



REBECCA SALTER ELECTED NEW PRESIDENT OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS

The Royal Academy of Arts announced today that Rebecca Salter has been elected the 27th President of the Royal Academy. She succeeds Christopher Le Brun PRA who has stepped down after serving eight years in the role.

Salter was elected by her fellow Royal Academicians at a General Assembly meeting. Her appointment has received formal approval from Her Majesty The Queen. Salter is the first female President in the Royal Academy's 251-year history.

Rebecca Salter PRA was elected Royal Academician in 2014 in the category of Printmaker. In 2017 she became Keeper of the Royal Academy with the responsibility of guiding the RA Schools.

Rebecca Salter, President of the Royal Academy said: "I am so honoured to have been elected President of the Royal Academy. The RA is unique, a place shaped by artists and architects. Its exhibitions are world-class and we teach the artists of the future in the RA Schools. This is a tremendously exciting time to become President following the recent 250th anniversary expansion. I look forward to working with my fellow Academicians, our staff and our many supporters to help the RA to evolve while keeping art, architecture and debate at the heart of what we do."

Axel Rüger, Secretary and Chief Executive of the Royal Academy said: "I am delighted that Rebecca Salter is the new President of the Royal Academy. With a long career as a respected artist, and an in-depth knowledge of the Royal Academy through her position as Keeper, Rebecca will bring a wealth of experience to the role. I look forward to working with her."

Rebecca Salter PRA

Rebecca Salter studied at Bristol Polytechnic and then at Kyoto City University of the Arts in Japan, where she lived for six years. While living in Kyoto, Salter studied traditional Japanese woodblock printing with Professor Kurosaki Akira and has since written two books on the subject. Her interest in printmaking is combined with her main practice in painting. Until 2016 she was Associate Lecturer on the MA Printmaking Course at Camberwell College of Art, University of the Arts, London. Salter exhibits regularly in London and internationally, and in 2011 she had a major retrospective *into the light of things* at Yale Center for British Art, Connecticut. A monograph was published to coincide with the show. An accompanying exhibition at Yale University Art Gallery explored links between Western artists and Japan. She has also been artist in residence twice (2003 and 2011) at the Josef and Anni Albers Foundation, Connecticut. Salter has undertaken several architectural commissions including 15 Sackville Street, London W1, St George's Hospital, Tooting and NGS Macmillan Cancer Unit, Chesterfield Royal Hospital. She has work in many private and public collections including Tate, British Museum, Yale Center for British Art and Yale University Art Gallery. Salter was elected as a Royal Academician to the category of Printmaker in December 2014 and, in June 2017, was elected as the Keeper of the Royal Academy.

Past Presidents of the Royal Academy

Sir Joshua Reynolds	1768–1792	Sir William Llewellyn	1928-1938
Benjamin West	1792–1805	Sir Edwin Lutyens	1938-1944
James Wyatt	1805-1806	Sir Alfred Munnings	1944-1949
Benjamin West	1806-1820	Sir Gerald Kelly	1949-1954
Sir Thomas Lawrence	1820-1830	Sir Albert Richardson	1954-1956
Sir Martin Archer Shee	1830-1850	Sir Charles Wheeler	1956-1966
Sir Charles Lock Eastlake	1850-1865	Sir Thomas Monnington	1966-1976
Sir Francis Grant	1866-1878	Sir Hugh Casson	1976-1984
Lord Leighton	1878-1896	Sir Roger de Grey	1984-1993
Sir John Everett Millais	1896	Sir Philip Dowson	1993-1999
Sir Edward J. Poynter	1896-1918	Professor Phillip King	1999-2004
Sir Aston Webb	1919-1924	Sir Nicholas Grimshaw	2004-2011
Sir Frank Dicksee	1924-1928	Christopher Le Brun	2011-2019

Key

RA Royal Academician

PRA President of the Royal Academy

PPRA Past President of the Royal Academy

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 has launched a new campus as part of the celebrations of its 250th anniversary year. 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

The Royal Academy of Arts is governed by up to 80 Royal Academicians who are all practising artists or 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 President of the Royal Academy is elected by fellow Royal Academicians. The President must be under 75 and cannot be in office for more than 10 consecutive years. The President is the RA's formal representative and presides over General Assembly and Council, the Academy's governing body.

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