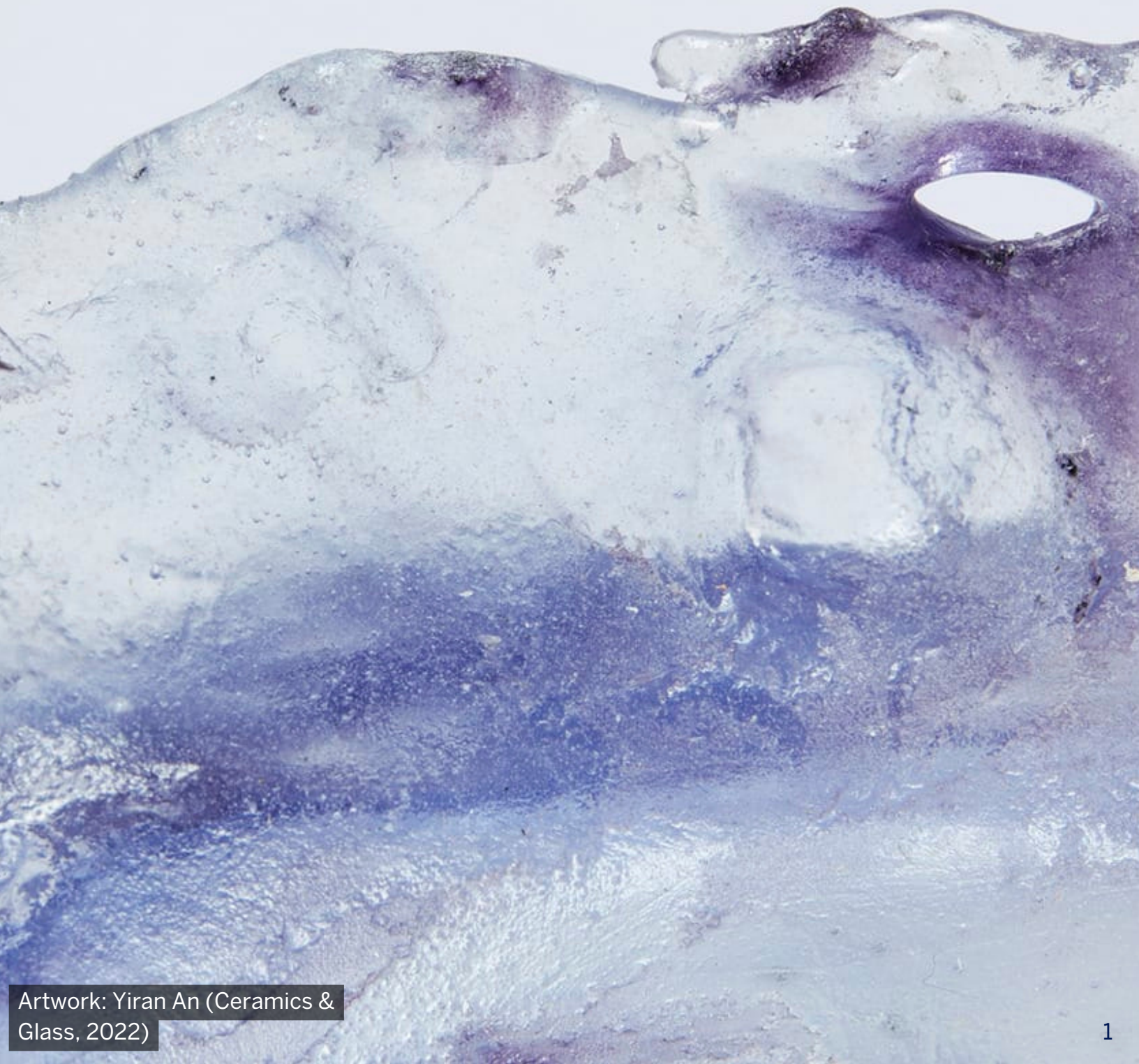


RCA

Specialist Technical Instructor May 2023



Artwork: Yiran An (Ceramics &
Glass, 2022)

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Photo: Richard Haughton

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WELCOME TO THE RCA



Photo: Iwan Baan

Founded in 1837, the Royal College of Art (RCA) is the world's largest community of postgraduate art and design students. It is also the oldest art and design university in continuous operation and has been ranked as the world's number one art & design university for a remarkable eight consecutive years (QS World Subject Rankings 2015–22).

The RCA is research-led, and recognised in the UK-wide Research Excellence Framework (REF) as the UK's most research-intensive institution – with an increased proportion of the College's outputs classed as 'internationally excellent' and 'world-leading' in the most recent REF assessment of 2022.

Studying at the RCA is the starting point for the world's creative leaders. With more than 20,000 RCA alumni across the globe, the RCA's graduates form a unique international network of artists, designers, creators and innovators. Every year, RCA alumni are recognised as leaders in their discipline, making national and international headlines for their work, which shapes the world we live in. Its graduate start-up incubator, InnovationRCA, is one of the most successful in the country with a high proportion of female start-up founders and a high 'survival' percentage after five years of trading.

