

# RSA 2023



# Annual Review

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# Overview

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The Royal Scottish Academy's annual programme of activities is as wide and varied as one can imagine. Our most visible activity is our year-round programme of contemporary exhibitions in the grand Royal Scottish Academy building on Princes Street in Edinburgh. However, the workload completed each year reaches far wider than one may expect. In 2023 we disbursed a total of £366,943 directly to artists through our various support and earned-income streams.

The Royal Scottish Academy of Art and Architecture is a charity registered in Scotland. We are fully independent and so we self-finance our activities. We achieve our aims to support Scottish contemporary art and architecture by asking widely for everyone and anyone to become a Friend or a Patron. We also achieve these aims through partnerships with the museums, galleries and studio workshops sector who help us to assist artists make and exhibit new works. We welcome artists or architects who want to engage with our open opportunities and exhibitions programmes, as well as gallery visitors who enjoy these exhibitions and perhaps take the steps towards buying and collecting Scottish contemporary art for their homes and offices, which in turn assists artists with building their careers. We welcome events attendees to listen and learn about art and architectural practice. We reach around the world with our digital platforms – busily presenting and promoting Scottish art. We align with clients that are keen for our Art Consultancy team to assist them grow and catalogue their own collections. We encourage researchers, curators and academics to investigate, talk about and publish items about our historic and contemporary Collections - Collections which are Recognised as being of National Significance by the Scottish Government. We warmly welcome and encourage collectors or supporters whose gifts of art and funds will, through their legacies, assist artists' careers into the future. We reach out to Trusts and Foundations to recognise and support the experienced way in which we manage funds to enable the very best of new Scottish practice in art and architecture. Then there are the artists and architects whom we aim to inspire, nurture and support - the children, students, graduates. The working artists of all ages and at any stage in their career. We are here for you all. A place to be involved in as little or as much as you need to.

There is so much... Oh yes, so very much. This overview presentation goes some way to showcasing just the highlights of our the activities in 2023. It also introduces the Academy and the Academicians, the staff team and the structures and opportunities across our broad range. Sadly, it also serves as a memorial to the Academicians we have lost during this year. Those whom have voluntarily given so much of their time and energy to assist the Academy and its Collections to push forward. We thank them and will miss them.

As we head into 2024, and looking not too far distantly at our bi-centenary in 2026, there is yet so much to do. Well, it just wouldn't be right if there wasn't...

If you haven't done so already, then now is the time to join in with the excitement! We welcome you aboard.

**Colin R Greenslade, Director**

# Exhibitions

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**Into the Distance: The RSA Barns-Graham Travel Award**  
14 January - 1 March 2023

**RSA New Contemporaries 2023**  
18 March - 16 April 2023

**The 197th RSA Annual Exhibition**  
6 May - 11 June 2023

**Elemental: Recent RSA Residencies for Scotland Artists**  
24 June - 23 July 2023

**Reveal: Three Contemporary Artists Respond to Dürer's  
Apocalypse and Goya's Los Caprichos**  
24 June - 23 July 2023

**A Journey Shared: Elizabeth Blackadder and John Houston**  
29 July - 10 September 2023

**Graeme Todd: The Dream Lasted Well Into The Evening**  
23 September - 5 November 2023

**In Residence: New work from RSA Residencies for Scotland Artists**  
23 September - 5 November 2023

**William Gillies: Modernism and Nation**  
9 December 2023 - 28 January 2024



# Into the Distance

The RSA Barns-Graham Travel Award



14 January - 1 March | Finlay Room and Members Lobby

An exhibition revisiting the wealth of talent this major travel award has supported over the past 17 years.

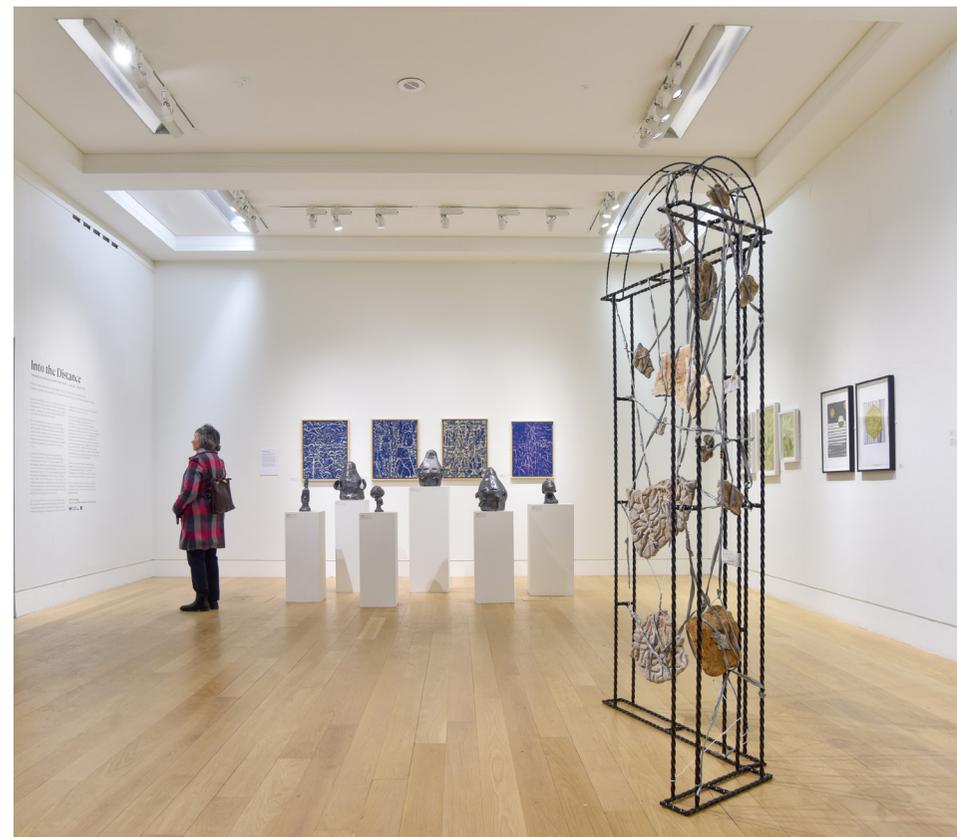
## Exhibitors:

Richard Goldsworthy, Mina Heydari-Waite, Martin Hill, Mair Hughes, Gabriele Jogelaite, Geri Loup Nolan, Tim Sandys, Shipei Wang, Aleksandra Zawada, with work by Wilhelmina Barns-Graham courtesy of the Barns-Graham Trust.

Total visitor figures: 63,066

Average daily figures: 1,342

Event: Artist Talk with exhibitors Paige Silverman, Martin Hill, Aleksandra Zawada and Geri Loup Nolan



# RSA New Contemporaries

18 March - 16 April | Upper and Lower Galleries



*Visitors can look forward to being surprised and moved by the eclectic methods and innovations used in the production of these meaningful artworks. - Chloe Burrell, The Courier*

# RSA New Contemporaries

Convenor: Annie Cattrell RSA

Deputy Convenor: Rab Bennetts RSA

Hanging Committee: Anne Bevan RSA, Kate Downie RSA, Kenny Hunter RSA, Keith McIntyre RSA, Louise Scullion RSA

Number of exhibitors: 57

Total visitor figures: 37,416

Average daily figures: 1,249

Viewing room page views: 2,600

Number of tickets sold (on charged days): 11,476

Publication: 230 sold



RSA New Contemporaries 2023 was supported once again by Exhibition Patrons Walter Scott & Partners Ltd. The Skinny was our Media Partner and Glenfiddich was drinks sponsor and a major award giver.

WALTER SCOTT

**THE SKINNY**  
INDEPENDENT CULTURAL JOURNALISM

  
Glenfiddich

# RSA New Contemporaries

## Exhibiting Artists

### Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design, Dundee:

Louise Black, Rachel Blackwell, Eva Margaret Brown, Iona Brown, Len Goetzee, Amy Harrison, Blair Leeson, Calum McFadyen, Elvey Anna Stedman, Hooligan Sadikson, Emily Weaver

### Edinburgh College of Art, Edinburgh:

Alice Barker, Ben Caro, Eva Cortés, Miriam Craddock, Kat Cutler-MacKenzie, Mhairi Fenton, Jasmine Forbes, Georgia Gardner, Otto Gobey, N. Godjamanian, Lorena Levi, Lorna Phillips, Emily Topping, Daniel Turner

### Gray's School of Art, Aberdeen:

Gemma Campbell, Verity Church, Jordyn Rachel Gardner, Lizzie Lilley, Meg Moss, Lachlan Anthony Smith, Erin Thomson, Faye Eleanor Woods

### Glasgow School of Art, Glasgow:

Carlos Anguera, Ella Josephine Campbell, Maya Rose Edwards, Decca Faire, Bella Geldart, Jake Gatehouse, Joanna Holisz, Julia Johnstone, Josie KO, Ruby Lord, Antony Lucchesi, Lucas Orozco, Blythe Plenderleith, Secretgroundsman

### University of Highlands and Islands:

Ráchel Jutka, Kirsty Smith, Ruth Tait

## Exhibiting Architects

### Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art & Design, Architecture, Dundee:

Ramsay Taylor

### The Edinburgh School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, Edinburgh:

Vsevolod Yurchenko

### Mackintosh School of Architecture, Glasgow: Maisie Tudge

### The Scott Sutherland School of Architecture & Built Environment, Aberdeen:

Tim Lahaise, David Reid and Chow Ying Choi Angus

### University of Strathclyde, Architecture, Glasgow:

Nassim Belgroune



# RSA New Contemporaries

## EVENTS

### Family Art Day

A drop-in drawing event for all ages inspired by RSA New Contemporaries.

### Live from the New Contemporaries Studio:

Emily Weaver discusses her practice whilst giving an online tour of her studio, hosted by Exhibition Convenor Annie Cattrell RSA.

Number of attendees: 18

### Promenade Tour

A gallery tour and discussion led by Edward Summerton RSA and featuring exhibitors Maisie Tudge, Elvey Anna Stedman, Lorna Phillips, Josie KO, Secretgroundsman, Joanna Holisz, and Lizzie Lilley.

Number of attendees: 18

### Live from the New Contemporaries Studio

Blair Leeson and Eva Margaret Brown discuss their work whilst giving online tours of their studios, hosted by Exhibition Convenor Annie Cattrell RSA.

Number of attendees: 21

### Academy Late

A late night gallery experience with live music, performances, and artwork by Scotland's next generation. Academy Late invites creatives from all of Scotland to meet with fellow artists and exhibitors in a laid-back atmosphere. Hosted by Groundskeeper Fanny, performers include New Contemporaries Bella Geldart, Len Goetzee and Louise Black. With live music from DJ xivro. Presented with The Skinny as our Media Partner, with free welcome drinks courtesy of Heverlee and Tito's, and chai by Dishoom.

