

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS ELECTS NEW MEMBERS AND ANNOUNCES NEW TRUSTEES

The Royal Academy of Arts elects the sculptors Yinka Shonibare MBE, Tim Shaw and Neil Jeffries as new Members. The Royal Academy Trust announces five new trustees Sir David Cannadine, Adrian Cheng, Sir Keith Mills, Sir Stuart Rose and Iwan Wirth, and one new Honorary Trustee Susan Ho.

ROYAL ACADEMICIANS

Yinka Shonibare MBE (born in 1962, London)

Category of Membership: Sculpture

Yinka Shonibare studied at the Byam Shaw School of Art and Goldsmiths' College. Shonibare's West African heritage has been at the heart of his work since he started exhibiting in 1988, when he began using 'Dutch-wax' dyed fabrics, commonly found in Western Africa, both for wall-mounted works (as pseudo paintings) and for sculpted figures. He was a Turner prize nominee in 2004 and awarded the decoration of Member of the "Most Excellent Order of the British Empire". He was notably commissioned by Okwui Enwezor At Documenta 10 in 2002 to create his most recognised work *Gallantry and Criminal Conversation* that launched him on an international stage. He has exhibited at the Venice Biennial and internationally at leading museums worldwide. In September 2008, his major mid-career survey commenced at the MCA Sydney and toured to the Brooklyn Museum, New York in June 2009 and the Museum of African Art at the Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC in October 2009. In 2010, he won the Wollaston Award for his work *Crash Willy* in the Royal Academy's Summer Exhibition and *Nelson's Ship in a Bottle* became his first public art commission on the Fourth Plinth in Trafalgar Square.

Tim Shaw (born in 1964, Belfast)

Category of Membership: Sculpture

Tim Shaw studied at Manchester Polytechnic and Falmouth School of Art from 1985-89. Working across a range of different mediums, he produces both single entities and all encompassing, multi-sensory installations that utilise sight, sound and smell. He has undertaken a number of public commissions including *The Rites of Dionysos* for the Eden Project, *The Minotaur* for The Royal Opera House and *The Drummer* in Truro City Centre. A more political side to his work became evident in a number of sculptures responding to issues such as terrorism and the war in Iraq such as *Tank on Fire*, awarded the selectors' choice Threadneedle prize in 2008, and the installation *Casting a Dark Democracy*, which Jackie Wullschlager of Financial Times stated was '*The most politically charged yet poetically resonant new work on show in London*'. Shaw has been supported by The Delfina Studio Trust, The British School of Athens and The Kenneth Armitage Foundation through residencies in Greece, Spain and a Fellowship in London.

Neil Jeffries (born in 1959, Bristol)

Category of Membership: Sculpture

Neil Jeffries studied at St Martin's School of Art, 1978-82, and the Slade School of Fine Art, 1982-

84. He has a deep interest in medieval art and the continuing insistence of an awkward figuration fuels his work. He makes painted metal reliefs/sculptures. His subjects include a miscellany of apparently incongruous subjects and concepts, which concern and fascinate him. These might be shapes, stories, points of view, dreamed experience, bumps, holes, corners and edges. Fragments join together and suggest a narrative, others remain separate, but still relevant and compelling. Jeffries started his teaching career at the Slade School of Fine Art in the early 1990's and he continues to have major input into the painting course today. He has won the Wollaston Award in the Royal Academy's Summer Exhibition as well as the Bryan Robertson Award and the Arts Foundation Award.

TRUSTEES OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY TRUST

Sir David Cannadine FBA

Sir David Cannadine FBA is Dodge Professor of History at Princeton University. He is the author of fourteen books, including *The Decline and Fall of the British Aristocracy*, *Class in Britain*, *Ornamentalism* and *Mellon*. His most recent publication is *The Undivided Past*, and he has just completed a biography of King George V. He is a Trustee of the Wolfson Foundation, the Library of Birmingham, the Rothschild Archive, the Gladstone Library and the Gordon Brown Archive. He is the Vice Chair of the Westminster Abbey Fabric Commission and the Editorial Board of Past and Present, a Vice President of the Victorian Society, and a member of the Royal Mint Advisory Committee and the Editorial Board of the History of Parliament. He is a former Chair of the Trustees of the National Portrait Gallery and of the Blue Plaques Panel, and has served as a Commissioner of English Heritage, a Trustee of the Kennedy Memorial Trust, and a Trustee of the British Empire and Commonwealth Museum. Sir David makes frequent appearances on radio and television and is a regular contributor to BBC Radio 4's 'A Point of View' programme.

