



## THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS ANNOUNCES THE 252<sup>nd</sup> SUMMER EXHIBITION COMMITTEE WITH JANE AND LOUISE WILSON RA AS CO-ORDINATORS

### Summer Exhibition 2020

Main Galleries and The McAulay Gallery

9 June – 16 August 2020

Sponsored by



➤ BNY MELLON | INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

Jane and Louise Wilson RA will co-ordinate the 252<sup>nd</sup> Summer Exhibition in 2020, the first time it will be curated by an artistic duo. The Summer Exhibition Committee members are Royal Academicians Sonia Boyce, Eileen Cooper, Richard Deacon, Stephen Farthing, Isaac Julien and David Remfry. David Adjaye will curate the Architecture Gallery. The committee will be chaired by the new President of the Royal Academy, Rebecca Salter.

Jane and Louise Wilson said: “We’re very excited to be co-ordinating this year’s Summer Exhibition alongside fellow RAs. The Summer Exhibition is one of the very rare occasions where exhibition entry is open to the entire public and we want to encourage all kinds of practitioners working in all media to submit alongside art students, art teachers, self-employed artists and Academicians. A group exhibition on this scale can represent an untold multiple; it invites us to think about ratios and relations. But more specifically it can challenge the definition of what community is, and what forms collective communities can begin to look like. Particular themes this year will reflect upon identity, immigration, contested borders, ecological threat, climate change, pro-democracy protest, landscape, installation, painting, film, digital, photography and sculpture. The work in this exhibition will accommodate all disciplines contrasting visual languages and media together.”

The Summer Exhibition is the world’s largest open submission contemporary art show which has taken place every year without interruption since 1769. The members of the Summer Exhibition Committee serve in rotation, ensuring that every year the exhibition has a distinctive character, with each Royal Academician responsible for a particular gallery space. Works from all over the world are judged democratically on merit and the final selection is made during the eight-day hang within the galleries.

The Royal Academy now invites artists and architects to take part and submit their work for a chance for it to feature in the 252<sup>nd</sup> Summer Exhibition: [summer.royalacademy.org.uk](http://summer.royalacademy.org.uk). Entries will open on Monday 6 January and the submission deadline is Monday 17 February 2020. The RA expects to receive up to 15,000 entries. Around 1200 works, in a range of media, will go on display from June 2020, the majority of which will be for sale offering visitors an opportunity to purchase original work. Funds raised continue to contribute to finance the postgraduate students studying at the RA Schools.

## **Sponsor's Statement**

Abdallah Nauphal, Chief Executive Officer, Insight Investment said: "Our association with the Summer Exhibition has continued now for more than a decade and we always look forward to it with anticipation as one of the most colourful and inspiring cultural highlights of the year. As the world's largest open-entry competition, it creates an excellent forum for artists from all walks of life to exhibit their work on an international stage. The exhibition celebrates creativity and can be both challenging and subversive, attracting exciting work from new and established artists alike. We hope everyone will have a chance to share in this experience."

## **Summer Exhibition 2020 Committee Royal Academician biographies**

David Adjaye

Sonia Boyce

Eileen Cooper

Richard Deacon

Stephen Farthing

Isaac Julien

David Remfry

Rebecca Salter

Jane and Louise Wilson

## **Dates and Opening Hours**

**Press View:** Tuesday 2 June 2020, 10am – 1pm

Open to public: Tuesday 9 June – Sunday 16 August 2020  
10am – 6pm daily (last admission 5.30pm)

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

## **History of the Summer Exhibition**

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 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. As the world's largest open submission contemporary art show, the Summer Exhibition provides a unique platform for emerging and established artists to showcase their works to an international audience, comprising a range of media from painting and printmaking to photography, sculpture, architecture and film. Royal Academicians are automatically entitled to submit up to six works to the Summer Exhibition and the rest of the exhibition features work by those invited by the committee and external entrants.

## **Social Media**

Join the discussion about the exhibition online at:

Facebook /royalacademy

Instagram @royalacademyarts

Twitter @royalacademy

#RASummer

## **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 launched a new campus as part of the celebrations of its 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary year in 2018. 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](http://Royalacademy.org.uk)

**For public information, please print: 020 7300 8090 or [www.royalacademy.org.uk](http://www.royalacademy.org.uk)**

**Royal Academy of Arts, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1J 0BD**

**For further press information, please contact Annabel Potter on 020 7300 5615 or [annabel.potter@royalacademy.org.uk](mailto:annabel.potter@royalacademy.org.uk)**

**18.12.19**