

Gaby Porter+ Associates

I work with people in a wide range of cultural organisations, partnerships and teams to realise their aspirations and live their values through practical programmes. I work with people to create new possibilities and achieve the best outcomes, underpinned by high quality conversations and thinking.

Consultancy clients include:

- **Arts Council England and the British Museum:** *scoping research and consultation, leading to symposia and resources to stimulate closer working between museums and artists to animate museums and invite participation – with Anne Murch, 2012-13*
- **Association of Independent Museums:** *scoping and developing a strategic programme for AIM to support museums to clarify purpose and strategic direction, and to strengthen governance – with Anne Murch, 2014*
- **The Audience Agency:** *engaging cultural leaders in research and events to generate guiding principles for audience-focused leadership in the cultural sector, 2014-15*
- **Audiences London:** *developing new business directions with clients, partners and supporters; working with staff and trustees; advising on future priorities - with Anne Millman, 2009-10*
- **British Museum UK Partnerships team, Fresh Leads:** *designing and facilitating a leadership development programme for twelve participants from the BM and UK partners, to realise fresh ideas – with Anne Murch, 2012-13*
- **Churches Conservation Trust:** *advising and supporting the Trust in developing and taking forward their interpretation strategy, with staff workshops and pilot projects, 2012-14*
- **Churches Conservation Trust: St Peters and the Old Black Lion, Northampton:** *interpretation and activity planning for this project, combining the two sites as a heritage destination and enterprise – with John Williams, 2014*
- **Churches Conservation Trust and All Souls Bolton Community Centre:** *developing community engagement through interpretation and activity planning – with Jon Hall, Sue Todd and Paul Bason, 2013-*
- **Churches Conservation Trust and Suffolk Mind:** *developing an outline interpretation strategy for St Mary at the Quay, Ipswich, as a heritage wellbeing centre for local communities, 2010; developing the full Interpretation and Activity plan for the project – with Jon Hall, 2011*
- **Cross Art Form Venue Network:** *working with members and stakeholders to shape projects which meet future audience needs, take advantage of new technologies, foster and develop talent, and increase business resilience – with Ron Inglis, 2010*
- **Elizabeth Gaskell's House:** *Board development day, transition planning for programmes and operations, 2013*
- **Exhibition Road Cultural Group:** *evaluating the Supersonix summer programme and artist residencies, 2012*
- **Harris Museum and Art Gallery, Preston:** *supporting and facilitating the staff team to develop the Activity Plan for the Guild Gallery, 2010*
- **Heritage Lottery Fund:** *consulting with stakeholders on the potential impact of loss of knowledge in the heritage sector and making recommendations – with Anne Murch, 2011*

- **House Mill:** *activity planning with a focus on learning, young people, communities and volunteering for the River Lea Tidal Mill Trust – with Anne Millman, 2011-2012*
- **Inspiring Futures, Imperial War Museum North and Manchester Museum:** *team member to evaluate a 3-year volunteering and wellbeing programme, funded by HLF – with Envoy Partnership and Our Life, 2013 -*
- **Inspiring Learning for All:** *developing the accessible learning framework and ‘best practice toolkit’ for MLA, the national strategic agency, 2002-04; developing case studies and resources to guide organisations through organisational and cultural change, 2005; working with regional agencies and partnerships in Scotland, Wales and England to embed the approach, 2004-08 - all with Anne Murch*
- **Institute of Cultural Practices, University of Manchester:** *acting as a ‘critical friend’ to further strengthen and develop direction and external engagement so that ICP becomes an effective player both within and beyond the University – 2012-14*
- **Luton Culture – Generations Together:** *advising the Trust and project leaders on creative approaches to evaluating this intergenerational volunteering demonstrator project, 2010-11*
- **Manchester City Galleries:** *supporting staff to realise their vision to place collections at the heart of their programmes, and to ensure underpinning skills and systems, 2010-11*
- **Marches Network:** *working with the group to engage stakeholders, determine future direction and development, and strengthen governance – with Anne Murch, 2011*
- **Museum Leaders Programme, University of East Anglia:** *tracking study and recommendations for developing the residential and alumni programmes, 2003; Co-Director, 2004-2012*
- **Museums Association - Monument Fellowships:** *working with Fellows and hosts, 2008-11; evaluation and recommendations for future Fellowships– with Anne Murch, 2009*
- **Museums Association - Smarter Museums:** *advising, developing and supporting museums in a programme of organisational development, diversity and inclusive working, 2009-10*
- **Natural History Museum:** *evaluating the Images of Nature international artists residency programme, 2012*
- **Sharing Expertise consultation:** *support and stakeholder consultation in developing strategic priorities for investment in collaboration & knowledge transfer in museums, 2012*
- **Tony Blair Faith Foundation:** *study and recommendations for the Foundation’s involvement as a partner in the proposed Abraham House project, 2009*
- **Women Leaders in Museums Network:** *creating and facilitating a leadership network development programme – with Anne Murch and Cathy Herman, 2007-08*
- **Victoria and Albert Museum:** *leading a cross-organisational team to consult with colleagues on the new website, 2008; facilitating a focus group and conversations to build on key learning from the pilot phase of the artist Residency programme, 2011.*

