

international original print exhibition

APPLICATION GUIDELINES 2026

DEADLINE: Monday 31 August, 11.59pm (UK time)

These guidelines contain all the information that you need to know regarding the submission, exhibition and sale of your work in the **International Original Print Exhibition 2026**.

Please read through it carefully before submitting your work.

If you are unable to find an answer to your questions please check the FAQs in the first instance,
If your question is still not answered email submissions@banksidegallery.com

2026 Selection Panel

COLIN GREENSLADE (Director, Royal Scottish Academy)

GRIA SHEAD (Artist)

DONALD SMITH (Artist)

DAVID FERRY PRE (RE President)

MARIANNE FERM VPRE (RE Vice President)



ROYAL SOCIETY OF PRINTMAKERS

INTERNATIONAL ORIGINAL PRINT EXHIBITION 2026

The International Original Print Exhibition, established by the Royal Society of Printmakers (RE), is an international open submission exhibition celebrating the best of contemporary printmaking. As an art organisation run by artists, the RE is constantly working to create long-term opportunities for artists and promote printmaking to a wider audience.

Works selected will be exhibited at Bankside Gallery from **5 – 15 November 2026**.

Bankside Gallery is situated next to Tate Modern, in the heart of London's newest cultural quarter.

Entry

Artists may submit up to 6 recent prints for a non-refundable fee of £16 per picture.

Students in full-time education (ID required) can submit up to 6 recent prints for £12 per picture.

Entries must be submitted digitally via our online system. These digital submissions are assessed by a panel of judges who can select up to a maximum of 3 artworks for any one artist. The judges' decision is final.

To submit your work, you will be redirected to our new online entry system. If you have not used this system before you will be asked to create an account. This will allow you to check back in to your submission after you have entered. Please be aware the name that you use to create this account will be how your name will appear if selected for the exhibition. The email address used in your profile set up will be used to notify you about your submission. Please note your Zealous account details will not work on this new system!

During the entry process you will be asked for

- **An image of each artwork** Make sure this is of a good quality, size 1-3MB as a guide, cropped to the edge of your work image, do not include the frame or paper around the image unless integral to the work.
- **Title of the work**
- **Framed dimensions in centimetres**
- **Image dimensions in centimetres**
- **Medium**
- **Framed price for each print**
Please review the 'pricing of your work' section below
- **Unframed price for each print** (only if applicable ie. Do not fill in this field if further prints in the edition are not available or if it is a monoprint / monotype)
- **The edition size** (how many prints in total are in this limited edition, or one, if it is a monoprint)
- **Availability of further unframed prints in the edition** (if applicable)

Students will be required to show student ID when delivering the work to the drop-off location. When submitting student work online, please also scan your student ID and email a copy to info@re-printmakers.com. Any works found to be falsely submitted as student work will not be hung.

Make sure you complete and pay for your entry – incomplete entries will not be shown to the Selectors. You will receive a confirmation email once your entry is complete.

Pricing of your work

When setting your price, remember to take into account your framing and transport costs, as well as Bankside Gallery's commission of **45%** should the work sell. (Artists receive 55% of the cost.)

If you are UK VAT registered, please include VAT in your price and inform us you are VAT registered.

No changes to your price(s) will be possible after the competition deadline so please ensure they are correct.

Eligibility

- Any forms of original printmaking are eligible. Reproduction prints are not accepted.
- All artwork must have been made in the past 3 years, dating from 1 July 2023
- Work must not have been exhibited in an RE open submission exhibition before (ie. *International Original Print Exhibition* or *Small But Mighty*)
- There are no limitations on style or subject matter
- Artists from any country may enter provided they are willing and able to get their work to and from the designated drop off and collection venues at their own cost
- The work must have been made by the entrant
- All work must be for sale
- Artists must be 18 or over on 1 July 2026

Prizes*

- **East London Printmakers Prize**
One year's associate membership, 1 free box set print of artist's choice, invitation to exhibit in *Festival of Print*
- **Hole Editions Publishing Award. (Newcastle)**
An invitation to collaborate on a lithographic project for three days. Accommodation included, but not travel
- **Intaglio Printmaker Prize**
Materials prize of £100
- **Ironbridge Fine Arts Printmaker Prize**
Voucher for £75 worth of materials
- **Jackson's Visitors' Choice Award**
£200 Jackson's voucher to winning artist and £50 to a voter
- **John Purcell Paper Award**
Materials to the value of £150
- **Phil Shaw Award**
Prize of £1000 cash
- **Printmaking Today Award**
An editorial feature in the magazine
- **Royal Society of Printmakers Membership Prize**
One year's guest RE membership for an outstanding work
- **Royal Society of Printmakers Publicity Prize**
Work image used on publicity material for the exhibition
- **Society of Wood Engravers Prize**
£100 plus a one-year membership
- **St Cuthberts Mill Award**
20 sheets of Somerset 250gsm paper
- **Thames-Side Print Studio Prize**
Annual membership of studio, 50 open access sessions & a place on a print course of choice worth circa £650