Adrian Cheng

Adrian Cheng is a board director of the National Museum of China Foundation and a member of the Visiting Committee of Department of Asian Art of The Metropolitan Museum of Art, TATE's Asia Pacific Acquisitions Committee, International Circle of Centre Pompidou and the Dean's Council at Harvard Kennedy School. A Harvard graduate, he founded K11 Art Foundation, a not-for-profit organisation in Hong Kong, to incubate young emerging artists from Greater China and to promote art for the masses through workshops, seminars, and artist-in-residence programmes. He founded Arts in Heritage Research, an NGO that focuses on local art heritage conservation and cultural journalism. He is Executive Director of Chow Tai Fook Jewellery Group Limited, Executive Director and Joint General Manager of New World Development Company Limited, and Executive Director of certain subsidiaries of the Group. He is also a Non-Executive Director of Modern Media, a leading art and culture media company in China that owns publications such as Numéro, LEAP and The Art Newspaper.

Susan Ho (Honorary Trustee)

Susan is a partner and head of the Hong Kong office of Brunswick Group, where she advises clients on building, managing and protecting their brand and reputation. She joined Brunswick in 2011 following a long career in Standard Chartered Bank in its retail and corporate banking business as well as technology and marketing functions. In her role as Global Head of Brand, Susan was instrumental in the bank's "Here for good" reposition and its shirt sponsorship of Liverpool FC. Prior to banking, Susan began her international career in New York, and has worked in London, Hong

Kong, Singapore and the Asia region. She also sits on the Board of AFS (American Field Service) Intercultural Exchanges Hong Kong. Susan is Malaysian Chinese and a classical pianist.

Sir Keith Mills

Sir Keith Mills founded Air Miles International Group BV (AMIG) in 1988 and was the former Chairman of Loyalty Management Group Ltd (LMG). In September 2003 he was appointed International President and CEO of London 2012, leading the bid for the 2012 Olympic Games along with Lord Coe and remaining as Deputy Chairman to oversee operations. He is also a non-executive director of Tottenham Hotspur Plc and a director and investor in a number of small private companies. He has received a number of awards including Master Entrepreneur of the Year, Chief Executive of the Year and the Sports Industry Businessman of the Year. He owns two yacht racing teams, TEAMORIGIN and AT Racing, and chairs two charitable sport for development foundations, the Olympic International Inspiration programme and the UK Sported programme. He was appointed Deputy Lieutenant of Kent in September 2008 and in 2013 was awarded the Knight Grand Cross of the Order of the British Empire for delivering a successful Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Sir Stuart Rose

Stuart Rose has worked in retail for over forty years starting at Marks & Spencer plc in 1971 and joining the Burton Group in 1989. Following the Group's demerger in 1997 he became Chief Executive of Argos plc. In 1998 he became Chief Executive of Booker plc which was merged with the Iceland Group in 2000. He became Chief Executive of Arcadia Group plc in November 2000 and left in December 2002 following its acquisition by Sir Philip Green. He was named Chief Executive of Marks & Spencer plc in May 2004 and became Chairman in 2008. He stood down as Chairman in January 2011. He was Chairman of The British Fashion Council from 2004 – 2008, Chairman of Business in the Community from 2008 – 2010, and is a non-executive director of Land Securities plc, and Woolworths (South Africa). He is currently Chairman of Ocado, Fat Face, Blue Inc and Dressipi. Stuart was knighted in 2008 for services to the retail industry and corporate social responsibility.

Iwan Wirth

Iwan Wirth is co-founder of Hauser & Wirth, an internationally renowned gallery of contemporary and modern art with spaces in Zurich, London and New York. The gallery was founded in Zurich in 1992 and is now a global enterprise representing over 50 established and emerging artists and estates including: Phyllida Barlow, Louise Bourgeois, Martin Creed, Eva Hesse & Paul McCarthy. In 2014 Hauser & Wirth will open a gallery and arts centre at the historic site of Durslade Farm in Bruton, Somerset. Hauser Wirth & Schimmel, a new Los Angeles arts space, will open in 2015.

Wirth is a member of a number of committees including the Swiss Cultural Fund in Britain, the Frieze Masters selection committee, and the South Asian Acquisitions Committee at Tate. Wirth is strongly committed to a range of charities supporting the arts, the environment, community and education. With his wife, Manuela Wirth, he recently announced his support of a teaching and research post at The Courtauld Institute of Art, London, in the field of Asian modern and contemporary art.

Notes to Editors:

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 Royal Academy of Arts is governed by 80 Royal Academicians who are all practising painters, sculptors, engravers, printmakers, draughtsmen and architects. On reaching the age of 75 they become Senior Academicians thus initiating vacancies for new Members. Elections are held at regular meetings of the General Assembly, when new Members are voted in by existing RAs.

The Royal Academy Trust is a registered charity (Registered charity number 1067270) founded in 1981 for the maintenance, development, advancement and preservation of the Royal Academy of Arts. The Trust manages the Trust Fund and the Trustees help to raise money to support and promote the objectives. The Trust supports all areas of the Royal Academy's work including the exhibition programme, RA Schools, education programme, the Academy's Collection and the Burlington Project. The Trust is chaired by Lord Davies and currently consists of 24 members including the President of the Royal Academy and the Treasurer of the Royal Academy.

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