

## THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS ANNOUNCES NEW AND EXPANDED EVENTS PROGRAMME, INAUGURATING NEW SPACES FOR DEBATE AND LEARNING IN ITS 250<sup>TH</sup> YEAR

- **Inaugural lecture by architect Sir David Chipperfield RA will launch new Benjamin West Lecture Theatre.**
- **New events programme will include 10-day RA Festival of Ideas, Rothschild Foundation Lecture, Architecture Awards Week and The Successful Artist? series.**
- **Clore Learning Centre will provide a permanent home for expanded Learning offer for all age groups.**
- **Wolfson British Academy room supported by the Wolfson Foundation will provide a dedicated home for RA Academic Programmes.**

The Royal Academy of Arts announces a new and expanded public programme of events for 2018, ahead of the unveiling of its transformed campus on Saturday 19 May 2018 and as part of the celebrations of its 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. The new 250-seat double-height Benjamin West Lecture Theatre will become a hub for conversation and lively debate, while the Clore Learning Centre will provide a permanent home for the RA's ambitious Learning Programme of talks and workshops for schools, families and community groups, as well as courses and classes for adult learners.

The transformative redevelopment of the RA, led by David Chipperfield Architects and supported by the National Lottery, will link Burlington House and Burlington Gardens for the first time, uniting the two-acre campus. This will provide 70% more space than the RA's original Burlington House footprint, enabling the RA to increase its events and exhibition programme as well as creating new and free displays of art and architecture across the campus for visitors year-round.

Learning has been at the heart of the Royal Academy since 1768 with its founding principle to deliver a public programme that promotes the creation, enjoyment and appreciation of the visual arts through exhibitions, education and debate. Today, the RA's programme of events engages with diverse audiences in the practice and study of art and architecture through creative, hands-on experiences, involving people in exploring and debating art of the past and the present, and working with community groups to bring the RA to new audiences, widening their participation in the arts. A range of academic programmes including courses and classes at the RA offer opportunities for learning from arts professionals and practitioners.

**Tim Marlow, Artistic Director at the Royal Academy of Arts, said:** "The new Benjamin West Lecture Theatre, Clore Learning Centre and the Wolfson British Academy Room will enable us to significantly expand our public programming in 2018 and beyond, animating our new campus with a rich, diverse and inspiring programme of talks, festivals, tours and events for all ages. The RA has always been a hub for learning and debate and alongside consolidating our role as an institution for

artists and architects, we have the opportunity to reach the broadest possible audience, helping us realise our mission to promote the understanding, appreciation and practice of art and architecture.”

### **Inaugural Lecture with David Chipperfield RA, 21 May**

To celebrate the Royal Academy’s 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the launch of the new Royal Academy, Sir David Chipperfield RA will give the inaugural address in the Benjamin West Lecture Theatre.

### **The Successful Artist?, 21 - 23 June**

This series of events, supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, will explore who and what defines a successful artist today. The series will feature panel discussions, roundtables, a creative surgery and an artist manifesto workshop with contributors including Head of RA Schools Eliza Bonham Carter, artist Yinka Shonibare MBE RA and artist-run organisation Auto Italia South East.

### **Architecture Awards Week, 2 - 6 July**

A week-long public celebration of architecture will include the live announcement of the Royal Academy Dorfman Award winner on Wednesday 4 July, and an address on Monday 2 July by Japanese architect Itsuko Hasegawa, recipient of the first Royal Academy Architecture Prize, generously supported by The Dorfman Foundation. The awards, alongside the new Architecture Studio within The Dorfman Senate Room and reinvigorated Architecture programme, will place the RA at the heart of a global discourse on architecture and the key role it plays in our society.

### **RA Festival of Ideas, 7 - 16 September**

The 10-day festival will play host to a meeting of great minds from across the spheres of art, architecture, literature, design, dance and music for ten days of electric debate and discussion. Headline speakers including musician and artist Goldie; artistic director of English National Ballet Tamara Rojo; artist and designer Es Devlin; Charlie & Lola author and illustrator, and Waterstones Children’s Laureate Lauren Child; artist and Royal Academician Gilbert & George; and Man Booker Prize winning novelist Howard Jacobson, will discuss their creative practice, and share ideas on current cultural, social and political themes. Building on the RA’s heritage of rigorous debate, the festival will explore culture, creativity and critical thinking through a series of interviews, conversations and panel discussions as well as offering a range of family workshops in the Clore Learning Centre.

### **The Rothschild Foundation Lecture, 17 September**

This year’s annual Rothschild Foundation Lecture will be with Dr Demis Hassabis, Co-Founder & CEO of DeepMind, a neuroscience-inspired AI company which develops general-purpose learning algorithms and uses them to help tackle some of the world’s most pressing challenges. The Rothschild Lecture is the first in a series of annual lectures, generously supported by the Rothschild Foundation.

