

#### FREE DISPLAYS AT THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS, JUNE - NOVEMBER 2019

#### **Young Artists' Summer Show**

Clore Learning Centre
Online exhibition 10 June – 31 December 2019
On Site display 13 July – 4 August 2019

Taking inspiration from the <u>Summer Exhibition</u>, the world's largest open-submission exhibition, and building on the success of the <u>A-Level Summer Exhibition Online</u>, the Young Artists' Summer Show recognises artworks made by talented young artists at primary and secondary school level. Selected artists have their work exhibited online or onsite at the Royal Academy, with special prizes also awarded. Submitted artworks have been judged in key stage groups by panels of art experts including Royal Academicians, RA curators and RA Schools students. The exhibition is curated by Royal Academician Bob and Roberta Smith.

#### **Knock nothing down**

#### The Architecture Studio 12 June – 26 August 2019

The late architect Will Alsop RA opposed demolition, believing that all buildings, unless dangerous, should be preserved to retain the meaning they have given people's lives. His approach was to lift new buildings above existing ones, so old and new could coexist whilst preserving the memories of the landscape. In 2011 Alsop established architecture and design studio aLL Design, who will create a display in The Architecture Studio exploring how their past and upcoming projects work to save existing buildings, spaces and communities.

#### **RA Schools Show 2019**

## RA Schools Studios, Weston Studio and the Life Room 20 – 30 June 2019

The RA Schools Show is the annual exhibition of works by fourteen artists graduating from the UK's longest established contemporary art school, the RA Schools. The show will present work by emerging artists in a range of media with each exhibiting in solo spaces in the rarely-seen working studios within the Royal Academy. The show will coincide with the 250th anniversary of the RA Schools.

The Garden: 250 Years of the RA Schools

**Weston Studio** 

6 July - 18 September 2019

Celebrating the 250th anniversary of the RA Schools, this exhibition takes its name from a statement made by former President of the Royal Academy of Arts, Sir Martin Archer Shee. In reference to the Royal Academy as a place run by artists and being home to an art school, he described the RA as 'a garden not a granary'. Building on that idea, *The Garden* will present contemporary artworks by RA Schools graduates alongside historic works they have selected from the RA Collection, uncovering surprising and unexpected links between the RA's past and its present.

Storylines: Illustrations to Homer's Iliad and the Odyssey by John Flaxman RA
The Collection Gallery Cabinet
10 August 2019 – 5 January 2020

A display in The Collection Gallery will offer an opportunity to see John Flaxman's rarely-exhibited outline drawings from the RA Collection. These dramatic yet elegant designs were inspired by Greek vase painting and illustrate scenes from Homer's epic account of the final year of the Trojan War and its aftermath. They feature an array of gods, goddesses, heroes, villains and monsters. Unlike traditional illustration, the scenes were intended to stand alone and were published at the turn of the 19th century with no accompanying text, only brief but evocative captions from Alexander Pope's verse translation of Homer. The published engravings proved hugely influential and won Flaxman international acclaim.

Laura Knight: A Working Life

**Tennant Gallery** 

2 September 2019 – 2 February 2020

Feted in her own lifetime, Laura Knight RA was awarded a Damehood in 1929, and was the first woman to finally break the glass ceiling and be elected a full member of the Royal Academy in 1936. This display will draw on the richness of the RA's Collection of paintings, drawings, sketchbooks and photographs from around 1911 to the 1960s. Paintings include a portrait of Joan Rhodes, a music hall strongwoman known as 'The Mighty Mannequin', many drawings from the Ballets Russes and the Folies Bergère from the 1919 and the 1920s, sketches of Bertram Mills and Carmo Circus who she joined on the road, and the landscapes of the Malvern Hills where she and her husband settled in the 1940s. The full range of Knight's drawing techniques will be shown from the quick pencil sketches, often comprising of a few lines, to more finished chalk studies. The immediacy of the drawings reflect Knight's wish above all to be remembered as a painter of modern life, declaring that 'I paint Today'.

#### What is radical today? 40 positions on architecture

#### The Architecture Studio

#### 6 September – 7 November 2019

The 1960s and 1970s were tumultuous decades of political unsettlement and social upheaval. Radical ideas were set out to unseat existing conventions and practices in various spheres of life, including architecture. This display in The Architecture Studio will question what today's practitioners are responding to, by inviting 40 architects, artists, designers and creatives to present their visions of what is most radical in architecture today.

#### The Ancestors

#### The McAulay Gallery

#### 7 September 2019 – 19 January 2020

Cathie Pilkington RA and Alison Wilding RA will present a new intervention of portrait busts from the RA Collection, reflecting on its history of male dominance.

#### FOSSIL: 16mm film installation by Graham Ellard & Stephen Johnstone

#### **Weston Studio**

#### 26 September – 6 November 2019

FOSSIL will present a new film project by artists Graham Ellard & Stephen Johnstone. Shot over three years in the RA Schools studios, the 16mm film will focus on the extraordinary collection of architectural casts – once central to the former RA Architecture School – that have been hidden behind temporary studio walls for over 50 years.

#### **TUNNEL VISIONS**

#### **Weston Studio**

#### 14 November 2019 - 5 February 2020

Thinking of space as a series of routes, this project by Esmeralda Valencia Lindström will use the movements of artworks, plants, people and animals in and around the Royal Academy to explore subjective, human and non-human experiences of architecture and place.

