

The Royal Academy Schools is remarkable for being an accredited independent establishment that offers the only three year, full-time postgraduate fine art course in the UK. It is Britain's oldest art school, having developed since its foundation in parallel with the Royal Academy in 1768. It is regarded throughout the world as a centre of excellence.

No tuition fees are charged and every effort is made by the Academy to help support students with bursaries, awards and small grants for materials, albeit at a quite modest level. Many students need to take some occasional work – often within the Royal Academy itself – to offset the high cost of living and studying in London.

Competition for the small number of places available at The Schools is fierce with an exceptionally high submission from throughout the world, but the advantages for the chosen individuals are immense; its history, illustrious alumni, the continuous, internationally admired programme of loan exhibitions, many of them initiated by the Royal Academy, plus innumerable commercial art galleries in the vicinity make it an unusually stimulating and inspiring environment in which to study.

The kind of artists we hope to attract are those who have complete commitment to their work, manifest potential for creative growth and a passionate resolve to generate an original and personal vision.

Professor Maurice Cockrill RA
The Keeper of the Royal Academy of Arts
The Head of the Royal Academy Schools

Location

The Royal Academy Schools is located in the heart of London's West End, only a few minutes walk from Piccadilly Circus or Green Park. This central location offers an exciting and stimulating atmosphere in which to study.

The Schools is an integral part of the Royal Academy of Arts, situated between Burlington House (which is home to the galleries of the Royal Academy) and Burlington Gardens. The Schools is surrounded by a network of commercial galleries, complementing the close proximity of some of London's major museums - The National Gallery, National Portrait Gallery and the ICA are all within walking distance. The Serpentine, Hayward Gallery and both Tate Britain and Tate Modern can all be reached by a short tube or bus ride.



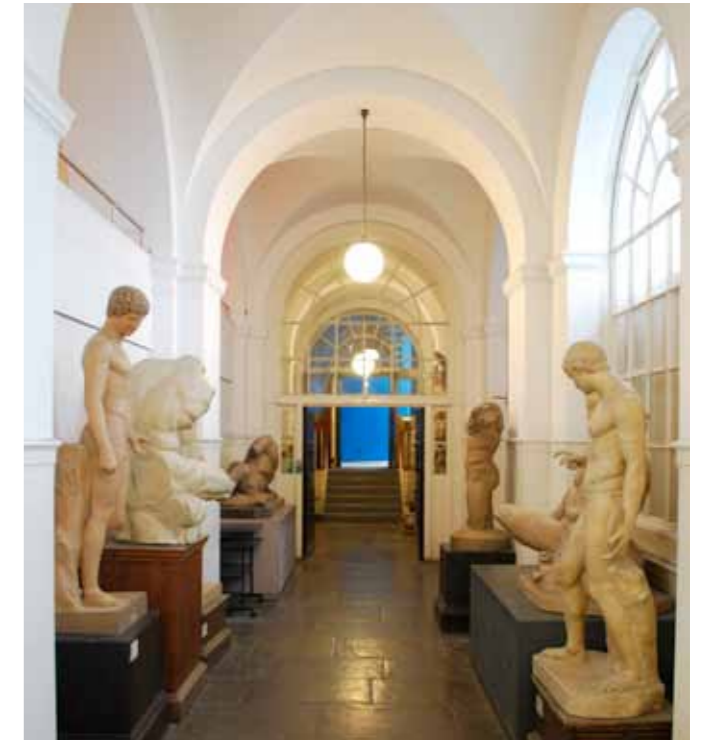
Fees

The Royal Academy meets the cost of tuition fees for all students, (including international students), accepted onto the Postgraduate Diploma course. The Schools can offer places purely upon the artistic merit of the candidates who apply – a principle upon which the Royal Academy Schools was founded in 1768, and which is upheld to this day.

Maintenance

The Schools is able to offer some additional financial support in the form of maintenance and materials grants. However, the cost of living in London is high, and students should expect to self-fund the majority of their living and working expenses.

It is important that students manage their time effectively in order to accommodate a level of attendance commensurate with the requirements of the course. Many students work part-time in the evenings and at weekends.



The Programme

The Royal Academy Schools offers the only three year postgraduate course in Europe. Successful completion of this tenure culminates in the award of the Royal Academy Postgraduate Diploma in Fine Art.

The programme is focussed on studio-based practice across all fine art media. The studios accommodate a wide variety of disciplines, including painting, sculpture, print, installation and time-based and digital media.

