Douglas Caster Cultural Fellowship in Poetry

The Academy of Cultural Fellows aspires to develop into one of the premiere academic-artistic fellowship programmes in Europe, attracting exceptional candidates and contributing to the reputation of the University, our partner arts organisations, and the region, for innovation and excellence in the creative and performing arts. Cultural Fellows will interact with the academic community, students, partner arts organisations and each other to create a dynamic multi-disciplinary artistic community.

From Lord Brotherton’s gift of library and collections in the 1920s, to the establishment of the Gregory Fellowships in the creative arts in the 1950s and to the ground-breaking partnership with Opera North launched in 2007, the University of Leeds has excelled and innovated in research, teaching and public engagement in the fields of arts and culture.

The Academy of Cultural Fellows makes a significant impact on the University’s academic strength and public engagement with the creative and performing arts, while contributing to our broader strategic ambition of distinctively combining outstanding research and education to earn a place among the world’s leading universities.

The Cultural Fellows who comprise the Academy have the opportunity to make a significant impact on the creative and performing arts, and to forge close links with the community and partner organisations. Fellowships in other areas of the arts have previously been offered to Helen Mort and Malika Booker.

The University of Leeds has a proud tradition of supporting new poetry and of exploring the poetry of the past. The University of Leeds Poetry Centre (LUPC) brings together our unique strengths to celebrate poets and to produce new research from our internationally outstanding poetry archives in the Brotherton Library. LUPC offers a dynamic resource for research, teaching, and public engagement by supporting and advancing the study of poetry both within and outside the University. It provides a focus for collaborative, interdisciplinary, and individual research at the same time as offering a point of contact for the wider community to share in a range of activities, including readings, workshops, lectures, and exhibitions. The University of Leeds has
a prestigious history in the field of poetry as a result of its Gregory Fellows, its members of staff, and its students, including the internationally renowned poets Tony Harrison, Jon Silkin, Ken Smith, and Geoffrey Hill. LUPC proudly celebrates this heritage at the same time as establishing a new wealth of poetic activity at Leeds to support the next generation of writers and researchers.