

AGM 2010

RCA Society • FOR THE BENEFIT OF GRADUATES AND ASSOCIATES OF THE COLLEGE

RCA Society





WELCOME TO THE RCA Soc AGM 2010

RCA Society

Annual General Meeting

Sunday 20th June 2010

(**11am** for coffee) **11.30 am – 1pm**

venue • AND "EventSpace 1"

10 Back Church Lane, London E1 1LX

Agenda Items

1 **Welcome by the Chair**
2 **Apologies**
3 **Approval of last years AGM minutes**
4 **Officers' Reports**
5 **Approval of Treasurer's Report**

Nominations* and Elections

6 **Election of Chair**
7 **Election of officers**
8 **Election of committee members**
9 **Resolutions and Any Other Business**

Drinks + food provided

* Please send your Committee Member nominations to us, or let us know if you want take part in any way, or send your comments, 2 days before the AGM.

(Following the AGM • Sunday 20th June 2010 • 2pm

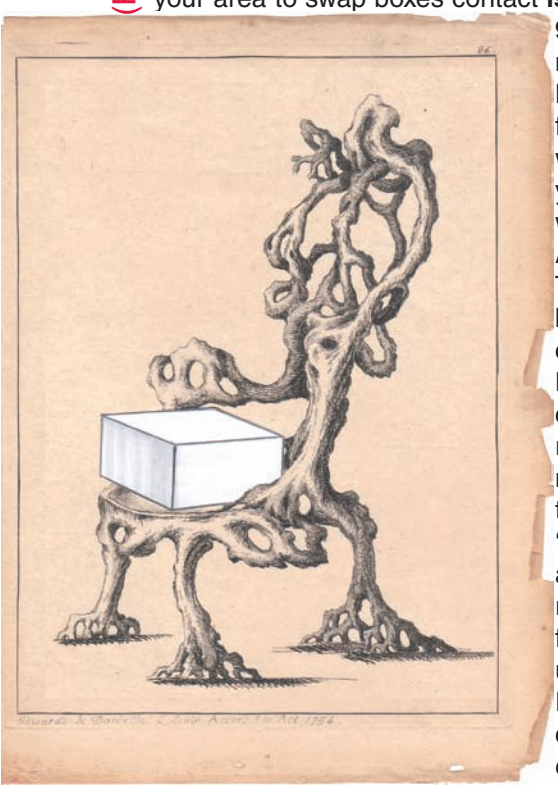
Boxed in Time

an RCA Society event

The Box: Conceptual, abstract, ultra real, poetic are just a few of the possible meanings to signify 'Boxed in Time'... anything goes. Translate your thoughts into a 'box' - but it should be no bigger than a 'chair seat'.

The Event: Bring of send your box (but make sure they are there on the event day) and come for some drink and food in a hidden but great east London gallery - the AND Event Space. **Give away** a 'Box' - At one level it's a stack or line up of boxes in a gallery space for viewing, at another it's a gathering opportunity to reveal the contents. **Take away** someone else's box to walk away with.

Event mechanics: Participation fee is £5 per member - to be paid "on the door" (helps cover costs for the event + you do get an 'exchange'). Use this event as a reason to communicate with another RCA Society member, by arranging to meet up with other members at the event, finding some one to deliver your box or delivering someone else's box to the event, or simply by bringing it along yourself (on the day or before) and then have it whisked away from you to add to the growing stack of boxes in the gallery space to be redistributed through a 'raffle' at the event. If you want to find other members in your area to swap boxes contact **ismail.saray@rcasociety.net** or tel **020 7481 9053**. The event is open to RCA Society members, associates, friends and partners... BUT each must submit a 'box' and pay the fee if you attend the event. Your box is wanted whether you come or not. (no fee if you don't attend). Boxes are welcome worldwide.



Anonymity of the box is the thing

To ensure this a unique display number will be issued and displayed on the box (and contents/parts). **Obtain the number from David Sherriff (main organiser)**. For those curious about the creator's identity all will be revealed later on the Society's website. The more "famous(!)" members please note - there is no implied value, the box is supplied 'as is' and of course there are no liabilities for any consequences. Whoever gets a box in return at the event is the new owner and is free to sell-it, bin-it, or keep-it - that's entirely up to the new owner. ■

For enquiries or details about the event **contact David Sherriff** mob: **07764 576 762** email: **david.sherriff@rcasociety.net**



