

# Merry Christmas

& best wishes for a peaceful New Year  
from all at Origin

WINTER 2018

## TATE BRITAIN MODELLING

Origin client Leo, talks about his extraordinary modelling experience and his wish for more open discussion about disability.

'In June 2018 I was presented with the once in a life time experience of something very empowering when I modelled in the Henry Moore Gallery at the Tate Britain for about 30 sitting artists. This was part of an event called Queer and Now which explored different forms of art focusing on Gender Identities.

Whilst modelling, I conducted an open discussion about the challenges of modelling with Cerebral Palsy as well as asking the artists what it was like to draw somebody with involuntary moments.

The modelling session lasted an hour. I decided to break the modelling into different poses that I held for 5 minutes. Due to my Cerebral Palsy, it is difficult to remain in a single position for much longer than this.

At the end of the hour I was lucky enough to see some of the artist's work. It was very interesting to see all the ways people had drawn me, capturing my movements.

I really enjoyed engaging with the artists and feeling able to talk openly about my body and disability.

I think it's really important to get people discussing that their disability doesn't necessarily define them. We see very few people modelling with severe disabilities and we hear even less about transgender people who are differently abled. This needs to change'.



NEWS



# SPOTLIGHT ON PA...

## Anita Balicka

Slovakian born Anita has worked as an Origin PA for over five years, coming to England in 2012. Here she speaks about her love for her work and her plans for Christmas.

### What did you do before you joined Origin?

“ In Slovakia I worked as an analyst. Based in an office, I spent much of my day in front of a computer and paperwork. When I first came to work in England I worked for another care company for a year before joining Origin. The two types of job are very different – as an analyst much of my time I worked alone and of course now my job is all about people. ”

### Describe yourself?

“ I am a very responsible person and get a lot of satisfaction from doing my job well and knowing I am meeting the clients expectations. I enjoy the feeling of appreciation that Origin and my clients give me for what I do....but I can only do this with their co-operation. ”

### What do you do when not working?

“ I like nature and being outdoors so enjoy walking in the woods and running but I also like to watch movies. Of course I travel home when I'm not working and I have friends that I first met when I came to England that I visit as well as other friends I have made whilst being a PA. ”

### What is the most difficult part of your role?

“ I think it is challenging to be away from my home country and family and friends. Of course I do return, quite regularly and it is easy to keep in touch. Working for Origin means I do have flexibility to go home, so it is not a big problem for me. ”

### Will you be going home for Christmas or in staying in UK?

“ Neither, I will be working but I am travelling to Scandanavia for Christmas. I have spent many Christmases in England so am looking forward to a Scandanavian Christmas and learning about their traditions and culture. I will try to share some of our Slovakian Christmas traditions, too. ”

### What would you say to people thinking of becoming an Origin PA?

“ The job is challenging but is satisfying and fulfilling in ways that I don't believe other jobs are. This is down to the people you will be supporting and working with. ”



## The best or worst of Origin's Christmas cracker jokes

Who is Santa's favourite singer?  
Elf-is Presley!

What is Santa's favourite pizza?  
One that's deep pan, crisp and even.

What's the slogan for the Eskimo lottery?  
You've got to be Inuit to win you it!

