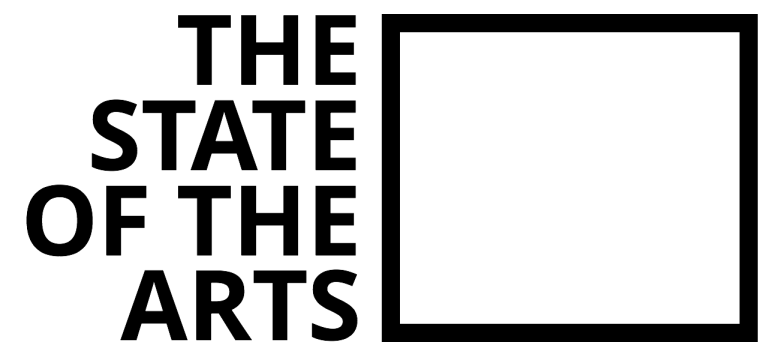


# ***Writer***

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Role Description.  
2022



[www.thestateofthearts.co.uk](http://www.thestateofthearts.co.uk)

# What is *The State of the Arts?*

Director/Co-Founder  
**Jack Simpson**

Engagement Editor  
**Becca Horswill**

Publishing Editor  
**Helayna Lagos**

Lead Editor  
**Will Baldwin-Pask**

Commissioning Editor  
**Beth Haven**

Marketing Editor  
**Izzy Hebb**



A new podcast series  
for the North.



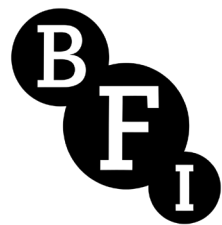
***“The State  
of the Arts  
is a website  
covering  
arts, culture,  
and politics  
from cities  
across the  
North of  
England, and  
occasionally  
further  
afield.”***



We are the leading online space for covering arts and culture in the North. We have a team of writers, a podcast, regular columnists, partnerships with organisations and an excellent reputation in the North for our quality.

We aim to build the project so it attracts the best creatives and thinkers from every artform, whilst expanding to cover more of the North and engaging new groups of people.

The State of the Arts has a huge reach.  
We've worked with some excellent  
writers and featured some of our  
favourite creative figures - from museum  
directors, to world famous DJs; from  
drag queens, to Labour party leaders.

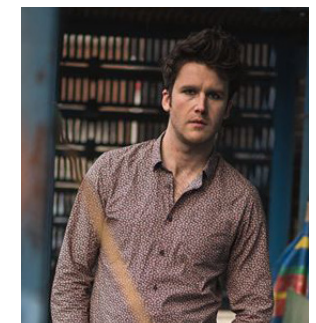


Some of our  
features...  
including (top  
left to bottom  
right): rave icon  
DJ Paulette;  
Mcr Art Gallery  
director Alistair  
Hudson; drag queen  
Cheddar Gorgeous;  
spoken word artist  
Matt Abbott.

Joining us is a chance to gain writing,  
journalism, publishing and marketing  
experience that can not only set you apart  
from peers, but will introduce you to the  
exciting world of arts and culture in the  
North.

For as long as you are writing for us,  
you're encouraged to share ideas,  
influence our direction and get as much  
out of TSOTA as you want.

(Left) Some of  
the amazing  
organisations we  
work with...



# What is *the role?*

Our writers are what powers The State of the Arts.

Whether they're picking up commissions we've sourced, exploring activity in the North themselves, or sharing their thoughts and expertise, our writers are always producing quality content about culture.

With over a thousand daily users on our site, we rely on exciting, insightful storytelling from our writers, who in return get to use a platform that builds their portfolio and readership.

## Writer

Tell new stories.

Strengthen your experience.

Support the arts.

**illustration,  
fashion,  
literature,  
politics,  
feminism,  
comedy,  
gaming,  
clubbing  
design,  
film,  
music,  
theatre,**





# What does it involve?



1

## **CONTRIBUTE ORIGINAL, ENGAGING CONTENT.**

Our writers will do their own research or have their own interests to draw from when contributing articles. You'll need to be an excellent writer, journalistically or academically, but will also need the independence and creativity to form thoughts and follow arguments through. Opinions are important; presenting them in a compelling way is vital. You may need to reach out to artists and organisations yourself to create material, so should be a confident networker.

2

## **PICK UP KEY COMMISSIONING OPPORTUNITIES.**

The TSOTA editors will always find opportunities for you to write with us, especially interviews and reviews. We encourage you to take as many of these on as possible, so you see incredible performances and meet incredible people. These will often be with higher profile subjects, so will gain you larger exposure and be even better for your portfolio.

3

## **COVER CULTURE AND FOLLOW THE TSOTA VISION.**

We exist to explore arts, culture and politics in our communities. Interest in and understanding of the arts is important for any writer, but to be good, you need to want to explain, uncover and amplify the arts.

4

## **WRITE TO OUR OUR PROFESSIONAL STYLE AND STANDARDS.**

Like any professional journal, we have guidelines for what you should write about and how you should write it. Our Editors are on hand to support you with this, so that pieces are site-ready and your writing can improve - they'll be on hand to help with an article and answer questions at any time. We do require you to be a decent standard with some experience under your belt before starting, but ultimately we want you to hone your craft with us.

