



200th Annual Exhibition

OPEN ART 2026

NON-MEMBERS REGULATIONS

KEY DATES

Online Application deadline	Friday 6 February 2026, 5pm
Pre-Selection announced	Friday 13 March 2026, from midday
Hand-in of works	Friday 24/Saturday 25 April 2026, 10am-4.30pm *
Final selection announced	Wednesday 29 April, from midday
Opening event	Friday 8 May 2026, evening (exact time TBC - invite only)
Exhibition open to public	Saturday 9 May – Sunday 14 June 2026 (Mon to Sat 10am - 5pm, Sun 12 - 5pm)
Collection of unsold work	Wednesday 17 – Saturday 20 June 2026, 10am-4.30pm *

* Due to space restrictions all delivery/collection from the RSA building will be at pre-arranged times only. Time-slot options will be sent to artists on notification of pre-selection.

KEY DETAILS

- Artists may submit up to **TWO works** in any size and in any fine art media.
- All works submitted for exhibition are considered by the Annual Exhibition Hanging Committee whose decision to select is final. Feedback cannot be provided on individual submissions and the panel will not enter into discussions nor make any exceptions on the final selection.
- No reproductions of original work and no works that have previously been exhibited at the RSA, or any other exhibition in the RSA building, can be submitted. Artwork, including editioned work, cannot be included in any other exhibition during the opening dates of this exhibition. This includes in online/virtual exhibitions.
- Applications should be from living artists and works must have been completed in the last 8 years.
- Applied art is not accepted. No work made from ivory or involving the use of ivory will be accepted.
- The judging process involves an online pre-selection phase followed by the delivery of pre-selected works to the RSA for a final selection of works to be included on the gallery walls. All pre-selected works will automatically be included in the online exhibition. As usual, only those selected at the final physical selection will be shown on the gallery walls.
- There is also the opportunity to submit work as a solely online presentation by answering YES to 'My work is solely an online presentation' during the application process. These works will only be considered for online selection, and this opens up an opportunity for more experimental practices, for example documentation of site-specific work or extended digital video content.

ONLINE APPLICATION

Deadline: Friday 6 February 2026, 5pm

- Artists must register and submit their work online at royalscottishacademy.oess1.uk.
- **Applications must be completed before the deadline.** After 5pm, 6 February 2026 no changes can be made to the submission and new entries will not be accepted. **We strongly recommend that you do not leave completing your application to the last minute.** Please remember your log in details.
- **ONE image per work is required**, however up to three images showing different angles or details can be submitted. Please provide good quality images that will do justice to your work. Images should be Jpeg/JPG or PNG files. They should ideally be 300 dpi and be at least 1MB in size but no larger than 10MB.

An Entry Fee (inclusive of VAT) and Hanging Fee is required for each work:

- **Artists £20 per work / Concessions (student / recent graduate [up to 2 years] / under 26s) £10 per work**
- Secure payment via Stripe is made online during the application process by debit or credit card
- Submissions will not be accepted without payment and refunds will not be offered for work not selected, not handed in or applications not completed by the deadline or completed incorrectly. Refunds are not offered if you change your mind about applying so please consider this before making your payment and read all the guidelines in full.

- Each work included in the final exhibition is also subject to a **£10 hanging fee to be paid online at Pre-selection (via Stripe link) or on delivery of the work in cash.** Any works not included in the final physical selection will be refunded this hanging fee on collection of the work at the end of the exhibition and works submitted as online only will not be required to pay this fee.

SELECTION AND HAND IN

Pre-selection results: Friday 13 March 2026, from midday

- Artists must **log back into their account on the submission site** to find out if works have been pre-selected.
- A notification email **will not be sent out** and it is the artist's responsibility to log in and check on the day.