Gaby Porter: Qualifications and Education:

1969-73	Edinburgh University: MA (Hons) Economic History
1976-78	Museums Association Diploma
1985-94	University of Leicester: PhD in Museum Studies
1996	Museum Management Institute, Berkeley, California
2008-09	The KNOW Programme, Common Purpose
2011	Registered Facilitator, the Thinking Environment.

Career History:

1973-76	Oxfordshire County Museums Service, Oxfordshire CC: Research Assistant, Museum of Oxford
1976-78	Bury Museum & Art Gallery, Bury MBC: Curator
1978-83	Stockport Museums Service, Stockport MBC: Keeper of Industrial & Social History
1984-90	National Museum of Photography, Film & Television, Bradford: Senior Museum Assistant (1984-1987); Curator/Interpreter (1987-1990)
1990-99	Museum of Science & Industry in Manchester: Curatorial Services Manager (1990-99); Head of Collections & Information (1999)
1999-	Consultant, Gaby Porter + Associates.

Professional Affiliations and Pro Bono work:

1978	Associate, Museums Association
1997	Fellow, Museums Association
1979-84	Social History Curators Group: Committee member, Secretary, acting Editor
1984-94	Founder-member, Women, Heritage and Museums
1988-91	Councillor, Museums Association
1988-90	Trustee, National Museum of Labour History
1989-93	Museums Association Equal Opportunities Committee: Member, convener
1990-94	Member, COPUS Group on Museums and Public Understanding of Science
1991-93	Passmore Edwards Museums Service: MA Representative, governing body
1992-94	Member, Expert Group on Standards for Care of Industrial Collections, MGC
1993-96	Adviser, North West Arts Board
1996-2002	Member, <i>Directing Change</i> network
1997-98	Member, HLF Steering Committee, <i>Funding ICT in the Heritage Sector</i>
1997-2001	External Examiner, Department of Museum Studies, University of Leicester
1998-2000	President, North West Federation of Museums and Galleries
2001-04	Visitor Studies Group: Committee member, Advocacy and Marketing
2002-11	Visiting Lecturer, MA in International Museum Studies, University of Gothenburg
2003-04	Board member, North West Museums, Libraries and Archives Council
2003-	Appraiser, Museums Association Fellowship Programme
2003-	Mentor, Museums Association Associateship
2005-08	Cultural Heritage Panel member, Creative and Cultural Skills
2005-09	External Examiner, Centre for Museology, University of Manchester
2006-	Fellow, RSA
2009-	Director, Action for Sustainable Living
2009-13	Chair, Rutland Avenue Residents Association and Community Garden
2010-13	Member, Manchester's Climate Change Action Plan Stakeholder Steering Group
2010-12	External Examiner, Cultural Leadership MA, City University, London
2011-	Board member, Museums Association
2011-	External Examiner, <i>Museums, Galleries and Contemporary Culture</i> , Westminster University, London
2013-	Leading Museums Association's Task and Finish Group for Workforce development.