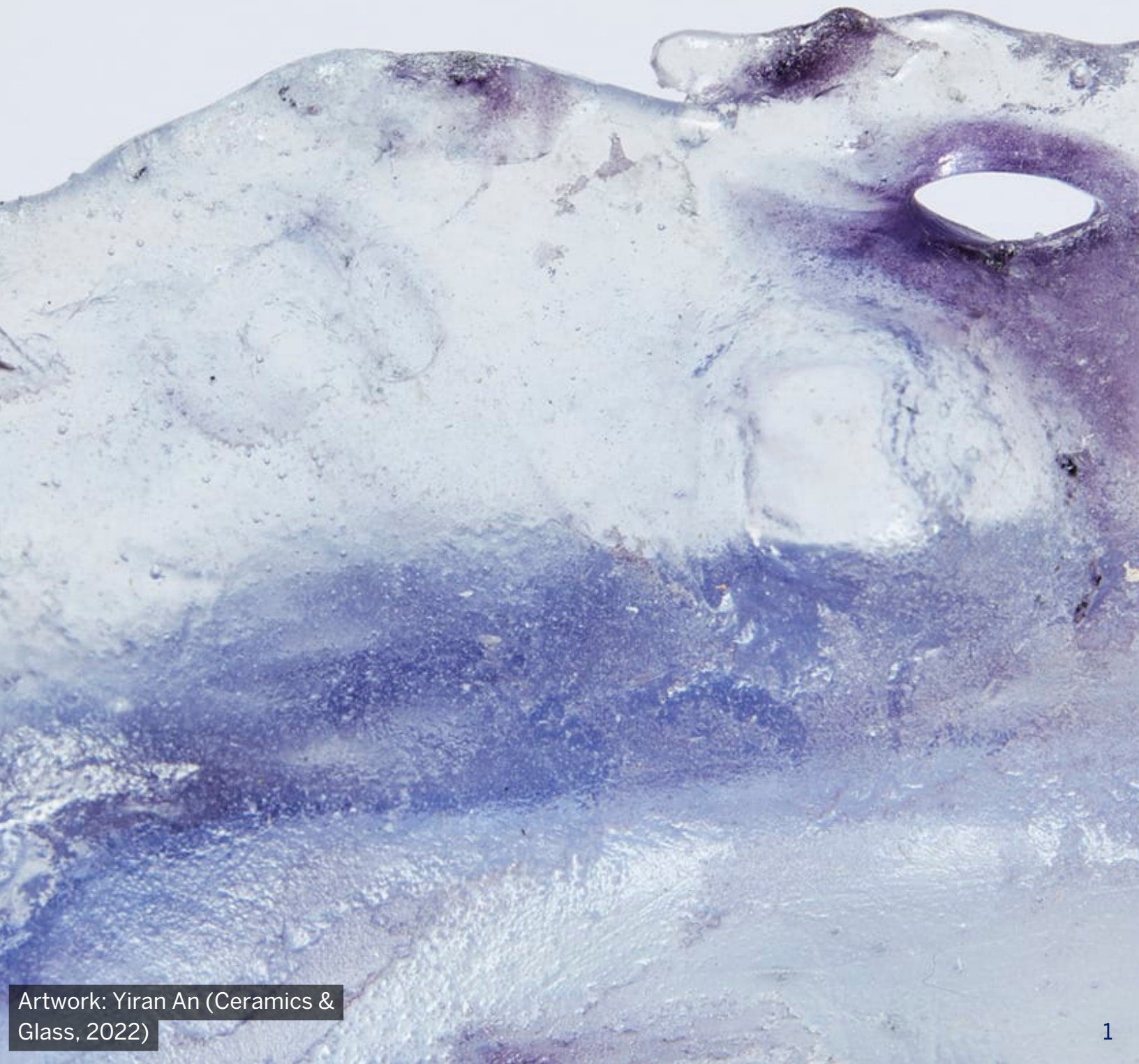


RCA

Tutor (Research) Curating Contemporary June 2026



Artwork: Yiran An (Ceramics & Glass, 2022)

CONTENTS



Photo: Richard Haughton

3	<u>About RCA</u>
4	<u>Our Strategy</u>
5	<u>Our People</u>
8	<u>Our Values</u>
9	About the Role
15	Person Specification
16	<u>Pay and Benefits</u>

WELCOME TO THE RCA



Photo: Iwan Baan

Founded in 1837, the Royal College of Art is the world's largest postgraduate-only community of art and design students. It has been ranked number one in the world 12 consecutive years (QS World University Rankings by Subject 2015-2026).

