

GUIDELINES FOR ELECTION OF RE ASSOCIATE MEMBERS 2021

Important Dates

APPLICATION DEADLINE: **Wednesday 10 March 2021, 12 noon**

SHORTLISTED ARTISTS FROM DIGITAL SELECTION WILL BE NOTIFIED: **Wednesday 17 March 2021**

WORK SEND-IN FOR SHORTLISTED ARTISTS: **Friday 16 April 2021, 11am - 7pm**

RESULTS & WORK COLLECTION: **Sunday 18 April 2021, 11am - 6pm**

Why join the RE?

The Royal Society of Painter-Printmakers (RE) was formed in 1880 to seek recognition for the value of printmaking as artwork in its own right. To this day it continues to promote original printmaking in all its forms, widen the knowledge and understanding of printmaking as a process, whilst also providing its members with artistic opportunities.

The Society shares its home at Bankside Gallery, in London, with the Royal Watercolour Society in an association that has lasted more than a hundred years. Each year Members are invited to submit two works for inclusion in the Society's major annual exhibition at Bankside Gallery and there are a number of opportunities to show in joint exhibitions at Bankside Gallery and elsewhere.

Demonstrations and lectures are held as part of the education programme accompanying exhibitions, fulfilling the Society's status as an educational charity. The RE is run by its Members, all of whom are expected to take an active role in furthering the interests of the Society.

Being awarded RE Membership is comparable to a degree from a college or university, as the Royal Charter entitles the RE to award letters and diplomas to those who, in its opinion, by peer review and election, are outstanding in the field of making their own prints. Since 1911, full fellows of the Society have been entitled to use the post-nominals 'RE'. Newly elected Members, being Associate Members, are entitled to use 'ARE' after their name.

The Election

The next annual election of Associate RE Members (AREs) will begin with a shortlist of artists selected from the digital applications. Only shortlisted artist will be asked to send in work physically to Bankside Gallery on **Friday 16 April 2021**. Artists who work in any printmaking media, including digital printmaking, are invited to apply for membership. Successful candidates invariably are those who appear equally outstanding in all aspects of their work as practising professional artist-printmakers.

Election is by majority vote in a secret ballot of the RE Council. Polling takes place following a careful inspection of each applicant's prints, drawings (or other preparation work) and artist statement (see below). There is no limit on the number of new Members to be chosen on this occasion, nor are particular qualifications required of candidates, but it should be noted that the Council will be looking for certain significant qualities in candidates including:

1. A high degree of individuality and commitment in their work.
2. Evidence of maturity and accomplishment in printmaking.
3. Agreement to participate on a regular basis in exhibitions and assist with the Society's work.

The standard of work required to gain Membership is high and a number of those who have gone on to become valued Members of the Society did not succeed on their initial application. The Society draws from a broad range of printmakers with diverse tastes and practices. Changes to the selection committee mean that rejection one year does not preclude selection on another occasion.

PLEASE NOTE: Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, it may be necessary for this year's election to take place entirely from the digital submissions.

Online Application Form

- Complete your application online by **12 noon on Wednesday 10 March**. Please complete all relevant sections. Do not send any additional information or CVs, only fields completed on the application form will be viewed.
- You should submit images of eight unframed prints and six unframed drawings (or six images of sketchbook pages. If shortlisted and sending physical work, the entire sketchbook can be submitted.) All work submitted must have been made by the applicant within the past **three** years. Any repeatable impressions made by candidates will be considered, in black & white or colour, from all processed surfaces. Monoprints and monotypes are permissible in part, but candidates should note that the Society seeks members who are practising printmakers, producing editions of prints that we can exhibit and sell for mutual support. Images should be in JPEG format, size max 1-2MB each.
- Details of each work submitted – title, medium, dimensions (paper size), year made and edition size of prints.
- Details of artistic education, courses, training or teaching. Exhibitions and work in collections. Other awards or society memberships.
- Artist statement – 300 words Maximum
- **The application fee is £30 and must be paid to complete your online application.**

Notification of results of digital selection and shortlisted Artists

- You will be notified by **Wednesday 17 March** if you have been successful or unsuccessful in the digital selection.
- Shortlisted artists are then invited to send their work to the gallery for the Council to view.

