

RBSA Candidates Exhibition 2027

8 - 24 April

Candidates for Membership

About this exhibition

The RBSA Candidates Exhibition features the work of artists wishing to be elected to the Society, either as Associates or, for existing Associates, full Members. The current Membership is able to view the exhibition and vote for the artists they would like to see successfully elected. The exhibition is also open to the public which provides an exciting opportunity for visitors to see the high standard of work by prospective RBSA Members and Associates. RBSA Associates may only apply to become a full Member three years after their election as Associate.

All candidates for Membership are asked to submit six works as part of their application. Those existing Members who visit the exhibition are able to vote for their Membership choices in a secret ballot. To be successfully elected, each candidate must receive 50% +1 of the total votes cast in favour of their candidature.

A digital catalogue featuring all the artworks in the exhibition will accompany the show. This allows the Membership to view the submissions at their leisure prior to visiting the Gallery to vote. The digital catalogue is emailed to the Membership once the exhibition opens.

At the end of the exhibition, subject to you being successfully elected as a full Member, a Diploma Piece of your work will pass into the ownership of the RBSA and become part of the Society's Permanent Collection. This Diploma Piece must be representative of your current practice and must be identified before the exhibition opens.

Artists wishing to be elected as Associate or Member have two application options: Self-nomination and Nomination. Self-nomination is for artists who have a strong record of participation in RBSA Open/Prize Exhibitions. Nomination is for artists who have the support of at least two RBSA Members, as well as a strong record of participation in RBSA Open/Prize Exhibitions. **There are separate entry forms for each application option so candidates must ensure they complete the correct form.**

Self-nominated candidates must submit six artworks with their entry information by 4.00pm on Tuesday 9 February.

Nominated candidates must submit their entry information by 4.00pm on Tuesday 9 February. Following discussions with their proposer and seconder, they must submit six artworks by 4.00pm on Tuesday 16 March. A reminder email will be sent with the link to the artwork submission form before this date.

Self-nominated candidates must return the appropriate SIGNED Consent Form to the Gallery by 5.00pm on Thursday 18 March. This must be the original hard copy and not a scanned or photographed copy sent via email.

Nominated candidates must return the SIGNED Nomination Form to the Gallery by 5.00pm on Thursday 18 March. This must be the original hard copy and not a scanned or photographed copy sent via email.

Outlined in this exhibition pack:

- Key dates
- Entry requirements
- Artwork submissions
- Application fee
- Payments
- Notification of Application Acceptance
- Delivery of selected artwork
- Preparing your artwork
- Election results
- Sale of work
 - Commission and VAT calculation
- Collection of unsold artwork
- Images of work
- Insurance
- Data collection

Key Dates

- Applications open: **Thursday 29 October**
- Application deadline: **Tuesday 9 February 4.00pm**
- Application fee payment deadline: **Tuesday 9 February 4.00pm**
- Artists selected to exhibit announced: **End February**
- Image submission deadline (Nominated candidates only): **Tuesday 16 March 4.00pm**
- Deadline for return of signed consent/nomination form: **Tuesday 16 March 5.00pm**
- Delivery of work:
 - **Wednesday 31 March 11.00am – 4.00pm**

- **Thursday 1 April 11.00am – 4.00pm**
- **Friday 2 April 11.00am – 4.00pm**
- **Saturday 3 April 11.00am – 4.00pm**
- Exhibition on display: **Thursday 8 – Saturday 24 April**
- Collection of work: **Sunday 25 April from 4.00pm**

Entry Requirements

- All applicants must be over 18 years of age
- All applicants must have been an RBSA Associate for **at least three years**
- Applicants must submit six works. These should have been selected with the guidance of your mentor if self-nominating or proposer if being nominated
- Work shown as part of your candidature for Associateship cannot be submitted
- The RBSA reserves the right to reject work, this will only be done following consultation with candidates and/or their proposer/mentor
- Applicants must submit a statement of no more than 250 words comprising a brief CV and artist's statement. All artists must observe the word limit and write the statement in the third person
- At the end of the exhibition, subject to you being successfully elected as a full Member, a Diploma Piece of your work will pass into the ownership of the RBSA and become part of the Society's Permanent Collection. This Diploma Piece must be representative of your current practice and cannot be for sale. Please indicate which piece of your work will be your Diploma Piece on your entry form and mark the artwork label with 'DP' upon delivery
- Work shown at the RBSA Gallery **in the last three years** can be entered if it is representative of your current practice
- All work must be original
- Images created using AI are **not** accepted
- Artwork should be representative of your current artistic practice
- Both 2D and 3D works are acceptable, including installation pieces
- All media are accepted, included photography and digital works (this does not include digital copies of handmade work), where digital technology is used as an essential part of the artistic process
- Reproductions of original works (such as giclee prints) are not accepted
- Prints of digital works must be produced to a high standard using archival quality inks and papers
- All prints must be editioned, this includes digital prints, with the size of the edition clearly stated
- All equipment for video works must be provided by the artist and be PAT tested
- Sound cannot be played in the Gallery. Headphones must be provided by the artist for pieces with sound elements