Number of attendees: 156



# RSA New Contemporaries

## AWARDS

### Internal Awards:

**RSA Sir William Gillies Bequest Award (£2,000)**  
Winners: Iona Brown and Secretgroundsman

**RSA Friends Award (£1,000)**  
Winners: Eva Cortés and Len Goetzee

**RSA Patrons Award (£1,000)**  
Winners: Elvey Anna Stedman and Kirsty Smith

**RSA Art Prize (£400 plus the Maclaine Watters Medal)**  
Winner: Bella Geldart

**RSA Art Prize (£400)**  
Winners: Kat Cutler-MacKenzie and Rachel Blackwell

**RSA Architecture Prize (£400)**  
Winner: Maisie Tudge

**RSA New Contemporaries Medal for Architecture (£100 + medal)**  
Winner: Ramsay Taylor

**RSA Carnegie Scholarship (£200 for painting)**  
Winner: Ruby Lord

**RSA Adam Bruce Thomson Award (£150)**  
Winner: Ruth Tait

**RSA Landscape Award (£150 for a drawing, oil or watercolour)**  
Winner: Erin Thomson

**RSA Chalmers Bursary (£150)**  
Winner: Maya Rose Edwards

**RSA Stuart Prize (£150)**  
Winner: Otto Gobey

**RSA Chalmers-Jervise Prize (£150)**  
Winner: Daniel Turner

**Total sum of funds awarded by RSA: £6,250**

### External Awards:

**The Glenfiddich Artists In Residence Award (£10,000 residency plus exhibition, work accessioned to Glenfiddich Collection)**  
Winner: Lorna Phillips

**Walter Scott Award (£2,000)**  
Winner: Decca Faire

**Fleming-Wyfold Art Foundation Award (£1,500)**  
Winner: Blythe Plenderleith

**David and June Gordon Memorial Trust Awards (£750 for exhibitors from the Grampian region)**  
Winners: Lizzie Lilley and Lachlan Anthony Smith

**Arusha Gallery Award (£1,000 and a solo exhibition at Arusha Gallery)**  
Winner: Joanna Holisz

**Edinburgh Printmakers Graduate Residency Award (1-month free studio use, a printmaking course, accommodation in EP's artists apartment, £150 materials budget and 1 year's membership)**  
Winner: Josie KO

**Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop Graduate Research Award (1-year membership, £300 bursary, and 4 mentoring sessions with ESW's programming staff)**  
Winner: Louise Black

**Glasgow Print Studio Award (The opportunity to work 1:1 with a GPS Master Printer to publish an editioned work)**  
Winner: Joanna Holisz

**National Library Of Scotland Purchase Prize (£1,500 purchase prize for moving image)**  
Winner: Julia Johnstone

**The Skinny Prize (A two page presentation of the artist's work in the print publication and online, and an interview feature)**  
Winner: Josie Ko

**NHS Lothian Charity Tonic Arts Award (Purchase prize)**  
Winners: Lorena Levi, Jake Gatehouse and Mhairi Fenton - total paid to artists £1,670

**Total sum of funds awarded by external award givers: £18,870**

# The 197th RSA Annual Exhibition

6 May - 11 June | Upper and Lower Galleries



*This show is a tour de force, with something for everyone. \*\*\*\**

- Giles Sutherland, The Times

# The 197th RSA Annual Exhibition

Convenor: Stuart MacKenzie RSA

Deputy Convenor: Paul Stallan RSA

Hanging Committee: Philip Braham RSA (Elect), Paul Furneaux RSA, Henry Kondracki RSA, Elspeth Lamb RSA, Henry McKeown RSA, Leena Nammari RSA, Michael Visocchi RSA

Number of exhibitors: 415

Total visitor figures: 65,284

Average daily figures: 1,674

Website page views: 71,903

Publication: 647 sold



... with more than 400 works on show the physical exhibition is already very large, but convenor Stuart Mackenzie and his team have done a brilliant job. The exhibition doesn't feel cluttered in spite of this weight of numbers. A number of really big works provide a kind of visual gravity. \*\*\*\*

- Duncan Macmillan, The Scotsman

# The 197th RSA Annual Exhibition

## EVENTS

### Convenor's Tour:

An immersive after-hours tour of the galleries with Convenor Stuart Mackenzie RSA.  
Number of attendees: 19

### Family Art Day:

A drop-in drawing event for all ages inspired by the RSA Annual Exhibition.

### Friends Day:

An exclusive event for RSA Friends featuring talks from RSA Director Colin Greenslade and exhibitor Kate Steenhauer, and a collage workshop led by artist Rachael Bibby.  
Number of attendees: 30

### Live from the Academician's Studio:

Edward Summerton RSA gives an online tour of his studio and discussion of his work.  
Number of attendees: 27



# The 197th RSA Annual Exhibition

## AWARDS

### Internal Awards:

**RSA Guthrie Award** (£750 + Medal for work by a Scottish artist under 35)  
Winner: Daniel Nelis

**RSA Maud Gemmell Hutchison Bequest** (£600 x 2 for the best painting or drawing of an animal(s) in memory of George Jackson Hutchison)  
Winners: Michael Johnson, Ian McCulloch RSA

**RSA Open Exhibition Prize** (£500 for an artist of any age working in any medium (open artists only))  
Winners: John Brown, Mark Bowman

**RSA Ottilie Helen Wallace Prize** (£250 for a work by a female sculptor)  
Winner: Elizabeth Degenszejn

**RSA Latimer Awards** (£250 x2 for work by Scottish artists under 35)  
Winners: Zuzanna Salamon, Ryan Pollock

**RSA Benno Schotz Prize** (£250 for the most promising work by a Scottish artist under 35 domiciled in Scotland)  
Winner: Fraser MacBeath

**RSA Keith Prize** (£250 for the best work by a student of any age studying Fine Art at a Scottish art college)  
Winner: Lucia Sheppard

**RSA Meyer Oppenheim Prize** (£250 for a work in any medium by an artist under 35)  
Winner: Alina Zamanova

**Arnott Hamilton Purchase Fund** (Purchase prize of up to £480 for work by an Academician)  
Winner: Glen Onwin RSA

**RSA Architecture Prize** (£250 for the best work by an architect)  
Winner: O'Donnell Brown

**RSA Medal for Architecture Medal** (for the best work by a young architect)  
Winner: Veronika Desova and Lewis McNeill

**Total sum of funds awarded by RSA: £4,680**

### External Awards:

**W. Gordon Smith & Jay Gordonsmith Award** (£4,000 for any category)  
Winner: Alan Greig

**Lyon and Turnbull Award** (£1,000 for painting)  
Winner: John Brown

**The Highland Society of London Award** (£500 for the best work by a Highlander)  
Winner: Shaun MacDonald

**The Scottish Gallery | William Macaulay Award** (£250 for any category)  
Winner: Doug Cocker RSA

**The Scottish Arts Club Prizes** (Free membership to the SAC for two years + solo exhibition)  
Winner: Henry Kondracki RSA

**The Scottish Artists' Benevolent Association Award** (£300)  
Winner: Emma Louise Grady

**Roy Wood Prize for Printmaking** (£300 for printmaking)  
Winner: Caroline Convey

**An Talla Solais Award** (Use of a studio at An Talla Solais for up to 4 weeks at a time + £250)  
Winner: Gillian Murray

**Edinburgh Art Shop Prize** (£200 materials voucher)  
Winner: Kyle Noble

**Edinburgh Printmakers Residency Award** (The opportunity to work in EP's studio facilities, 1:1 with a print studio technician)  
Winners: Kjersti Sletteland, Michael Johnson

**WASPS Award** (Solo exhibition + £300 + a preview event for the exhibition)  
Winner: Patricia Paolozzi Cain

**ECA Library Prize** (1 year borrowing membership)  
Winner: Kjersti Sletteland

**Tatha Gallery Award** (A two-person exhibition at the Tatha Gallery)  
Winners: Ade Adesina RSA, John Brown

**Total sum of funds awarded by external award givers: £7,100**

# Elemental

## Recent RSA Residencies for Scotland Artists

24 June - 23 July | Octagon Galleries and Members Lobby

An exhibition of new work by artists supported by our Residencies for Scotland programme.

**Exhibitors:** Victoria Crowe RSA, Siobhan McLaughlin, Calum Wallis, Jamie Wardrop

**Total visitor figures:** 52,072

**Average daily figures:** 1,680

**Event:**  
Victoria Crowe RSA and Sir John Leighton in Conversation  
Number of attendees: 56



# Reveal

## Three Contemporary Artists Respond to Dürer's Apocalypse and Goya's Los Caprichos

24 June - 23 July | Finlay Room

An exhibition of works created in response to Albrecht Dürer's Apocalypse and Goya's Los Caprichos. Supported by Blackie House Library and Museum.

Exhibitors: Rowan Dahl, Alan Grieve, Derrick Guild RSA

Total visitor figures: 52,072

Average daily figures: 1,680

### Events:

- Goya Yoga, a drawing workshop led by Alan Grieve with yoga practitioner Demi Sutherland. Number of attendees: 15
- Exhibition Tour with Derrick Guild RSA. Number of attendees: 14



# A Journey Shared

Elizabeth Blackadder and John Houston

29 July - 10 September | Lower Galleries

A major exhibition celebrating the lives and work of Dame Elizabeth Blackadder RSA and John Houston RSA, focusing on their travels, research and studio practices. The exhibition accompanies the recent RSA Blackadder Houston Bequest, an important, generous gift from the artists to the RSA.

Total visitor figures: 129,430

Average daily figures: 2,941

Viewing room page views: 5,201

Publication: 250 sold



*It's a joy to see an extensive body of their work, and the show is not overburdened with commentary about their similarities or their differences. It simply lets this extraordinary work speak for itself.*

- Susan Mansfield, Scottish Art News/Fleming Collection

# A Journey Shared

Elizabeth Blackadder and John Houston

## EVENTS

### Drop in and Draw:

A drop-in drawing event inspired by A Journey Shared.

### Academy Studio: Still Life: Objects of Meaning:

A drawing workshop inspired by the still life works and personal belongings of Elizabeth Blackadder RSA and John Houston RSA

Number of attendees: 5

### Voyages of the Eye:

A symposium on the Lives and Work of Elizabeth Blackadder RSA and John Houston RSA, with George Donald RSA, Duncan Macmillan HRSA, Alexander Moffat RSA, Lucinda Middleton and Colin Greenslade.

Number of attendees: 146



# Graeme Todd

## The Dream Lasted Well Into The Evening

23 September - 5 November | Finlay Room and Members Lobby

The first posthumous exhibition of Graeme Todd RSA's work since his untimely death in 2022.

