

# The Courtauld

Press Release

Thursday 16 January 2025

## THE COURTAULD APPOINTS PROFESSOR DOROTHY PRICE AS EXECUTIVE DEAN AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR

## PROFESSOR STEVE EDWARDS APPOINTED AS INAUGURAL DIRECTOR OF NEW MANTON CENTRE FOR BRITISH ART



*Pictured (L – R): Professor Dorothy Price © Fergus Carmichael  
Professor Steve Edwards © Steve Edwards; Image: Leah McLain*

Press images available to download: <https://bit.ly/40xK9hM>

The Courtauld Institute of Art today announces two new senior appointments as part of its commitment to becoming the world's most ambitious, dynamic and innovative centre for the visual arts.

Professor Dorothy Price FBA, currently Professor of Modern and Contemporary Art and Critical Race Art History at The Courtauld, has been appointed Executive Dean and Deputy Director from August 2025.

Dorothy will lead The Courtauld's teaching, learning, research and public engagement strategy and be at the forefront of our mission to attract new people to study and enjoy art history and conservation. She will also support and deputise for Professor Mark Hallett, Märit Rausing Director of the Institute.

Professor Steve Edwards has been appointed Manton Professor of British Art. Beginning in April, he will serve as the inaugural Director of The Courtauld's new Manton Centre for

British Art, the new home for The Courtauld's research and teaching on British art.

Named after British art collectors and philanthropists Sir Edwin Manton and Florence, Lady Manton, The Manton Centre for British Art will serve as an intellectual hub for art historians, curators, artists, and students nationally and internationally, providing a platform for sharing world-leading research and teaching the next generation of British art specialists. It will be located initially at The Courtauld's current campus at Vernon Square and will later be housed in purpose-designed premises at Somerset House.

### **Dorothy Price**

Dr Dorothy Price currently serves as Professor of Modern and Contemporary Art and Critical Race Art History at The Courtauld and is an elected Fellow of The British Academy. She joined The Courtauld in 2021 from the University of Bristol where she was a founding member of the Centre for Black Humanities. She was co-curator of The Courtauld's 2023 exhibition *Claudette Johnson: Presence*, the first monographic show of Claudette Johnson's work at a major public London gallery. Price formerly edited *Art History*, the journal of the Association for Art History, has collaborated extensively with galleries and museums internationally, and founded the Tate / Paul Mellon Centre's British Art Network subgroup on Black British Art.

Her most recent collaboration has been with the Royal Academy of Arts in 2024 as lead curator of their groundbreaking exhibition *Entangled Pasts 1768-now: art, colonialism and change*. She currently serves on the Advisory Board of Tate Britain, the Art Committee of the British Academy and the Exhibitions Committee of the Royal Academy of Arts.

### **Steve Edwards**

Dr Steve Edwards currently serves as Professor of the History and Theory of Photography at Birkbeck, University of London. He previously served as Head of Historical & Theoretical Studies in Photography at the University of Derby and was a visiting scholar at the Victoria & Albert Museum and the University of Michigan. He was appointed Professor at The Open University in 2013 and became Head of the Department of Art History. He joined the Department of Art History at Birkbeck in 2016.

Professor Edwards has published widely on photographic history, and his recent publications include 'Making a case: Daguerreotypes', in *British Art Studies* (2020), and 'Why pictures? From art history to business history and back again', in *History of Photography* (2020).

**Professor Mark Hallett, Märít Rausing Director at The Courtauld said:** "We congratulate Professor Dorothy Price on her new position as Executive Dean and Deputy Director. Dorothy has made a remarkable contribution to The Courtauld since joining us in 2021, and she will play a significant role in expanding The Courtauld's innovative teaching and research in the history, conservation, curation and business of art. She will also be a great ambassador for the Courtauld across the wider worlds of art and academia.