Shortlisted artists sending in work

- The send-in day is **Friday 16 April 2021** between **11am** and **7pm**. You should submit your folio of work to Bankside Gallery, 48 Hopton Street, London SE1 9JH.
- The work should be delivered unpacked by the artist (or their agent), in one substantial portfolio, clearly labelled on the outside with the candidate's name and address. It should not be left with additional packing material after delivery.
- Great care should be taken to present the work so that it is uniformly displayed and easily accessible.
- The prints and drawings **must not be** mounted as the professionalism with which the work has been made must be visible, ie. borders etc.
- They may be interleaved with tissue or slotted into plastic sleeves from which they can be easily removed, but NOT wrapped or sealed.
- Sketchbooks should not include any loose pages as they may become detached from the book, and the artist's name and date range of the contents should be clearly marked on the cover of the book.
- The number, title, and process should be clearly written in pencil with the artist's name and the date made, on the reverse of each work.
- All work exhibited with the RE and included in your portfolio must be signed and numbered on the front of the pieces unless there is a compelling and unavoidable case for doing otherwise.

Please note: Failure to adhere to the rules of submission will mean your application will be disqualified.

Overseas Artists

Artists applying from abroad may submit and collect portfolios by courier. Alternatively, you may send a representative based in the UK to deliver and collect the work, in which case the regulations above apply. When collecting work, the representative will need a signed letter from the artist identifying them. The work should ideally be packed flat but may be sent in a strong tube, to arrive by **Friday 16 April 2021 at 6pm**. You are advised not to put the value of the works on the outside customs slip for security reasons.

It is the artist's responsibility to arrange collection of the portfolio. Bankside Gallery cannot provide any packing materials for the return journey, so the portfolio needs to be packed in such a way as to be easily and securely re-packable after inspection.

Election Results and Collection of work

All work must be collected on **Sunday 18 April 2021** between **11am** and **6pm**.

Results will be given by email on the evening of Saturday 17 April.

If the work remains uncollected after these dates, it will be put into professional storage, for which the artist must pay and arrange for collection.

DISCLAIMER

Great care will be taken in handling and inspecting applicants' work, but neither the Royal Society of Painter-Printmakers nor Bankside Gallery can take responsibility for any damage to or loss of works submitted. Submission for this election implies acceptance of this disclaimer and those who are concerned are advised to insure their work against all risks.

What happens if I am successfully elected as an Associate Member?

Newly elected Associate Members will be required to donate one of the prints submitted for the election process, which will be chosen and removed by Council during the election. This work will be added to the RE's Diploma Collection held in trust at the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford.

The Diploma Collection is of considerable historical importance, containing Members' works dating from 1880. The copyright of the Diploma Work remains with the artist during his/her lifetime and thereafter with the artist's estate; however the image may be reproduced in any context for the benefit of the Society without reference to the copyright holder.

An Entrance Fee of **£25** and a half-subscription of **£100** will be payable to complete membership, with the understanding that the new Associate will pay the full rate of **£200** in advance on 1st January in the second and subsequent years.

Terms of the election process – Please read carefully as by submitting your application you are agreeing to the following:

1. You have fully read and understood the *Guidelines for Election of RE Associate Members*.
2. If you are elected,
 - a) You will pay the Entrance Fee of **£25** and half the Annual Subscription (**£100**). In the second and subsequent years, you will pay the full Annual Subscription in advance each 1st January (the amount for **2021** is **£200** and is index-linked), or by Standing Order in advance in quarterly instalments.
 - b) You agree to the RE Council choosing one of your prints which you have submitted as your Diploma Work for the RE Collection.
 - c) You shall abide by the byelaws of the Society.

Royal Society of Painter-Printmakers (RE)

Bankside Gallery, 48 Hopton Street, London SE1 9JH / 020 7928 7521 / info@re-printmakers.com / www.re-printmakers.com
