

# Dr Deborah Withers

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Pro-active and versatile multi-skilled creative practitioner with excellent project management abilities. Experienced writer, publisher, researcher, facilitator and curator that excels in project delivery, from conception to realisation.

## EXPERIENCE

### Project Management

*Translation/ Transmission Film Season* 2014  
Month-long film season that coincided with Women's History month. My role included fundraising, building partnership with Watershed, a cultural cinema that hosted the event, managing film distribution, organising speaker programme, marketing and publicity.

*Ellen Malos' Archives* 2013  
8-month Heritage Lottery Funded project. My role included recruiting project staff, organising a programme of educational events, facilitating workshops, documentation, setting up website, marketing and managing finance.

*Music & Liberation* 2012  
10-month Heritage Lottery Funded project. My role included organising a four-site, UK-wide touring exhibition, recruit volunteers, research and curate exhibition content, produce accompanying CD publication, liaise with galleries, marketing, loaning artefacts, documentation and managing finance.

*Sistershow Revisited* 2010-2011  
8-month long Heritage Lottery Funded project. My role included recruiting volunteers, building community partnerships, marketing and publicity, event organisation, publication of exhibition catalogue, research and production of exhibition content, archiving, managing staff and financial resources.

### Research

*Academic research*  
Experienced academic researcher. Ability to read, analyse and synthesise large amounts of complex information. Extensive experience working in archives and special collections.

*Oral History and Interview Work*  
Experience of collecting oral histories with individuals and focus groups, understand ethical issues that arise from doing research with people. Transcription and summary work.

### Writing

Versatile written communicator who can adapt writing style for different audiences and project briefs. My work has been published in a range of forums including academic journals, websites, blogs, exhibitions and marketing blogs <http://thegreatbear.net/blog>

### Exhibition curation and preparation

*Music & Liberation*, <http://music-and-liberation.tumblr.com> 2012

*Sistershow Revisited*, <http://sistershowrevisited.wordpress.com> 2011  
Developed exhibition concept, artefact selection, collaborated with designers to make visual communication decisions, researched content, built relationship with community partners, wrote exhibition text and labels, digitised images and audiovisual content, edited audio excerpts, produced accompanying catalogues, organised item loans from libraries and archives and devised event programme.

*Butetown History & Arts Centre, Cardiff* 2006-2008  
Provided support for production of exhibitions within a dynamic people's history museum. My role included: transcribing oral interviews, editing text labels, loaning items to and from different institutions, hanging exhibition.

## Fundraising and Grant Success

2015, 'Resilient Communities Through Collaborative Learning', £8,596, Awards for All  
2013, 'Ellen Malos' Archives', £32,190, Heritage Lottery Fund  
2012, 'Music & Liberation', £32,100, Heritage Lottery Fund  
2010, 'Sistershow Revisited,' £10,000, Heritage Lottery Fund  
2010, 'Creating and Sustaining LGBTQI Communities,' £7,786, Awards for All  
2010, 'Self-Publishing and Empowerment', £4,900, Arts Council England

## Publishing

*HammerOn Press*, <http://hammeronpress.net> 2010-ongoing  
Set up and manage a DIY publishing label specialising in accessible and rigorous scholarship. Responsible for commissioning books, working with community partners and authors, overseeing all stages of book production, website development, marketing and editorial.

## Teaching and facilitation

*'Women and Work'* 2014  
Facilitated women's history sessions for a group of women at the Silai Centre, Bristol. Sessions combined discussion, hands-on making, oral history and on-site visits to heritage institutions.

*Various academic teaching roles* 2006-2015  
Ten years experience preparing education sessions for large and small groups within universities, facilitating discussion, providing one-to-one supervision helping students develop independent research projects.

## Website Development

Experienced at developing websites using the wordpress platform. Examples include:

- [create-ahh.org.uk](http://create-ahh.org.uk)
- [hammeronpress.net](http://hammeronpress.net)
- [deborahwithers.net](http://deborahwithers.net)

## Computer and software skills

- Adobe Audition
- Adobe Photoshop
- Basic HTML
- Website development using wordpress
- Digital archiving software, such as Adobe Bridge and BWF MetaEdit