Overview of the year 2009 • 2010

Jenni Boswell-Jones

The final year of the "naughties"... has been a busy one. Although it has been a little longer than a year since pulling together the last overview I'm pleased to say that the Society sustained all its main activities; our collaborative Art Book Prize with Thames & Hudson, development of the website and holding monthly management committee meetings. Members may be aware that the past few years have not been easy for the RCA Society, mainly due to the College's development of "AlumniRCA". This move sadly affected both the Society and our members. Postal communications, application forms and materials from new members sent to the Society via the College were 'returned to sender' by the College. In contrast to this the Society encouraged all RCA graduates to join the 'alumnirca' mailing list, although we continued to point out there are big differences between the RCA Society and the College's 'AlumniRCA' organisation which we are determined to maintain: a central difference being that the RCA Society is a democratically structured organisation of members drawn from both College graduates or staff members, all of whom volunteer their efforts to participate in and manage an organisation which tries to keep going a certain shared experience that is special to people who were associated with the Royal College of Art at an important point in their life. The Society is a continuum of this through providing a networking forum for professional practitioners.



Terence Symmons

Communications with members is one of our central concerns alongside how the Society can be inclusive. Through our website and email services the Society links up with all its members located around the world. However, it is difficult to avoid being too London-centric, particularly as most of our active members are based in London. To help overcome these problems we have introduced into the website the means through which members can open up public discussions on new issues, directly respond to published news items, input into a calender facility where events can be posted, and of course use the site to publish or set up links. It is good to remind members of the pioneering spirit of the RCA Society: we launched our website in 1997, early days! The design was developed with two College students, and a comprehensive database was set up. Cutting edge stuff in those days and we were streets ahead of the College whose records at that time were still on a card filing system!



Peter Ayley

Beyond 'virtual networking' members also physically meet up at events other than committee meetings. This year we have visited a wide range of things, architectural and ecology exhibitions including "Eco Build" and "Future Build" at Earls Court and the Thames Gateway Development conferences at the "02" Arena (The Dome). We visited the " London International Music Show" at Excel and had a great time rocking to Steve Vai, and other brilliant musicians. We took a trip to the "Tenterden Folk Festival" - a fantastic event where members were brilliantly hosted by Doreen Wilcockson. Another important occasion members enjoyed was the 'Bladerunner' day at the BFI at which Ridley Scott (also an RCA graduate !) not only received his BFI Fellowship he, along with cast, screen and script writers, re-presented the movie and let us in on being amongst the first to hear who was in the final cast for 'Robin Hood' - currently showing at your local cinema. At the end of July and between tides a number of us ventured onto the Thames Beach by the Tower of London for a bit of archeological mudlarking. Members visited exhibitions at the refurbished Serpentine Gallery (Jeff Koons, Gustav Metzger) and of course saw the College's annual degree shows - at which 30 or so members once again took part in awarding 24 graduates with our "RCA Society + Thames & Hudson Art Book Prize". This was followed up during the summer holidays with a Sunday Tea Party for the prize winners, held at AND "EventSpace I". The prizes were presented after tucking into a delicious tea of cakes and goodies provided by Kathleen Molnar and Diana Brown. The "Frieze Art Fair" and end of holidays "Thames Festival"



Doreen Wilcockson

continues inside

'From Floor to Sky'



rcasociety
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Sunday 20th June

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Steve Val • (above) RCA Soc MC





Ian Johnson film preview



Committee meeting with Jeff Sawtelll



Bruce Lacey at Kinetica



'From Floor to Sky" at P3 Gallery



Digging Thames Archeology Week

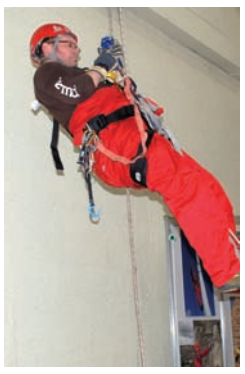


Bruce McLean and Will Alsop



RCA Soc + Thames & Hudson Book Prize event

were two other events on the 'summer' calender in 2009. In October, members went to a special showing in London's east end Toynbee Hall theatre to watch two documentary films by Ian Johnson: "Bruce Lacey: the original performance artist" and "No Problem..." a film documentary on the late Ken Campbell. Bruce Lacey was again seen 'for real' during a visit to the 'Kinetica Art Fair' at the beginning of this year. Also earlier this year members participated in the "Business of Fashion" symposium held at the College which coincided with an interim show of Fashion, Jewellery and Textiles. Another 'art' event a group of members went along to see was a Bruce McLean performance (or two) at Will Alsop's newly launched galleries 'Testbed1' near the College's Howie Street complex in Battersea. During March a number of members took part in a major exhibition From Floor to Sky held at the University of Westminster's subterranean P3 Galleries. 'From Floor to Sky', initiated by Roderick Coyne and curated by Peter Kardia, bringing together a number of people who studied Sculpture / Environmental Media at St Martin's and the RCA during the twenty years spanning the 1960s and 80's. The RCA Society is now working with the organisers to continue this important debate and exhibition.