- All work must be for sale for the full duration of the exhibition and available for visitors of the RBSA to purchase
- Works that are over 1.5m in any dimension must be discussed with the Gallery following submission
- We ask that all artwork is framed, unless an unframed presentation is intrinsic to the nature of the piece/s. If your artwork is unframed, please send imagery and a description of the hanging methods to the Gallery so that it can be forwarded to the Honorary Curator following your submission
- Your image files must be JPG
- Your image/s need to be at least 2000 pixels across the smallest dimension and 300dpi in resolution
- You **must** title your image file 'Surname, First Name. Title of Work. Medium'
 - Please use the correct capitalisation for your submissions, for example 'Smith, John. The Tree of Life. Photograph'
- By entering this exhibition, you agree to adhere to all the key dates specified
- By completing the entry form you agree to the terms and conditions of this exhibition

Artwork Submissions

Artists must submit work through the online entry form only. You can access the entry form on the Call for Entries page on the RBSA website.

Application Fee

All applicants must pay a one-off application fee of £60.

Payments

- Payment can be made on the Call for Entries page on the RBSA website
- Card payments can be taken at the Gallery or over the phone, the Gallery is open Tuesday – Saturday 10.30am – 5.00pm
- All application fees must be paid by **Tuesday 9 February at 4.00pm**
otherwise work will not be considered for selection
- Please note that **all application fees are non-refundable**

Notification of Application Acceptance

Applicants selected to exhibit in the Candidates Exhibition will be emailed by the Gallery to notify them by **the end of February**. Further details regarding the delivery and collection of work will be included in this email. Please check your junk mailbox to ensure you have not missed an email from us.

Delivery of Selected Artwork

Selected UK Artists

Deliver your original work(s) labelled and unwrapped to the Gallery on any of the following days

- **Wednesday 31 March 11.00am – 4.00pm**
 - **Thursday 1 April 11.00am – 4.00pm**
 - **Friday 2 April 11.00am – 4.00pm**
 - **Saturday 3 April 11.00am – 4.00pm**
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- **Work must be delivered by 4.00pm on Saturday 3 April. Failure to deliver the complete body of six pieces of artwork will result in the applicant being excluded from the exhibition**
 - The exhibition will be installed on Tuesday 6 April from 10.00am. As a Candidate, you may wish to be involved in the hanging of your artwork, please indicate on your application form if you be interested in doing so
 - You will be asked to unwrap your artwork and take any packing material away with you. We are unable to store packaging at the Gallery unless received via a courier
 - If you are planning to use an art courier to deliver your artwork, we recommend **Picture Post** (info@picturepostcompany.co.uk / 07833 450 788). If you intend to use Picture Post, please get in touch with them for a quote **as soon as possible**. You are encouraged to contact them **before** you hear whether your work has been selected or not
 - We can also receive works from other couriers and will retain the packaging for the return of your work at the end of the exhibition
 - Please be aware that if you require the Gallery to return your work to you at the end of the exhibition, a packaging fee will be applied on top of any shipping charges, this will be confirmed with you in advance of the work being packaged

Selected International Artists

- **Work must be delivered by 4.00pm on Saturday 3 April. Failure to deliver the complete body of six pieces of artwork will result in the applicant being excluded from the exhibition**

Please liaise with Sarah and Tom at **Picture Post** (info@picturepostcompany.co.uk / 07833 450 788) who will:

- Assist with receiving artworks from international artists
- Deliver your artwork directly to the Gallery within the delivery window
- Retain the packaging should your work need to be returned to you at the end of the exhibition

- Repack and assist with the return of your work to you should your work not sell during the exhibition

Please be aware that the RBSA Gallery is unable to receive any international deliveries sent from other couriers.

