

Website and Database

The most efficient way to keep the connections and maintaining the links with an ever growing number of RCA graduates is through the website. There is no excuse any more - everyone communicates via the web, or skype, email or texting. The RCA Society website has been around for more than 20 years....! we had a website before the Royal College of Art and we have continued to maintain a substantial database of graduates which provides an open searchable resource on our website. The website is the core of our activities. Members can post up information, respond to articles, comment on issues, promote what they do, and read about other members activities. It is a practical resource too. Subscriptions can be easily renewed on line, donations made, and other graduates and associates encouraged to do the same. Details of current activities, meetings and events, are posted onto the website 'calendar'. The cost of maintaining the website and database remains a constant and effective economy - keep using it!

International Liaison

Increasing numbers of international students are studying at the RCA. Cynically it could be said that this is a purely mercenary exercise by the College administration. An increasing number of students journey from the far east, Hong Kong, Korea, Japan, others from the Americas. We have heard of disappointment from these young people that they would have enjoyed their experience at the College more if there was a greater mix of students from the UK and Europe. The world economic circumstances in recent years has not helped. The EU and the US has been hard hit economically and there is little appetite for young people to spend small fortunes (or mortgaging their parents) to acquire more debt to get a qualification for jobs that don't exist. On the positive side the RCA 'phoenix' is spreading its wings across the world and wherever you go - to the depths of the jungle or to the heights of the plateaus you are bound to bump into an someone 'from' the RCA. A recent example of an RCA graduate having an impact was the major 'retrospective' exhibition and archiving project commissioned by SALT Istanbul / Ankara (Turkey) under the Directorship of Vasif Kortun, of RCA Society committee member and sculpture school graduate (1973) Ismail Saray. This project was in the making for over four years. But whether people are in the public eye or are quietly working away in the 'backrooms' the task of the International Liaison is to find ways of keeping the connections and maintaining the links. ■ **Peter Ayley**



events continued

RCA Show 2015

25 June till 5 July 2015
The annual graduate exhibition takes place simultaneously across the College's two sites in Battersea and Kensington.

Rhonda Whitehead • Publication

July 2015
Sansom & Co announce the publication of a book of Rhonda Whitehead's recent works.

Jane McAdam Freud Exhibition

2 July till 15 August 2015
'Mother Mould' at Gazelli Art House

RCA Convocation 2015 ceremony at the Albert Hall • VIDEO

03 July 2015
Important occasion for new RCA graduates and their families to watch online.

Convergence • Art+Design • Thinking+Doing

02 - 16 August 2015
RCA Society with AND 'eventSpace1'
'Convergence' - an exhibition of current works by a group of recent RCA graduates and launch the 'OneDay...' series of exhibitions by RCA Society members which will take place throughout 2015 - 16
Participating Artists: Paul Gong - (Speculative / Critical Design), Eleanor Banwell - (Innovation / Design Engineering), Sam Conran - (Sound Designer / Design Interactions), Helena Hartmann - (Sculpture-Performance), Girolamo Marri (Sculpture-Performance), William Darrell (Sculpture), Yucheng Ji (Fine Art / Printmaking)

'Degree of Value' Art+Design Roundtable Education Debate

Sunday 9 August 2015 • 2pm till 8pm
take part to SHAPE the FUTURE
AND 'eventSpace1' is holding a 'roundtable' educational debate on art education. This will take place during the two week long exhibition - 'Convergence'

RCA Society Officers 2014 - 2015

ROYAL COLLEGE OF ART
Society
(est 1982)

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MEMBERSHIP

VACANT

SOC COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Jeff Sawtell MA (RCA)
John Kaine ARCA
Saleem Arif Quadri OBE MA (RCA)
Lynne Beel MA (RCA) (co-opted)

Communications

EDITORIAL

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RCA Society

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The above members are the outgoing 'officers' and committee members for the past year 2014/15.

