

Curriculum Vitae

Sarah Knight

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Profile

I am a practicing fine artist. I also have a strong track record as a policy advisor, predominantly in the financial services and tax sector. With extensive experience of advising Government and industry on a range of social, technical and commercial issues.

Before taking time to focus on my art practice had I worked in central government and then the City advising very senior members of Government and industry on tax and financial services issues. I enjoy the challenge of finding workable solutions for complex problems. From working up the policy on the first child tax credit legislation to trying to find a workable alternative tax regime for life insurance companies. I have developed considerable skills in engaging with both technical experts and consumers in order to assess and develop solutions. I also have the oral and written communication skills required to explain complex legal, tax, regulatory and financial matters in simple terms to people with varied or sketchy comprehension of the issues. This led to my current contract. writing multiple choice questions for the Institute of Risk Management

Whilst working in HMRC, I also acted as an examiner for the Civil Service Faststream, with focus on assessing communication and interactive team building skills.

Experience

Key skills

2019-ongoing	Exam question writer Institute of Risk Management	Understanding the key texts on risk management Developing degree level questions. Working with examiners to review the exam papers to improve accuracy and language used
2008-ongoing	Practising Artist and exhibition consultant	Creating my own art and organising exhibitions and events on behalf of other artists
2013-2016	Advisor, TISA (Savings Project) London	Working with all sectors of the Financial Services industry (Investment and Retail Banks, Insurers, Fund Managers etc) as well as FCA and HM Treasury on issues affecting the future of the Savings and Investment Sector
2005- 2010	Head of Tax, Tax and Regulation Div. Association of British Insurers London	Advising and negotiating on behalf of the Life and General Insurance Sector with Government, Regulators and European Commission on a range of Tax (and occasionally Regulatory and Consumer) issues affecting the industry.
1996 - 2005	Policy Advisor, HMRC and HM Treasury	Range of roles including advising and working closely with Treasury Ministers, designing and

	London	developing new Government tax policies (eg Child Tax Credit, ISA legislation and the 2015 Pension Tax reforms), working with the FCA and Pension Regulators on appropriate policies for Savings Products and working in Europe on International Tax Avoidance Issues
1992- 1996	Insolvency Examiner, Insolvency Service, DTI, Leicester	Dealing with individuals and directors of companies to identify causes of failure, advising them on their rights and obligations and investigating and drafting the case for the Prosecution Services when fraudulent or criminal insolvency practice was identified
1987-1992	Solicitor Nottingham	Client based advisory work on mix of Commercial, Tax and Conveyancing issues

Education

Degree Level: BA (Hons) Fine Art (First Class)	Sir John Cass College of Art, London Metropolitan University, London	2008- 2011
Degree Level: LLB (Hons) Law (2:1)	Nottingham Trent University Nottingham	1983-1986
A Levels: Maths (D); Physics(D); Chem (C)	King Edwards Grammar School, Louth, Lincs	1983
O Levels: 10, including English	King Edwards Grammar School, Louth, Lincs	1981
Professional qualifications		
ACCA Accounting (pass at levels 1 & 2)	DPP (London)	1993-1995
Law Society Finals (Pass)	Chester College of Law	1987

Training and Other skills

- 15 years of UK Tax experience (including passes in all HMRC tax inspectorate exams)
- Practical Accounting (running own businesses) and Forensic accounting (working in Insolvency Service)
- Experienced in all Microsoft packages (Word, Excel, Powerpoint)

Interests

Over the past ten years my focus has been on developing my skills as a practising artists which includes building contacts, organising and visiting exhibitions and other art events. In addition I love reading, music and socialising more generally. Since buying a derelict farmhouse in France seven years ago, I have also been improving my conversational French as well as developing more practical skills: from learning welding, plastering and bricklaying to designing and making furniture.