- Please liaise with **Picture Post** who can receive works from non-art couriers and then deliver the work to the RBSA Gallery for an additional fee
- Artists are advised to get in touch with Picture Post as soon as possible. The hand in dates refer to when work must arrive at the RBSA Gallery and not when work must arrive at Picture Post
- Please also bear in mind that, due to Brexit, there have been long delays in Customs. Therefore, artists may need to send works earlier than they normally would do
- Customs Charges may also apply to artists based in the EU
- Artists shipping work from outside the United Kingdom are fully responsible for compliance with UK customs and tax requirements

Preparing Your Artwork

All Artists

- Two labels must be attached to each work (download labels on Call for Entries page of the RBSA website)
- Frames must be suitable for display using a mirror plate system. Artists should affix the mirror plates at the mid-point on the frame of each work
- All mirror plates must be **painted white** and attached to the work prior to delivery
- Your mirror plates will be **removed** when the work is de-installed as storing the work with the mirror plates on can damage other artworks
- Mirror plates are available for artists when they collect their work at the end of the exhibition, please ask
- If you wish to enter a work that is unsuitable for mirror plating, please inform the Gallery once you have submitted your work and include detailed hanging instructions upon delivery
- Please clearly highlight the 'top' of abstract works
- Work in clip frames cannot be entered
- Frames must have no projections at the back (such as rings)

Election Results

Election results are formally ratified at the AGM each year and will be posted on the RBSA Gallery website shortly thereafter. The Honorary Secretary will email all

candidates with the result before the end of the exhibition and will also send a confirmation letter.

All Associates are entitled to attend the AGM to hear the results as they are announced to the Membership.

Sale of work

- **All work entered, apart from the Diploma Piece, must be for sale** for the full duration of the exhibition. It is not permitted for artists to make private sales of their submitted artwork during the exhibition dates. All artwork sold during this period must be processed through the RBSA Gallery
- Artists will be paid within 45 days of the last day of the exhibition or receipt of payment from the customer, provided payment from the purchaser has been received in full
- The price stated on the entry form must be the retail price and include the frame
- The commission is 45% + VAT for all artists. Charges incurred for international payments will be deducted from the artist's commission
- Any commissions taken as a result of participating in the exhibition at the RBSA Gallery will be subject to the same sales commission
- Unframed prints may be sold if details are completed on the entry form. Artists will be informed of any order placed and will be responsible for delivering these to the Gallery. The purchaser will pay the cost of postage. Orders must be fulfilled within 30 days of notification. These prints will also be subject to the 45% commission + VAT
- Sold items will remain on display until the end of the exhibition. At the Gallery's discretion, sold items may occasionally be removed on the day of purchase, if the purchaser is unable to receive the artwork at the exhibition close
- Diptych and triptych works must be fixed or framed together to be sold as one
- Sold work that has a damaged frame must be reframed promptly by the artist. The RBSA reserves the right to deduct reframing costs from an artist's commission if required

Commission and VAT calculation

Artists Price* x 100 / 48 = retail price

*This is the total amount the artist will be paid

The exhibition closes to the public on Saturday 24 April at 5.00pm.

Collection of Unsold Artwork

Sunday 25 April from 4.00pm

If this date is not suitable, please contact the Gallery to arrange another collection date during our opening hours. A third party or courier can collect on your behalf with prior arrangement. Please allow two weeks following the close of the exhibition to arrange a courier, once you have been contacted to say that your work is ready.

Any work that is not collected one month after the close of the exhibition will be considered abandoned and may be sold, with all proceeds donated to the RBSA charity. Please note, you must contact the Gallery if you are unable to collect your artwork within a month of the exhibition close to arrange a later collection date.

Images of work

Visitors are permitted to take photographs in the Gallery without restriction. Copyright remains with the artist. However, by entering this exhibition you agree that photos of your work can be used for the promotion of the RBSA Gallery and its exhibitions in perpetuity.

Insurance

Reasonable care will be taken of all work, but it is submitted at your own risk. We strongly advise all artists to insure their work against damage and theft. The RBSA cannot insure work on the premises or in transit and will not be responsible for any loss or damage.

Data Collection

The RBSA is committed to providing an inclusive and inspiring space that can be enjoyed by all equally. The personal data that you provide will help us to tailor what we offer so that we can reach and cater for as many communities as possible, whilst maintaining our status as Birmingham's premier contemporary art gallery.

Privacy Notice

As well as collecting data for our own audience development, (see above), the RBSA collects and processes your personal information for the coordination and organisation of the opportunity for which you have applied. We use a recognised AI platform to format and organise certain elements of this information, but only the necessary data is shared, and it is protected under a data processing agreement. Therefore, your information is confidential and is protected by the RBSA. You have the right to access, correct, or delete your information, and to object to how it's processed. Contact exhibitions@rbsa.org.uk for any privacy queries or to exercise your rights.