

THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS ANNOUNCES THE ROYAL ACADEMICIAN RICHARD WILSON AS THE CO-ORDINATOR FOR THE SUMMER EXHIBITION 2016

13 June – 21 August 2016 Main Galleries

Sponsored by



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The Royal Academy of Arts 248th Summer Exhibition will be co-ordinated by the leading British sculptor and Royal Academician Richard Wilson. The hanging committee for the Summer Exhibition 2016 includes the Royal Academicians Stephen Chambers, Louisa Hutton, Bill Jacklin, Jock McFadyen, David Mach, Cathie Pilkington, David Remfry, Ian Ritchie and Bill Woodrow. The Summer Exhibition, the world's largest open submission exhibition, provides a unique platform for emerging and established artists and architects to showcase their works to an international audience.

Richard Wilson RA is internationally celebrated for his interventions in architectural space which draw their inspiration from the worlds of engineering and construction. Wilson, who has been nominated for the Turner Prize on two occasions, has exhibited for almost forty years around the world. In 2006 he was elected as a member of the Royal Academy. Wilson was one of a select number of artists invited to create a major public work for The Millennium Dome (2000) and the only British artist invited to participate in Echigo-Tsumari Art Triennial, Japan (2000). In April 2014, Wilson unveiled the acclaimed commission *Slipstream* for Heathrow Airport's new Terminal 2.

The Summer Exhibition comprises of a range of media, including painting, printmaking, photography, sculpture, architecture and film. This year the Royal Academy received 12,000 entries, from which a committee of Royal Academicians will make a selection to hang on the walls of the Main Galleries in Burlington House. Over 1,200 artworks will go on display, the majority of which will be for sale offering visitors an opportunity to purchase original artwork by high profile and up-and-coming artists.

One of the founding principles of the Royal Academy of Arts was to 'mount an annual exhibition open to all artists of distinguished merit' to finance the training of young artists in the Royal Academy Schools. The Summer Exhibition has been held every year without interruption since 1769 and continues to play a significant part in raising funds to finance the current students of the RA Schools. The RA Schools is the longest established art school in the UK and offers the only free three-year postgraduate programme in Europe.

Richard Wilson, co-ordinator of the Summer Exhibition 2016, said: "The Summer Exhibition 2016 will be unpredictable, stimulating, and enjoyable with 10 startling rooms of contemporary art submitted from around the world by members, non-members and honorary invitees. Each of the rooms will be hung by a member of the committee, resulting in themes of free speculation, practice or technique. It cannot be over emphasised that profits from the exhibition will go towards funding the postgraduate programme at the RA Schools."

Prizes

Over £50,000 is offered in awards and prizes for every category of work in the Summer Exhibition. The prizes are listed below:

The Royal Academy of Arts Charles Wollaston Award

Established in 1978, the Royal Academy of Arts *Charles Wollaston Award* is, at £25,000, one of the largest and most prestigious art prizes in Britain. Previous winners include: Rose Wylie RA (2015), Wolfgang Tillmans RA (2014), El Anatsui Hon RA (2013), Anselm Kiefer Hon RA (2012), Alison Wilding RA (2011), Yinka Shonibare RA (2010), Jeff Koons Hon RA (2008), Gavin Turk (2007), Jake and Dinos Chapman (2003), Alan Charlton (2002), Marc Quinn (2001), Gerard Hemsworth (2000) and David Hockney RA (1999).

The Jack Goldhill Award: £10,000 for a sculpture.

Turkishceramics Grand Award for Architecture: £10,000 awarded to the most outstanding work of architecture.

The Hugh Casson Drawing Prize: £5,000 for an original work on paper in any medium, where the emphasis is clearly on drawing.

The Sunny Dupree Family Award for a Woman Artist: £4,000 for a painting or sculpture.

The London Original Print Fair Prize, sponsored by Towry: £2,500 for a print in any medium.

The British Institution Awards: Four prizes of £1,000 each awarded to student exhibitors for paintings, works on paper, sculpture and architecture.

The Rose Award for Photography: £1,000 for a photograph or series of photographs.

Sponsor's Statement

Abdallah Nauphal, chief executive officer, Insight Investment said:

"Insight is proud of its long association with the Royal Academy of Arts' Summer Exhibition. The creativity, pursuit of excellence and the diversity of artistic expression on display each year is inspiring and resonates with many of our values. Now in its 248th year, the world's largest open-entry art exhibition is an established part of the both the cultural life of the nation and the summer social calendar. Insight is honoured to play its part in this enduring success."