Total visitor figures: 90,584

Average daily figures: 2,058

Publication: 215 sold

**Events:** Metaphors for the Mind, a discussion celebrating the life and work of Graeme Todd RSA, with Scott McCracken, Andrew Mummery and Edward Summerton RSA. Number of attendees: 46



# In Residence

New work from RSA Residencies for Scotland Artists

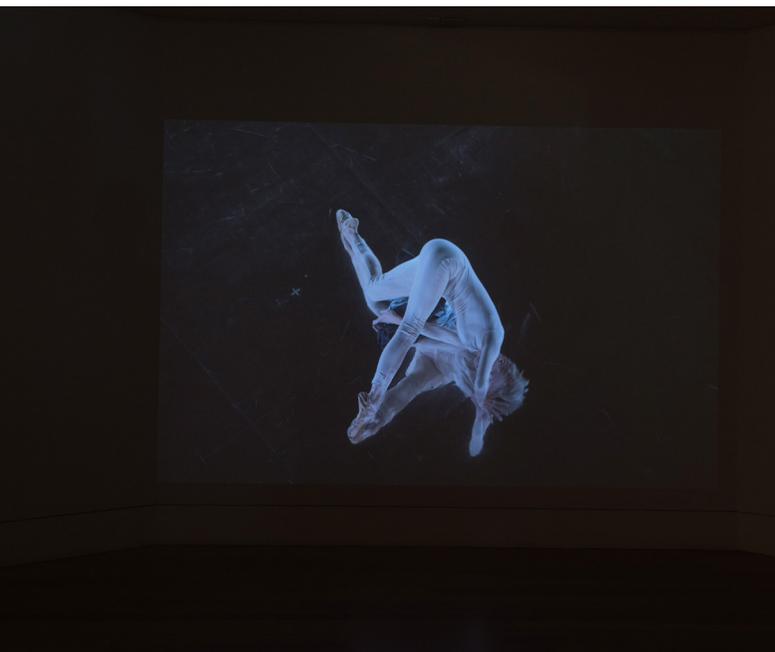
23 September - 5 November | Octagon Galleries

An exhibition of new work by artists supported by our Residencies for Scotland programme.

**Exhibitors:** Aqsa Arif, Fionn Duffy, Katie Hallam, Rhona Warwick Paterson

**Total visitor figures:** 90,584

**Average daily figures:** 2,058



# William Gillies

## Modernism and Nation

9 December 2023 - 28 January 2024 | Gallery VII, Upper Galleries

A major new exhibition featuring artwork and objects from Gillies' career and life. The exhibition is inspired by a groundbreaking new book on the artist by Andrew McPherson, which boldly reinterprets Gillies' life and art through the lenses of Modernism and his personal traumas.

Total visitor figures: 52,466

Average daily figures: 1,741

Publication: William Gillies: Modernism and Nation in British Art by Andrew McPherson, (Edinburgh University Press and RSA) 227 sold

### Events:

- Book launch and signing with Andrew McPherson. Number of attendees: 38
- William Gillies: Modernism and Nation Exhibition Tour: John Gray Centre, Haddington; Rozelle House, Ayr; Hawick Museum; Perth Art Gallery; Taigh Chearsabhagh, North Uist; Inverness Art Gallery; the Pier Arts Centre, Orkney; Kirkcudbright Art Gallery; and Gracefield Arts Centre, Dumfries



# The Academicians' Gallery

## **William Littlejohn: In New Light**

4 January - 12 February

## **John Byrne: Selected Prints**

16 February - 5 March

## **Ronald Forbes: The Everyman Variations**

11 March - 16 April

## **Borders Art Fair - Border Union Showground, Kelso**

17 - 19 March

## **Observed From Life**

6 May - 11 June

## **Menagerie: Beasts Real and Imagined**

24 June - 23 July

## **Frank Pottinger: Landscape Plotted and Pieced**

16 September - 15 October

## **Henry Kondracki: Joie de vivre**

21 October - 19 November

## **The Christmas Show**

25 November - 21 December

The Academicians' Gallery is the year-round exhibition space of the Royal Scottish Academy. All artworks on view in the gallery are by Royal Scottish Academicians and are available to purchase. As an independently funded charity, the Royal Scottish Academy relies on artwork sales as a source of income to fund its year-round programme of exhibitions, events and artist opportunities. Artwork sales support the work the RSA carries out throughout Scotland to assist artists at all stages of their careers.



# Opportunities

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RSA John Kinross Scholarships to Florence (£36,000)

RSA Barns-Graham Travel Award (£2,000)

RSA David Michie Travel Award (£2,500)

RSA Blackadder Houston Student Travel Award (£3,000)

RSA Graduate Award (£3,000)

RSA William Littlejohn Award for Water-based Media (£2,000)

RSA Morton Award for Lens-based Media (£5,000)

RSA MacRobert Art Award for Painting (£20,000)

RSA Blackadder Houston Mid-career Painting Award (£20,000)

RSA Blackadder Houston Mid-career Travel Award (£5,000)

RSA Schools Art Award (£6,200)

Total Opportunities awards: £104,700

# RSA John Kinross Scholarships to Florence

## WINNERS

Sean Alavazo (Edinburgh School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture)

Jackie Bell (Edinburgh College of Art)

Kirsty Bell (Gray's School of Art)

Kerry Simms (Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art & Design)

Martha Cooke (Edinburgh College of Art)

Kenzie Harrison (University of Dundee)

Kate Power (Glasgow School of Art)

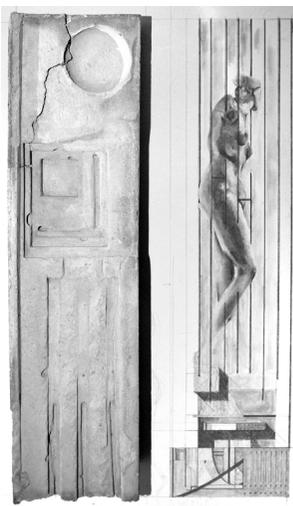
Angeni Perez Jamieson (Edinburgh College of Art)

Charlene Scott (Edinburgh College of Art)

Aleksandra Warchol (Edinburgh College of Art)

Elena Onwochei-Garcia (Glasgow School of Art)

Siti Zulkifle (University of Strathclyde)



# Student Awards

## WINNERS

### RSA Barns-Graham Travel Award

**Felicity White** (Glasgow School of Art)

Felicity will travel to El Salvador, Central America, where she will draw links between her diasporic relationship to El Salvador, Indigenous suppression, and resource extractivism.

### RSA David Michie Travel Award

**Mathieu Cardosi** (Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art & Design)

Mathieu will travel to Berlin to examine how the city's architecture can be used to understand its recent social, political, and economic history and how these elements continue to shape the city today.

### RSA Blackadder Houston Student Travel Award

**Megan Owen** (Edinburgh College of Art)

Megan will use the funds to visit Florence and Siena, with the intention of expanding her research into sacred spaces and spaces configured as spiritual zones.

### RSA Graduate Award

**Bronwen Barnes-Archer** (Edinburgh College of Art)

Bronwen will travel to Tamil Nadu and Kerala, India, to learn about their local pottery traditions which are closely tied to the local geography.

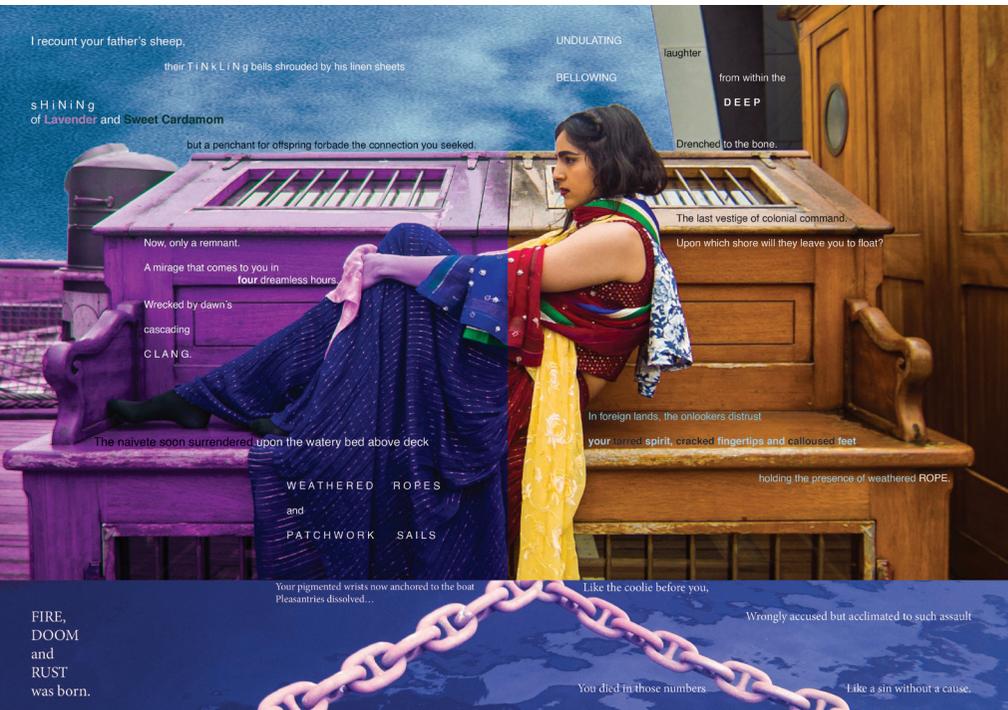
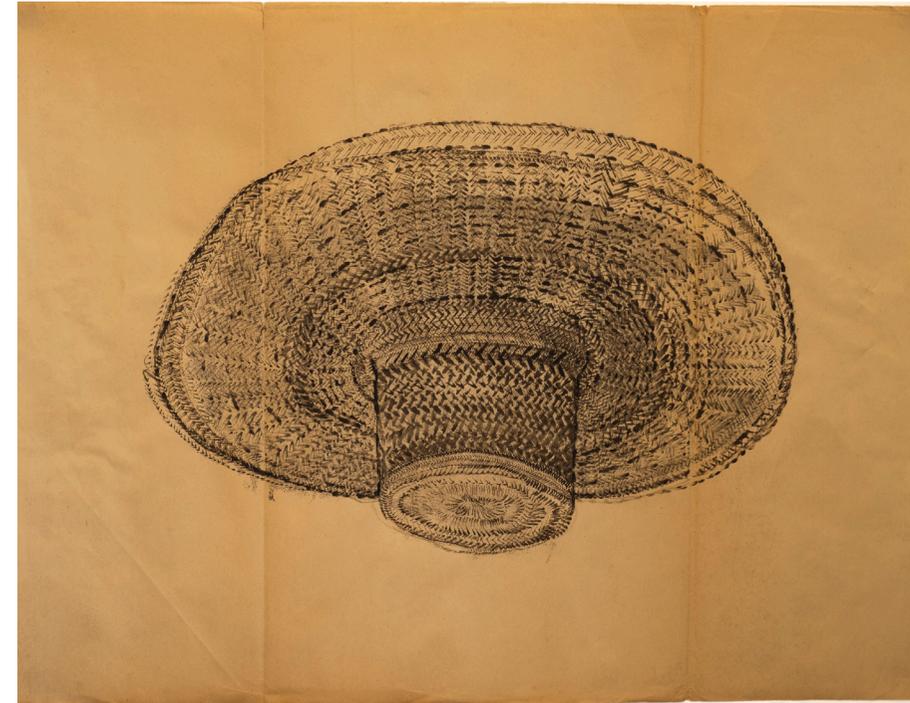


# RSA William Littlejohn Award for Water-based Media

## WINNER

Lindsay Sekulowicz

Lindsay plans to further her research into the ethnobotany and indigenous narratives of the northwest Amazon, exploring the role of art practice in knowledge exchange through a series of new watercolours and colour studies.