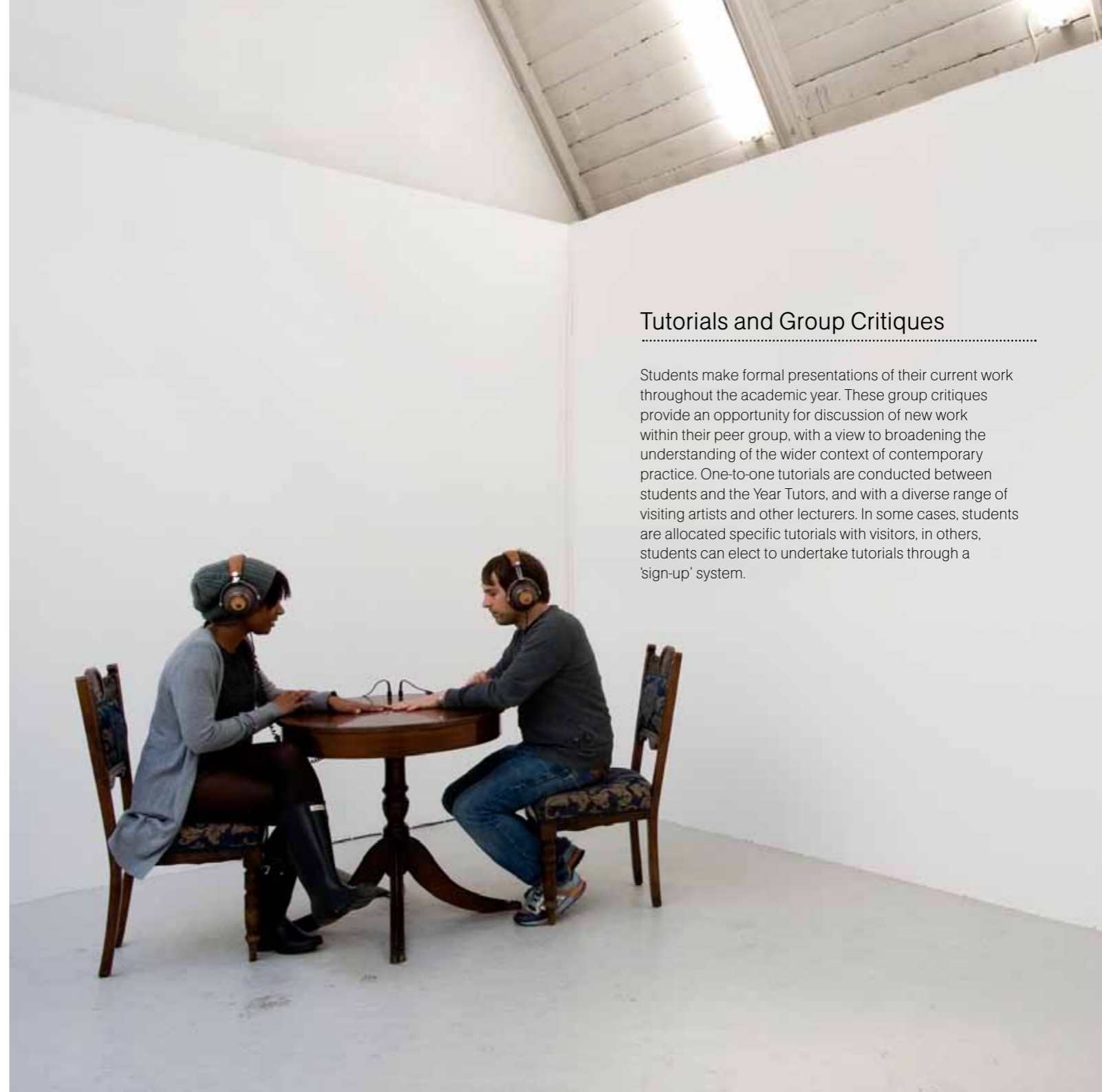
A weekly schedule of group critiques and individual studio tutorials are organised to assist students in developing their studio work over the three years spent at the Schools. The core staff is complemented by a wide range of visiting artists, writers and critics. Students have the opportunity to engage with visitors to the Schools via the lecture programme and artist's talks, in addition to one-to-one tutorials.

The Schools staff also includes Professors in Painting, Sculpture, Drawing and Architecture, all of whom are Royal Academicians. Additionally, Professors in Anatomy and Chemistry also visit the Schools during the academic year. A full list of staff and visitors can be found at the back of this prospectus.



Tutorials and Group Critiques

Students make formal presentations of their current work throughout the academic year. These group critiques provide an opportunity for discussion of new work within their peer group, with a view to broadening the understanding of the wider context of contemporary practice. One-to-one tutorials are conducted between students and the Year Tutors, and with a diverse range of visiting artists and other lecturers. In some cases, students are allocated specific tutorials with visitors, in others, students can elect to undertake tutorials through a 'sign-up' system.