All members may put themselves forward for the above positions or nominate members who confirm they would like to be on the committee. ■



WELCOME TO THE RCA Soc AGM 2015

RCA Society
Annual General Meeting
Sunday 16th August 2015
(11am for coffee) 11.30 am – 1pm
venue • AND eventSpace1
10 Back Church Lane
London E1 1LX

AGENDA ITEMS

- 1 Welcome by the Chair
- 2 Apologies
- 3 Approval of previous year's AGM minutes
- 4 Officers' Reports
- 5 Approval of Treasurer's Report
- NOMINATIONS* AND ELECTIONS**
- 6 Election of Chair and officers
- 7 Election of committee members
- 8 Recommendations and Any Other Business

* Please send your Committee Member nominations to us, or let us know if you want take part in any way, or send your comments to the AGM.

Convergence
special view

AGM Report

RCA Society overview of the year

Chair's report

This year the Society has reviewed its activities and the way we should go forward. The committee proposed reducing our formal monthly 'management' meetings to 2 per year (including the AGM) and replacing them by meeting up at exhibitions, holding events and discussions at cultural centres, or simply trying out some group project ideas such as the "Selfies" exhibition. This year, after our trial run we aim to "fix" the calendar. There are specific fixtures such as the AGM and events around the annual Degree Shows - but in between there is space for other activities. After a positive meeting with the College Students Union we are aiming to develop closer social links with the Student body: such as social events, educational discussions. We are also offering members an opportunity to show work in a London Gallery. "One Day..." is 4 x 'one day' opportunities to use AND 'eventSpace1' for an exhibition, event, or simply a 'rehearsal' space. Of course the success of this depends on member's active participation. I would like to remind everyone that our 'monthly' meetings are open to all members and I would like to encourage those members who haven't yet - to take a more active role in the Society.

No matter where you are in the world there are many ways you can be active. Our website is a very good place to start... And why not introduce other RCA graduates or associates you may know to the Society.

• David Sherriff

Secretary's report

During the past year the RCA Society Management Committee have worked hard to make our monthly meetings more open and attractive to our wider membership by reducing management 'formality' as much as possible.

The Society being a micro organisation, with no employees nor premises to manage, does not have a great deal of management "work load" therefore it was decided that we could forego the number of formal meetings held during the year by reducing them to 2 formal meetings including the AGM (with agendas and of course 'for the record' minutes) with the proviso that if the occasion key decisions are required a formal meeting would be called. This year the proposition for a 'forward plan' of events had a 'practice run'. Our regular monthly committee meetings merged with the "Selfies" exhibition project proposal or visits to large trade exhibitions, cultural centres, galleries, or members homes. (see the list of events attended during the year in this report). A key exhibition we attended was Peter Kennard's 'retrospective' at the Imperial War Museum "Unofficial War Artist". Occasionally the committee touched base meeting in the Humanities Dept or the student canteen (JCR).

We are endeavouring to maintain our link with the College student body through our College Liaison officer and attend the various School's "interim shows" where we are able to introduce students to the RCA Society. Our new 'promo "business" card' has proven very useful at these events. More recently the Society supported an exhibition of 7 students degree work in a London Gallery. You can read more information on these initiatives in the 'officer' reports'. The Secretary's task continues as ever - maintaining general communications, preparing website content, chasing people - and of course compiling the annual report... so happy reading!

web: www.rcasociety.net

Find us on:  [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/RoyalCollegeofArtSociety) Royal College of Art Society

AGM report continued

Treasurer's report

The Society's accounts are in the black.

The full accounts will be available at the AGM.

I am pleased to tell you that the RCA Society accounts are fit and well and in the black. The funds are much as they were last year since our policy is taking shape. We wish our events to prove entertaining and interesting to our members but they need to be self-supporting. So far we only have the funds to seed the events put forward but this has not stopped this year being both busy and fun. We are not short of big ideas but they require generous benefactors, time and more active members. Why not join us and see what we can do together? Your "Group" activities or ideas can flourish and remain independent provided they have the approval of the committee. The Committee would like to see group events take place outside London and abroad. With an increasing number of students from abroad coming to study at the Royal College of Art we need to extend our contacts with each other. Art is not driven by finance. The Royal College of Art Society is primarily for exchanging ideas, skills and experiences for the mutual support of each other. As treasurer, money to do things is my concern. I would like to report that the RCA Society's working accounts have £4,168.32 (Current Acct) and £6,932.81 (Savings Acct). Any member is entitled to see the accounts on request by contacting the Treasurer. The RCA Society continues to enable you to pay your subscription by direct debit, and via PayPal on line.