# Why join TSOTA?

## **UNRIVALLED EXPERIENCE.**

Writing with TSOTA provides unique experience in journalism and editorial writing. From researching and networking, to deadline-hitting and self-editing, you'll learn how to find stories then bring them to life in a professional manner.

Build your CV. Develop your skills.  
Prepare for your next big role.



We Out Here Festival,  
one of the many events  
TSOTA attended in 2021...

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## **GET INTO THE ARTS WORLD.**

The creative industries are notoriously hard to break into. As a TSOTA writer, you'll understand the industry better, whilst building contacts and getting insight that can be invaluable. Building a portfolio of cultural writing will give you the expert edge needed to immerse yourself in the arts full-time.

## **SUPPORT INDUSTRIES AND COMMUNITIES.**

We exist to support our friends in the arts world. By writing for us you'll be making a difference to creatives, organisations and venues in your city, as they bounce back from a challenging few years. Your writing could help someone reach a new audience, or bring awareness to a pressing issue - through writing with us, you can have an impact.

# Your motives.

There are a few key things we need writers to be driven by... here are the essential motives of a TSOTA writer:

- **A passion for arts and culture.**
- An interest in their **local community or city**, especially its cultural scenes.
- Supporting **emerging talent** and giving others a platform.
- **Taking care** with your work and how you represent us.
- **Promoting diversity** through our coverage.
- **The next big thing...** culture is always about to change, and we want to be there when it does.



# Commitment.

We ask that all our writers submit at least 1 article every two months, or 6 spread across the year. Most write monthly, or will have a flurry of activity between busy periods such as exam season - but our regular writers should not be writing once and then disappearing without saying anything. If you think you'd rather pitch us a one-off idea, head [here](#).

If you have a specific subject you can write expertly and regularly on, it might be good for you to take on a column with us - speak to our editor team about this if interested.

# Structure.

We have a team of specialist editors that look after the site and the project. We will guide you throughout your role and provide ongoing communication, keeping you involved with everything TSOTA has planned. We will communicate via email with you.

# Starting.

November 2022.

# Pay.

The site doesn't currently make regular money, but when we have done we use profit for site upkeep.

Our priority is keeping the site fresh, raising its profile and supporting creative industries, but we are always on the lookout for funding opportunities that can boost us.

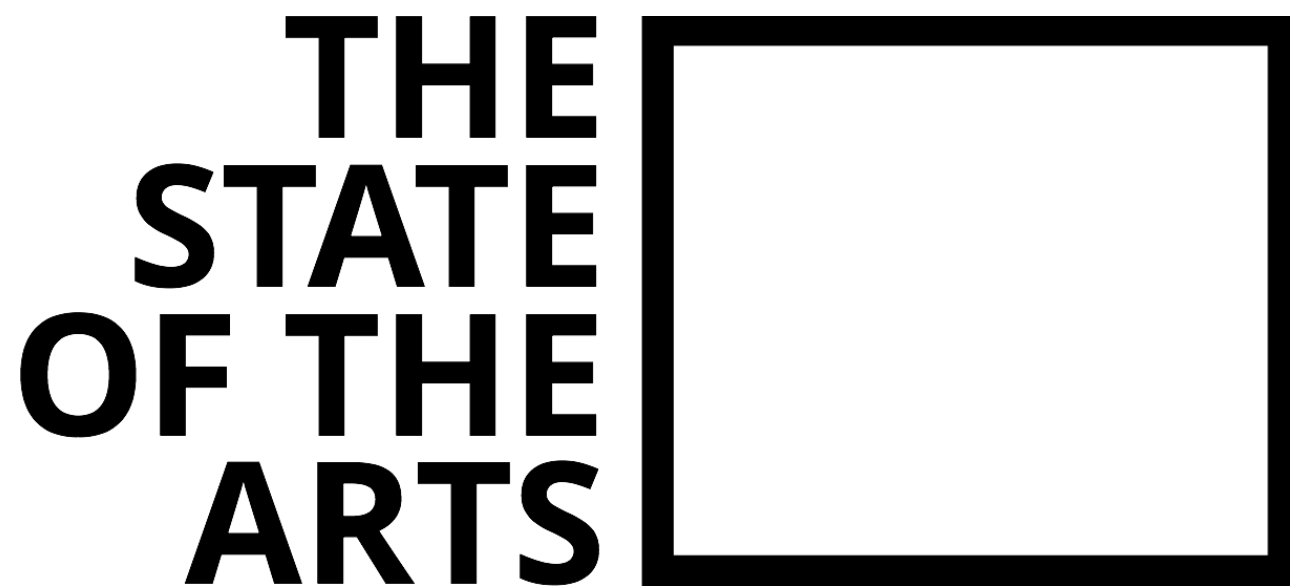


Featured in our creative showcase page 'See/Hear/Read': Louise Atkinson (top); Maja Lorkowska (right)





# Think you'd be a *good fit for us?*



Get in touch!

Head to **[thestateofthearts.co.uk](http://thestateofthearts.co.uk)** for more info - we'll answer any questions about the role and if you're keen to get involved, we'll pass on a brief application form and arrange time for a chat.

Speak to you soon!

The Editor Team x

*will@thestateofthearts.co.uk*  
*beth.thestateofthearts@gmail.com*  
*helayna.thestateofthearts@gmail.com*  
*izzy.thestateofthearts@gmail.com*  
*rebecca.thestateofthearts@gmail.com*