Reviews of Work

A formal review of each student and their work takes place at the culmination of each year, where staff assess the progress of each individual. The reviews provide students with an opportunity to reflect upon their achievements during the year. A student may be required to submit further work following a set period of time, prior to the decision to continue study being approved.

The Schools is attended by two Visiting Professors, whose objective is to support the Schools and to advise the academic staff. The Visiting Professors meet with students during their second year, and then again in the third year, prior to their graduation. This process enables the Visiting Professors to familiarise themselves with each of the students, and to reflect upon the development of their work in an informed manner.



Texts and Dissertations

The written component of the course is used as a means to investigate and extend ideas that have arisen as a result of studio-based work. A short text submitted during the first year provides an opportunity to address key concerns that inform each student's practice.

During the second year, students are given specific dissertation tutorials in order to identify a subject relevant to their practice. The completion of the 6000 word dissertation is a requirement of the award of the Postgraduate Diploma.

Lecture Programme & Artist's Talks

A regular series of lectures given by prominent visual artists places an emphasis on their own experience and approach to their studio practice. There is also the opportunity for students to visit the studios of a variety of Royal Academicians. Students also attend lectures that address current concerns in contemporary art, whether theoretical, political or philosophical.



Professional Practice

The professional practice seminars are given by a variety of specialist professionals including accountants, copyright lawyers, gallerists, curators and critics. These sessions give practical advice and guidance on all aspects of an artist's professional working life.

The Schools also arranges teaching placements on undergraduate fine art courses for third year students. In most cases, students take on the responsibilities of a 'Visiting Artist' to the host institution. This normally involves giving an artist's talk as well as tutorials. Most students find this a very valuable experience.

Public Programme & Schools Events

Since 2007, the Schools have organised a programme of lectures and panel discussions which are open to members of the public. The Public Programme is supported by The David Lean Foundation, and comprises an Annual Lecture and a series of key-note lectures and panel discussions. Past lectures have included Georg Baselitz, Anselm Kiefer, Tracey Emin, Thomas Hirshhorn and Richard Wentworth.