Studying at the RCA is the starting point for UK and global creative leaders. With more than 30,000 RCA alumni all over the world, the College's graduates form a diverse international network of artists, designers, creators and innovators.

Around 2,500 students are spread across four schools – Architecture, Arts & Humanities, Communication and Design - and in the RCA's Research Centres. The College creates an environment that champions exploration, collaboration and interdisciplinary learning - using art and design to reframe the possibilities of the humanities, technology, and ethics; and equipping graduates for new futures and opportunities

Research is at the heart of the RCA's impact. In active discussion with the world, the College brings interdisciplinary researchers and partners together in vital areas such as climate and sustainability, technology and society, and leads the field in practice-based research. As a result, the RCA is ranked as one of the most research-intensive specialist art and design universities in the UK [under the Research Excellence Framework 2014 and 2021].



Photo: Richard Haughton

The RCA champions exploration, collaboration and interdisciplinary learning - using art and design to reframe the possibilities of the humanities, technology, and ethics. We experiment, question and discover, putting research and practice at our heart, to equip students for new futures and opportunities and build on current knowledge.

Current 'real world' practices of our disciplines are fully integrated into our teaching delivery and student learning. The RCA model also consciously uses both the high research active levels of faculty, and the absence of undergraduate provision, to provide concentration and focus, in order to use research to creatively 'disrupt' the learning experience.

Our People



Photo: Richard Haughton

The strength of the RCA lies in its people: our students, academic community, researchers, technical specialists, professional services teams and our global network of alumni and partners.

The RCA's Chancellor is Sir Jony Ive, one of the world's most influential designers. The Pro-Chancellor and Chair of Council is Sir Peter Bazalgette, and the President & Vice-Chancellor — the College's Chief Executive — is Professor Christoph Lindner, who joined the RCA in 2024.

The RCA's academic faculty bring world-leading expertise and industry knowledge to the College's model of teaching. All faculty are actively engaged in their relevant industries and professional practice beyond academia, and the RCA is the only specialist art and design university where all of our permanent academic staff are also research active and included in the RCA's submissions to the UK Research Excellence Framework.

The RCA has a total academic and research workforce of over 400 people, which includes Associate Lecturers, Visiting Professors and Guest Lecturers who bring 'live industry' experience into the taught curriculum

The RCA also employs a team of over 100 highly skilled technicians, many of whom themselves have postgraduate qualifications and are well established and recognised practitioners in their fields of specialism. Our skilled technical staff and technical resources are integral to delivering an interdisciplinary approach which is a key part of the student experience.



OUR STRATEGIC DIRECTION: TOWARDS THE RCA AT 200 (2026–2030)

The RCA's new Strategic Plan sets out a transformational five-year phase as we begin our journey towards our bicentenary in 2037. Our ambition is to become the world's most influential art and design community, with a global footprint and a renewed approach to research, education, partnerships and organisational culture.

By 2030:

- The College will operate across two revitalised central London campuses, including a reimagined Darwin Building at Kensington.
- We will establish research and education hubs outside the UK for the first time.
- We will strengthen our global partnerships, increase access to scholarships and widen participation for students from all backgrounds.
- We will be recognised for leadership in emerging creative technologies, especially AI, and for our contribution to sustainability, regenerative practice and public good.

Our work is underpinned by the RCA's four values — Collaboration, Curiosity, Inclusion and Integrity — and by commitments to long-term resilience, financial sustainability, staff and student wellbeing, and a culture where creativity and innovation thrive.



The College's ambitions will be delivered through three Strategic Pillars:

Strategic Pillar One

Creating and delivering the best art and design education, dialogue and research.

Strategic Pillar Two

Championing a community with outstanding potential who are diverse, inclusive and connected.

Strategic Pillar Three

Convening transformational exchanges of art and design expertise and ideas.

Our Values



Photo: Shaun James

The RCA community operates in line with four agreed values:



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.



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.



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.



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.

School of Arts and Humanities



The School of Arts & Humanities bridges research and study in the fine and applied arts together with curating, writing and the history of design. We pay attention to the arts within the everyday, and to the everyday as site of practice, and as archive and technological advance. We maintain close and productive links with numerous organisations, world-renowned theatres, galleries, libraries and museums that depend on the Arts & Humanities, and which are central to our cultural and economic future; these links ensure that our work is relevant and public facing.