*Prizes may be subject to alteration. Prizes are announced and presented at the exhibition Private View, Wednesday 4 November 6-8pm to which artists plus one guest are invited to. (Please note numbers are restricted)

Results

A list of prints selected for the exhibition will be published on www.re-printmakers.com/international-original-print-exhibition by 6pm on **Wednesday 9 September**. Artists whose work has been selected will be sent an email confirming arrangements for the exhibition.

Please check your junk mail at this time to avoid missing this notification. We will try to contact all artists whether successful or not, but given the large volume of applicants we ask you for your patience in waiting to hear from us. Checking whether your work appears on the list of selected prints will be the quickest way for you to find out the result of the competition.

Please be aware if your work is successfully selected for the competition your first name, surname and name of selected work will be published on our website in a public domain. We will not publish your email address.

General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)

New data protection laws came into force on 25 May 2018. As an entrant to the competition you give us your first name, surname, email address, postal address and telephone number. We do not receive your payment card details as these go through the GDPR compliant online payment system. Please be assured we take keeping your data safe very seriously. You can read our updated Privacy Policy on banksidegallery.com/privacypolicy. In order to inform you about the results of the competition judging, we need to be able to contact you using the email address you have provided us with so that we can carry out the service you are paying us to do. This is our legal basis for storing your contact details until you tell us not to. However, in order to keep you informed about future competitions administrated by Bankside Gallery which may interest you, we would like to send you some occasional direct marketing in relation to this topic and the Royal Society of Painter-Printmakers. Please tick the opt-in box after writing your contact details when you enter this competition online in order for us to do so.

Preparing Your Work for the Exhibition

An exhibition of the selected prints will be held at Bankside Gallery from:
Thursday 5 – Sunday 15 November 2026.

- There are no size restrictions on works you can submit. However, artists with extremely large works are advised to contact Bankside Gallery to discuss details prior to submitting to ensure we can accommodate this logistically.
- Poorly presented prints or works that differ significantly from the photograph that was entered will not be displayed.
- For your work to be insured against theft under Bankside Gallery insurance, your prints must be framed, glazed and fitted with mirror plates. Other display options are accepted, BUT:
 - a) there must be a compelling reason for the work to be displayed unframed
 - b) work must be displayed in a way that is suitable for a professional gallery setting
 - c) the alternative hanging method must be appropriate to the work
 - d) you must provide all equipment for this hanging, eg, clips, magnets, shelves etc and clear instructions on the hanging of your work
 - e) you must provide a safe and secure way in which the work can be safely stored, and also wrapped and protected if sold.
 - f) you display these works at your own risk
- Please note -
The entry system asks for a framed price as a mandatory field. If this is not applicable to your work, enter '0' in these fields but then you **MUST** complete the image size fields instead. Works with no dimensions will not be selected as we require size information to inform this decision.

Framing

- Frames must be of a professional quality. No clip frames or metal frames will be accepted.
- Artists are responsible for costs involved with rectifying defective frames or mounting of works in the case of customer complaints regarding sold works for up to 12 months after date of sale.

Mirror-plates

- Framed prints must be supplied with mirror-plates (pictured) attached to each side of the frame with a pair of screws half way down from the top of the frame. Bubble wrap or card wrapped around the mirror-plates should prevent damage during transit.



- All works are to be handed in unwrapped and will be transported in blankets. All works will be handed out unwrapped so artists will need to bring their own wrapping when they collect their work.

Labels

- You will receive labels for your framed works via email if informed that your print has been accepted. Please fill out the information with the SAME details of your name and title of work that you submitted online, and fix one to the front and one to the back of your work. This is so we can identify the work when it is screwed to the wall and label it correctly.
- The label on the back should be fitted securely.
- Please make sure the label on the front can be easily removed without leaving a sticky residue. A small piece of masking tape or Scotch "Magic Tape" (pictured) is the best option for this. No sellotape or sticky labels please.



Insurance

- The prints remain at all times the liability of the artist. While every care will be taken when handling artworks neither Bankside Gallery, nor the RE, can accept liability for any damage.
- You may wish to insure your work against loss or damage while it is in transit or at the Bankside Gallery. Prints selected for exhibition will **ONLY** be insured at the venue (Bankside Gallery) throughout the duration of the exhibition, and once they are screwed to the wall with mirror-plates.