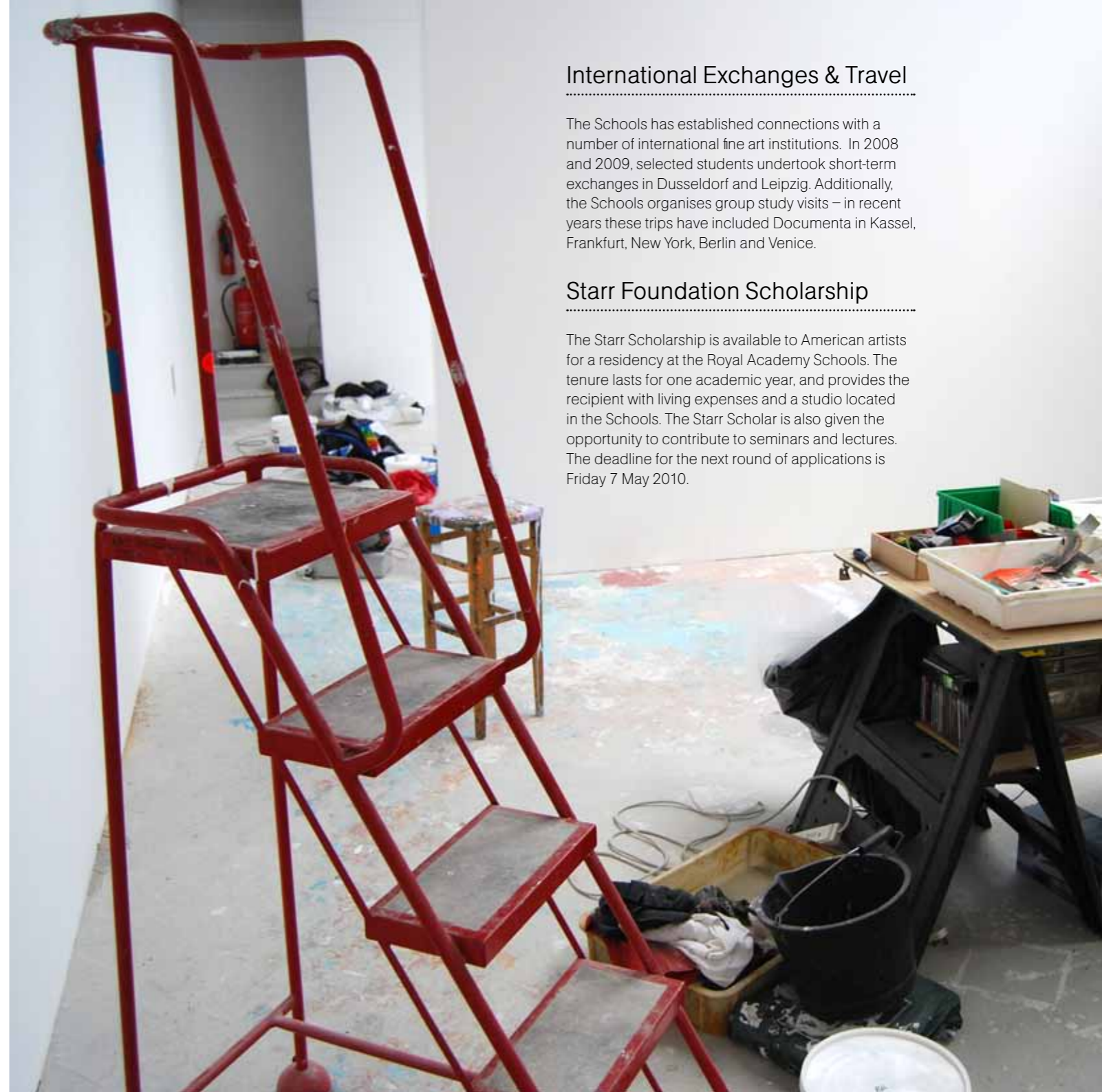


International Exchanges & Travel

The Schools has established connections with a number of international fine art institutions. In 2008 and 2009, selected students undertook short-term exchanges in Dusseldorf and Leipzig. Additionally, the Schools organises group study visits – in recent years these trips have included Documenta in Kassel, Frankfurt, New York, Berlin and Venice.

Starr Foundation Scholarship

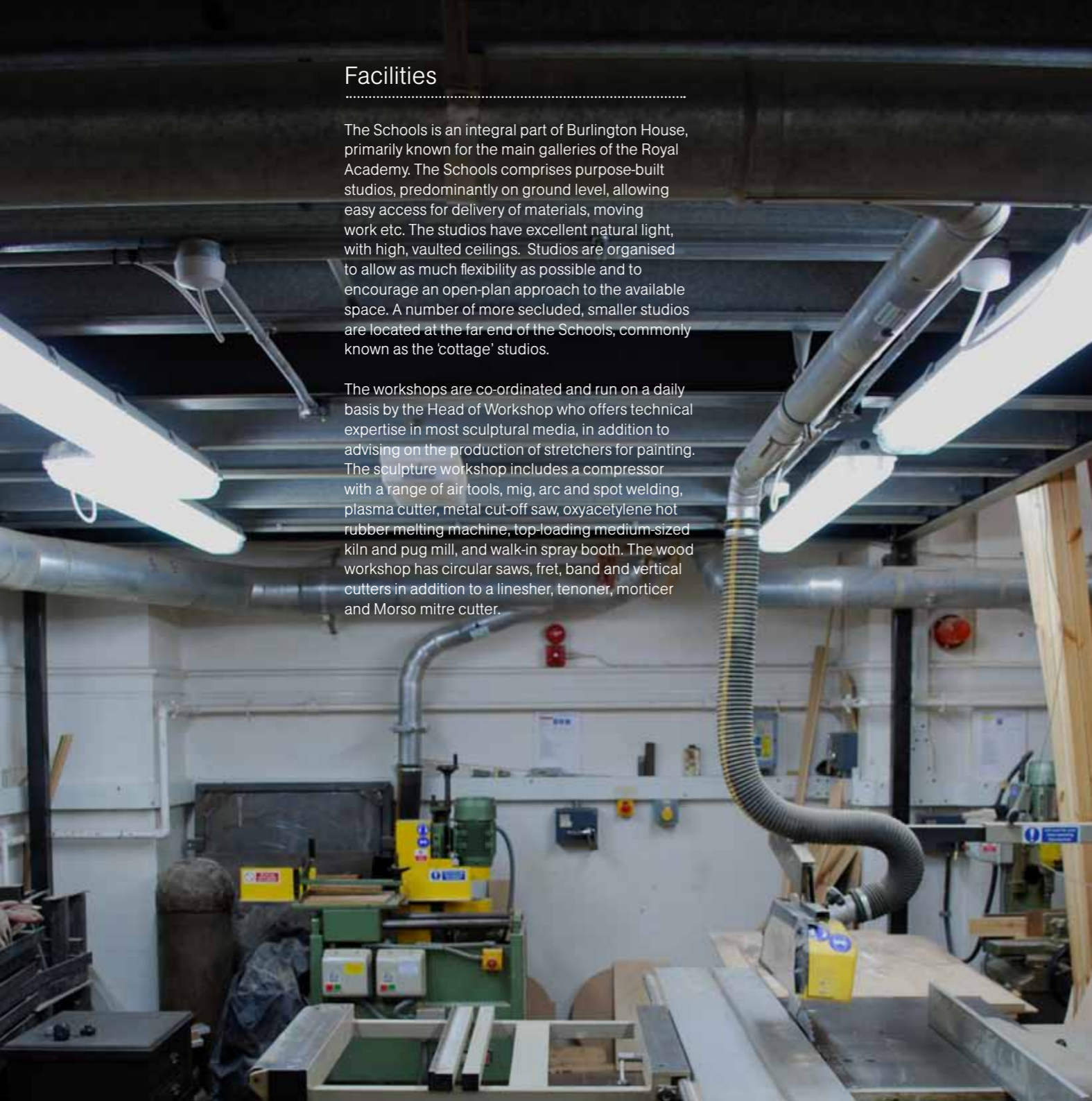
The Starr Scholarship is available to American artists for a residency at the Royal Academy Schools. The tenure lasts for one academic year, and provides the recipient with living expenses and a studio located in the Schools. The Starr Scholar is also given the opportunity to contribute to seminars and lectures. The deadline for the next round of applications is Friday 7 May 2010.