#### Ongoing

#### Mali Morris RA: On Paper

#### **Tennant Gallery**

#### **Until 4 August 2019**

Royal Academician Mali Morris has selected twenty-three of her works on paper for this exhibition in the Tennant Gallery. They are presented in three groups, from different periods of her career. The first include *plein air* paintings in watercolour made in Cyprus and Canada, from the late 1980s. These were never intended as studies for her abstract paintings, but their rhythmic drawing and luminosity is echoed in some of her larger paintings on canvas from that time. Eight vertical works opposite the entrance to the gallery are from

the series *Edge of a Portrait*, from the 1990s, in which Morris explored her fascination with the pictorial structures of profile portraits from the Italian Renaissance. Lastly, there is a group of twelve works in acrylic from around 2000, when Morris embarked on a search for different ways of structuring colour – layering and excavating, rather than composing laterally. It was the beginning of the most radical and original phase of her work, which continues her preoccupation with the expressive possibilities of abstract painting, drawing on many sources but constantly exploring how colour can structure light and space.

# Mali Morris RA Selects The Collection Gallery Cabinet Until 4 August 2019

The display in The Collection Gallery Cabinet has been selected by Mali Morris RA from the thousands of works in the vast and varied Collection of the Royal Academy of Arts. She links it to the concurrent Tennant Gallery exhibition of her own work by the simple premise of 'immediacy', searching for examples of directness of handling and expression. The mingling of RA treasures – oil studies by Constable, pencil drawings by Turner and Gainsborough – with commonplace examples of studio life, such as doodles, shopping lists, painting tools and materials, celebrate the unique character of the Collection.

#### Sarah Pickstone, An Allegory of Painting

# **Burlington House Entrance Hall and Ramp Until 18 August 2019**

Swiss-born artist Angelica Kauffman was one of only two women among the Royal Academy's founding members in 1768. The Academy commissioned her to paint four ceiling paintings, installed in the Entrance Hall of Burlington House. Called *The Elements of Art*, these roundels depict female figures representing colour, design, composition and invention. Artist Sarah Pickstone has created a two-part homage to these paintings. *The Rainbow* is a six-metre-wide reinterpretation of Kauffman's *Colour* and the second painting, *Belvedere*, is a response to Kauffman's *Design*, which is currently on display in the new Collections Gallery.

#### The Making of an Artist: Learning to Draw

### The Julia and Hans Rausing Hall Until December 2019

The Making of an Artist: Learning to Draw presents a selection of plaster casts from the early years of the RA Schools, displayed together with works on paper from the RA's Collection, illustrating the ways in which drawing was taught at the Academy for over 200 years from 1769. New displays focus on drawings by RA students and follow their progress from drawing plaster casts and studying anatomy to the Life Class. Architecture was also taught in the RA Schools up until the early 1960s. Included in the display is a preparatory drawing for entry into the Architecture Schools, a prize-winning drawing and a highly finished drawing of a Corinthian Capital.

Information on current and ongoing free displays at the Royal Academy can be found here.

#### **Notes to Editors**

#### Free admission

#### **Burlington House**

Open daily 10am – 6pm Fridays 10am – 10pm

#### **Burlington Gardens**

Open daily 8am – 10pm Sundays 10am – 6pm The Collection Gallery Open daily 10am – 6pm Fridays 10am – 10pm

#### **Images**

For images, please contact the Press Office on <a href="mailto:press.office@royalacademy.org.uk">press.office@royalacademy.org.uk</a>

#### **Social Media**

Join the discussion online at: Facebook /royalacademy Instagram @royalacademyarts Twitter @royalacademy

#### **About the Royal Academy of Arts**

The Royal Academy of Arts was founded by a group of artists and architects, under the patronage of King George III, in 1768. It has a unique position in being an independent, privately funded charity led by eminent artists and architects whose purpose is to promote the creation, understanding and appreciation of the arts through exhibitions, education and debate.

The Royal Academy launched a new campus as part of the celebrations of its 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary year in 2018. Following a transformative redevelopment, designed by the internationally-acclaimed architect Sir David Chipperfield RA and supported by the National Lottery, the new Royal Academy of Arts reveals more of the elements that make the RA unique – sharing with the public historic treasures from its Collection, the work of its Royal Academicians and the Royal Academy Schools, and its role as a centre for learning and

debate about art and architecture – alongside its world-class exhibitions programme. royalacademy.org.uk

#### **RA Collection and Free Displays**

One of the key features of the redevelopment is the new Weston Bridge between Burlington House and Burlington Gardens, uniting the two-acre campus and creating a new route between Piccadilly and Mayfair. The unified campus provides 70% more public space than the RA's original Burlington House footprint, enabling the RA to expand its exhibition and events programme, and to create new and free displays of art and architecture across the campus for visitors year-round. From dedicated galleries and displays exploring its foundation and history in training artists, to changing exhibits and interventions devoted to showcasing contemporary works by Royal Academicians and students at the art school at the heart of the campus. The display of the Royal Academy Collection has been curated by Royal Academicians and designed by renowned museographer Adrien Gardère.

In 2018 a new <u>online platform</u> launched with the aim of opening up the RA Collection to be more accessible to audiences worldwide. Comprising paintings, sculptures, artists' letters and books from the RA Collection, over 10,000 items have been newly digitised with the support of the National Lottery.

For public information, please print 020 7300 8090 or <a href="www.royalacademy.org.uk">www.royalacademy.org.uk</a> Royal Academy of Arts, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1J 0BD

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