Copyright

The copyright of all works remains vested in the artist, but the right is reserved for Bankside Gallery and/or the sponsors of the exhibition to reproduce any of the prints in connection with the exhibition, and its publicity, free of charge. Any other enquiries regarding copyright will be referred to the artist.

Delivering Your Prints

UK ARTISTS:

Selected works are to be delivered to **Ground Floor, 23 Blue Anchor Lane, Bermondsey, London SE16 3UL** on **Friday 30 or Saturday 31 October 11am – 5pm**. No works will be accepted at Bankside Gallery.

- Bermondsey is the nearest tube station (Jubilee Line) and 10 minutes walking distance to 23 Blue Anchor Lane. Parking is free on Blue Anchor Lane, but not plentiful. There is also a National Rail Station at South Bermondsey, which is serviced by Southern. Check www.tfl.gov.uk for maps, buses and travel updates.
- You will be asked to unwrap your prints and take any packing material away with you.
- If you are planning to use an art courier to deliver your prints, we recommend:
Picture Post (info@picturepostcompany.co.uk / 07833 450 788)
Art Moves of Chelsea (artmoveschelsea@aol.com / 020 7352 7492)
- Work **will not be accepted** if delivered by taxi, Royal Mail, FedEx, DHL etc., as 23 Blue Anchor Lane do not have specialist art insurance, nor can they unwrap works and remove packaging. Artworks delivered in this way directly to 23 Blue Anchor Lane will not be hung in the exhibition and will be **disposed of immediately**. There can be **no exceptions to this rule**. Please liaise with **Picture Post** who can receive works from non-art couriers and then deliver it to Bankside Gallery for an additional fee. No work will be accepted if delivered to Bankside Gallery directly from the artist/artist's representative.

INTERNATIONAL ARTISTS:

You may of course deliver your work in person, but if you are shipping work, please liaise with Sarah & Tom at **Picture Post** (info@picturepostcompany.co.uk / 07833 450 788) who will:

- Assist with the VAT process.
- Receive artwork from DHL/FedEx/TNT etc.
- Hand in on the due day.
- Store the packaging for use in the event of a return being required.
- Collect unsold or unaccepted artwork.
- Repack.
- Arrange the export service.
- Picture Post can provide schedules and prices for receiving your work from abroad and delivering it to Bankside Gallery. This is **not** a service that Bankside Gallery can offer.
- Work **will not be accepted** if delivered by taxi, Royal Mail, FedEx, DHL etc., as 23 Blue Anchor Lane and Bankside Gallery do not have specialist art insurance, nor can they unwrap works and remove packaging. Artworks delivered in this way directly to 23 Blue Anchor Lane or Bankside Gallery will not be hung in the exhibition and will be **disposed of immediately**. There can be **no exceptions to this rule**. Please liaise with **Picture Post** who can receive works from non-art couriers and then deliver the work to Bankside Gallery for an additional fee. No work will be accepted if delivered to Bankside Gallery directly from the artist/artist's representative.
- Artists are advised to get in touch with Picture Post as soon as possible. The hand in dates are for work arriving to the gallery rather than the date to arrive with Picture Post. Please also bear in mind, due to Brexit there have been long delays in Customs, so artists may need to send works earlier than they normally would. Plus, there is now the potential of Customs Charges for artists in the EU.
- Artists shipping work from outside the United Kingdom are fully responsible for compliance with UK customs and tax requirements.

Sale of Prints

- All works entered in the competition must be available for sale. Sales and customer payment will be handled by Bankside Gallery who act as a disclosed agent and charge a commission of **45%** on picture sales. All works will be sold as seen, so your selling price should take into account the commission, and the framing and transport costs you will have incurred.
- If you are registered for UK VAT, please give the full retail price inclusive of VAT, and notify us that you are VAT registered. We will also need your VAT registration number if a sale of your work occurs.
- Artists will be notified of sales by email shortly after they occur and will receive the balance due within six weeks of the end of the exhibition.
- International artists should take into account they will be responsible for paying any international bank transfer fees incurred by Bankside Gallery in transferring their payments to them. Any fees incurred will be deducted from the total amount due to the artist in the event of a sale of their work.

Neither The RE, nor Bankside Gallery can provide customs or tax advice and accept no responsibility for customs clearance, VAT registration, taxes, delays, storage charges, or compliance matters.

Shipping Policy

- Bankside Gallery cannot store unframed editions of your prints during the exhibition. If a customer wishes to purchase an unframed version of the framed print in the exhibition, we will process this sale as a 'print order' and you will be emailed a copy of the receipted invoice detailing where to post the print.
- Bankside Gallery will not charge buyers for postage and packaging of unframed prints sent within the UK. This P&P cost will be the artist's responsibility so please ensure your unframed price allows for this.
- Bankside Gallery will charge the customer up to £30 for posting an unframed print to Europe. This additional amount will be passed onto the artist to cover postage and packaging costs.
- Bankside Gallery will negotiate an additional charge with the customer to cover international (outside of Europe) postage and packaging of an unframed print. The amount will vary depending on the size of work, where it is going and whether it is being sent rolled or flat. This additional money will be passed on to the artist to cover costs.