Over 2,700 students are spread across four schools, studying at Graduate Diploma, MA, MPhil, MRes and PhD levels, with plans for this to rise to 3,300 by 2027. The College's mix of professionalism and creative freedom, together with its renowned academic community and rigorous academic framework provides the ecosystem in which students flourish and achieve their highest potential.



Photo: Richard Haughton

In addition, the RCA has a number of established and planned research centres: the Helen Hamlyn Centre for Design; the Material Science Research Centre (which includes the Burberry Materials Futures Research Group and the Textiles Circularity Centre); the Intelligent Mobility Design Centre, Computer Science Research Centre, and a future centre in Drawing. The RCA is also home to one of the UK's most successful university incubators, InnovationRCA.

The RCA espouses a hybrid approach, supporting 'traditional' making and technical skills in fine and applied art and design alongside the foundational sciences, engineering and technology which underpin designers' ability to solve today's global challenges. The RCA champions the value of interdisciplinary learning and was the first art and design university in the world to implement a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Design and Mathematics) academic vision, with investment in new faculty posts in Materials Science; Computer Science and Robotics alongside art and design disciplines. By applying creative insights to evidence-based science, its staff, students, researchers and start-ups are addressing major global challenges such as rapid urbanisation and transport; loss of biodiversity; ageing populations; unsustainable consumption and production; and the rise of AI.

Our Strategy

The RCA's strategic vision is to increase its influence on the world stage of globally ranked universities, punching significantly above its weight, and attracting, supporting and convening the world's most talented faculty, students, artists, designers and creative leaders. For more information on The RCA's Strategic Plan 2022–27, please click on this link: [Strategic Plan 2022–27](#).

Our People



Photo: Richard Haughton

Prior to the death of Her Majesty, the RCA's Royal Visitor (Patron) was HRH Prince of Wales; however, His Majesty King Charles III's office has yet to confirm which institutions he will continue to serve as a Patron, following his ascension to the throne. The RCA's Chancellor is Sir Jony Ive, and the Pro-Chancellor and Chair of the Council is Sir Peter Bazalgette (please see a link to Council independent members' biographies). The RCA's Vice-Chancellor - the CEO of the institution - is Dr Paul Thompson, who joined the College in 2009.

The RCA has more than 500 permanent staff, including internationally renowned artists, designers, architects, theorists and curators. These staff, together with innovative pedagogy, world-class technical facilities and research centres, all contribute to an exceptional environment and a remarkable record of graduate employment. Generations of eminent graduates have created far-reaching impact and influence, such as Barbara Hepworth, Bridget Riley, David Hockney, Sir Ridley Scott, Sir James Dyson OM, Asif Kapadia, Thomas Heatherwick, Chris Ofili, Tracey Emin, Jake and Dinos Chapman, Christopher Bailey, Idris Khan, Chantal Joffe, Sir David Adjaye, Erdem, Philip Treacey, Monster Chetwynd, Oscar Murillo and Lina Lapelyte.

Our Values



Photo: Shaun James

The RCA community operates in line with four agreed values:

Curiosity

We have a tenacious commitment to innovation and openness to change. We positively interrogate ideas, assumptions and plans and welcome the honest scrutiny that is alive in a learning community.

Inclusion

We celebrate diversity and embrace difference as a source of strength. We strive for an inclusive RCA community, removing barriers and challenging exclusionary and discriminatory practices.

Collaboration

We value what happens together and we help and support each other to achieve our collective goals. We work in partnership with our students, staff, alumni, institutions and communities across the globe to make a lasting difference.

Integrity

We are always willing to listen, we offer constructive feedback and we promote accountability, building relationships of mutual trust and respect. We are resilient in the face of challenges, pursuing outcomes with individual, cultural, societal and economic impact.

Specialist Technical Instructor (3D Making - CNC & Laser)



Photo: Richard Haughton

Purpose of the Post

Technical Services is one of the service divisions of Information, Learning and Technical Services (ILTS), a cross-college department, which includes the Library, Archives and Collections, IT and Audio-Visual Services.

We are looking for an adaptable and highly motivated CAD/CAM CNC operator with Laser Cutting knowledge to work within an existing team of specialist technicians. This role will involve working directly with MA students and researchers to support their professional development.

The Specialist Technical Instructor will take the lead in ensuring the effective provision and availability of specialist equipment and work areas in order to facilitate academic delivery, student learning, research and knowledge transfer activities. They will provide highly skilled technical assistance, guidance and instruction to all users, demonstrating equipment and processes as appropriate. The role acts as an integral point of support to the Technical Coordinator in the day-to-day function of technical services within the area of Digitally Aided Making: CNC Milling and Laser Cutting and Plastics.

