

TRACEY EMIN, FIONA RAE AND RICHARD WILSON ANNOUNCED AS NEW PROFESSORS FOR THE ROYAL ACADEMY SCHOOLS

The Royal Academy of Arts is delighted to announce the appointment of three new Professors for the Royal Academy Schools.

Tracey Emin RA has been appointed Eranda Professor of Drawing (replacing Ian McKeever RA), Fiona Rae RA has been appointed Professor of Painting (replacing the late John Hoyland RA), and Richard Wilson RA has been appointed Professor of Sculpture (replacing Ivor Abrahams RA).

The appointments were made at a recent meeting of the Academy's General Assembly. These posts complement other Professorships at the Royal Academy Schools including Architecture, Anatomy, Chemistry, Computer Vision and Perspective. The RA Laws state the Professors shall be required to deliver annually a Course of Lectures, or conduct Seminars, adapted to the Arts of Design, in their respective subjects.

Christopher Le Brun, PRA said *"We are delighted at these new appointments. Tracey Emin, Fiona Rae and Richard Wilson join an esteemed list of artists who have held these positions."*

Eileen Cooper RA, Keeper of the Royal Academy Schools said *"In the history of the Royal Academy we have never had a female Professor before – and now we have two. I'm both proud and delighted by this development."*

Fiona Rae RA said *"I'm thrilled and honoured to be the new Professor of Painting. The RA has now elected its first female Professors, its first female Officer - Eileen Cooper, the new Keeper - and rewritten its eighteenth century Laws so that they are no longer sexist. 2011 has been an exciting year to be a part of this venerable organisation!"*

Tracey Emin RA said *"I'm delighted to be appointed Professor of Drawing. I am very excited at the prospect of teaching again after so many years."*

Richard Wilson RA said *"It's great to be part of the trio of new Professors, all playing a part in the bigger debate of today's visual arts thinking. This can only be encouraging and stimulating within the RA Schools."*

Notes to Editors:

- The Royal Academy of Arts was founded by 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 promote the creation, enjoyment and appreciation of the visual arts through exhibitions, education and debate.
- Established in 1768, the Royal Academy Schools is a leading centre for the postgraduate study of fine art, run by artists for artists at the heart of the RA, and offering the only three-year, full time postgraduate course in fine art in the UK. Past students of the RA Schools include JMW Turner, John Constable RA, William Blake RA, and more recently John Hoyland RA and Anthony Caro RA.
- The position of Eranda Professor of Drawing was created in 2000, thanks to the generosity of the Eranda Foundation. The following artists have held the position: Christopher Le Brun RA, Sir Peter Blake RA, Gary Hume RA and Ian McKeever RA. The position of Professor of Painting was established in 1768 and the most recent recipients of this title have been Norman Adams RA and John Hoyland RA. The position of Professor of Sculpture was established in 1810. Recent recipients have included Phillip King RA, David Mach RA and Ivor Abrahams RA.

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