RBSA Friends Exhibition 2027

7 January – 6 February 2027

This exhibition is open to RBSA Friends only

About this exhibition

The annual *RBSA Friends Exhibition* provides a platform for Friends at different stages of their practice to display artwork at the RBSA Gallery and begin their membership journey with one of the oldest art societies in the country.

Entry is free and open to all artists with an active RBSA Friends subscription. If you would like to submit work but are not yet a Friend, visit our website to purchase a subscription Purchase RBSA Friends Subscription. Eligible artists working in any media, including photography, may submit work. Display fees are applicable to all artists that are successfully selected. Selection for the Friends Exhibition is by digital image of the original artwork, all works entered will go through the same anonymous selection process.

Friends may enter a maximum of three entries of 2D works (wall hung) and a maximum of four entries of 3D works (plinths/freestanding). If artists would like to enter a mix of wall hung and plinth/freestanding works, you may enter a maximum of four works in total.

Work will be selected by:

- Simon Conolly RBSA, Honorary Curator
- Charles Weston RBSA, Friends Coordinator
- Linda Nevill RBSA

RBSA Friends have been part of the Society since the 1900s and the RBSA was one of the first art societies to give subscribers their own exhibition. A Friends subscription is the first step towards RBSA Membership, and the Gallery will be hosting events throughout the exhibition to offer help and advice to those Friends who wish to apply to become an RBSA Associate.

An exhibition catalogue featuring all selected works will be available to purchase throughout the exhibition and will be added to the RBSA Archive ensuring that your inclusion is documented in our history.

This year's exhibition is to be held across both Gallery 1 and Gallery 2.

Outlined in this exhibition pack:

- Key dates
- Prizes

- Entry requirements
- Artwork submissions
- Entry and Display fees
- Notification of selected artwork
- Delivery of selected artwork
    - Labels and hanging
- Sale of work
    - Commission and VAT calculation
- Collection of unsold artwork
- Images of work
- Insurance
- Data collection

Key Dates

- Applications open: **Tuesday 29 September 2026**
- Entry deadline: **Tuesday 17 November 4.00pm**
- Selected artists announced: **by Friday 4 December 5.00pm**
- Display fee payment deadline: **Thursday 10 December 4.00pm**
- Delivery of work:
    - **Tuesday 15 December 11.00am – 4.00pm**
    - **Wednesday 16 December 11.00am – 4.00pm**
    - **Thursday 17 December 11.00am – 4.00pm**
    - **Friday 18 December 11.00am – 4.00pm**
    - **Saturday 19 December 11.00am – 4.00pm**
- Exhibition on display: **Thursday 7 January – Saturday 6 February 2027**
- Preview Evening: **Thursday 7 January 6.00pm – 8.00pm**
- Collection of work: **Sunday 7 February 12.00pm – 2.00pm**

Prizes

Up to six *Highly Commended* certificates will be awarded

Entry Requirements

- **You must have an active RBSA Friends subscription to submit artwork**
- You can become an RBSA via our website: www.rbsa.org.uk/friends/join-rbsa-friends/
- All entrants must be over 18 years of age
- Work previously shown at the RBSA Gallery **cannot be entered**
- All work must be original
- Images created using AI are **not** accepted
- All work must have been made in the past **three years**
- 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
- Work that is not delivered to the Gallery will not be included in the exhibition catalogue. If your work is selected, every effort must be made to deliver the work to the Gallery by the given deadline
- 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'
- Artists wishing to claim the under 35 discount of 50% must telephone the Gallery to make payment
- 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. The selection aims to be as wide as possible and is based on the panel's assessment of the quality and interest of the work.

Entry Fees

Entry fees are **FREE** for all Friends of the RBSA with a current subscription. To subscribe please visit: https://rbsa.org.uk/friends/join-rbsa-friends/

Maximum three entries of 2D works (wall hung)
Maximum four entries of 3D works (plinths/freestanding)

If entering a mix of wall hung and plinth/freestanding works, artists may enter a maximum of four works in total.

Display Fees

If your work is selected for the exhibition, you will be required to pay display fees. These fees must be paid by **Thursday 10 December at 4.00pm. No fees should be paid UNTIL you have been notified of a successful selection.**

Display fees are non-refundable and applicable to all selected artists. We will not be able to accept delivery of your works if your display fee is outstanding.

A 50% discount applies to artists aged 35 and under. If you are under 35, please telephone the Gallery to pay your display fees.

2D entry display fees
£15 for entries under 60cm
£23 for entries over 60cm

3D entry display fees
£8.00 for entries under 30cm
£12.00 for entries over 30cm

Payments

- Payments can be made on the Call For Entries page of the RBSA website once artists have been selected and notified
- Card payments can be taken at the Gallery or over the phone
- Please phone the Gallery to pay over the phone if you are under 35 and are eligible for the 50% discount
- All display fees must be paid by **Thursday 10 December at 4.00pm otherwise we will not be able to accept delivery of your work**
- Please note that **all display fees are non-refundable**

Notification of Selected Artwork

Selected artists will be emailed by the Gallery to notify them of which works have been selected by **Friday 4 December 5.00pm.** 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.

Please note that the entry selection process is completely anonymous, so no personal information provided will be shared with the exhibition selection panel.

International Artists

International artists please note, if your work is selected, we require proof of postage via email by Thursday 10 December. Please be aware that artists are responsible for all customs paperwork and paying all associated charges with delivering their work. We are not able to assist with this process so please ensure you understand prior to sending your work what is involved and the costs that may be incurred.

Delivery of Selected Artwork

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

- **Tuesday 15 December, 11.00am – 4.00pm**
- **Wednesday 16 December, 11.00am – 4.00pm**
- **Thursday 17 December, 11.00am – 4.00pm**
- **Friday 18 December, 11.00am – 4.00pm**
- **Saturday 19 December, 11.00am – 4.00pm**

- 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
- Delivery is only allowed outside the dates and times listed in exceptional circumstances and by prior arrangement
- 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
- A third party or courier can deliver on your behalf
- 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)

Sale of work

- **All work entered 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 35% + 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 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 35% 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 / 58 = retail price
*This is the total amount the artist will be paid

The exhibition closes on Saturday 6 February 2027 at 5.00pm.

Collection of Unsold Artwork

Sunday 7 February, 12.00pm – 2.00pm

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 three weeks following the close of the exhibition to arrange a courier, once you have been contacted to say that your work is ready. **For work that requires couriering back to the artist at the end of the exhibition, a £20 charge will be incurred to cover the re-packaging process. Artists will be required to pay this before their work leaves the Gallery.**

Storage at the Gallery is very limited and we are unable to store work long term. Therefore, any work that isn't collected <u>one month</u> after the close of the exhibition will be considered abandoned and may be SOLD, with all proceeds

donated to the RBSA charity. Please ensure that you contact the Gallery if you are unable to collect your artwork within ONE month of the exhibition closing to arrange a later collection date – this is only permitted in extenuating circumstances.

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.