with Turner Contemporary's curatorial team, the appointed curator will be encouraged to develop new research directions, challenge established narratives and explore how historical scholarship can speak meaningfully to contemporary audiences.

The £5,000 fee includes an allowance of £2,200 to support research travel to the Yale Center for British Art, New Haven, US, mentoring from Dr Amy Concannon, and participation in a programme of events and funded research symposium that helps keep JMW Turner at the heart of the gallery.

### **The residency will involve:**

- Undertaking original research on Turner, landscape, and place, with a focus on new interpretations of Turner and Margate
- Developing curatorial thinking towards two future Turner and Margate displays at Turner Contemporary
- Archival and collections research, including at Tate and the Yale Center for British Art
- Working collaboratively with Turner Contemporary staff to translate research into accessible, public-facing displays and programmes
- Participation in the Generation Landscape research programme
- Contribution to interpretation and public research workshop or symposium
- Collaboration with the Marketing & Comms team to develop a collection of media assets that can be used to document the research and curatorial process online

### **This opportunity is particularly suited to:**

- Early-career curators or researchers looking to develop their practice through sustained research
- Applicants with a strong interest in British art, landscape, and exhibition-making.
- Those keen to pursue original research questions and bring fresh perspectives to historic material.
- Curators interested in collaboration, and working within a major public gallery context



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## Curatorial Research Residency How to Apply

Deadline: **10am on Monday 27th April**

Contract Type: **Freelance**

Start Date: **Spring 2026**

**Interviews are expected to take place on Monday 11th March**

To apply, please send the following documents to  
[applications@turnercontemporary.org](mailto:applications@turnercontemporary.org)

### **Application Requirements:**

#### **1. CV**

Your CV should outline relevant skills, employment history, freelance practice and qualifications.

#### **2. Cover Letter (250-500 words)**

Your cover letter should clearly demonstrate how your skills, knowledge and experience meet the responsibilities and person specification outlined above.

#### **3. Research Proposal (maximum 500 words)**

Your proposal should demonstrate originality, methodological approach and feasibility within the scope of the residency.

#### **4. Portfolio of Previous Work**

Please include examples of relevant curatorial, research or exhibition projects.

#### **5. Two Referees**

Please provide contact details for two referees. References will only be taken up with your prior consent.