### **RA250 Birthday Party, 8 December**

To conclude the celebrations of the RA’s 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the RA250 Birthday Party will be curated in partnership with University of the Arts London. The festivities comprise artist installations, performances, creative activities, film screenings and immersive experiences across the campus.

### **In-Conversations**

Audiences will be able to connect with some of the world’s most celebrated artists and architects, through a series of In-Conversations, discussing their practice and career. Highlights will feature award-winning artist and co-ordinator of this year’s 250<sup>th</sup> Summer Exhibition, Grayson Perry RA in

conversation with the Royal Academy's Artistic Director Tim Marlow (Wednesday 13 June) and Philosopher Jacques Rancière in conversation with architect and Royal Academician Farshid Moussavi (Monday 8 October).

### **RA Learning Programme**

The RA's expanded Learning Programme will provide audiences with an in-depth insight into the RA, its Collection and buildings with free introductory tours to the new RA, along with thematic cross-campus tours focusing on the RA Collection and taster talks exploring individual works of art, objects or architectural elements, supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

### **RA Schools**

Visitors can learn more about the RA Schools and the UK's only free post-graduate course through in-gallery talks and discussions in the Weston Studio, led by the RA Schools' students.

### **Free events for Families, Schools, and Community Partners**

A series of Clore Learning Centre free workshops for primary, secondary and SEND schools and FE colleges, supported by Boeing. Together with monthly family drop-in sessions and holiday family workshops, as well as workshops for the RA's many community partners, these free events will enable all age groups to be inspired by the RA and enjoy the practice of making art.

### **RA Academic Programmes**

An innovative programme of adult courses and classes includes the history of theory of art, art business and practice, led by world-renowned art world professionals, international scholars, RA experts and Royal Academicians. These will be held in the new Wolfson British Academy Room and activities will range from developing practical skills in life drawing, oil painting and new media, to learning about fundraising in the arts, collections management and connoisseurship. There will also be a selection of six-day intensive summer courses on offer in July and September exploring curating today, teaching methods pioneered by the RA Schools, and the practice and theory of colour and light.

### **Exhibitions programme**

A series of talks and events will also accompany the Royal Academy's 2018 exhibition programme: *Tacita Dean: LANDSCAPE, Summer Exhibition 2018, The Great Spectacle: 250 Years of the Summer Exhibition, Renzo Piano, Oceania and Klimt / Schiele: Drawings from the Albertina Museum, Vienna.*

**Further details and events will be announced online in due course.**

### **Notes to Editors**

#### **New Royal Academy of Arts**

#### **Dates and Opening Hours**

Press Launch: Monday 14 May 2018, 10am – 2pm.

Open to public: Saturday 19 May 2018, open daily 10am – 6pm (last admission 5.30pm) and

Fridays until 10pm (last admission 9.30pm)

#### **Social Media**

Join the discussion online at:

Facebook /royalacademy  
Instagram @royalacademyarts  
Twitter @royalacademy  
#RA250  
#TheNewRA



### **BNY Mellon, Anniversary Partner of the Royal Academy of Arts**

BNY Mellon's 11-year partnership with the Royal Academy of Arts has spanned many projects and in 2018 we are pleased to be the RA's Anniversary Partner as it celebrates its 250<sup>th</sup> year.

#### **About BNY Mellon**

BNY Mellon is a global investments company dedicated to helping its clients manage and service their financial assets throughout the investment lifecycle. Whether providing financial services for institutions, corporations or individual investors, BNY Mellon delivers informed investment management and investment services in 35 countries and more than 100 markets. As of Dec. 31, 2017, BNY Mellon had \$33.3 trillion in assets under custody and/or administration, and \$1.9 trillion in assets under management. BNY Mellon can act as a single point of contact for clients looking to create, trade, hold, manage, service, distribute or restructure investments. BNY Mellon is the corporate brand of The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation (NYSE: BK). Additional information is available on [www.bnymellon.com](http://www.bnymellon.com). Follow us on Twitter @BNYMellon or visit our newsroom at [www.bnymellon.com/newsroom](http://www.bnymellon.com/newsroom) for the latest company news.

