Isaac Julien Studio

The Curatorial Archive Fellowship

Initiated by Isaac Julien and Mark Nash with the Humanities Institute at UC Santa Cruz, the Curatorial Archive Fellowship is a yearlong program in partnership with the Isaac Julien studio in London and the Isaac Julien Lab at UC Santa Cruz. The fellowship would begin with the Fall Quarter of 2024 completing with a final project the following year.

Working between London and Santa Cruz, the fellow will have the opportunity to engage with ongoing research projects at the studio, as well as design and realise an independent project of their own—to be conducted using the extensive archive and research library at the studio and lab.

The fellow would assist Professor Nash & Professor Julien and the studio archivist in working on updating both the London-based archive and the paper and digital archives in Santa Cruz, with an eye toward making these materials more accessible for future research and teaching.

Specific tasks related to the archive include:

- Cataloging/developing research resources including archiving and organising materials on site at Isaac Julien Studio, which would involve cataloguing unregistered publications and materials, updating digital library catalogue of Isaac Julien and Mark Nash Collections.
- Archiving Mark Nash exhibitions such as those on *Eastern Europe* and *China* as explored in Nash's book *Curating the Moving Image*

The Archival Fellow will assist in researching and locating materials and documentation of exhibitions in preparation for upcoming exhibitions & projects including the publication for the De Young Museum in San Francisco Isaac Julien survey show 2025. Projects include Afrofuturism and Enlightenment Exhibition/ installation. In addition, the fellow may have the opportunity to work on other upcoming publications for exhibitions such as Once Again...(Statues Never Die) and Picasso Museum Project and individual works.

Fellows may also collaborate with the Kramlich Collection's Fellow on research related to the curation, exhibition, and conservation of moving image-based artwork. As the digital archive—which includes holdings of films, photography, and art works—is accessible from the US, fellows could begin their fellowship working in Santa Cruz or London.

We are also open to applications from Fine Art Students interested in multiple screen editing and moving image installation if editing is taking place in the studio. The fellow would have access to ghosting Tom Cullen (Julien's head installer) and ProAv (Julien's technical installation team) during the installation of exhibitions such as Julien's survey show at the de Young Museum, San Francisco.

Fellows may support the exhibitions studio team activities during the design & curatorial development stage of exhibition planning through to the final installation.

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- + Coordinating the sharing of information for the key stakeholders during the exhibition design development stage.
- + Cataloguing press articles and all print materials relating to present & past exhibitions ready for catalogue publication

Studio based

- + Helping to research & facilitate the re-design of the Isaac Julien website.
- + Researching the artwork collection on site at IJ Studio & familiarisation of Art Logic Artwork management system.
- + Collating & cataloguing photographic prints on site at IJ Studio and at Recom (Fine Art Printers) in Berlin.
- + Digitising negatives/transparencies & creating an accessible physical library and/or online database for archival access.
- + Research and develop with the IJ team a standardized folder & file naming convention to improve access to older archival materials/images.
- + Working with Moving Image Exhibition manager on the updating technical & technological specifications for the moving image artwork installations.

Isaac Julien Studio and Isaac Julien Lab

The studio in London and the lab in Santa Cruz have been designed to mirror each other as platforms from which moving images, photographic works, exhibitions and publications are produced. The areas of artistic practice explored within both spaces are at the interstitial sites between moving and still images as differentiated from industrial film. One of the main reasons to differentiate between these two practices is to explore spaces of theoretical reflection, opening new modes of artistic and curatorial production.

The Lab aims to create innovative visual and sonic languages for production, exhibition and installation whilst examining the various aspects that concern contemporary artists and curators working in the field of media art and moving image today, in relationship to current modes of research, development, exhibition, production and scenography of moving image artworks.

While our digital age has dictated built-in obsolescence as an integral character of electronic media, by contrast, one of the central themes in Isaac Julien Studio and Lab considers how the archive, which involves both digital and analogue technologies, can be reactivated as an intrinsic aesthetic creative method.

In addition to containing the archives for Isaac's moving image practice and Mark's curatorial practice, the studio also contains an active research library with significant collections covering a wide range of subject matters related to visual art and theory. Major areas of strength include art history and cultural studies, the history and theory of the moving image, and curatorial studies.