



## **THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS REVEALS NEW HOARDING DESIGNS FOR BURLINGTON GARDENS, CREATED BY LOCAL STUDENTS WITH SUPPORT FROM RICHARD WILSON RA AND THE HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND**

The Royal Academy of Arts has partnered with local students to design a section of the scaffold hoarding which will cover the façade of Burlington Gardens throughout the Royal Academy's transformative redevelopment. The students created the design with artist Diana Taylor, alongside advice from Royal Academician Richard Wilson, and funding provided by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). The final hoarding artwork will be revealed to the public on **24 February 2016**.

The eye-catching designs will feature on the exterior and interior hoardings of the pedestrian tunnel, measuring 23.8m in length, located outside the RA on Burlington Gardens and will remain in situ throughout the building works until 2017. The designs are the culmination of work by 24 selected students from three Further Education colleges; City of Westminster, Kensington & Chelsea and City & Islington and 30 primary school students from the Gateway Academy. The renowned sculptor Richard Wilson RA gave talks about his work to share his practice, provide advice and give encouragement to the Further Education students. The final, large-scale artwork highlights the richness of the RA's architecture using an array of architectural source material, such as plans, elevations, façades and ornamental features, combined with objects and frames influenced by the RA Collections. The design comprises traditional methods including painting, drawing, photography, collage, screen-printing and mono-printing, inspired by the work and techniques of Royal Academicians.

The RA's Learning Department commissioned freelance artist educator Diana Taylor to design, structure and lead the workshops for the students. Taylor digitised and amalgamated the students' designs to create the cohesive artwork that will be exhibited on the hoarding. The project has been an opportunity for young artists to develop their creative practice and contribute to a work publicly displayed at the Royal Academy.

### **Notes to Editors**

#### **Learning at the Royal Academy of Arts**

The Royal Academy is a unique organisation that remains true to its origins in 1768 as a place where art is made, exhibited and debated. The RA's Learning Department fulfils this objective by engaging people in the practice of art through hands-on creative experiences, involving people in questioning, exploring and debating the art of the past and the present, and by working together with community groups to bring the RA to hard-to-reach audiences.

The Access programme welcomes people with disabilities, their carers, family members and friends to learn about art at the RA with a programme of multisensory gallery tours, accessible talks and creative workshops. Workshops for teachers enable teachers to refresh and develop their experience and understanding of art and art practice and the Family Programme creates a warm, welcoming environment for families to learn about and make art together.

Tours and workshops for students give primary, secondary and SEN students the opportunity to learn about the outstanding works of art on view at the RA, to enhance and expand their knowledge of the practice of art and to inspire their own creativity. For older students, the attRAct programme offers London-based A-level art students the chance to engage with art through a specially designed programme of workshops, exhibition tours, studio visits, mentoring sessions in the RA schools, gallery visits and careers and portfolio advice. The A-level Summer Exhibition Online also provides a venue to showcase outstanding works of art by A-level students from throughout the UK.

As part of the redevelopment, a new Clore Learning Centre has been announced and will be created on the ground floor of Burlington Gardens providing space for the RA's ambitious learning programmes. It will be designed to attract school children, families, local communities and the general public to engage in the making of art, enabling participation in creative learning to continue on a larger scale.

### **About Richard Wilson RA**

Born in London in 1953, Richard Wilson RA is one of Britain's most renowned sculptors. He is internationally celebrated for his interventions in architectural space, which draw heavily from the worlds of engineering and construction. Twice nominated for the Turner Prize (in 1988 and 1989), his most notable works include *20:50* (1987), *A Slice of Reality* (2000), *Turning the Place Over* (2007), as well as installing one of the largest public sculptures on permanent display in Europe, *Slipstream* (2014), at Heathrow Airport's newly opened Terminal 2 Building. In 2015, Wilson 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.

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

From the archaeology to the historic parks and buildings, from precious memories and collections to rare wildlife, the Heritage Lottery Fund uses National Lottery players' money to help people across the UK explore, enjoy and protect the heritage they care about. [www.hlf.org.uk](http://www.hlf.org.uk).

### **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 250<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **Social Media**

Join the discussion about the exhibition online at:

Facebook /royalacademy  
Instagram @royalacademyarts  
Twitter @royalacademy  
#RA250

**For further press information, please contact Binita Dave on 020 7300 5615 or [binita.dave@royalacademy.org.uk](mailto:binita.dave@royalacademy.org.uk)**

**For public information, please contact 0207 300 8090 and [www.royalacademy.org.uk](http://www.royalacademy.org.uk)  
Royal Academy of Arts, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1J OBD**

**10/02/16**