

# CONTEMPORARY WATERCOLOUR COMPETITION 20 20

## SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

**Entry deadline:** Monday 13 January 2020, 11.59pm

This pack contains all the information that you need to know regarding the submission, exhibition and sale of your work in the **Royal Watercolour Society's Contemporary Watercolour Competition 2020**. Please read through it carefully before submitting your work.

If you do have any questions which are not answered here, please refer to the FAQs on the Competition page at [royalwatercoloursociety.com](http://royalwatercoloursociety.com)

If you are still unable to find an answer to your questions please email [info@royalwatercoloursociety.com](mailto:info@royalwatercoloursociety.com)

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# RWS Contemporary Watercolour Competition 2019

The Royal Watercolour Society's annual competition is open to all artists except elected RWS Members. Entries must be submitted digitally via the website. Work made in any water-based medium on a paper support is eligible: this includes gouache, acrylic, ink, pigment, watercolour or a mixed media piece containing any of this list. A maximum of 6 paintings may be submitted for a fee of £15 per work with reductions on multiple submissions. Students in higher education (who can produce a valid student card) can enter up to 6 works for £5 per work.

To enter, artists must complete the online entry form and upload images of up to 6 recent paintings to the Royal Watercolour Society's website. These digital submissions are selected by a panel of judges whose decision is final.

## Eligibility

- Any painting in watercolour, acrylic, gouache, ink, any other water-based media or a combination
- No prints, copies, reproductions or photographs are eligible
- All work should be on a paper support i.e. paper, cardboard, etc (not canvas, wood, plastic or any other surface)
- There are no limitations on style or subject matter
- Framed works must not exceed 200 x 200cm
- The painting must have been completed sometime during the previous 4 years (2019, 2018, 2017 or 2016)
- The work must have been made by the applicant
- All work must be for sale
- Applicants must be aged 18 or over on Tuesday 1st October 2019

## The Judging Panel

**Tim Sayer** | Journalist & Art Collector

**Kristian Day** | Independent Gallerist & Curator

**Jill Leman** | RWS President

**Jim Hunter** | RWS Junior Vice President

**June Berry** | RWS Member

## Royal Watercolour Society Prizes

**David Gluck Memorial Award:** £1000 Cash Prize

**RWS Award:** £250 Cash Prize

**RWS New Graduate Award\*:** £250 Cash Prize

**RWS Young Artist Award\*\*:** Guest Membership to the RWS for 2 years to an artist under the age of 35, allowing the winner(s) to exhibit in all Society exhibitions at Bankside Gallery for this period

**RWS Publicity Prize:** Your selected work on exhibition printed publicity material

**RWS Social Media Prize\*\*\*:** Feature on @royalwatercoloursociety Instagram

\*To qualify for the RWS New Graduate Award you must be a current student on an arts-related course in higher education, or a recent graduate of the same. If you are a graduate, your graduation date must be no earlier than 1<sup>st</sup> January 2015.

\*\*To qualify for the RWS Young Artist Award you must be 35 or under on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2019.

\*\*\*To qualify for the RWS Social Media Prize you must have your own Instagram account.

## Sponsored Prizes

The Royal Watercolour Society is delighted to have the support of industry specialists who are offering a range of prizes including art materials, studio time, publishing, exhibiting and cash prizes.

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Mounts

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**The Cass Art Solo Show Award:** The opportunity for a solo exhibition of your work in a Cass Art store space

**The Artist Prize:** Feature article in The Artist & Leisure Painter Magazine

**Cotswold Mounts Prize:** £125 cash

**Daler Rowney Art Materials Prize:** Daler Rowney art materials

**Dry Red Press Prize:** The opportunity to have your artwork published on a greetings card

**The Heatherley's Open Studio Prize:** Five days worth of studio time at The Heatherley School of Fine Art

**Insight Art School Prize:** £250 cash

**Leon Restaurants Prize:** Food & Drink Vouchers

**Schmincke Prize:** Schmincke Horadam Painting Box (Value £300)

**Seawhite Art Materials Prize:** Seawhite art materials

**St Cuthbert's Mill Paper Prize:** £150 worth of paper

**Winsor & Newton Prize:** Professional Water Colour Bamboo Coffret

## How to Enter

**Submissions open:** Tuesday 1 October 2019

**Entry deadline:** Monday 13 January 2020, 11.59pm

Artists may submit up to 6 paintings for a non-refundable fee:

1 work £15

2 works £30

3 works £38 (£7 discount)

4 works £47 (£13 discount)

5 works £56 (£19 discount)

6 works £65 (£25 discount)

- **Students in full time higher education can submit up to 6 works for £5 per entry** (please email a scan/photo of your student ID to [info@royalwatercoloursociety.com](mailto:info@royalwatercoloursociety.com). We will respond with a unique entry code) No further offers apply.
- **Watercolour Artist Friends can submit for free** (please email your name and postcode to [info@royalwatercoloursociety.com](mailto:info@royalwatercoloursociety.com) for your free entry code).
- **Cass Art customers can submit up to 6 entries with a 10% discount on submission fees** (please email proof of being a Cass Art customer to [info@royalwatercoloursociety.com](mailto:info@royalwatercoloursociety.com). This could be a photo of your receipt, plastic bag, tote bag, Cass Art products, selfie of you in the shop, etc. We will respond with a unique entry code. No further offers apply.)

### Step 1

- Take a good quality digital photograph or scan of each painting. Paintings should be photographed unframed and evenly lit, and cropped to the edge of the work. For guidance and advice on how to photograph your artwork, please watch the video [here](#).

### Step 2

- View the photograph on a computer to make sure you are happy with the picture quality – the judges will make their decision based on this photograph. Check the image file does not exceed **3MB** (minimum of 1MB) before saving it as a JPG.