# RSA Morton Award for Lens-based Media

## WINNER

Aqsa Arif

Aqsa proposes to further explore South Asian architecture and the journey of the wedding tradition in relation to pre/post-colonial and diaspora traditions, through the research of traditional folk stories, oral histories, archival records and community engagement.

# RSA MacRobert Art Award

## for Painting



THE MACROBERT TRUST

The RSA MacRobert Art Award for Painting is a substantial new annual award of £20,000 for a mid-career painter. The award intends to enable a 12-month dedicated period of research and development for a committed painter whose circumstances have, for whatever reason, made it difficult to focus upon and develop their artistic talent.

### WINNER

#### Samantha Clark

Samantha intends to use the funds to spend an intensive period of creative immersion in the waters in and around Orkney, exploring how painting can sensitively attend and respond to this challenging and vital element.



# RSA Blackadder Houston Mid-career Painting Award

## WINNER

Robbie Bushe RSA

Robbie Bushe's practice centres on the depiction of detailed, suggestive narratives, frequently set within expansive architectonic constructions. Bushe has exhibited his narrative paintings since 1990. Inspired by the characters and the places he has lived and worked, his work has won several national awards including the inaugural W. Gordon Smith Painting Prize and most recently in 2021 was shortlisted and a prize-winner of the John Moores' Painting Prize at the Walker Gallery Liverpool.

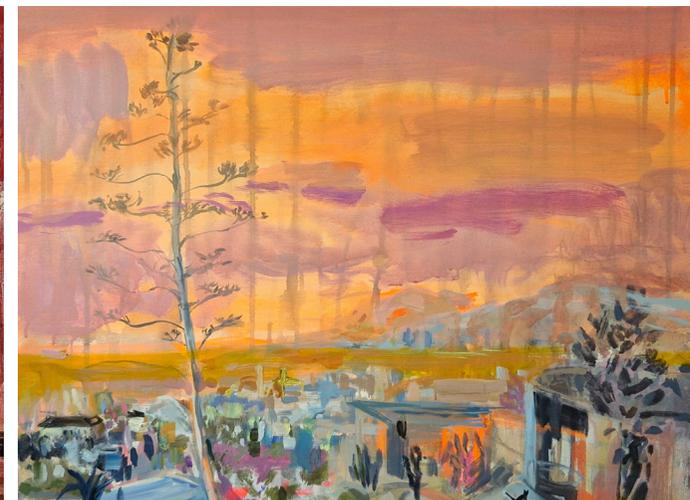


# RSA Blackadder Houston Mid-career Travel Award

## WINNER

Elaine Woo MacGregor

Elaine Woo MacGregor is a Scottish-born Chinese artist trained in the Glasgow School of Art. MacGregor's work has been shown in the UK, USA, Australia and Thailand and has been critically recognised by virtue of the Dewar Arts Award, the James Torrance Memorial Award, the Hope Scott Trust Award and the Cross Trust Fund. In 2022, she was a finalist in the Jackson's Painting Prize, received Art Paisley Prize for outstanding work, and Velvet Easel Award from Paisley Art Institute.

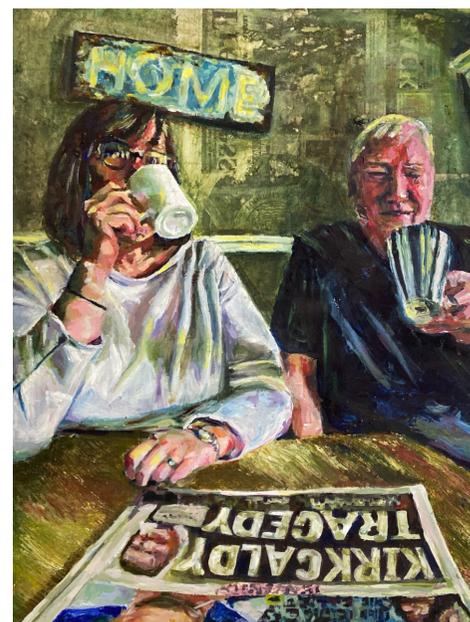
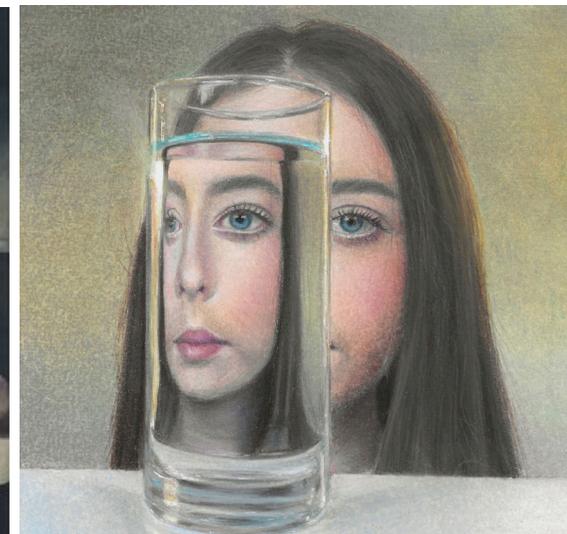


# RSA Schools Art Award

## WINNERS

Gavin Piercy, Inspirational Art Department Award (£750)  
Dawn Cullen, Inspirational Art Department Award (£750)  
Emma Mitchell, 1st Prize in the Chair's Challenge (£300)  
Megan Lewis, 2nd Prize in the Chair's Challenge (£150)  
Alana Chung, 3rd Prize in the Chair's Challenge (£100)  
Kyle Bambridge, 1st Prize in the Junior category (£250)  
Ruby Drew Lang, 2nd Prize in the Junior category (£150)  
Annabelle Steel, 3rd Prize in the Junior category (£100)  
Amaya Ashcroft, 1st Prize in the Intermediate category (£250)  
Kirsty Hutton, 2nd Prize in the Intermediate category (£150)  
Amy Petrie, 3rd Prize in the Intermediate category (£150)  
Charlotte Sinton, 1st Prize in the Senior category (£250)  
Martina Spaans, 2nd Prize in the Senior category (£150)  
Alma Reid, 3rd Prize in the Senior category (£100)  
Olivia Carson, 1st Prize in the Special Schools category (£250)  
Logan Vermeulen, 2nd Prize in the Special Schools category (£150)  
KJ Conner, 3rd Prize in the Special Schools category (£100)  
Erin Macritchie, New Entrants Prize in the Junior category (£250)  
Maddison Borthwick, New Entrants Prize in the Intermediate category (£250)  
Rosie Boyce, New Entrants Prize in the Senior category (£250)  
Anastasia D'Angelosante, West Regional Prize in the Junior category (£150)  
Juliet Cartner, West Regional Prize in the Intermediate category (£150)  
Rachael Martin, West Regional Prize in the Senior category (£150)  
Aaryn O'Gorman, North Regional Prize in the Junior category (£150)  
Daania Dirya, North Regional Prize in the Intermediate category (£150)  
Anna Jones, North Regional Prize in the Senior category (£150)  
Tanushree Dinakaran, South/East Regional Prize in the Junior category (£150)  
Francesca Armas, South/East Regional Prize in the Intermediate category (£150)  
Ines Barbosa, Senior Prize in the South/East Regional Award category (£150)  
Total: £6,200

**BRODIES**<sup>LLP</sup> The RSA Schools Art Award was once again supported by Brodies LLP, a UK and leading Scottish law firm.

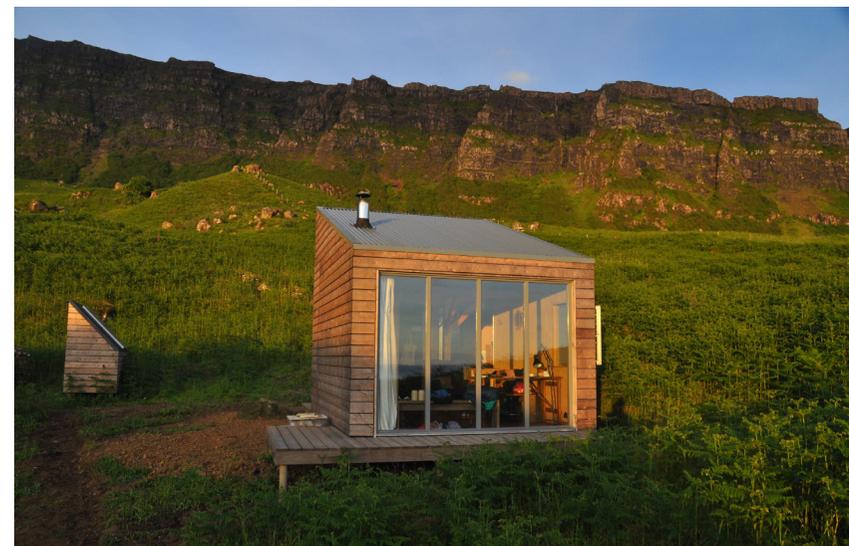


# RSA Residencies for Scotland 2024

In November we launched the next round of our biennial RSA Residencies for Scotland programme, with an application deadline of 14 January 2024. This artist-led scheme provides valuable research, development and production opportunities for visual artists at all stages of their careers, whilst forging important connections with centres of artist excellence across Scotland. Artists can apply for funds of up to £5,000 and are responsible for managing their own residency, in discussion with the partner venue(s). This year we are pleased to be working with 22 venues across Scotland.

- Airlie Artist's Residency, Angus (new)
- An Cridhe, Isle of Coll
- An Lanntair, Isle of Lewis
- An Talla Solais, Ullapool
- Bothy Project, Isle of Eigg
- Colstoun Artist Residency, East Lothian
- Cove Park, Argyll and Bute
- Cromarty Arts Trust, Black Isle
- Deveron Projects, Huntly
- Dundee Contemporary Arts Print Studio
- Edinburgh Printmakers
- Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop
- Forgan Arts Centre, Newport-on-Tay (new)
- Glasgow Print Studio
- Peacock and The Worm, Aberdeen
- The Pier Arts Centre, Orkney
- RSA Collections Department, Edinburgh
- Scottish Sculpture Workshop, Lumsden
- Stills, Edinburgh
- Street Level Photoworks, Glasgow
- Taigh Chearsabhair, North Uist
- Wasps Artists' Studios, Isle of Skye

The Residencies for Scotland programme is administered and funded by the RSA, with kind support from the The Wilhelmina Barns-Graham Trust and the RSA W. Gordon Smith & Jay Gordonsmith Trust.



