Gifted: From the Royal Academy to The Queen

The Queen’s Gallery, Buckingham Palace    1 November 2013 – 16 March 2014

More than 100 works by Royal Academicians are on display at The Queen’s Gallery, Buckingham Palace this autumn in the special exhibition, Gifted: From the Royal Academy to The Queen. From prints, drawings, and photographs, to works in oil, watercolour and mixed media, the portfolio of works on paper was presented to Her Majesty The Queen by the Royal Academy of Arts last year to celebrate her Diamond Jubilee. It includes works by some of the most high-profile Academicians, including Tracey Emin, David Hockney, Anish Kapoor, Cornelia Parker and Grayson Perry among others.

The Royal Academy was founded by George III in 1768, and Her Majesty The Queen is the current Patron. The Academy has presented gifts to The Queen on two previous significant occasions in Her Majesty’s reign. The first portfolio was given to mark the Coronation in 1953 and contained work by Augustus John, Sir Alfred Munnings and Stanley Spencer. The second was presented in celebration of The Queen’s Silver Jubilee in 1977 and included works by Peter Blake, Dame Elisabeth Frink and Carel Weight. Nine Academicians, including Olwyn Bowey, Bernard Dunstan and David Tindle, have contributed to both the Silver and Diamond Jubilee portfolios.

The gift was presented to The Queen in November 2012 by the Royal Academy’s President, Christopher Le Brun, and its Secretary and Chief Executive, Dr Charles Saumarez Smith. The Queen most recently visited the Royal Academy of Arts in May 2012 when she attended a ‘Celebration of the Arts’ reception to mark her Diamond Jubilee.

For the Diamond Jubilee portfolio, several Academicians have given works inspired by The Queen’s reign. These include Professor Tracey Emin’s HRH Royal Britania, a monoprint portrait of The Queen, and sculptor John Maine’s Westminster Abbey Sacramentum, a drawing of the Abbey’s Cosmati Pavement, the spot where The Queen was crowned. The architect Michael Manser has contributed a drawing and photograph of The Queen’s Suite, Heathrow Airport, which he designed in 1988.

Other highlights of the portfolio include: Gillian Ayres, Festive I; Basil Beattie, Janus Series; Olwyn Bowey, Susie; Sir Anthony Caro, Seated Figure; Maurice Cockrill, Treasure; Eileen Cooper, From the ‘Couples’ series; David Hockney, 2012 Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee, iPad drawing; Anish Kapoor, Untitled; Sonia Lawson, Twin Forms; Leonard Manasseh, Daylight; David
Nash, Yellow; Humphrey Ocean, Birds at Ngong; Grayson Perry, Design for Kenilworth AMI; Tom Phillips, Sixteen Appearances of the Union Jack; Richard Long, A Day’s Walk across Dartmoor; Dhruva Mistry, Head; Joe Tilson, For Her Majesty The Queen a P.C. from Venice; Cornelia Parker, Spitting Sugar; Richard Wilson, Hang on a minute lads, I’ve got a great idea!.

There are also two Olympic-themed works – Zaha Hadid’s gouache and charcoal work Olympic Aquatics Centre, and Anne Desmet’s wood engraving Olympic Shadows.

 Appropriately, the Royal Academy gift of works on paper are on display this autumn alongside an exhibition of drawings and prints by Giovanni Benedetto Castiglione (1609-64), perhaps the most innovative and technically brilliant draughtsman of his time.

**Gifted: From the Royal Academy to The Queen** is at The Queen’s Gallery, Buckingham Palace, 1 November 2013 – 16 March 2014, with Castiglione: Lost Genius. 

Tickets and visitor information: [www.royalcollection.org.uk](http://www.royalcollection.org.uk), T. +44 (0)20 7766 7301.

The accompanying exhibition catalogue is published by Royal Collection Trust (price £9.95).

A selection of images is available from [www.picselect.com](http://www.picselect.com). For further information and photographs, please contact the Royal Collection Trust Press Office, +44 (0)20 7839 1377, press@royalcollection.org.uk.

**Notes to Editors**

**Royal Collection Trust**, part of the Royal Household, is responsible for the care of the Royal Collection and manages the public opening of the official residences of The Queen. Income generated from admissions and retail activity is dedicated to The Royal Collection Trust, a registered charity, and is used for the conservation of the Collection and the promotion of access and enjoyment through exhibitions, publications, loans and educational activities.

**The Royal Collection** is among the largest and most important art collections in the world, and one of the last great European royal collections to remain intact. It comprises almost all aspects of the fine and decorative arts, and is spread among some 13 royal residences and former residences across the UK, most of which are regularly open to the public. The Royal Collection is held in trust by the Sovereign for her successors and the nation, and is not owned by The Queen as a private individual.

[www.royalcollection.org.uk](http://www.royalcollection.org.uk)

**The Royal Academy of Arts** was founded by George III in 1768. The 34 founding Members were a group of prominent artists and architects including Sir Joshua Reynolds and Sir William Chambers who were determined to achieve professional standing for British art.
and architecture. They also wanted to provide a venue for exhibitions that would be open to the public; and to establish a school of art through which their skills and knowledge could be passed to future generations of practitioners.

The Academy is an independent institution. The Academicians are all practising painters, sculptors, engravers, printmakers, draughtsmen and architects and are elected by their peers. There are up to 80 Academicians and a number of Senior Academicians who are over 75. The current President of the Academy is Christopher Le Brun. He is the 26th President in a period of 244 years. Past Royal Academicians include John Constable, Thomas Gainsborough, JMW Turner, Lord Leighton and Stanley Spencer, while current Members include Lord Foster of Thames Bank, Sir David Chipperfield, Tess Jaray, Anish Kapoor, Allen Jones, David Mach and Alison Wilding.

A list of Academicians can be found here: [http://www.royalacademy.org.uk/academicians/all-artists,29,AR.html](http://www.royalacademy.org.uk/academicians/all-artists,29,AR.html)

For further information about the Royal Academy of Arts, please contact the Press Office, +44 (0)20 7300 5615, press.office@royalacademy.org.uk.

Admission to The Queen’s Gallery, Buckingham Palace is managed by The Royal Collection Trust, a registered charity in England and Wales (1016972) and in Scotland (SCO39772).