• Diana Brown

Membership

We have maintained our membership during this past year and continued to add more names to our database. We still offer 18 months free membership to recent graduates. Most graduates' lives are chaotic on leaving the College so it takes time for them to take up an active role in the RCA Society. Sadly, we have also lost a number of our more elderly members, who were from a generation of people who understood "collective" activity. But not all is doom and gloom - our Society continues to be rich in the wealth of commitment and expertise it's members generously bring. We welcome all who can join us. So keep on letting your colleagues and friends who studied or worked at the RCA know about the Society.

College Liaison

The College has been undergoing a big reorganisation recently. The division of the College between Kensington and Battersea, the continual increase in student numbers (particularly from overseas), the 'mergers' of departments, the hemorrhaging of staff, has altered the mood of the College. However, our meeting with the SU President about how the RCA Society can take a part in social and 'educational' events was very positive. A current issue that is causing concern is the Rector's '5 year plan' for the College (2016 - 2021). The report will emerge later this year for more public inspection and consultation at which point the RCA Society aims to participate in the 'consultation process'. Our interventions into consultations on education continues our tradition of discussing education issues. Many years ago the RCA Society organised a key conference 'Art & Design Education is Dying' and more recently our secretary discussed Art Education in 'Art & the Labour Movement' series of presentations at the Marx Memorial Library in London. The College Degree shows were well attended by many of our members. The Society took up the opportunity to collaborate with a London Gallery, AND "eventSpace 1", in an exhibition of works by a small group of recent RCA graduates. "Convergence" was a brilliant initiative as it not only enabled these exceptional artists to kick start their careers but also introduced them to the RCA Society.

• Ismail Saray

AGM Report continues over

Since our previous AGM the RCA Society has posted news of our members activities on the Society's web calendar. Many of us went along to the events listed below...

'Why War?' Exhibition PV at Freud Museum

6 August 2014 - 19 October 2014
Mixed exhibition including new work by Jane McAdam Freud based on the conversation 'Why War?' between Freud and Einstein

'Water Series'

18 August - 9 Sept 2014
Exhibition of new paintings in River Art Trail by Rhonda Whitehead Ravensingham Centre, Norfolk

'From England with Love' • İsmail Saray

July 2014 till January 2015
Retrospective and archive of works by İsmail Saray at SALT Istanbul and SALT Ulus in Ankara, From England with Love, İsmail Saray is the culmination of a comprehensive, four-year research comprising an intensive archival process and an in-depth collaboration with the artist.

The Other Art Fair • Rhonda Whitehead

16 - 19 October 2014
Including an exhibition of paintings by Rhonda Whitehead, Old Truman Brewery • London

'Dance of Disapproval' - War Works

22 Oct 2014
Jane McAdam Freud 'Dance of Disapproval - War Works' commemorating the 75th anniversary of the death of Sigmund Freud. London Jewish Cultural Centre

GraphicsRCA: Fifty Years and Beyond

5 Nov - 22 Dec 2014
RCA Kensington, Upper Gulbenkian Gallery

PMSA/MARSH Award for Public Sculpture

6 Nov 2014
The Public Monuments and Sculpture Award Ceremony, Best public sculpture of the year award 2014.

'The Beguiled Eye' - Chris Orr

15 Nov 2014 14 Feb 2015
Talbot Rice Gallery "The Beguiled Eye" new and recent paintings and featuring, for the first time, the artist's remarkable sketchbooks.