"I am also delighted to welcome Professor Steve Edwards to The Courtauld as the inaugural Director of the new Manton Centre for British Art. The Centre aims to support the best new thinking and teaching on British art and place this endlessly fascinating field of study in a global context. Steve, a renowned scholar of British photography and visual culture, and someone who will bring a distinctive mix of authority and open-mindedness to his leadership of the Manton Centre, will help secure The Courtauld's ambition of becoming a world leader in the field of British art."

**Professor Dorothy Price, said:** "I am delighted to be appointed to this role at such a transformative time in The Courtauld's history. I very much look forward to collaborating with colleagues to consolidate The Courtauld's world-leading position as the foremost institute for art historical research, teaching, learning, conservation and exhibitions. I relish the opportunity to help ensure that The Courtauld achieves its ambitions with energy, sustainability, intellectual rigor and care."

**Professor Steve Edwards, said:** "I am privileged to be given the opportunity to join The Courtauld Institute of Art and to lead the Manton research centre, which will become a world-leading hub for art-historical exploration in Britain and beyond."

### **The Courtauld Institute of Art**

Vernon Square, Penton Rise, London WC1X 9EW

### **MEDIA CONTACTS**

#### **The Courtauld**

[www.courtauld.ac.uk/gallery/press](http://www.courtauld.ac.uk/gallery/press)

[media@courtauld.ac.uk](mailto:media@courtauld.ac.uk)

#### **Bolton & Quinn**

Erica Bolton | [erica@boltonquinn.com](mailto:erica@boltonquinn.com) | +44 (0)20 7221 5000

Daisy Taylor | [daisy@boltonquinn.com](mailto:daisy@boltonquinn.com) | +44 (0)20 7221 5000

### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

Facebook @TheCourtauld

Instagram @Courtauld #TheCourtauld

Threads @courtauld

TikTok @TheCourtauld

YouTube TheCourtauld

### **NOTES TO EDITORS**

#### **About The Courtauld**

The Courtauld works to advance how we see and understand the visual arts, as an internationally renowned centre for the teaching and research of art history and a major public gallery. Founded by collectors and philanthropists in 1932, the organisation has been at the forefront of the study of art ever since through advanced research and conservation practice, innovative teaching, the renowned collection and inspiring exhibitions of its gallery, and engaging and accessible activities, education and events.

The Courtauld cares for one of the greatest art collections in the UK, presenting these works to the public at The Courtauld Gallery in central London, as well as through loans and partnerships. The Gallery is most famous for its iconic Impressionist and Post-Impressionist masterpieces – such as Van Gogh's *Self-Portrait with Bandaged Ear* and Manet's *A Bar at the Folies-Bergère*. It showcases these alongside an internationally renowned collection of works from the Middle Ages and the Renaissance through to the present day.

Academically, The Courtauld faculty is the largest community of art historians and conservators in the UK, teaching and carrying out research on subjects from creativity in late Antiquity to contemporary digital artforms - with an increasingly global focus. An independent college of the University of London, The Courtauld offers a range of degree programmes from BA to PhD in the History of Art, curating and the conservation of easel and wall paintings. Its alumni are leaders and innovators in the arts, culture and business worlds, helping to shape the global agenda for the arts and creative industries.

Founded on the belief that everyone should have the opportunity to engage with art, The Courtauld works to increase understanding of the role played by art throughout history, in all societies and across all geographies – as well as being a champion for the importance of art in the present day. This could be through exhibitions offering a chance to look closely at world-famous works; events bringing art history research to new audiences; accessible and expert short courses; digital engagement, innovative school, family and community programmes; or taking a formal qualification. The Courtauld's ambition is to transform access to art history education by extending the horizons of what this is and ensuring as many people as possible can benefit from the tools to better understand the visual world around us.

The Courtauld is an exempt charity and relies on generous philanthropic support to achieve its mission of advancing the understanding of the visual arts of the past and present across the world through advanced research, innovative teaching, inspiring exhibitions, programmes and collections.

The collection cared for by The Courtauld Gallery is owned by the Samuel Courtauld Trust.