Facilities

The Schools is an integral part of Burlington House, primarily known for the main galleries of the Royal Academy. The Schools comprises purpose-built studios, predominantly on ground level, allowing easy access for delivery of materials, moving work etc. The studios have excellent natural light, with high, vaulted ceilings. Studios are organised to allow as much flexibility as possible and to encourage an open-plan approach to the available space. A number of more secluded, smaller studios are located at the far end of the Schools, commonly known as the 'cottage' studios.

The workshops are co-ordinated and run on a daily basis by the Head of Workshop who offers technical expertise in most sculptural media, in addition to advising on the production of stretchers for painting. The sculpture workshop includes a compressor with a range of air tools, mig, arc and spot welding, plasma cutter, metal cut-off saw, oxyacetylene hot rubber melting machine, top-loading medium-sized kiln and pug mill, and walk-in spray booth. The wood workshop has circular saws, fret, band and vertical cutters in addition to a linesher, tenoner, morticer and Morso mitre cutter.



The Schools has the country's oldest purpose-built life drawing studio, and models are available to students with a particular interest in this practice.

Printmaking facilities enable students to work using a range of traditional techniques including etching and silkscreen printing, as well as the latest digital printing technology, using archival standard inks. The Digital Media area has workstations with Apple Mac computers and an editing suite for video work. The Digital Media area also facilitates the digital printmaking facilities. In addition, there is a small darkroom available for making black-and-white prints.

A variety of photographic and video equipment is available to students on a loan booking system. A project space is available for short-term bookings to facilitate projects which need more room outside of the allocated studio spaces. Students are able to access the internet through the Schools' media centre, located in the entrance to the studio corridor.