About Insight Investment

Insight Investment is a leading asset manager focused on designing investment solutions to meet its clients' needs. Founded in 2002, Insight's partnership approach has delivered both investment performance and impressive growth in assets under management. Insight manages £407bn (\$603bn) across liability-driven investment, fixed income & currency, global multi-asset and absolute return, global farmland and specialist equities¹. Insight is owned by BNY Mellon, a global leader in investment management and investment services with \$1.6 trillion in assets under management. The value of investments and any income from them will fluctuate and is not guaranteed (this may be partly due to exchange rate fluctuations). Investors may not get back the full amount invested. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. More information about Insight Investment can be found at: www.insightinvestment.com.

All data as of 31 December 2015.

¹ Assets under management are represented by the value of cash securities and other economic exposure managed for clients. The assets under management figure represents the combined assets under management of Insight Investment Management (Global) Limited, Pareto Investment Management Limited, Insight Investment Funds Management Limited, Cutwater Investor Services Corporation and Cutwater Asset Management Corporation (Cutwater Asset Management). CISC and CAMC are owned by BNY Mellon and operated by Insight.

Dates and Opening Hours

Press View: Tuesday 7 June, 10am – 2pm

Open to public: Monday 13 June – Sunday 21 August 2016

10am – 6pm daily (last admission 5.30pm)

Late night opening: Fridays until 10pm (last admission 9.30pm)

Admission

Admission prices include the List of Works giving details on every exhibit in the show.

Adult ticket £13.50 (£12 excluding Gift Aid donation); concessions available; under 16s go free. Friends of the RA go free.

Tickets

Tickets are available daily at the RA or by visiting www.royalacademy.org.uk.

Group bookings: Groups of 10+ are asked to book in advance. Telephone 020 7300 8027 or email adultgroups@royalacademy.org.uk.

Images

Publicity images for the Summer Exhibition can be obtained from Picselect, the Press Association's image service for press use. Please register at www.picselect.com and once registered go to the Royal Academy of Arts folder in the Arts section of Picselect.

Social Media

Sign up to Royal Academy of Arts social media channels.

Facebook /royalacademy

Instagram @royalacademyarts

Twitter @royalacademy #RASummer

Notes to Editors:

Biographies

Richard Wilson RA
Stephen Chambers RA
Louisa Hutton RA
Bill Jacklin RA
Jock McFadyen RA
David Mach RA
Cathie Pilkington RA
David Remfry RA
lan Ritchie RA
Bill Woodrow RA

Richard Wilson RA

Richard Wilson RA, born in 1953, is one of Britain's leading sculptors and he has exhibited widely both nationally and internationally. The artist's seminal installation 20:50 (1987), a sea of reflective sump oil, was described by the art critic Andrew Graham Dixon as "one of the masterpieces of the modern age" in the BBC television series *The History of British Art*. His international commissions include *A Slice of Reality*, The Millennium Dome (2000), *Turning the Place Over*, Liverpool European Capital of Culture (2008), *The Italian Job*, De La Warr Pavilion (2012) and *Slipstream*, Heathrow Airport Terminal 2 (2014). Wilson has represented Britain in the Sydney, Sao Paulo and Venice Aperto Biennials as well as the Yokohama and Aichi Triennals. In 2004 he was appointed Visiting Research Professor at the University of East London and in 2005 worked with Tate Publishing on their Tate Modern Artists' Book Series. In 2015, he was the first artist in the three-year partnership between The Peninsula Hong Kong and the RA with the installation *Hang on a Minute Lads... I've Got a Great Idea*, a full-sized replica vintage coach teetering on the edge of the hotel's seventh floor. Wilson has recently completed a four year honorary professorship of sculpture at the RA Schools.

About the Royal Academy of Arts

The Royal Academy of Arts was founded by King George III in 1768. It has a unique position in being an independent, privately funded institution led by eminent artists and architects whose purpose is to be a clear, strong voice for art and artists. Its public programme promotes the creation, enjoyment and appreciation of the visual arts through exhibitions, education and debate.

The RA is undergoing a transformative redevelopment which will be completed in time for its 250th anniversary in 2018. Led by the internationally-acclaimed architect Sir David Chipperfield RA and supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), the plans will link Burlington House on Piccadilly and Burlington Gardens for the first time, uniting and revitalising the two-acre site. The redevelopment will also reveal the elements that make the RA unique, sharing with the public the historic treasures in its Collection, the work of its Academicians and the RA Schools, alongside its world-class exhibitions programme.

For public information please print 020 7300 8090 and www.royalacademy.org.uk Royal Academy of Arts, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1J 0BD

For further press information, please contact Monique Kent at the RA Press Office on 020 7300 5615 or press.office@royalacademy.org.uk

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