# RSA Friends

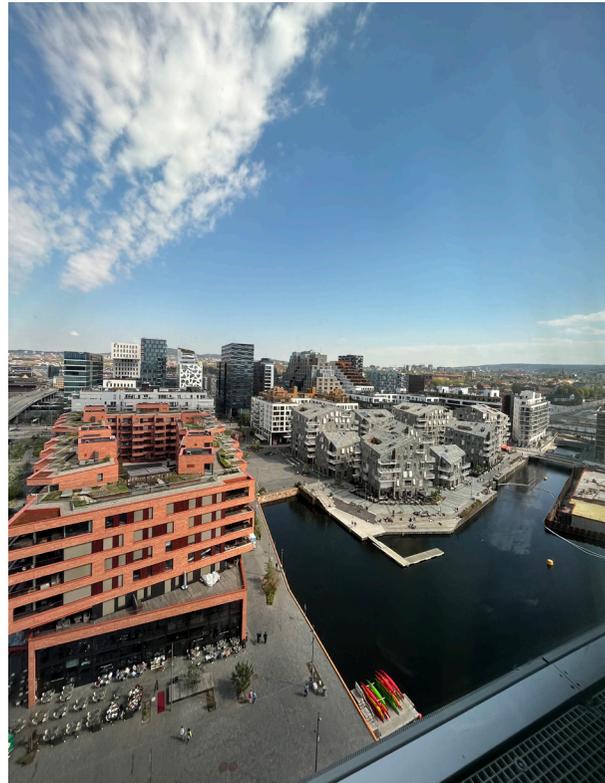
The RSA Friends are a vibrant group of supporters who enjoy a wide range of benefits such as special access to our events and exhibitions.

## 2023 RSA Friends events:

- RSA Friends Tour of RSA Collections, 2 February
- RSA Friends Holiday: Oslo, 11 - 15 May
- Exclusive access to exhibition private views
- Exhibition tours

## 2023 RSA Friends projects:

- Friends' Room redecoration
- New vouchers for gift memberships
- A redesigned welcome/renewal pack (January 2024)



As an independent self-funded charity, we rely on donations to continue our support of Scotland's creative future.

You can learn how to join the RSA Friends programme by going to our website, [royalscottishacademy.org/join-and-support/rsa-friends/](https://royalscottishacademy.org/join-and-support/rsa-friends/) or by emailing us at [friends@royalscottishacademy.org](mailto:friends@royalscottishacademy.org)

# Development

## RSA Development Highlights 2023

### Grants and donations received

- **Museums Galleries Scotland Museums Development Fund** - to cover all costs of the *William Gillies: Modernism and Nation* tour taking place in 2024 and 2025 including the costs of artwork transport, an engagement programme, the creation of an education pack, audio description and audio guide, and conservation, reglazing, mounting and framing.
- **Business Support Programme** delivered by Museums Galleries Scotland - a nine-month online programme which provided the RSA with 14 days of comprehensive training and workshops covering the four key areas of leadership, governance, business planning and community engagement.
- We also received a generous donation from **The Aperture Trust**.

### Patrons Programme

2023 marked our first year of the newly relaunched Patrons Programme. The programme featured a series of high-quality events, including a luncheon with Annie Cattrell RSA as Convenor of the New Contemporaries exhibition, after which the Patrons conducted the judging for the New Contemporaries Patrons prize. An unexpected result was that they were so impressed with the quality of the work that a Patron donated an extra £1,000 to allow the awarding of two Patrons prizes.

A second luncheon was held with Collections Curator Sandy Wood to celebrate the William Gillies exhibition. Sandy's presentation touched on Gillies' painting *Interior*, and as part of the Patrons' annual contributions, funds have been put towards the conservation costs for that work.

This year the Patrons were invited to the Varnishing Day lunch which provided a major exclusive event for the programme.

These events formed the core of the Patrons programme. We complemented this with private tours of exhibitions throughout the year and the opportunity to attend other Friends events. We have received very positive feedback from the Patrons regarding these events and all were well attended.

### Education Programme

Starting in June we ran a pilot programme of five events; a watercolour workshop, Goya Yoga - a drawing workshop with Alan Grieve, a talk featuring Victoria Crowe RSA and Sir John Leighton, a still-life drawing workshop inspired by the work of Elizabeth Blackadder RSA, and a talk celebrating the life and work of Graeme Todd RSA. Three of these events sold out, and all of the events have produced a profit. We are now working to create a formal structure for the programme.

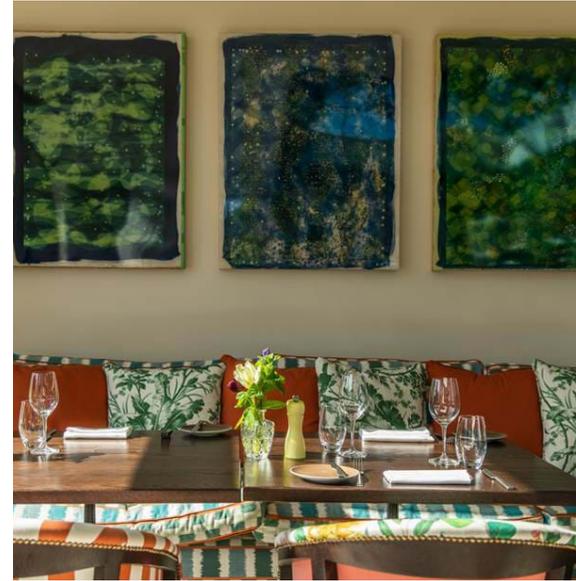


# Art Consultancy

## RSA Art Rental and Consultancy Highlights 2023

### Art Rental

- Cromlix Hotel installed art rental works throughout public areas including 10 RSA Collections works and 20 artworks from artist studios.
- New Club – installed 3 artworks from RSA Collections.
- Hampden Bank & Co – installed 9 RSA Collection works and 2 works from artist studios.



### Consultancy

- We delivered 2023/2024 Tonic Collection Management Contract on behalf of NHS Lothian Charity.
- We secured Tonic Collection contract renewal for 2024/25 and 2026/2027 with option to extend 2 additional years.
- The Tonic Collection team installed 80+ artworks responding to art requests and purchased 50+ new artworks for the Tonic Collection.
- Tonic Collection Priority Projects:
  - Leith Community Treatment Centre – Phase 1: Curated rehanging of G/F artworks. Phase 2: 1/F rehanging completion February 2024.
  - Midlothian Community Hospital – Installed artwork in new Staff Wellness Room. We purchased and commissioned artworks by 4 Lothian based artists to enhance 4 public corridors using NHS restricted funds (install February 2024).
- R&A Group Services - We received Artist Introductory Fee for 150th Open Championship Commission.
- NHS Orkney – We managed and delivered the History Wall Artwork Commission.



# Collections

## RSA Collections Highlights 2023

- **Acquisitions in 2023 have included:**

A major bequest of artworks, objects, equipment, archives and library from the studio home of Elizabeth Blackadder RSA and John Houston RSA. Two new appointments to our collections team are tasked with its research and cataloguing.

Gifts included items from the architectural practice of Robin Webster RSA, a work from Will Maclean RSA, a work for St Modan's Church by William Wilson RSA and studio gifts of mixed material from the families of Frank Pottinger RSA and Kirkland Main RSA.

Diploma Works by new Academicians Ben Addy RSA, Norman McBeath RSA and Leena Nammari RSA.

Collections deposits from 14 scholarship and award winners – from the Kinross Scholarship, and the Barns-Graham and Morton Awards.

Purchases made included work by David Maitland McKenzie RSA (1806-69), Archibald McFarlane Shannan RSA (1850-1915), Sir William MacTaggart RSA (1903-81), Earl Haig RSA (1918-2009) and Adrian Wiszniewski RSA.

Major library acquisitions included *Jack and Tommy* (1916) by Francis B Cadell RSA and *Imprints: A Quarterly devoted to Woodcuts in Colours, Auto Lithographs, and Reproductions by Various Processes of original Work in Pen, Pencil, and Colour* [Brodie & Salmond, Arbroath, 1901-02].

- **Launch of the online RSA collections portal website, which provides image and research access to nearly 7,000 artworks and counting.**

- **Growth of the RSA Bookshelf to include 25 fully accessible sketchbooks accessed via page turning software.**

- **Loans to the National Galleries of Scotland's new Scottish Galleries included works by Joan Eardley RSA and Anne Redpath RSA.**

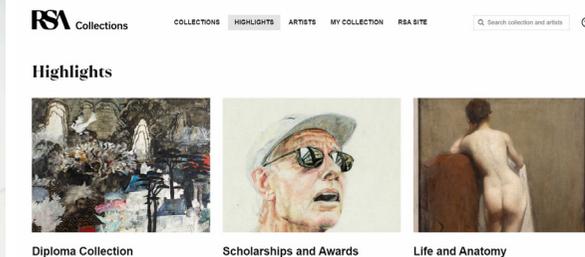
- **Significant activity in 2023 has centred around the project to celebrate the life and work of Sir William Gillies RSA (1898-1973), including:**

Publication (in partnership with Edinburgh University Press) of *William Gillies: Modernism and Nation in British Art*, by Andrew McPherson.

Launch of *William Gillies: Modernism and Nation* exhibition and two-year touring project funded by Museums Galleries Scotland.

Completion of the digitisation of all artworks from the Gillies bequest.

Conservation of six paintings, and framing and glazing conservation of nine.