Hand in for pre-selected work: Friday 24/Saturday 25 April 2026, 10am-4.30pm

- Pre-selected works must be **delivered to the rear (South) door of the Royal Scottish Academy, The Mound, Edinburgh, EH2 2EL.**
- Artists may not hand in different or substitute works to those that have been pre-selected.
- Works must be unwrapped before handing to RSA staff and all packing must be removed from the gallery.
- Work will not be received outside the stated hours.
- **Due to extremely limited vehicle access to the building, arrivals must be staggered and times strictly adhered to. Delivery on foot is encouraged where possible. A schedule will be sent out to all pre-selected artists to book a delivery slot.**

Final selection notification: Wednesday 29 April, from midday

- Artists must **log into their account** to find out if their work is included in the final hang. If your work has not been selected for the physical exhibition it will still be included online and you will not need to collect until the end of the exhibition, with the exception of large or fragile works which we may request collection of due to space limitations or for the safety of the work.
- No installed work, once placed, can be removed until the close of the exhibition without a special order from the RSA Council.

Artwork Labels

- Artwork labels will be posted to pre-selected artists and will also be available at the RSA on hand-in days.
- Labels should be securely attached to each work with string which is taped or stapled to the back of the work. The string should be long enough for the label to hang over the front of the work. For sculptures or unusually shaped works please affix the label in the most convenient way possible. **Labels are for cataloguing and identification purposes and will be hidden or removed before opening to the public.**
- Each label is in three sections - A, B and ARTIST RECEIPT - **all of which must be completed in full.** A permanent label or other identification should also be affixed to the back of each work and, if possible, to each piece of sculpture, giving the artist's name, artwork title and price.
- Failure to comply with these requirements in full can lead to rejection of the work.

COLLECTION OF UNSOLD WORK

Collection: Wednesday 17 – Saturday 20 June 2026, 10am-4.30pm

- **We have no storage at the RSA and a very quick changeover of exhibitions, therefore it is vital that artists uplift their works on the dates given.**
- Any works not collected will incur a storage fee to be paid by the Artist. After TWO WEEKS the work will become property of the RSA and may be disposed of. By completing the online registration process, the Artist accepts this condition as a binding agreement whereby ownership of the uncollected works is relinquished and transferred absolutely to the RSA.

DELIVERY AND COLLECTION

- If you are unable to hand in your work in person you can arrange for an agent or courier to deliver/collect on your behalf on the stated collection days. It is the Artists' responsibility to source a courier and make arrangements directly with them. Below is a list of couriers who regularly deliver to the RSA. Please note, the RSA is not affiliated with any couriers and cannot confirm their availability. Many other couriers are available.

- » Van GoGo2: vangogo2@gmail.com (Edinburgh, Glasgow, the Borders)
- » Paul Gilzean: pggilzean@btinternet.com (Aberdeenshire, Dundee, Fife)
- » McAdie and Reeve: mcadie-and-reeve.co.uk (Orkney)
- » Irish Art Services: irishartservices.com, info@irishartservices.com, +353 63 849 51 (Ireland)
- » Aardvark Art Services: aardvarkartservices.com, info@aardvarkartservices.com, 01253 794 673 (UK)
- » ThePackengers: thepackengers.com, +44 (0) 20 3154 4360 (UK)
- » Art Cargo: artcargo.co.uk, +44 (0)75 88 48 43 64 (UK)
- » Picture Post: picture-post.webnode.com, info@picturepostcompany.co.uk (UK)
- » Central Link Couriers: central-linkcouriers.co.uk (UK, Europe)
- **It is the artist's responsibility to organise and pay for all shipping, declare the artwork on an international postage customs declaration form and pay any customs costs your country may impose. This also applies to return shipping.**
- The RSA will not be responsible for any damage sustained to work while in transit to or from the gallery and we recommend the artist arrange suitable insurance.

FRAMING AND GLAZING

- Framed and unframed works are accepted.
- For safety reasons, frames should have no hanging mechanisms attached when delivered, unless integral to the work. All wall based work will be mirror plated as standard by the RSA hanging team. Works which cannot be mirror plated must be delivered with instructions for hanging and any specialist fittings that their weight or particular materials require.
- Work with inadequate or unstable frames may be rejected on these grounds. Clip frames will not be accepted.
- Unframed paper works must come with hanging instructions and are submitted at the artists own risk.

PRINTS

- Original prints are encouraged; however, reproductions of existing artworks in other media will not be accepted.
- If further works from a print edition are available, the framed and unframed prices and number available for sale should be provided on the online application form.

