The International Council of Museums (ICOM) has announced that it is preparing an issue of its journal *Museum International* devoted to the theme “Museums and Gender”. Editors are inviting proposals to contribute to this issue. This issue of *Museum International* aims to generate serious reflection on gender issues in museums, how they are intertwined, and the role of museums in a world prioritising gender equality. Issues of gender impact every layer of museum practice, from governance to visitation. This issue focuses on gender representation within museum management, operations and trusteeship, as well as in collections, exhibitions, education and public programmes. As the social construction and politics of gender vary between societies, issues of gender and sexuality within institutions are as broad as they are specific. Questions around whose objects and stories are being preserved and promoted, and from what perspective, are as much of a concern to history, culture and living museums as to science and natural history museums. A reflexive examination of the role cultural and heritage institutions play in understanding gender as well as how they manage their own gendered construction is overdue. Can museums lead the way in terms of institutional change on issues of gender equality? Museums are envisaged as guardians of the past, educators/entertainers of the present, arbiters of the future. From the lack of female artists, to carefully stored away imagery of powerful goddesses and intersex beings, some museums have maintained an imperial model of cultural values embedded in the origins of most early collecting and display. Others are challenging this system of stereotypes and phobias to better represent a more inclusive history. Addressing this inherent gender bias in museums requires great effort on the part of the museum sector as a whole.

**Call for papers**

The call for papers identifies the following list of potentially relevant topics:

- Museum management and operations
- Gender equality/biases (pay gap; workplace safety)
- Sexuality and discrimination
- Representation, both historic and contemporary
- Gender and imperialism
- Policy and ethics
- Sexism and misogyny
- Education
- Visitation
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Collections and archives
- Public programming

Abstracts should be submitted by 13 September 2019. The issue of *Museum International* on museums and gender is expected to be published in June 2020.

**Further information**

Similar content

POSTED ON 23 SEP 2017
The Inclusive Museum Conference 2018: Call for Papers

POSTED ON 07 NOV 2016
The Inclusive Museum Conference 2017: Call for Papers

POSTED ON 20 DEC 2019
International Museum Day 2020 to focus on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

POSTED ON 24 JAN 2015
8th International Conference on the Inclusive Museum | India

POSTED ON 23 FEB 2012
Exhibition Coordinator | Architecture Foundation | job opening

POSTED ON 25 MAY 2021
Towards a Gender Equity in the Arts

ABOUT ASEF CULTURE360
culture360.asef.org brings Asia and Europe closer by providing information, facilitating dialogue and stimulating reflection on the arts and culture of the two regions.

MORE ABOUT ASEF CULTURE360 | FAQ