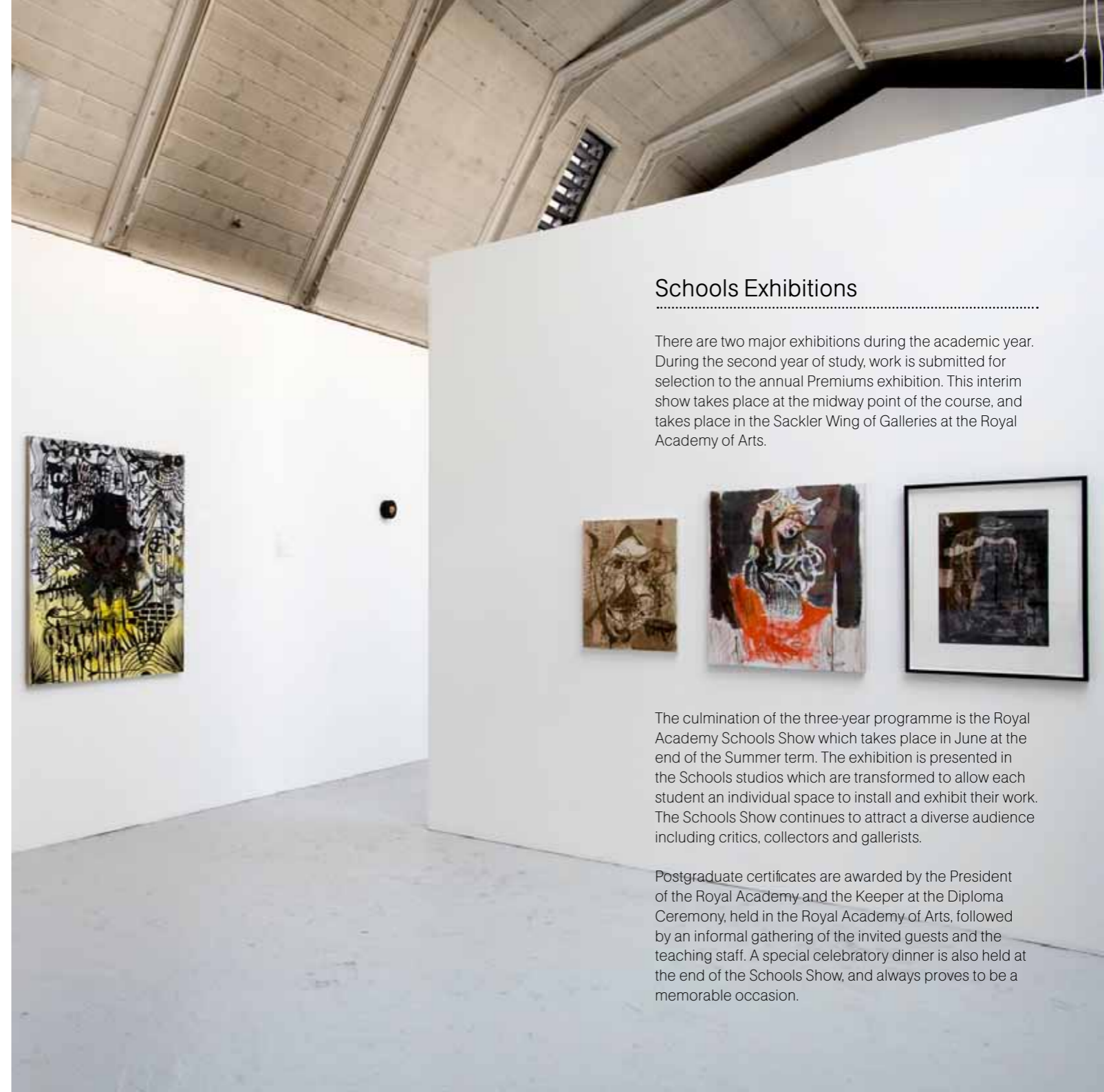
A subsidised canteen provides freshly prepared meals - breakfast and lunch - on a daily basis, Monday to Friday. A newly refurbished Schools bar, which is run by students, opens daily between 6 and 8pm. A number of social events are organised during the year, including a new programme of film screenings, a regular 'pub quiz' and a variety of parties for students and their guests.



Library

The Royal Academy's art collection and library house a comprehensive collection of books, exhibition catalogues, monographs and periodicals on international contemporary and historical art. Publications on any subject related to practice or research needs can be obtained on inter-library loan.

Students also have access to the special library collections, which include examples of early-printed and illustrated books, as well as the permanent collections of paintings, sculpture, prints, drawings and photographs.



Schools Exhibitions

There are two major exhibitions during the academic year. During the second year of study, work is submitted for selection to the annual Premiums exhibition. This interim show takes place at the midway point of the course, and takes place in the Sackler Wing of Galleries at the Royal Academy of Arts.

The culmination of the three-year programme is the Royal Academy Schools Show which takes place in June at the end of the Summer term. The exhibition is presented in the Schools studios which are transformed to allow each student an individual space to install and exhibit their work. The Schools Show continues to attract a diverse audience including critics, collectors and gallerists.

Postgraduate certificates are awarded by the President of the Royal Academy and the Keeper at the Diploma Ceremony, held in the Royal Academy of Arts, followed by an informal gathering of the invited guests and the teaching staff. A special celebratory dinner is also held at the end of the Schools Show, and always proves to be a memorable occasion.

How to Apply: Entrance Requirements

Selection of candidates is based upon evidence of individual ability and commitment, with an emphasis on the potential for further development across the three-year tenure of the course.

The Schools promotes equality of opportunity in all its activities and aims to provide a working environment free from discrimination. The Schools is committed to providing a learning experience of the highest quality, commensurate with the aims of the Royal Academy of Arts as an institution.

Applicants must have gained a BA (Hons) Degree in Fine Art or equivalent prior to admission to the Schools. If a candidate is still enrolled on their undergraduate course at the time of their application, their academic referee should indicate their predicted graduation status as part of their supporting reference.

Applications are welcomed from individuals who have undertaken a year or more of independent studio practice outside of their undergraduate institution.

Application Forms

Application forms are available as both a Word document and PDF and can be downloaded from the Schools Website.

Applicants now have the option to pay the Processing fee for their application online from 1 December 2009. Please visit www.royalacademy.org.uk/raschools/prospectus/application-and-interviews for more details.

Cheques drawn from a UK-based bank account are also acceptable. Please make cheque for £30 sterling payable to 'Royal Academy of Arts'.

To obtain an application form by post, please email schools@royalacademy.org.uk

Please mark the subject heading of your email as APPLICATION REQUEST.