SCULPTURE/3D WORK

- Plinths or shelves for sculptures **must be supplied by the artist with the work** on the hand in days or the work will be rejected. Plinths must be stable and an appropriate size for the work. The RSA reserves the right to paint plinths unless expressly prohibited by the Artist.
- Works whose stability, materials or method of construction could present a hazard to the viewing public may be rejected on these grounds.
- Works with moving parts or utilising electrical/mechanical elements must comply with health and safety regulations and be PAT tested.
- Composite work must be accompanied by clear instructions for assembly and all parts must be clearly labelled.

ELECTRONIC MEDIA

- For the purpose of selection, Artists submitting film or digital media should upload their work to Vimeo, YouTube, or other suitable website and enter a URL link to that work in the space provided in the submission form. It is also possible to add a password if the link is password protected. A still image must also be submitted as a holding image for the application process.
- **As standard, selected film work will be shown in a repeating showreel with other film works using the RSA's own projectors and speakers.** If the A/V work is intended to be shown separately on a TV monitor, or is not able to be displayed on the showreel for a specific reason, the Artist must supply the necessary A/V equipment (plus any plinths/shelves required). Set up and running instructions must also be supplied and all equipment must be PAT tested.

SALE OF WORK

- All work must be available for sale (exceptions may be made for installation and film work).
- All sales are subject to a **commission of 40% + VAT** (charged on the amount of commission only) for non VAT-registered artists. Artists registered for VAT must enter their VAT number on the online submission form and sales will then be subject to a **commission of 40% including VAT**.
- The price of work given on the online submission form and labels is **the total price payable by the purchaser, i.e the wall price. The RSA will not add commission costs on for you.**
- Where editions of works (prints, casts, etc.) are available for sale, the Artists must enter the appropriate information (framed/unframed prices, number in edition, number available for sale) on the online submission form. The Artist must arrange for the framing and delivery of any additional framed prints sold (the RSA will not charge commission on the framing premium).
- For the duration of the exhibition all work (including editions) should be for sale through the RSA only. No editions of works should be sent by the Artist to a purchaser until the RSA has confirmed that the price has been paid in full. In addition, any private sale made outwith, but as a direct result of, the exhibition should also be acknowledged, whereupon the relevant commission will be charged.
- Artists will be notified of any sales prior to the collection dates and payment will be made by BACS around one month after the close of the exhibition.
- All purchaser information is confidential and handled in line with the RSA's Privacy Policy and General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

COPYRIGHT

- Under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 it is the general rule that in the absence of any agreement to the contrary, copyright of a work of art belongs to the artist or his/her/their heirs and assigns. By submitting work, unless contacted by the artist in writing to say otherwise, the Artist grants the RSA permission to photograph and/or film the submitted works for press and marketing purposes, including the right to free reproduction in any catalogue, poster, website or other promotional material in connection with the exhibition.

CARE OF WORKS

- If a work is lost, damaged or destroyed during the exhibition period, the RSA shall notify the Artist immediately and shall be liable to pay the Artist the agreed selling price less the agreed commission. Works shall be insured whilst at the RSA premises only. No insurance cover will be given to works while in transit to or from the RSA or after the stated collection dates.
- Fragile works must be appropriately labelled and unframed mounted prints/photographs must come with corner protectors. Unframed 2D works, works of a temporary or ephemeral nature, and works intended to be handled by the public will remain at the risk of the artist and may not be covered by insurance. Works will be assessed for condition on delivery to the galleries.

OPENING TIMES AND EVENTS

- An opening event will be held at the RSA on the evening of **Friday 8 May** (exact time TBC).
- All pre-selected Artists will receive a plus one invite link to this event upon notification of pre-selection and **must RSVP online in order to attend**. Due to strict health and safety capacity rules for the building it is likely not all artists will be able to RSVP/attend. No additional invites will be available.
- The exhibition will be open to everyone for free from Saturday 9 May – Sunday 14 June 2026, Sundays 12 - 5pm. Related events will be published on the RSA website nearer the time.

By completing the online submission process for the 200th RSA Annual Exhibition - Open Art 2026, the Artist acknowledges that they have read, understood and accepted the Terms and Conditions laid out in these Regulations.



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