### Step 3

- Go to [royalwatercoloursociety.co.uk/competition](http://royalwatercoloursociety.co.uk/competition) to access the online entry form. Complete the online form. You must supply an email address to proceed, as this is how we will contact you if your work is selected (so please make sure this is spelled correctly). If you do not have an email address you may use that of a friend or relative, with their permission. We cannot accept entries without an email address.

### Step 4

- Upload a photograph of each painting to the website and fill in the title, framed dimensions, medium and price of each painting. **You are able to re-access your entry until the closing date but you will not be able to make any changes after that point.** You should consider framing, transport costs and the Gallery's commission of 40% + VAT when pricing your work.

### Step 5

- Pay the non-refundable entry fee using the secure online payment service. We are unable to accept payment by any other means. Acknowledgement of your entry and payment will be emailed to you. Please check your junk/spam folder if you do not receive this email.

## Results

A list of paintings selected for the exhibition will be published on the RWS website on **Thursday 23 January**. Artists whose work has been selected will be sent an email confirming arrangements for the exhibition. If your work does not appear on the list of selected paintings, unfortunately your work has not been selected on this occasion. Please make sure to check the published list as we cannot guarantee that unselected artists will be notified by email.

## Preparing Your Paintings for Exhibition

An exhibition of selected paintings will be held at Bankside Gallery from **Friday 6 - Wednesday 18 March**

- Poorly presented paintings or works that differ significantly from the photograph that was entered will not be accepted.
- Framed paintings must not exceed 200cm x 200cm.
- For your work to be insured against theft under Bankside Gallery insurance, your paintings must be framed, glazed and fitted with mirror plates. Other display options are welcomed but these are displayed works at your own risk.
- If you chose alternative display options you must also ensure that your works can be safely stored and you must provide a safe and secure way in which they can be wrapped and protected if sold. You must also provide clear instructions on the hanging of your work.

### Mirror-plates

- Framed paintings must be supplied with mirror-plates screwed to each side of the frame with a pair of screws. Bubble wrap or card wrapped around the mirror-plates should prevent damage during transit.

### Labels

- You will receive labels via email for your works. Please fill out the information with the details of your work and fix one to the front and one to the back of your work with magic tape. Please make sure the label on the front can be easily removed without leaving residue on the glass.

### Insurance

- The paintings remain at all times the liability of the artist. While every care will be taken when handling paintings, neither the Gallery nor the RWS can accept liability for any damage. You may wish to insure your work against loss or damage while it is in transit or at the Gallery.

## Delivering Your Paintings

Delivery of framed paintings is to Bankside Gallery on **Sunday 1** or **Monday 2 March, 11 am-5pm**. Paintings may not be delivered on any other date. On arrival at the Gallery you will be asked to un-wrap your paintings and to take any packing material away with you.

You may arrange for a representative or professional art courier to deliver your paintings on the above hand-in days. They must un-wrap your paintings, take away all packaging and sign a delivery sheet.

Only professional Art Couriers should be used. We recommend:

**Picture Post** (info@picturepostcompany.co.uk / 07833 450 788)

**Art Moves of Chelsea** (artmoveschelsea@aol.com / 020 7352 7492)

**South Hams Express** (dave.allen500@btinternet.com / 01803 551368 / 07502041139)

Work will not be accepted if delivered by Royal Mail, FedEx, DHL etc, or by taxi as they do not have specialist art insurance nor are they able to unwrap works and remove packaging. If you live outside of the UK and would like submit work to the competition, please contact one of the above couriers directly beforehand so they can advise you on timings.

Please note that the art couriers listed above are all third parties and do not have any link with the Gallery or the RWS. Any delivery arrangements should be made directly with the courier.

## Sale of Paintings

All paintings entered in the competition must be available for sale. The Gallery levies a commission of **40% + VAT** on picture sales. You will be notified of sales by email shortly after they occur and will receive the balance due within six weeks of the end of the exhibition.

Copyright: The copyright of all works remains vested in the artist, but the right is reserved for Bankside Gallery and/or the sponsors of the exhibition to reproduce any of the paintings in connection with the exhibition, and its publicity, free of charge.

### Collecting Unsold Paintings

Collection of unsold painting is from Bankside Gallery on **Thursday 19 March, 11am – 7pm** unless you have been notified of a sale during the exhibition you must collect your unsold work from Bankside Gallery on the above date. If you are unable to come to the Gallery yourself you may send a representative or engage a professional art courier (see list above). If someone will be collecting on your behalf, please contact us via [info@royalwatercoloursociety.com](mailto:info@royalwatercoloursociety.com) beforehand. All paintings will be available to collect unwrapped, so you or your representative are advised to bring any packing material required.

### Uncollected Paintings

**Paintings left at the Gallery after 7pm on Thursday 19 March will be removed by Art Moves of Chelsea.** You should contact them on 020 7352 7492 to make an appointment to collect your work and pay their storage fee of £20 per work, for the first week (part or whole). The cost increases by £5 per week.

## Dates

**Tuesday 1 October, midday** | Competition opens for entries

**Monday 13 January, 11.59pm** | Entry Deadline

**Thursday 23 January, by 6pm** | Results are posted on the RWS website, successful artists contacted via email

**Sunday 1 & Monday 2 March, 11am-5pm** | Delivery of successful entries to Bankside Gallery

**Thursday 5 March, 6 - 8pm** | Private View and awarding of prizes at Bankside Gallery, by invitation only

**Friday 6 – Wednesday 18 March, 11am-6pm** | Exhibition of successful entries at Bankside Gallery

**Thursday 19 March, 11am-7pm** | Collection of unsold paintings after the exhibition from Bankside Gallery

**Thank you for entering your work into the  
RWS Contemporary Watercolour Competition 2020!**