

# RA

## Press Release

Royal Academy of Arts

# Summer Exhibition 2022

**Summer Exhibition 2022**

**Main Galleries**

**21 June – 21 August 2022**

Sponsored by



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The Royal Academy is delighted to present the 254<sup>th</sup> Summer Exhibition, a unique celebration of contemporary art and architecture, providing a vital platform and support for the artistic community. Celebrated British sculptor Alison Wilding RA has co-ordinated this year's Summer Exhibition, and working with the rest of the Summer Exhibition Committee, explores the theme of *Climate*.

Artists exhibiting new work this year include artistic duos Harvey & Ackroyd, The Singh Twins, and Special Olympics GB Athlete and artist Niall Guite. Other artists invited to exhibit this year include Royal Academy Schools graduate Clara Hastrup, Dominica-born British painter Tam Joseph, sculptor Kathleen Ryan, conceptual artist Simon Starling, sculptor Gavin Turk, Brazil-based artists Denilson Baniwa and Sallisa Rosa, art-activist Jerilea Zempel and **painter and photographer Diane Burko**. Wall-based works made by Roger Ackling (1947-2014) using sunlight have also been invited. In addition to the large number of public submissions, newly elected Royal Academicians Michael Armitage, Peter Barber and Ryan Gander have submitted works, as well as newly elected Honorary Academician Pipilotti Rist.

This year, Royal Academicians Rana Begum and Níall McLaughlin have worked collaboratively and curated architecture across two galleries, alongside artworks. They have worked closely with invited architects including Boonserm Premthada, who has innovated the use of elephant dung to make bricks and is displaying a custom-designed and fabricated structure using elephant dung bricks made in the UK. Begum and McLaughlin have also worked with Marina Tabassum whose *Khudi Bari (Tiny House)* has been constructed in the galleries using local and reclaimed materials. The *Khudi Bari* is designed as a low-cost temporary housing option for refugees and victims of climate change.

Alongside the Summer Exhibition this year is a large-scale, immersive installation designed specifically for the Royal Academy's Annenberg Courtyard by the renowned Spanish artist and 2020 *Royal Academy Architecture Prize* winner, Cristina Iglesias. Iglesias has explored themes of nature, climate,

and the environment throughout her career, and the installation for the RA, *Humid Labyrinth Room (with Spontaneous Landscape)*, has been conceived to bring the experience of intimacy and landscape to a public urban space. Iglesias' work confronts the viewer with the juxtaposition of fictional and real images of nature, revealed and hidden in the viewpoints and reflections of the labyrinth that composes the center of the piece. The room Iglesias has placed in the courtyard, acts as refuge, a recurring theme in her work, creating a space for wonder and reflection. A space of shadow and breeze, alongside vegetation and water, in the middle of the city.

The Summer Exhibition is the world's largest open submission contemporary art show which has taken place every year without interruption since 1769. Works from all over the world are judged democratically on merit and the final selection is made during the eight-day hang within the galleries. This year the Royal Academy received 15,000 entries, of which over 1400 works, in a range of media, are on display. This open, inclusive and democratic show supports the artistic community, art education and provides a display of creativity and joy for the public.

The majority of works are for sale, offering visitors an opportunity to purchase original work. Funds raised support the exhibiting artists, the postgraduate students studying in the RA Schools and the work of the Royal Academy.

## **Notes to Editors**

### **Summer Exhibition 2022 online**

Many of the works in the Summer Exhibition 2022 will be available to browse and buy online through the [Summer Exhibition Explorer](#) which will be live from the 21 June 2022.

### **Bond Street Flags**

Contemporary British artist Mali Morris RA has been invited to design the flags that will hang above Bond Street as part of Art in Mayfair, an annual arts festival running alongside the Summer Exhibition which sees the neighbourhood transformed into a live exhibition through installations, exhibitions and pop-up events.

Mali Morris's multi-layered canvases explore the language of painting and its ever-changing expressive possibilities. Her focus is colour, light and space. Inspired by the likes of Matisse and the Early Italians, her compositions engage the viewer in the contemplation of pure abstraction. Her work has been exhibited widely in galleries such as the Barbican, Hayward Gallery, Serpentine Gallery, Whitechapel Gallery, Walker Art Gallery Liverpool, Whitworth Gallery Manchester, Museum of Wales Cardiff, as well as a number overseas. Mali will also exhibit four works as part of this year's Summer Exhibition, and a selection of her prints from 1989-2021 is currently on display for sale in the Sir Hugh Casson Room: *Mali Morris RA: Mardi Gras etc.*

Additionally, in partnership with Art of London, Paul Huxley RA has created colourful hanging canvases to line Piccadilly.