MAKE:SHIFT - Long Space

20 - 21 Nov 2014
Exploring how advances in materials, processes and technologies are driving innovation in craft practice.

RCA Soc Meeting up at RCA SU 'Winter Fayre'

4 Dec 2014
RCA Students Union and Staff sale of works at a 'Winter Fayre'

Robert Filliou

04 Dec 2014 till 30 January, 2015
Robert Filliou 'Honi Soit Qui Mal Y Pense' With the company of James Coleman - Barry Flanagan - John Latham - Tony Morgan at Richard Saltoun Gallery

Ian Breakwell at Anthony Reynolds

21 Jan till 21 February 2015
Important Works by the late Ian Breakwell from the '60s and '70s

ARCHITECT@WORK

21 - 22 Jan 2015
Olympia National
ARCHITECT@WORK unique and innovative exhibition of architects and design suppliers - including a presentation by the RCA's Alex de Rijke

Sculptural Ceramics by Katharine Morling

3 Feb 2015
Drawing on Life: Recent Sculptural Ceramics by Katharine Morling in Canary Wharf

School of Architecture • Work-in-progress

11 Feb 2015
Private View at RCA Kensington

School of Communication • Work-in-progress

4 Feb 2015
Presentations, screening and exhibition of works and private view at RCA Kensington

The London Bike Show

12 Feb 2015
ExCel, London
The London Bike Show - Driven by SEAT is the

UK's premier cycling exhibition.

Creative Industries Federation event

23 Feb 2015
Ed Miliband pledges to put the arts and cultural education at the heart of a Labour government. The event today was the first in a series of pre-election events which include: Chris Bryant, The Custard Factory, Birmingham, Nicky Morgan, and a Cultural Electoral Husting,

UK Broadcast and Production Show

24 - 26 Feb 2015
ExCel, London • BVE is the essential broadcast and technology event.

ECO Build • 'Meeting up'

3 till 5 March 2015
Meeting up day 4 March
ExCel, London • Ecobuild is the sustainable design, construction and energy event for new build, refurb, commercial and domestic buildings.

David Hall • Video Art Pioneer

5 March 2015
Tate Britain - Clore Auditorium - 6.30 - 9pm
An evening of celebration; discussions and screenings of selected films and videos by the late David Hall • Video Art Pioneer.

2 Temple Place • Meeting-up

04 March 2015
Visiting Temple Place venue and viewing the exhibition 'From Cotton to Gold' - works from Northern Galleries collections followed with a stroll to Royal Festival Hall

MetroRail • Olympia

10 March 2015
Olympia West • exhibition of the Railway Industry

The Wearable Technology Show

10 - 11 March 2015
The Wearable Technology Show is the BIGGEST Exhibition and conference on wearable technology

Potential Architecture

10 March - 11 April 2015
Ambika P3 • fusing art and architecture in four site-specific commissions

RCA Curating Contemporary Art Exhibitions

16 - 22 March 2015
Curating Contemporary Art MA Final Show at RCA Kensington

Bryan Kneale • Five Decades

24 March till 2 May 2015
Five Decades of sculpture and works on paper Pangolin London - Kings Place London, highly respected Royal Academician and RCA Sculpture Lecturer Bryan Kneale presents five decades of sculpture and works on paper.

RCA Society meeting • Selfies

2 April 2015
"Selfies" at National Portrait Gallery
Bring your mobile or digital camera.... and converge with the framed and discuss this year's forward plan of activities

Stone Show

28 - 30 April 2015
Excel - London

Museums + Heritage Show

29 April 2015
Olympia West

Roderick Coyne • AGROUND - Private View

9 May - 9 June 2015
New Works Sassoon Gallery, Folkestone

RCA Show Fashion 2015

3 June 2015 • final year SHOW - exciting show under new leadership

InTRANSIT Festival

19 - 28 June 2015
Theatre, dance, art and music will take over the streets and iconic buildings of West London this summer with the return of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea Now in its ninth year, the festival celebrates the changing urban landscape, making use of public and private spaces throughout the borough during the last two weeks of June.