# Academicians

Alex S. Campbell RSA  
Frances Walker CBE, RSA  
Robert R. Steedman OBE, RSA, RIBA, FRIAS  
Leon Morrocco RSA  
Duncan F. Shanks RSA  
Ian McKenzie Smith CBE, FRSA, FRSE, PPRSA, HRA, HRHA  
Michael Snowden RSA  
George Donald RSA  
Frances Pelly RSA  
Gordon Bryce RSA  
James Fairgrieve RSA  
Jake Harvey RSA  
Will Maclean MBE, FRSE, RSA  
William Brotherston RSA  
J. Grant Clifford RSA  
Barbara Rae CBE, FRSE, RE, RA, RSA  
Alastair R. Ross FRBS, FRSA, RSA, Hon FRIAS  
Ian Howard RSA  
Andrew Merrylees FRSA, RSA, RIBA, FRIAS  
Doug Cocker RSA  
Michael Docherty RSA  
John Mooney RSA  
Glen Onwin RSA  
Joyce W. Cairns PPRSA, DEd(hc) HRHA, HRWA, HRBA  
Arthur Watson PPRSA, HRHA, HRWA  
Victoria Crowe OBE, FRSE, RSA  
Andrew Stenhouse RSA  
Fiona Dean RSA  
Robert Black MBE, RSA  
Beth Fisher RSA  
Ian McCulloch RSA  
Lennox Dunbar RSA  
Elspeth Lamb RSA  
David Page RSA (Elect), RIBA, ARIAS  
Alfons Bytautas RSA  
Francis Convery RSA

Robin Webster OBE, RSA, RIBA, PRIAS  
Adrian Wiszniewski RSA, Hon FRIAS  
Stuart Duffin RSA  
Ronald Forbes RSA  
Ric W. L. Russell OBE, RSA (Elect), RIBA, ARIAS  
Edward Summerton RSA  
Gordon Mitchell RSA  
Richard Murphy OBE, FRSA, FRSE, RSA, RIBA, FRIAS  
Marion Smith RSA  
Joe Fan RSA  
Gareth Fisher PRSA, HRA, HRHA, HRWA, HRBA  
Callum Innes RSA  
John A. Mackechnie MBE, RSA  
Alison Watt OBE, RSA  
Calum Colvin OBE, RSA  
Jo Ganter RSA  
Marian Leven RSA  
Alexander Moffat OBE, RSA  
Gordon Munro FRBS, RSA  
Michael Visocchi RSA  
Paul Furneaux RSA  
Neil Macpherson RSA  
Kate Whiteford OBE, RSA  
Dick Cannon RSA, RIBA, FRIAS  
Thomas Joshua Cooper RSA  
Kate Downie RSA  
Kenny Hunter RSA  
Michael Agnew RSA  
James Castle RSA  
Andrew Cranston RSA (Elect)  
Neil Gillespie OBE, RSA, RIBA, RIAS  
Tracy Mackenna RSA  
Jacki Parry RSA  
Charles Sutherland RSA  
Derrick Guild RSA  
Eileen Lawrence RSA  
Charles Stiven RSA (Elect)

Eelco Hooftman RSA (Elect)  
Jennifer McRae RSA  
Alan Pert RSA (Elect), RIBA, FRIA, FRIAS  
Mary Bourne RSA  
Annie Cattrell FRBS, RSA  
Dalziel & Scullion RSA  
Charles Hussey RSA, RIBA  
Lorna McIntosh RSA  
Fergus Purdie RSA, RIBA, RIAS  
Stuart Mackenzie RSA  
Shauna McMullan RSA (Elect)  
Anne Bevan RSA (Elect)  
Graham Fagen RSA  
John McAslan CBE, FRSA, RSA, RIBA, FRICS, FRIAS, FICE  
Jessica Harrison RSA  
Mhairi Killin RSA  
Sam Ainsley RSA  
Mary Arnold-Forster RSA  
Graeme Hutton RSA  
Henry Kondracki RSA  
Jim Pattison RSA  
Ade Adesina RSA  
Robbie Bushe RSA  
Ilana Halperin RSA (Elect)  
Henry McKeown RSA  
Paul Stallan RSA (Elect)  
Tom Connolly RSA (Elect), FRIAS  
Jim Lambie RSA (Elect)  
Wendy McMurdo RSA  
Ross Sinclair RSA (Elect)  
Rachel Maclean RSA (Elect)  
Keith McIntyre RSA  
Jane Hyslop RSA (Elect)  
Leena Nammari RSA  
Toby Paterson RAS (Elect)  
Ben Addy RSA  
Rab Bennetts RSA  
Philip Braham RSA (Elect)  
Helen Flockhart RSA (Elect)  
Ann Nisbet RSA (Elect)  
Clare Wright MBE DIP. ARCH. RIBA RSA (Elect)  
Jude Barber RSA (Elect)  
Norman McBeath RSA  
Miranda Webster RSA (Elect)

## Honorary Academicians

Professor Martin Kemp FRSA, HRSA, Professor of History  
Margaret Bennett HRSA, Professor of Antiquities  
Prof. Dame Sue Black OBE, FRSE, FRCP, Hon FRCS, FRAI, HRSA, Professor of Anatomy  
Alice Munro HRSA, Professor of Literature  
The Rt. Hon. the Lord Cameron of Lochbroom PC, QC, FRSE, HRSA  
Sir David Chipperfield CBE, RA, HRSA, RDI, RIBA  
Carey Clarke PPRHA, HRSA  
Michael Clarke CBE, HRSA  
Douglas Connell HRSA  
Professor Richard Demarco CBE, HRSA  
Stuart Geddes PRWA, HRSA  
Murray Grigor OBE, FRSA, HRSA, HRFIAs, HFRIBA  
Sir Nicholas Grimshaw CBE, PRA, HRSA  
David Hone PPRHA, HRSA  
Anselm Keifer HRA, HRSA  
Dr Janette Kerr PPRWA, HRSA  
Christopher Le Brun PRA, HRSA  
Neil MacGregor, HRSA  
Professor David Mach RA, HRSA  
Professor Murdo Macdonald FRSA, HRSA  
Professor Duncan Macmillan FRSA FRSE, HRSA  
Des McMahon PPRHA, HRSA  
Thea Musgrave CBE, HRSA  
Dr. Tom Normand HRSA  
Abigail O'Brien PRHA, HRSA  
Mick O'Dea PPRHA, HRSA  
Alastair E H Salvesen CBE, FRSA, FRSAgS, HRSA  
Dr. Joanna Soden HRSA, Senior Research Fellow  
Radu Varia HRSA  
Fiona Robinson PRWA, HRSA  
Rebecca Salter PRA, HRSA  
Richard Holloway HRSA  
Mona Siddiqui HRSA, OBE, FRSE, FRSA, DCivil Laws(Hon.) DLitt (Hon), Hon FRIAS, Speaker  
Marina Abramovic HRSA, Hon RA  
Jock McFadyen HRSA, RA

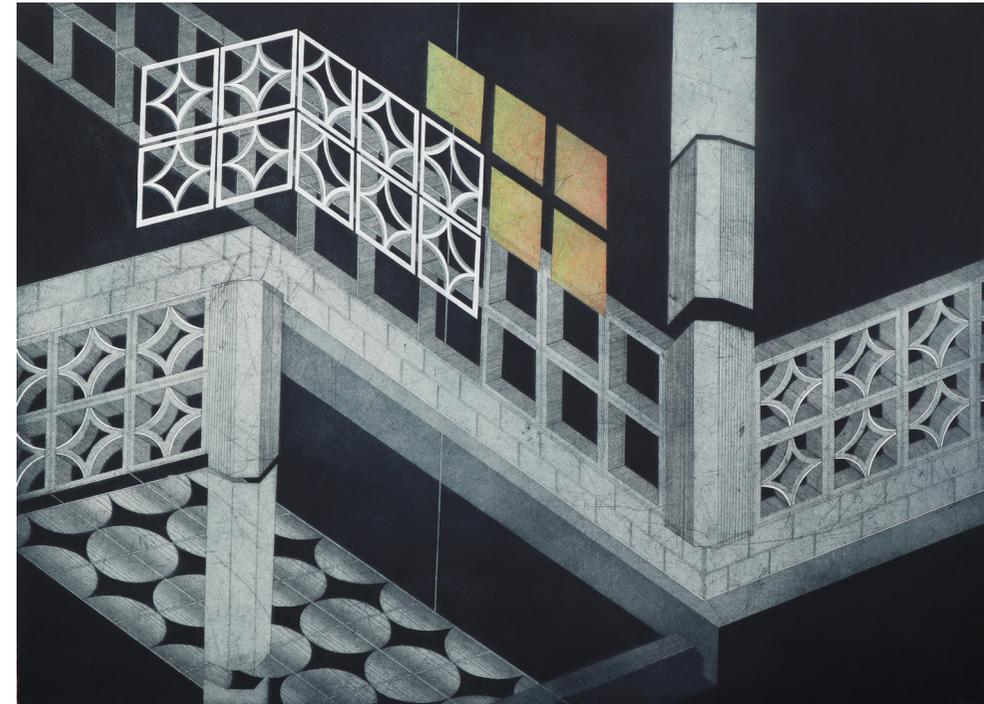
Academicians and Honorary Academicians are listed here by length of membership.

# New Academicians

We're delighted to announce the election of two new Members to the Academy: artist Bronwen Sleight and architect Christopher Platt.

**Bronwen Sleight RSA (Elect)** is a visual artist who works in printmaking, drawing and sculpture, taking inspiration from manmade structures set within a wide variety of landscapes. Sleight's work asks questions about the built environment. Through drawing she investigates attitudes to space as expressed through architecture and its relationship to the landscape. Process is integral to her practice - her drawings and sculptures inform each other, moving from 2D to 3D and back again. Her work explores space rather than describing it, challenging perceptions of the ordinary by presenting it in an unfamiliar way.

**Christopher Platt RSA (Elect)** was a student under Professors Andy MacMillan RSA and Isi Metzstein RSA at the Mackintosh School of Architecture in Glasgow. He has held senior positions in architectural studios in England, Ethiopia and Germany realising competition-winning student residences for Oxford University, children's day nurseries in Berlin and London and the largest Christian church in Addis Ababa. In 2001, with Rod Kemsley, he founded StudioKAP Architects which he leads with fellow Director Helen Campbell. The practice has been recognised with national awards and international publications. Complementing his work in practice, Platt has also had a long-standing involvement in architectural education globally. He was the Head of the Mackintosh School of Architecture at the Glasgow School of Art and is currently Professor Emeritus at the University of Glasgow.



# Memorials

**Delia Baillie RSA** (4 August 1977 – 5 March 2023)

Delia was born and raised in Glasgow where she received great encouragement and inspiration from her art teacher at Pennilee Secondary School. At the age of 18 she moved to Dundee to study at Duncan of Jordanstone College, subsidising this by working as a life model.

She began teaching at DJCAD in 2003 and was elected to the RSA in 2008. I seconded Ronnie Forbes' proposal of Delia to the Academy, as we were aware of, not only her great talent, but her passion for teaching and promoting contemporary art and artists, would significantly assist the Academy's vision. She exhibited annually within the RSA and contributed continuously over these years to the committees of General Purposes, Exhibitions and Council. In 2017, Delia was the convenor of the RSA New Contemporaries, and in 2021, along with Jessica Harrison, co-convened the 195th RSA Annual Exhibition. On 22 November 2022, Delia was elected as the first female Treasurer in the 197-year history of the Academy, bringing her usual dedicated approach to seamlessly transition into the role. It was also her compassion for bringing her world into the Academy which attracted so many to her. I have two lovely memories of Delia in the RSA. An Assembly meeting, where Delia's young baby, snuggled under her coat, was desperate to yelp out into the minute's silence being observed for a recently departed member. The longest minute ever! And that Varnishing Day Lunch. Delia, towering above most in her platforms. Magnificent painting on the wall. Young child on hip. The atmosphere in the room and a toast raised to the youngest ever to attend our historic meeting.