#### **About Boeing**

The Royal Academy's partnership with Boeing supports an outstanding programme of practical workshops for primary, secondary and further education students. Through these workshops students develop their art and design skills, gain confidence in expressing their own ideas and opinions and see themselves as creative individuals. For more information visit [www.boeing.co.uk](http://www.boeing.co.uk) or follow us on Twitter @BoeingUK

#### **About The Clore Duffield Foundation**

The Clore Duffield Foundation is a grant-making charity which supports cultural learning, the creation of learning spaces within arts and heritage organisations, leadership training, and enhancing Jewish life. The Foundation has been distributing funds to charities since 1964. Founded by Sir Charles Clore, the Foundation is now chaired by his daughter, Dame Vivien Duffield. For more information visit: [www.cloreduffield.org.uk](http://www.cloreduffield.org.uk)

#### **About Lloyd Dorfman CBE**

Lloyd Dorfman is an entrepreneur and philanthropist. His family foundation supports charities in a range of areas. This gift to the Royal Academy is one of a number of recent gifts totalling around £10 million to charities including Great Ormond Street Hospital, the Royal Opera House, Westminster Abbey, Prince's Trust, Prince's Trust International and JCoSS (a Jewish secondary school in north London).

He sits on the boards of a number of charities, including the Royal Academy Trust and chairing the Prince's Trust. As an entrepreneur, he founded Travelex, is Chairman of Duddle and has significant investments in The Office Group and several other companies. He sits on the boards of a number of charities, including the Royal Academy Trust and chairing the Prince's Trust. As an entrepreneur, he founded Travelex, is Chairman of Duddle and has significant investments in The Office Group and several other companies. In 2008, he was appointed CBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours list for services to business and charity. In 2011, he was awarded The Prince of Wales Medal for Arts Philanthropy. As of 2017, he sits on the Business Advisory Board of the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan. He is a Freeman of Mercers' Company, an Honorary Fellow of St Peter's College, Oxford, and an Honorary Bencher of Lincoln's Inn. He is married with three children, five grandchildren, and lives in London.

### **About the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF)**

Thanks to National Lottery players, we invest money to help people across the UK explore, enjoy and protect the heritage they care about - from the archaeology under our feet to the historic parks and buildings we love, from precious memories and collections to rare wildlife. [www.hlf.org.uk](http://www.hlf.org.uk). Follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) and use #HLFsupported and #NationalLottery.

### **About Rothschild Foundation**

The Rothschild Foundation was established in 2010 and represents the consolidation of three previous Rothschild charitable trusts. Over its first seven years, the Foundation has given away over £45 million to Waddesdon Manor, Buckinghamshire, and many other charitable causes.

Providing grant funding is one of the ways in which the Foundation supports work within its policy areas. The Foundation is interested in using the freedom that comes with being an independent funder to support new and innovative ideas that address challenges in the fields of arts and heritage, education, social welfare and the environment. Much of this is proactive, with the Foundation identifying and working with charities doing exciting work in these areas.

The grant-making strategy also supports charities delivering work in its policy areas, in particular arts and heritage, at a national level especially where this is in leading centres of excellence and of national or international importance.

[www.rothschildfoundation.org.uk](http://www.rothschildfoundation.org.uk)

### **Transforming the Royal Academy of Arts**

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 National Lottery, the plans will link Burlington House on Piccadilly and Burlington Gardens for the first time, uniting the two-acre site. The redevelopment also includes the conservation of the façade of 6 Burlington Gardens, refurbished galleries for temporary exhibitions, the RA Collection and the RA Schools, new spaces for our Academic and Learning programmes and improved visitor facilities. For more information on the RA visit <https://roy.ac/ra250video>.

The redevelopment has been funded with a £12.7 million grant from the National Lottery. Major support has also been received from a number of private individuals, including Mrs Gabrielle Jungels-Winkler, Ronald and Rita McAulay, The McLennan Family, the Mead Family Foundation, Mr and Mrs Robert Miller and Sir Simon and Lady Robertson, as well as trusts and foundations including The

Blavatnik Family Foundation, The Clore Duffield Foundation, The Dorfman Foundation, Dunard Fund, The Foyle Foundation, The Garfield Weston Foundation, The Maurice Wohl Charitable Foundation, The Monument Trust, The Rothschild Foundation and The Wolfson Foundation.

The Royal Academy of Arts has launched a public appeal 'Make Your Mark' to raise £3 million to help complete its transformative redevelopment, realise the ambitious plans for its 250th anniversary in 2018 and to ensure the next 250 years of the Academy as Britain's foremost independent, artist and architect-led institution. For further information visit: <https://roy.ac/mym>

**For public information please print: 020 7300 8090 and [www.royalacademy.org.uk](http://www.royalacademy.org.uk)  
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**For further press information, please contact Annabel Potter at the RA Press Office on 020 7300 5615 or [annabel.potter@royalacademy.org.uk](mailto:annabel.potter@royalacademy.org.uk)**

**23.02.18**