Please provide your full address including the correct postal code in the email text.

If you do not have email access, you may request an application form by calling 020 7300 5650. You will be required to leave a message with your name and postal address, along with a contact telephone number.

Completion of Application Forms

Please read the following information carefully to ensure that your application is correctly submitted.

Applications should be word-processed or completed clearly using black ink.

Applicants are required to provide a word-processed statement in support of their work. As a guide, 500 words should be sufficient. Please note that hand-written statements are not advised. Word-processed elements should use a clearly legible 12pt font size.

A confidential reference is also required as part of the application. References are usually supplied by the teaching staff/personal tutor from the applicant's undergraduate degree college or a professional artist/tutor.

Please ensure that requests for references are made well in advance of the closing date for applications. **The reference can be sent in a sealed envelope together with the completed application form, or may be sent separately by the referee.**

Please note that a processing fee of £30 is payable to cover the administration of your application. Preferably, this payment should be made online. You will be sent a Payment Reference number which should be copied onto the application form.



Provision of Documentation

Applicants working in 2D and 3D media should preferably supply a maximum of 16 digital images on CD-R in JPEG format. The work provided should be completed recently.

It is advisable to keep details or close-ups of work to a minimum

All images provided should be in RGB mode and their dimensions should not exceed 768 pixels high and 1024 pixels wide (i.e. the files should each be between 100Kb and 1MB in size).

It is essential that the JPEGs are formatted so that they can be viewed on a Mac.

Digital formats other than JPEGs will not be accepted (no PowerPoint presentations, Tiffs, PSDs etc.)

All CD-Rs and their cases must be clearly labelled with the applicant's name and applicant number. Please note that CD-Rs will not be returned after the application.

Applicants working in time-based media should provide a video DVD only. **PLEASE NOTE: We are unable to view video in any other format.** (no VHS tapes or QuickTime or AVI files on CD-R) Applicants may submit a maximum of three works. If each work is longer than 5 minutes, it is recommended that shorter 'show-reel' extracts are sent. The applicant's name should be clearly labelled on both the DVD and its case.

35mm slides will be accepted if digital files cannot be provided. A maximum of 16 slides in glass-free slide mounts are required. Each slide must be clearly labelled with the applicant's name, and the slide number marked on the bottom-left corner of the slide mount. Slides must be sent in an A4 plastic sleeve with ring-binding holes to the left. The slides must not be sent in a slide-box.

On no account should both 35mm slides as well as a CD-R be sent. Applicants should choose one format only. Applicants whose work encompasses more than one medium must use their own judgement to decide which format is most suitable to represent their work.

A list of the works sent as part of the application must be supplied. This should include the title, medium, size/duration and date of each work. Applicants should ensure that the list corresponds with the numerical order or titles supplied on the particular format chosen to submit their work.

The Royal Academy Schools guarantees that all correctly completed applications are given careful consideration, and that all images and films are viewed with a projector.

Please test-run any CD-R or DVD prior to sending with the application form. Corrupt or locked discs will render the application invalid.

Only 35mm slides will be returned to applicants by unregistered post. However, whilst the Schools take every care to return slides safely, we are unable to accept responsibility for their loss or damage. Under no circumstances should candidates supply original artwork or a portfolio of work to accompany their application.

Please note that the Schools will not proceed with processing an application unless the fee of £30 has been paid. It is now possible to pay the Processing Fee online. Please visit www.royalacademy.org.uk/raschools/prospectus/application-and-interviews

Completed application forms should be sent between 4 and 11 January 2010 to:

The Schools Administrator (Admissions)
Royal Academy Schools
Burlington House
Piccadilly
London W1J OBD

The closing date for applications is Friday 11 January 2010.

Applications received after this date will not be processed. An optional acknowledgement postcard or form is included as part of the application. Applicants who wish to be acknowledged of safe receipt of their application should affix a first-class stamp to their postcard or form.

Acknowledgements of receipt will be posted approximately one week after the closing date for applications.

Please note

- The Royal Academy Schools is unable to answer telephone or email inquiries to confirm receipt of applications
- Applicants from outside of the United Kingdom should send their application via a reputable courier, with tracking and guaranteed delivery. It is advisable to allow extra time prior to the deadline for correct receipt of international applications
- Applicants selected to attend an interview will be notified by post
- Applicants who are subsequently offered a place at the Schools will be notified by post
- Interview appointments should be confirmed by telephone, using the number provided in the letter offering the interview
- The decision made by the interview panel is final
- The Royal Academy Schools is unable to enter into any correspondence, including telephone and email inquiries, regarding the outcome of any application or decision appertaining to it.

Interviews

Applicants short listed for interview will be informed of their interview date after 8 February 2010. Please note that the administration process and allocation of interviews is extremely complex. It is not possible to arrange alternative times and dates to applicants different to those outlined in the letter offering an interview.

