



EMPAC

**CURTIS R. PRIEM EXPERIMENTAL MEDIA
AND PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**

RENSELAER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE
TROY, NY 12180
EMPAC.RPI.EDU
518.276.3921

CURATOR FOR CONTEMPORARY PERFORMANCE (DANCE, THEATER, AND INTERDISCIPLINARY COLLABORATIONS)

ABOUT EMPAC

EMPAC, founded by Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, is an international hub for contemporary performance, art, science, and technology. This dynamic center offers adventurous public events, performances and workshops in dance, theater, music and the visual arts throughout the year; a robust residency program for artists, scholars and engineers engaged in creative research; commissions for new work across genres; and the resources of an advanced facility for digital media production, research, and performance, situated on a college campus. EMPAC is much more than a performing arts center: it is a laboratory that enables artists and researchers to independently and collaboratively advance projects at the intersection of art and technology.

The Curtis R. Priem Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center is a showcase work of architecture that spans the physical and digital worlds. With a 1200-seat concert hall, a 400-seat theater, two large flexible black box studios, audio and video production facilities, residency studios, state-of-the-art infrastructure and equipment, and expert staff, EMPAC is a unique environment where digital technology and human experience can meet.

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, founded in 1824, is the nation's oldest technological university. The school offers degrees in engineering, the sciences, information technology, architecture, management, and the social sciences and humanities. For over 30 years, the Institute has been a leader in interdisciplinary creative research,

especially in the electronic arts. In addition to its MFA and PhD programs in electronic arts, Rensselaer offers bachelor's degrees in electronic arts, and in electronic media, arts, and communication – one of the first undergraduate programs of its kind in the United States. The Center for Biotechnology and Interdisciplinary Studies and EMPAC are two major research platforms established recently on campus.

THE CURATORIAL TEAM AT EMPAC

EMPAC's curatorial team has three full curatorial positions; dance/theater, music, and time-based visual arts as well as an assistant curator, and a project manager. Curators collaborate closely in an interdisciplinary way to shape EMPAC's events, exhibitions, commissions, productions and workshops.

The curatorial team was initialized in 2005, well before the opening of the new building, and established the artistic program of EMPAC. An overview of our public activities can be found on our website. Currently, the website does not detail activities and projects in the residency program and commissions. If you are interested to learn more about these projects, please request a detailed list from EMPAC.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The EMPAC Curator develops, implements and manages EMPAC specific programs for artist residencies, events, performances, commissions, installations, and symposia as a member of the curatorial team and in collaboration with the EMPAC

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Director, the EMPAC production teams (stage, audio, video, IT) and the future Director for Research.

The successful candidate will curate, produce, supervise and manage projects from inception to completion, guiding projects from idea to collaborative realization with a staff of forty. The curatorial process at EMPAC covers all areas of event production: analyzing EMPAC's context and coupling it to artistic work, negotiating contracts, managing and overseeing artist services and visa applications, budgeting, ensuring top level technical realization, developing PR strategies, etc.

The curator will monitor regional, national and international developments under artistic and intellectual perspectives specific but not exclusive to the field of "art and technology," establish and maintain contacts with artists, festivals and institutions with directions and scope similar to those of EMPAC on regional, national and international levels. The curator is also tasked with the development of programming strategies that engage the campus community of Rensselaer, the region, and utilize EMPAC's unique human expertise and technical resources.

QUALIFICATIONS

The ideal candidate will possess curatorial and production experience on the national level, with international experience preferred. Qualified candidates will have a solid background in theater and/or dance of the 20th and 21st centuries and its relationship to the broader arts discourse. Knowledge of non-Western arts practice is preferred. Experience in project management of new productions is highly desired, as is a track record of effective communication and the capacity to manage multiple projects happening simultaneously on varying timelines. A bachelor's degree and experience in related areas (theater, dance, technology) is necessary, with a master's degree preferred.

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Active artists seeking to continue their artistic work while being curator are requested to rethink their possible application.

EMPAC intends to hire for the position of Curator, however, candidates will be reviewed for relevant experience and education and may also be considered for the position of Associate Curator.

This is a full-time position and relocation to Troy, NY is required.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Open December 1, 2011, until filled. Informal inquiries are welcome by email to H el ene Lesterlin, currently EMPAC's curator for dance/theater (lesteh@rpi.edu) or Johannes Goebel, director of EMPAC (jeg@rpi.edu), with cc: gardnk@rpi.edu

To be considered an applicant, interested parties who meet qualifications must visit <https://rpijobs.rpi.edu>, job number 20110199, and follow the on-line application instructions. Please be prepared to attach a current resume or CV and a cover letter to the on-line application.

We welcome candidates who will bring diverse intellectual, geographical, gender and ethnic perspectives to Rensselaer's work and campus communities. Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

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