At DJCAD, Delia taught on every undergraduate year, from General Foundation to Final Year, with her most recent role as lead tutor on the new MFA in Fine Art. As one of the few members of staff from DJCAD whose practice was based in and broadcast from Dundee, she offered enormous inspiration to our colleagues, students, and graduates, where her devotional painting and recent printmaking practice involved international residencies, bursaries, exhibitions, collaborations, curation and public presentations.

During this last year, dealing with a diagnosis of cancer, her incredible determination and spirit enabled her to not only be elected as the Treasurer of the RSA, but fully return to teaching, participate in solo and group exhibitions, give a public presentation on her practice, focus on a new suite of prints, and undertake a collaborative venture involving sculpture and printmaking.

This unique, positive, constantly enquiring Academician, whose laughter rattled the windows of every building, will be remembered for her contribution as an excellent artist, tutor and mentor. Delia will be sorely missed by us all.



- Edward Summerton RSA, Secretary

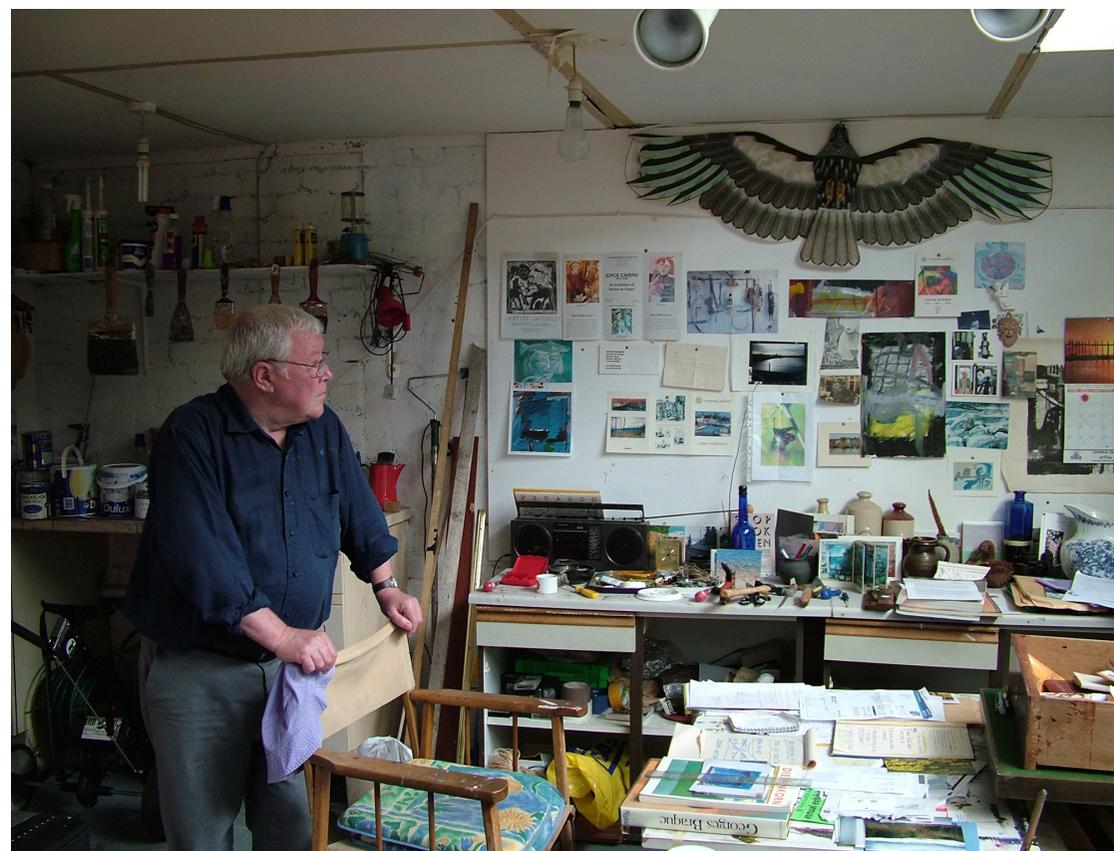
# Memorials

**Dennis Buchan RSA** (24 April 1937 – 23 June 2023)

Dennis Buchan was born in Arbroath in 1937 and attended Arbroath High School before studying at Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design, Dundee, under Alberto Morrocco. Following art school, Dennis spent a postgraduate period at Hospitalfield, Arbroath. Dennis travelled throughout his career, making new research in such places as New York, Barcelona, Belgium, and the Netherlands. In 1965, he took up a teaching position at Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design, where he remained until retiring to paint full-time in 1994.

On the 12th February 1975, nominated by John Houston RSA and Elizabeth Blackadder RA RSA, Dennis was elected as an Associate of the Royal Scottish Academy, becoming a full Academician in 1991. Dennis was Convenor of the RSA Annual Exhibition in 2004, also providing the work for the poster and catalogue. Dennis was invited to produce the well-received Christmas Card for the Academy in 1995. He exhibited regularly at the Academy including annually as part of the RSA Members shows. Notably he was also invited to exhibit new paintings in the curated SEA exhibition at the RSA in 2005.

Dennis was the recipient of many awards through out his career including the Keith Prize (RSA), Latimer Award (RSA), the William Gillies Bequest Award (RSA) and several other major awards including a major Scottish Arts Council Award in 1973. His work is held in private and public collections both nationally and internationally. His most recent solo exhibition was with Compass Gallery, Glasgow, in September 2022. Dennis' work fused the Scottish colourist tradition with more modern, abstract expressionism and pop art. His works took inspiration from landscapes and seascapes, using everyday objects to create bold juxtapositions of form and colour.



# Memorials

**Kenneth White HRSA** (28 April 1936 – 11 August 2023)

Kenneth White was born in the Gorbals in Glasgow and spent much of his childhood in Fairlie in Ayrshire where his father was a railway signaller. Kenneth graduated with a double first in French and German then, from 1959 until 1963, studied at the University of Paris where he obtained his Doctorate of Letters and Human Sciences. It was at this time that he met and married fellow student Marie-Claude.

Kenneth returned to Glasgow to teach in 1963 but left in 1967, taking up a position as Lecturer of English at the University of Bordeaux until 1968.

From 1969 to 1983 Kenneth taught at the University of Paris VII. 1983 saw him permanently relocate to Brittany to take the role of Chair of Poetics at Paris-Sorbonne – a position he held until 1996.

An author of a considerable body of work comprising essay, narrative and poetry, he developed the field of study of Geopoetics. A cross-cultural and cross-disciplinary initiative, his catalogue includes several books on art: Hokusai, Van Gogh, Atlan and he is author of over a hundred artist books with artists from across the world including Karl Appel and Will Maclean RSA.

A great lecturer, Kenneth travelled widely to give papers and presentations on Geopoetics. In 1989, he founded the International Institute of Geopoetics.

Kenneth was elected an Honorary Academician in 2001 and exhibited collaborative Geopoetic works at the Academy on a number of occasions, most recently as an invited artist to the 187th Annual RSA Exhibition in 2013.



# Memorials

## Peter Collins RSA (1935 – 13 August 2023)

Peter Collins was born in Inverness in 1935 and studied art at Edinburgh College of Art from 1952 to 1956 where he was greatly influenced by the work of John Maxwell RSA. He was awarded a Post Diploma Scholarship in 1957 and the Andrew Grant Travelling scholarship for travel to Italy (1957 – 1958).

Peter first exhibited with the Royal Scottish Academy in 1957 and was elected to the Society of Scottish Artists (SSA) in 1959. Living in Edinburgh from 1960 until 1965, he was a recipient of the RSA Latimer Award during this period.

In 1965, he moved to Dundee to take up a position as Lecturer at Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art. He remained there in the Fine Art school until his retirement. In 1983 he relocated from Dundee to rural Perthshire.

Peter exhibited widely with a first solo exhibition at the Scottish Gallery in 1968 with further exhibitions *Art Across the Tay* (Dundee) and *Scottish Painting* at the Richard Demarco Gallery, Edinburgh, also in that year. In 1969, he was included in the group exhibition *Painters and Printers in Dundee* at the New Charing Cross Gallery in Glasgow and then the 1970 exhibition *Seven Painters in Dundee* which was a Scottish Arts Council travelling exhibition. This led to the loose-knit group of painters, which included Dennis Buchan, Iain Fearn, James Howie, Neil Dallas Brown, James Morrison and Peter Collins, being referred to as the 'Dundee Seven'. In 1971, he was included in the touring exhibition *12 Scottish Painters* which toured across the United States.

Peter was elected as an Associate of the RSA in 1966 and elevated to full Academician status in 1974. During his time as a Member of the Royal Scottish Academy, Peter served on numerous committees including multiple periods of service for Council and the Committee of Arrangements. Peter was also the Librarian for an extended period between 1988 and 2005. He acted as the Auditor between 1987 and 1991. In 2004, Peter took on the role of Deputy President under the Presidency of Ian McKenzie Smith PPRSA.

Peter was a regular exhibitor at the Royal Scottish Academy and his work is held in the RSA Collections as well as Aberdeen Art Gallery; Perth Art Gallery; Glasgow Life Museums; Edinburgh College of Art; Dundee City Council; Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art; and the Edinburgh Education Authority amongst others.



# Memorials

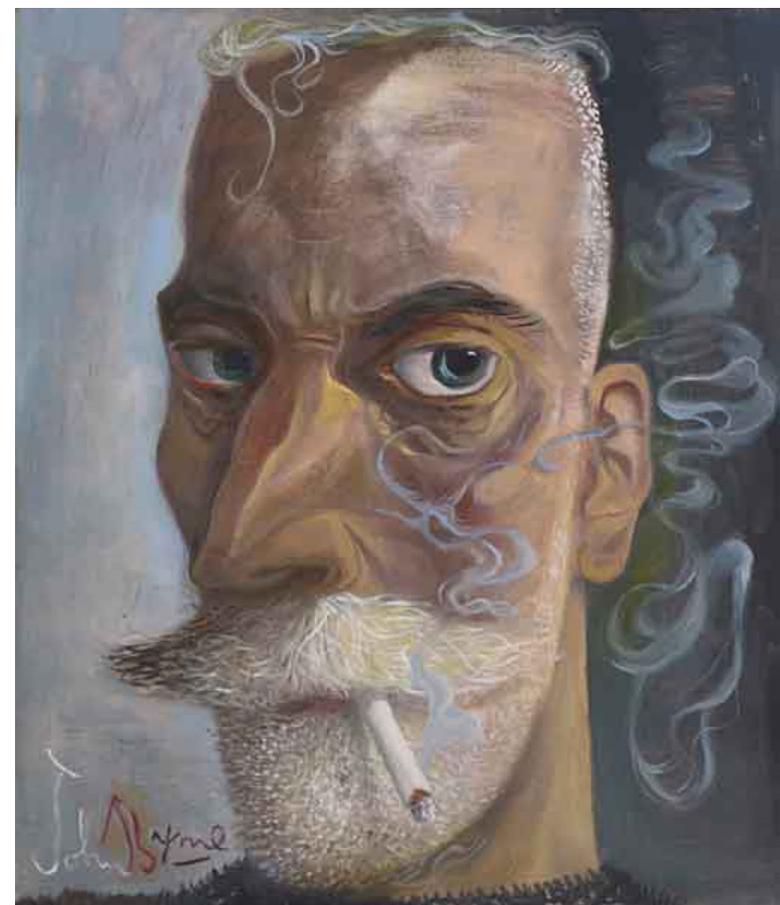
**John Byrne RSA** (6 January 1940 – 30 November 2023)

Born in 1940, John Byrne grew up in the Ferguslie Park housing estate in Paisley, frequently cited at the time as the worst slum in Europe. Leaving school without any qualifications, he worked as a 'slab boy,' grinding pigment in a carpet factory in Elderslie. This experience would provide the inspiration for his trilogy of plays, *The Slab Boys* (1978), widely considered as one of the most important works of twentieth-century Scottish literature.