### **Summer Exhibition 2022 Committee**

Alison Wilding RA is the co-ordinator of the Summer Exhibition 2022. Members of the committee are Royal Academicians Stephen Chambers, David Mach, Farshid Moussavi, Grayson Perry, Conrad Shawcross and Bill Woodrow. Rana Begum and Níall McLaughlin have curated architecture across two galleries, alongside artworks. The committee is chaired by the President of the Royal Academy,

Rebecca Salter. The members of the Summer Exhibition Committee serve in rotation, ensuring that every year the exhibition has a distinctive character, with each Royal Academician responsible for a particular gallery space.

### **Prizes 2022**

Each year the Royal Academy of Arts presents a number of prizes for outstanding works within the Summer Exhibition. The prestigious £25,000 Charles Wollaston Award, one of the most significant art prizes in the country, will be presented to the 'most distinguished work' in the exhibition. Winners will be announced once the exhibition has opened.

### **Dates and Opening Hours**

Open to public: Tuesday 21 June – Sunday 21 August 2022  
10am – 6pm Tuesday to Sunday (last admission 5.30pm)

### **Admission**

From £20; concessions available; under 16s go free (T&Cs apply); Friends of the RA go free. Admission prices include the List of Works giving details on every exhibit in the show.

### **Tickets**

Advance booking with pre-booked timed tickets is recommended for everyone, including Friends of the RA. Tickets can be booked in advance online ([royalacademy.org.uk](http://royalacademy.org.uk)) or over the phone (0207 300 8090).

### **Images**

Publicity images can be requested from the RA Press Office. By downloading the images, you acknowledge and accept the terms and conditions found within the link. These images can only be reproduced to illustrate a review or criticism of a work or report as defined by section 30 (i) and (ii) of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988.

### **Safety measures**

The health and safety of visitors and staff is paramount. Safety measures for visitors can be found on the RA website: [royalacademy.org.uk/visiting-and-safety-during-coronavirus](http://royalacademy.org.uk/visiting-and-safety-during-coronavirus).

### **Sponsor's Statement**

Insight Investment said: "Insight is proud to support the enduring success of the Royal Academy's Summer Exhibition. This is the 16th year of our partnership, and we hope that as many people as possible have the opportunity to experience this engaging cultural event."

### **About Insight Investment**

Insight Investment is a leading global investment manager, founded in 2002 and headquartered in London. Insight primarily manages money for pension schemes by providing liability-driven investment strategies and investing in fixed income and currency and multi-asset. Insight takes responsible investment seriously and believes that ESG issues are important drivers of investment value. It is a signatory to the UK Stewardship Code and a founding signatory to the UN Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) in 2006, in 2020 Insight achieved A+ ratings across all the relevant categories in the PRI survey, reflecting our ongoing commitment to integrating responsible investment practices across all aspects of our business. More information about Insight Investment can be found at: [www.insightinvestment.com](http://www.insightinvestment.com)

## **History of the Summer Exhibition**

One of the founding principles of the Royal Academy of Arts was to “mount an annual exhibition open to all artists of distinguished merit” to finance the training of young artists in the Royal Academy Schools. The Summer Exhibition has been held every year without interruption since 1769 and continues to play a significant part in raising funds to finance the students of the RA Schools. The RA Schools is the longest established art school in the UK and offers the only free three-year postgraduate programme in Europe.

As the world’s largest open submission contemporary art show, the Summer Exhibition provides a unique platform for emerging and established artists to showcase their works to an international audience, comprising a range of media from painting and printmaking to photography, sculpture, architecture and film. Royal Academicians are automatically entitled to submit up to six works to the Summer Exhibition and the rest of the exhibition features work by those invited by the committee and external entrants.

## **Royal Academy of Arts Summer Exhibition Preview Party 2022**

The Royal Academy’s annual celebration of Summer Exhibition 2022 and fundraising event, the Summer Exhibition Preview Party, will take place on Wednesday 15 June 2022. The party is the highlight of the RA calendar, raising essential funds for the Royal Academy and the RA Schools, and is chaired by Farshid Moussavi RA and Batia Ofer. This ticketed event launches the exhibition and is the first chance to buy works. The party is sponsored by Insight Investment and this year will be supported by Burberry.

## **Social Media**

Join the discussion about the exhibition online at:

Facebook /royalacademy

Instagram @royalacademyarts

Twitter @royalacademy

#RASummer

## **About the Royal Academy of Arts**

The Royal Academy of Arts was founded by King George III in 1768. It has a unique position in being an independent, privately funded institution led by eminent artists and architects whose purpose is to be a clear, strong voice for art and artists. Its public programme promotes the creation, enjoyment and appreciation of the visual arts through exhibitions, education and debate.

The Royal Academy is an independent charity. It does not receive revenue funding from the government so is reliant upon the support of its visitors, donors, sponsors, patrons and loyal Friends.

**For public information, please print: 020 7300 8090 or [www.royalacademy.org.uk](http://www.royalacademy.org.uk)**

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