



Association of Independent Museums

## Annual General Meeting, 16 June 2021

Election of Members of the Board

### Sajida Carr

Sajida is Director of Operations & Development at Creative Black Country, part of the Creative People and Places Programme. Her role is about making the most of the Black Country through Arts and Culture with a specific focus on operations and development, and includes financial management, evaluation and governance. As well as championing unique cross-sector partnerships, which encourages new relationships and collaborations. Sajida has been part of Creative Black Country since 2014.

### Sarah Duthie

Sarah has over 20 years of leadership experience in charities, 16 of which have been in the museums and heritage sector. Sarah's current role is the Director of Priory & International Affairs at St John Ambulance, which includes looking after historic buildings that date back to the 12<sup>th</sup> century, and the St John Museum, which charts the charity's global history and connections. She was previously the Public Engagement Director at the Old Royal Naval College in Greenwich where she led improvements to public access and interpretation, and was on the Programme Board for the Painted Hall Conservation project. Previously, Sarah has worked as a consultant on heritage projects and led the transformative project at the Bishop's Palace in Wells to improve visit or experiences and develop new exhibitions. Her post graduate qualifications are in Strategic Management and History of Art & Architecture. She lives in London.

### Nathaniel Hepburn

Nathaniel has been Chief Executive of Charleston since autumn 2017 where he led the completion of a £9.3m capital project, and is directing the organisation as it pivots from a seasonal heritage site to an interdisciplinary cultural centre and museum inspired by the modernist home of Vanessa Bell and Duncan Grant. Nathaniel started his career as founding curator of Mascalls Gallery. He has curated over 50 exhibitions, which have been shown at some of the leading museums and galleries across the country, including *Barbara Hepworth: The Hospital Drawings*, *William Gear*, and *Cedric Morris & Christopher Wood*.

Nathaniel became Director of Ditchling Museum of Art + Craft in 2014 and developed a distinctive and ambitious programme of exhibitions and public programmes. These ranged from the *Big Steam Print* and *The Village of Type* programme, through to a challenging exhibition interrogating how knowledge of the disturbing biography of Eric Gill affects our understanding and appreciation of his art. Nathaniel is a passionate

advocate for partnerships, forming the Visit Ditchling consortium and leading the nine Sussex museums and galleries who brought the exhibition *Sussex Modernism* to London's Two Temple Place in 2017. He is a Board member of Sussex Modern: a public / private tourism consortium of 22 leading culture and viticulture businesses from across Sussex.

### **Emily Hope**

Emily currently leads the visitor welcome experience at Beamish Museum and has worked there in various roles over the last six years. Emily is passionate about delivering a world-class visitor experience and in 2019 was crowned Visit England's National Tourism Superstar.

Emily is absolutely thrilled to be joining AIM as a trustee and cannot wait to make a valuable contribution to the Board and for AIMs members. During what continues to be a challenging time for the independent museum sector, she is looking forward to listening to what members need and to influencing positive change. Emily is confident that her skills and experience will add to the supportive network of individuals who make up AIM and is excited to help the organisation grow and develop.

### **Gurminder Kenth**

Gurminder is an experienced museum professional who has worked in the heritage sector for 21 years, working in Birmingham's cultural organisations from the Ikon Gallery to Aston Hall and more recently as Museum Manager at Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery. She has worked in roles from front-of-house to exhibitions, project management to people management with operations being at the forefront; bringing a wide range of experience. Gurminder also has national expertise to draw on, having attended the Clore Short Course, is a member of the Museums Association, a member of the Women Leaders' Group, networked with national partners and is presently a Trustee at Birmingham Conservation Trust and Chair of the Coffin Works Committee. Major projects have included delivery of Aston Hall's HLF capital project and leading on bringing *Dippy on Tour* to Birmingham. Gurminder has a long-term interest in profiling heritage and is an advocate for visitors and staff. Gurminder is now Head of Operations at the Vegan Society, managing IT, HR, finance and property management.