Byrne gained entrance to Glasgow School of Art in 1958 and earned the admiration of his tutors and peers as his talent for drawing and painting became apparent. As critic Cordelia Oliver has said, before long Byrne 'could draw like Millais.' Considering the rules and regulations of the art school to be too stringent, however, he transferred to Edinburgh College of Art in 1961, only to return to Glasgow to complete his degree having found Edinburgh even worse. He went on to win the prestigious Bellahouston Award for painting and travelled to Italy to view the works of the Renaissance Masters. From 1964 until 1966, Byrne designed jackets for Penguin Books. Having had his work rejected by various galleries, Byrne submitted a painting to the Portal Gallery, London, under the pseudonym of Patrick. Finding success under this guise, Byrne continued to present work as Patrick even after his cover was blown.

Byrne was an acclaimed polymath, working in the visual arts, theatre, set design, illustration, film and TV, creating the acclaimed series Tutti Frutti in 1987. He has worked in printmaking since the late 1970s, using the facilities at Glasgow Print Studio to produce a diverse body of work. In a 2011 interview in [The Herald](#), John Byrne recounts a moment 50 years prior when, as a young artist, he took the train from Glasgow to Edinburgh to attend a prize-giving ceremony at the Royal Scottish Academy, where he was due to collect a painting award. Lighting up a cigarette before the Royal toast, Byrne incurred the wrath of Academician David Donaldson, placing him, he felt, on 'a shooglie nail' at the RSA ever since. Becoming a renowned painter and playwright, Byrne was elected an Associate of the Royal Scottish Academy in 2004 and became a full Member in 2007 and with it Byrne's nail in the Academy's wall became a little sturdier. Over the years since his election, John was an active member of the Academy, being a part of the hanging Committee for the inaugural New Contemporaries exhibition in 2009 and sitting on Council in 2011. Scotland's First minister, Humza Yousaf said 'There are not the words to do justice to the talents of John Byrne. An extraordinary playwright, artist and designer. Scotland has lost a cultural icon, and the world is less brighter with his passing.'

John Byrne passed away peacefully on Thursday 30 November with his wife Jeanine by his side.



- Flora La Thangue, Gallery Manager

# Memorials

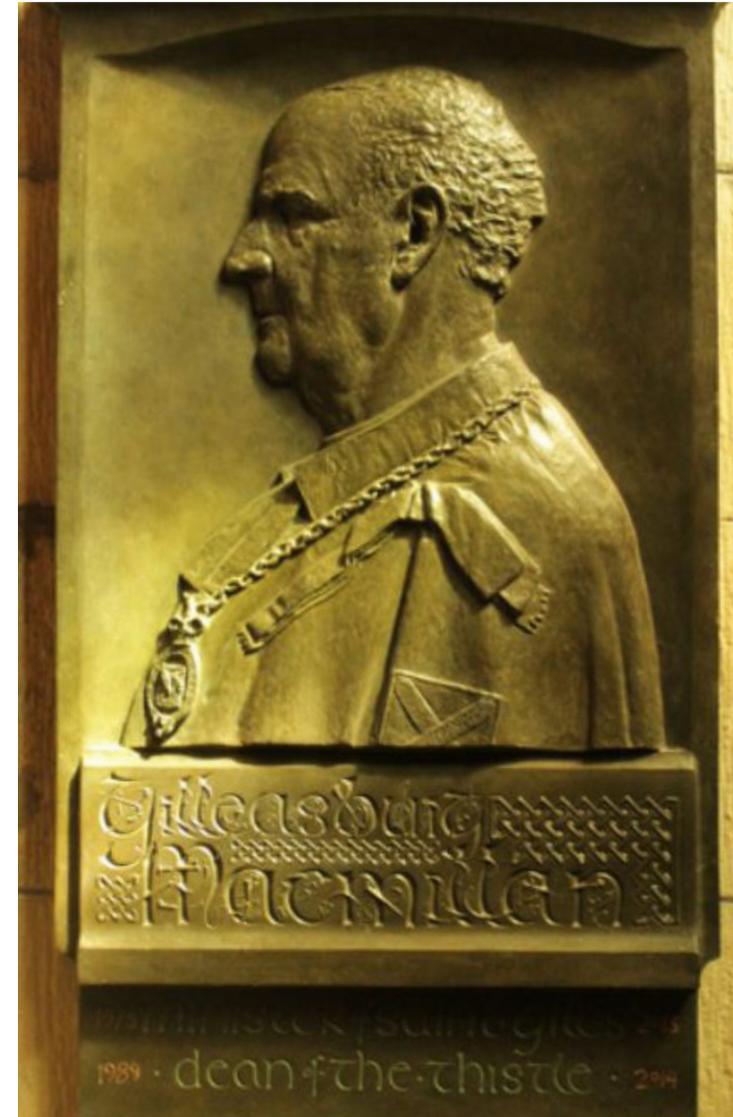
## The Very Rev. Gilleasbuig I. Macmillan HRSA (21 December 1942 – 13 December 2023)

Gilleasbuig Iain Macmillan was born in Stirling on 21 December 1942 and graduated from the University of Edinburgh (M.A. and B.D.). A minister of the Church of Scotland, he presided at the Kirking of the Parliament in 1999, 2003, 2007 and 2011.

Before moving to St Giles Cathedral in 1973, he was minister at Portree Parish Church on the Isle of Skye. From 1973 until his retirement in September 2013 he served as Minister of St Giles' Cathedral, in Edinburgh. He was Dean of the Thistle and was a Chaplain to Queen Elizabeth II. As Dean of the Thistle he was styled "The Very Reverend".

In October 1991, St Giles held a Service of Repentance in memory of the victims of the First Gulf War, which was also attended by a congregation of Muslims. Instead of simply allowing the Muslims to leave the service to carry out their prayers, Reverend Macmillan decided to stop the service twenty minutes after its start and let the Muslims perform their prayers in the Cathedral next to the Holy Table. The Adhan, the Muslim call to the prayer, was made from the pulpit of the cathedral and the prayers were performed in the midst of a Christian congregation of over 1,000. For this he was awarded a Muslim News Award for Excellence.

Gilleasbuig Macmillan was elected an Honorary Academician in 1977 and made Chaplain of the Academy in that year. He succeeded Rev Dr Charles Whitley HRSA (1906-76) as RSA Chaplain (a post that was first held by Rev Thomas Chalmers, founder of the Free Church of Scotland at the dissolution in 1843, from 1830 to 1847). Whitley had also been Minister at St Giles and served as RSA Chaplain from 1971-76. Macmillan stepped down from the role as Chaplain in 2019. The new role of Honorary Speaker was asked of Professor Mona Siddiqui OBE FRSE HRSA in 2020. Gilleasbuig Macmillan was a keen supporter of the Academy, attending and speaking at many functions, including exhibition openings, Academy dinners and the Annual Varnishing Day celebrations for the RSA Annual Exhibition.



# Committees

## Office Bearers

Gareth Fisher PRSA, *President*; Wendy McMurdo RSA, *Deputy President*; Marion Smith RSA, *Deputy President (2022 – 2023)*; Edward Summerton RSA, *Secretary*; Jo Ganter RSA, *Treasurer*; Delia Ballie RSA, *Treasurer (2022 – 2023)*; Fiona Dean RSA, *Librarian*; Ronald Forbes RSA, *Keeper*; Ann Nisbet RSA, *Internal Auditor*; George Donald RSA, *Internal Auditor*.

## Council

Gareth Fisher PRSA, *President*; Edward Summerton RSA, *Secretary*; Jo Ganter RSA, *Treasurer*; Delia Ballie RSA, *Treasurer (2022 – 2023)*; Ronald Forbes RSA, *Keeper*; Robbie Bushe RSA, *Chair of the Exhibitions Committee*; Calum Colvin RSA, *Chair of the General Purposes Committee*; Keith McIntyre RSA; Jennifer McRae RSA; Charles Sutherland RSA; Philip Braham RSA (Elect); Kenny Hunter RSA; Elspeth Lamb RSA; Wendy McMurdo RSA.

## Exhibitions and Events Committee

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## General Purposes Committee

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# Staff

## Administration

Gail Gray (Finance Administrator)  
Colin Greenslade (Director)  
Matt Hill (Academy Coordinator)  
Bet McLeod (Receptionist and Meetings Clerk)

## Programme

Rachael Bibby (Programme Assistant: Education and Gallery)  
Amy Cameron (Programme Coordinator)  
Romey Clark (Gallery Coordinator and Registrar)  
Flora La Thangue (Gallery Manager)  
Geri Loup Nolan (Gallery Supervisor)  
Emily Randall (Programme Assistant: Exhibitions)  
Ola Rek (Programme Assistant: Gallery)  
Derek Sutherland (Gallery Technician)  
Heather Taylor (Digital Content and Marketing Coordinator)  
Emma Verner (Programme Assistant: Opportunities)

## Art Consultancy

Sean Christie (Project Assistant)  
Jane Lawrence (Art Consultant)  
Amy Trantum (Project Assistant | Assistant Acquisitions Coordinator (Collections))

## Collections

Thom Laycock (Collections Assistant)  
Lucinda Middleton (Acquisitions Coordinator)  
Robin Rodger (Documentation Officer)  
Marion Smith RSA (Researcher)  
Sandy Wood (Collections Curator)

## Friends and Development

Samuel Watterworth (Friends Administrator)  
Nick Wong (Development Manager)



# Credits

Report designed by Emily Randall

For more information on images used, email [exhibitions@royal.scottish.academy.org](mailto:exhibitions@royal.scottish.academy.org)

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