

GUIDELINES FOR ELECTION OF RE ASSOCIATE MEMBERS 2021

Important Dates

APPLICATION DEADLINE: **Monday 5 April 2021, 12 noon**

SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS WILL BE NOTIFIED BY: **Tuesday 20 April 2021**

This year, due to the exceptional circumstances caused by the global pandemic, the election process will be carried out from digital submissions only.

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 be selected from digital applications.

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.

Online Application Form

- Complete your application online by **12 noon on Monday 5 April**. Please complete all relevant sections. Do not send any additional information or CVs, only fields completed on the application form will be viewed.

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- 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

- You will be notified by email by **Tuesday 20 April** if you have been successful or unsuccessful in the election.

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 by Council during the election. This work will need to be delivered to Bankside Gallery (date of this to be arranged) and will then 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)

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