Main Duties and Responsibilities:

- Plan, organize and provide technical support, advice and demonstrations in CAD/CAM, CNC Milling and Laser Cutting.
- Support the growth of CNC Milling and Laser Cutting across the College, including the buying and setting up of new equipment and services.
- Be responsible for the CNC Milling and Laser Cutting technical spaces, contribute to the creation of learning materials and operate and maintain tools, equipment and processes in these workshops.
- Monitor work being carried out in the CNC Milling and Laser Cutting technical spaces, ensuring high standards of health & safety and housekeeping at all times.
- Support the research, buying and setting up of new equipment and services by maintaining industry links and identifying new and relevant technologies and practices.
- Ongoing learning of CAD/CAM, CNC Milling and Laser Cutting as part of a dynamic team.
- Assist students and staff of all abilities in problem-solving and finding technical solutions.
- Promote best practices within the CNC Milling and Laser Cutting technical spaces, maintain specialist equipment, monitor safety and keep accurate records. Actively support the Lead technical instructor in the completion of risk assessments, ensuring all assessments are suitable, sufficient and remain up to date.
- Support college Teaching, Learning & Research activities that may require the support of the CNC Milling and Laser Cutting workshop, as appropriate for the role.
- Develop, create and maintain learning and promotional material.
- Participate in the reviewing and monitoring of technical facilities. Liaise with Academic, Professional Services, IT Services, Research staff and all other service providers and users with regard to the current resource provision and future developments.
- Represent technical services and the CNC Milling and Laser Cutting team by attending appropriate meetings as agreed with the Technical Coordinator.
- Comply with all Royal College of Art policies and procedures.
- Support events and exhibitions as required including the handling, transportation and installation of artworks.
- Support College Teaching, Learning, and Research activities that may require CNC Milling and Laser Cutting, as appropriate for the role.
- Assist in the selection, training, induction and supervision of new and temporary staff.
- Undertake any other duties consistent with the role as required and in agreement with the Technical Coordinator and or Technical Services Manager

Person Specification

Essential characteristics of the postholder:

- Significant, highly skilled, specialist knowledge of CNC Milling and Laser Cutting including the transition from 3D CAD data to the manufacturing process.
- Significant, highly skilled, specialist knowledge of at least one or more of the following 3D CAD packages: Rhino, Fusion360, Adobe Illustrator, Zbrush, Maya, DelCam, PowerMill or SheetCam.
- Knowledge of how CNC Milling and Laser Cutting can be applied within the design process / creative cycle.
- Knowledge of 2.5, 3 and 4 Axis CNC milling equipment, laser cutters and associated software.
- An understanding of model making, pattern making, tool making etc.
- The ability to instruct and demonstrate in a small group context.
- Excellent problem-solving skills, user focus and a flexible approach
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, both written and verbal
- The ability to use initiative and to work independently and as part of a team.
- Excellent organisational, time management and planning skills with the ability to prioritise as appropriate
- Ability to share knowledge and transfer skills and capabilities
- Knowledge and experience of COSHH, Health and Safety issues and Risk assessment procedures related to CNC Milling and Laser Cutting

Desirable characteristics of the postholder:

- Experience in creating online learning materials.
- Experience with Health and Safety policies such as COSHH and Risk.
- An interest and enthusiasm for contemporary art, design and culture.



Photo: Richard Haughton

Pay & Benefits

Additional Information:

- Salary £40,670-£44,029 per annum inclusive of London Allowance.
- The successful applicant will be appointed to the first increment on the advertised pay grade. Thereafter and subject to satisfactory performance, the role holder will be eligible for an annual increment each year, normally with effect from 1 August.
- 25 days annual leave plus extended breaks at Christmas and Easter at the discretion of the College, pro rata for part-time employees.
- A contributory defined benefit pension scheme and interest-free season ticket loan are available.
- Term: Permanent



Photo: Philip Vale

Pension

The Royal College of Art is a member of the Superannuation Arrangements of the University of London (SAUL) which is a contributory defined benefit pension scheme. The college will contribute a sum equal to 16% of your salary while you pay 6%.

Holiday

5 weeks (25 days) paid leave a year plus bank and public holidays normally observed in England and Wales. In addition, the college is normally closed for six days a year, one day either side of Easter and the remainder between Christmas and New Year. Part-time staff will be entitled to the pro rata equivalent.

Season ticket loans

Interest-free loans are available for staff to purchase annual season tickets.

Enhanced maternity and adoption pay

Qualifying employees are entitled to enhanced maternity/adoption pay: 26 weeks' full pay, 13 weeks Statutory Maternity/Adoption Pay. This compares to the statutory provision of 90% of average pay for 6 weeks followed by Statutory Maternity/Adoption Pay for 33 weeks.

Enhanced paternity pay

Qualifying employees are entitled to two weeks' paternity leave entitlement at full pay. This compares to the statutory provision of two weeks' pay at the statutory rate.

Enhanced sick pay

Occupational sick pay after six months' service is three months full pay/three months half pay.

24/7 confidential support

Staff and family members in their household have access to a free, external confidential support service for work, financial, legal, family and personal problems 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Occupational health

Occupational Health support for the College is provided by Imperial College's occupational health service at their South Kensington Campus.

Life Cover

Active members of the SAUL pension scheme automatically receive life cover. A lump sum of four times your salary together with a refund of your contributions and a 2/3 pension for your dependent/spouse is payable should you die whilst in employment.

Library

All staff are welcome to join the college library.

Events

All staff are welcome to attend exhibitions, lectures and private views held by academic schools and programmes.