Interviews will be conducted between Monday 22 February and Thursday 11 March 2010.

Short listed candidates are required to bring a selection of their work to the interview. The work brought to interview should clearly indicate the nature of the candidate's practice. Paintings, sculptures, photographs, models, drawings are all appropriate.

Candidates using time-based media will have the opportunity to present their work on DVD on an LCD television. We are unable to project video work etc during interviews.

All candidates may also bring any supporting material such as notes, sketchbooks etc. Please note that the interview is an opportunity for the academic staff to find out more about you and your work. The interview is not an appropriate occasion for 'presentations' or an 'artist's talk'.

There is no restriction on the size or number of works and associated materials that may be brought to the interview. However, candidates should take into account that the set-up time between interviews is restricted to only 10 minutes. Each interview will last approximately 30 minutes. Candidates must take all work and supporting material away with them after the interview.

Visiting the Schools

Prospective applicants are welcome to look around the Schools on one of our visiting dates.

For admission in October 2010, applicants are asked to attend on 4, 11, 18 and 25 November 2009.

The Schools is unable to accommodate prospective applicants outside of these allocated dates.

Visits start promptly at 2.15pm and last for approximately 45 minutes.

Groups of 20 or more are requested to arrange their visit through the Schools Administrator; please telephone 020 7300 5650.



Staff

Keeper: Professor Maurice Cockrill RA
Executive Assistant and Schools Administrator:
Irina Zاراisky

Curator: Eliza Bonham Carter
Head of Fine Art: Terry New
Head of Printmaking: Eileen Cooper RA
Senior Tutor: Richard Kirwan
Tutor: Vanessa Jackson
Tutor: Brian Griffiths
Tutor (printmaking): Simon Lawson
Head of Workshop: Hilary Oliver
Manager of Digital Media: Yasu Ichige
Print Fellow: Barton Hargreaves

Head of Library Services: Adam Waterton
Schools Librarians: Linda Macpherson, Miranda Stead

Professors

Painting: John Hoyland RA
Sculpture: Ivor Abrahams RA
Eranda Professor of Drawing: Ian McKeever RA
Professors of Architecture: Peter Cook RA, Ian Ritchie RA
Professor of Anatomy: Dr Gerald Libby
Professor of Chemistry: Tim Green
Professor of Computer Vision: Roberto Cipolla

Visiting Professors

Sam Ainsley, Brian Falconbridge

Visiting Tutors

Ivor Abrahams RA, Shahin Afrassiabi, Oreet Ashery, Simon Bedwell, Gudrun Bielz, Simon Bill, Karla Black, Juan Bolivar, Maurice Braganza, Pavel Buchler, Spartacus Chetwynd, Steve Claydon, Adam Chodzko, Leigh Clarke, Max Comfort, Christopher Cook, Peter Cook RA, Roger Cook, Nigel Cooke, Marc Camille Chaimowicz, JJ Charlesworth, Sacha Craddock, John Cussans, Gus Cummins RA, Enrico David, Dexter Dalwood, Jeremy Deller, Brian Dillon, Peter Doig, Ann Dumas, Patricia Ellis, Simon English, Jean Fisher, Dan Fox, Matt Franks, Jeremy Gilbert-Rolfe, Tim Green, Pam Golden, Sue Golding, Jane Harris, Roger Hiorns, Andreas Hoffer, Thomas Houseago, Andrew Hunt, Paul Johnson, Sarah Jones, Peter Kardia, Ian Kiaer, Fedja Klikovac, Robert Lands, Michael Landy, Mark Leckey, Esther Leslie, Mary Maclean, Ryan MacLennan, Brian McGann, Ian McKeever RA, Dawn Mellor, Mark Melvin, Lisa Milroy RA, Tom Morton, Terry Myers, Rosalind Nashashibi, Liam O' Brien, Tina O'Connell, Sally O' Reilly, Peter Peri, Samuel Porritt, Tal R, Andreas Reiter Raab, Tim Renshaw, Nigel Rolfe, Danny Rolph, Neil Rummig, Astrid Schmetterling, Ann Schneider, Maaïke Schoorel, Edgar Schultz, Helen Sear, Lindsay Seers, Jim Shaw, Jane Simpson, Bridget Smith, Kate Soper, Andrew Stahl, Polly Staple, John Stezaker, Nicholas Stewart, Jo Stockham, Michael Stubbs, Neal Tait, Thomas Joshua Cooper, Simon Thompson, David Thorp, David Thorpe, Mark Titchner, Roy Voss, Alison Wilding RA, Richard Wentworth, Martin Westwood, Keith Wilson, Angus Wyatt

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