- Bankside Gallery will initiate shipping arrangements for the buyers of a framed piece from the International Original Print Exhibition to its destination, but then it will be between the buyer and the shipping company. The cost of this will be the buyer's responsibility.

Collecting Unsold Prints

UK ARTISTS (or those collecting in person):

- If you have not been notified of a sale during the exhibition you **must** collect your unsold work from Bankside Gallery on **Sunday 15 November, 6 – 8pm, or Monday 16 November 11am – 5pm.**
- Please bring **photo ID** so we release the artwork to the right person.
- Please bring packing material with you as all artworks will be available to collect unwrapped, and we cannot provide wrapping materials.
- If you are sending a representative or engaging a professional carrier on your behalf, please notify us in advance by emailing submissions@banksidegallery.com to authorise someone else to collect your work on your behalf and tell us their name. They will be required to bring their photo ID. All artworks will be available to collect unwrapped, so you or your representative are advised to bring any packing material required.

INTERNATIONAL ARTISTS:

- You may of course collect work yourself, or send a representative, but if your work is being shipped back to you, please see the information regarding Picture Post's service under 'Delivery of Works' above.
- Bankside Gallery is unable to pack and send work back to the artist.

Uncollected Prints

- Artworks left at the Gallery after **6pm on Monday 16 November** will incur a storage charge. Work not collected within one month will be disposed of.

Thank you for entering the International Original Print Exhibition. We look forward to seeing your work.

Summary of Dates 2026

Monday 31 August, 11.59 PM | Entry deadline

Wednesday 9 September by 6pm | Results posted on www.re-printmakers.com/international-original-print-exhibition and successful artists contacted via email

Friday 30 or Saturday 31 October, 11am - 5pm | Delivery of successful entries to 23 Blue Anchor Lane, SE16 3UL (different delivery rules apply for RE Members who will be emailed instructions separately)

Wednesday 4 November 6-8pm | Private View & Prizegiving

Thursday 5 November – Sunday 15 November, 11am - 6pm daily | Exhibition of successful entries at Bankside Gallery

Sunday 15 November, 6 – 8pm, or Monday 16 November 11am – 5pm from Bankside Gallery | Collection of unsold work

Still got questions? Check out our FAQs over the page...

Frequently asked questions

My work involves printmaking and along with other mediums – will it be eligible?

Work involving other mediums is accepted eg. mixed media, collage, hand painting. However, this is a printmaking exhibition therefore the predominant element of the work needs to be printmaking.

Is there a size limit for works?

We do not specify a size for works. If you are considering submitting a work which may cause problems in terms of hanging space or logistical issues such as it fitting through the gallery door upon delivery, email submissions@banksidegallery.com with specific details before you apply. We can confirm whether it is feasible or not for the exhibition if it were selected.

Obviously bear in mind that the selectors are aware of the limited space available in the gallery, so entering an extremely large work may put you at a slight disadvantage to getting your work selected.

Do you accept digital prints?

We do absolutely accept digital prints, as long as they are limited edition prints created using digital processes, **not digital reproductions** of another work.

Our definition is stated on our website <https://www.re-printmakers.com/printmaking-explained/digital-printmaking/>

Do you accept cyanotypes or photography?

These processes are not strictly 'original printmaking', so as a sole medium, these techniques are not eligible for our competitions. However, these techniques would be accepted when used in combination with printmaking processes

I am submitting an artist's book – can I submit more than one image to represent it?

Sorry, our submission system allows only one image per work entered, in cases like this please choose one image that represents the contents of the book for your online submission. State clearly in the medium that it is an artist book and the selectors will take this in to account.

What if my work is not suitable to be displayed framed?

We welcome alternative ways of displaying work, however, artists must make provisions for this in that the display method must be suitable for the work and a professional gallery setting. Any additional fixings that will be needed must be provided by the artist and full instructions given for the gallery hanging team.

Artists must be aware that any works not displayed framed, glazed and fitted with mirror plates will not be covered by the gallery insurance and so will be displayed at the artist's own risk.

Can I submit work if I live abroad?

Yes! As long as you are willing to arrange transportation of your work to and from the designated delivery and collection locations in London should it be selected. We welcome applications from all artists wherever they are based.

Can I enter work on behalf of an artist who is no longer living?

I'm afraid we do not accept submissions from deceased artists, the competition is for contemporary artists only.