This and a few other initiatives leads us into the coming year. 'From Floor to Sky' will develop opportunities for more dynamic discussions on Art Education practice, and on the art education front we are aiming to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the RCA student consultative publication 'RCA RE-Defined' (the Yellow Paper), organised in 1970 under the RCA Student Union presidency of Jeff Sawtell, who nowadays is an influential film critic and painter. 'RCA RE-Defined' was a significant moment in student participation that gave rise to effective student representation and shift in departmental structures at the College. Another imminent event is 'Boxed in Time' - a social networking event with a twist. We are aiming to grow this into a regular event. (See details on other side or check out the website). The "RCA Society and Thames & Hudson Art Book Prize" continues and will again take place during the College degree show times. All members are invited to participate by meeting up during the shows, sending in nominations of the graduate's work they feel is skillful and challenges the boundaries of its particular discipline. Another event on the horizon is an exhibition in the old Dungeoness Lighthouse (adjacent to the nuclear plant) - where there appears to be an increase in the population of RCA Society members. There were a few events and ideas that didn't get realised this year but the Committee will be revisiting some of the more interesting ones that were put forward... and seeing if they can be realised.

With another AGM imminent the 'outgoing' management committee requests all members to become actively involved in the Society, either by taking on responsibilities as a member of the Management Committee, or by organising social and/or professional events, visits etc, or simply by providing information for the website and encouraging 'old' students or associates to join the RCA Society... After all the Society is only whatever its members make it. ■

Treasurer's Report

DIANA BROWN



The AGM gives everyone an opportunity to look at the accounts. Seldom a favourite pastime but it will confirm that the Society is in the black. The main revenue comes from the paid membership fees and covers the costs of running the administration of the Society, website, newsletter and some events. Now that the website is more comprehensive and inclusive we have saved money on printed and posted information. Our thanks goes to those generous members who give donations to the Society. Like other voluntary organisations we accept charitable donations but, with us, you have a say in where the money is targeted - even the smallest amount added on to membership fee standing orders is very welcome. The Society is proud to have kept the unique "RCA Society and Thames & Hudson Art Book Prize" going for more than a decade - awarding 24 annual prizes to a student from each school in the College. The annual membership is still a nominal £10 and all new graduates are entitled to18 months free membership.

Why not take an active part in the Society? With the AGM taking place next month are there any nominations for a new treasurer? Why not try your hand at the job. By the way - a detailed copy of the accounts will be available for inspection at the AGM. ■

ArtBook Prize - 2010

RCA Society + Thames & Hudson

Nominations for the annual RCA Society and Thames & Hudson "artbook prize" take place during the Degree Shows - Members are invited to participate in what is a great opportunity to see the shows, talk to the graduates and award 24 prizes to work that shows "exceptional skill and innovation in a particular discipline, and is critical and challenging across the area of art and design".

Members can choose up to 3 graduates (first, second and third options) from whichever discipline you have an interest and feel best qualified to judge. ■



RCA Society Officers 09 -2010

ROYAL COLLEGE OF ART
Society
(est 1982)

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The above members are the outgoing 'officers' and committee members for the year 2009/10. ★

All members may put themselves forward for these positions or nominate a member who would like to be on the committee. ■

RCA Degree Shows dates

28 May–6 June 2010: SHOW One - Kensington Gore, London SW7 2EU - Photography, Printmaking, Ceramics & Glass, GSM&J.
9 June 2010: SHOW Fashion - Fashion students present their final collections as two catwalk shows at 4pm and 6.15pm, along with a static display of footwear and accessories. Tickets must be purchased in advance by calling 0207 590 4566
23 June–4 July 2010: SHOW Two - Sculpture, Painting Battersea - Howie Street, London SW11 4AS - During weekends there will be a free Routemaster bus between Battersea and Kensington.
25 June–4 July 2010 (closed 2 July): **SHOW Two** - Kensington Gore, London SW7 2EU - Animation, Architecture, Communication Art & Design, Design Products, Design Interactions, Fashion Footwear and Accessories, History of Design, Innovation Design Engineering, Textiles and Vehicle Design. All shows are open from 11am to 8pm daily, unless stated otherwise. **For more information, telephone: 020 7590 4444**