Programme

Curating is a creative, dynamic and diverse practice, constantly changing in relation to its context, to the work of contemporary artists and a range of cultural practitioners, and to the interests and expectations of today's audiences. The Curating Contemporary Art MA (CCA) is a well-established and highly influential programme and community of students actively contributing to how curating is understood, practiced and thought about across the globe. As a highly international programme, designed to develop a critical awareness of curating in a global context, we also place real importance on working collaboratively, peer-to-peer, as a way of learning together and sharing knowledges and cultures, and testing ideas. On graduation students join a network of over 500 CCA alumni from across 47 different countries, many still working together, collectively shaping the practice of curating contemporary art and the spaces and places in which it is encountered.



Purpose of the post



We are seeking an outstanding practitioner and educator in the field of curatorial practice in the Curating Contemporary Art programme to contribute to the design, development and delivery of the one year Masters Degree as detailed in the programme specification. The successful candidate will be clearly engaged with the transnational and transcultural context of curatorial practice across a range of spaces, places, media /platforms and demonstrate an active interest in teaching and working with students, across both theory and practice. They will evidence the ability and enthusiasm to working collectively with colleagues in a team-based programme, and to be flexible in their teaching as unit leadership and team delivery alternates. They will be expected to contribute to discussions about the development of the curriculum in relation to different and changing pedagogical approaches, and the needs of a diverse range of students from different disciplinary and learning backgrounds. The successful candidate will be expected to teach from their own established practice and / or research by delivering lectures, workshops, seminars and critical reviews across CCA and other school and college-wide programmes, including the MFA in SoAH, as appropriate. Their practice / research will be expected to operate at a high level, and they will be expected to pursue funding opportunities for their research and where possible to involve colleagues in collaborative projects contributing to the rich research culture of the programme and School. The post holder will be expected to undertake administration around their teaching as required by the established systems and structures within the programme and School. The successful candidate will actively promote the programme, staff and students, engaging in public events, conferences, and projects acting as a positive advocate supporting recruitment, and alumni relations.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

Learning & teaching

- Contribute to curriculum design and supporting material to help ensure high quality academic content and innovation in learning and teaching, and assessment
- Contribute to teaching, delivering high quality teaching content that meets the needs of individual students and group-based learning
- Lead or co-lead designated Units, including both theoretical and practical group project work ensuring delivery on time and on budget
- Participate in the assessment of student work through verbal and written feedback on Moodle; participation in panel and assessment boards as required, ensuring a rigorous and fair assessment of the work
- Contribute to, deliver and where appropriate lead on cross-college, cross-school and cross-disciplinary teaching and research activities as appropriate
- Keep abreast of innovation and best practice in learning and teaching in own subject
- Continually update own knowledge and understanding in academic specialism
- Supervise research students (MPhil or PhD as appropriate)
- Actively engage in broader educational issues, such as external examining and attending conferences



Research

- Disseminate research findings through appropriate channels, and in line with the College's overall strategy
- Complete and keep up to date five year individual research plan, reviewed and updated annually
- Develop and follow research interests in line with the strategic direction of the College and school, in consultation with the head of programme and the dean
- Determine relevant research objectives and prepare proposals tailored to the appropriate audiences
- Consistently produce research outputs of at least 3* REF quality to enable submission to the REF
- Ensure that research makes a significant contribution to the overall standing of the school
- Conduct and lead individual research projects, building a programme of research which contributes to the overall standing and reputation of the College and contribute to school research funding targets

Academic management, administration & citizenship

- Participate in student recruitment, including assessing student ability and potential to inform recruitment decisions
- Complete student attendance and monitoring records as advised, and support students to access appropriate forms and other support as necessary
- Promote the College to potential students, through speaking engagements, attendance at promotional events, or other relevant activities
- Undertake risk assessments for work as necessary, complying with the necessary policies and procedures and ensuring the safety of students and colleagues
- Participate in college committees as appropriate, contributing to sound decision making



Knowledge transfer & executive education

- Contribute to the annual Curating Contemporary Art and Design summer short course and other ad hoc short courses designed within CCA
- Contribute towards proposals for funding and manage any individual grants awarded to ensure delivery of objectives
- Seek to develop links with industry in area of specialism to promote the College and its students



Essential

- First degree in a relevant specialism
- Experience of devising and teaching courses, and setting and assessing written work at undergraduate or postgraduate degree level
- Commitment to high quality teaching and fostering a positive learning environment for students.
- Evidence of, or clear potential to produce, research outputs of at least 3* REF quality in line with the strategic direction of the College
- Commitment to equality of opportunity and the ability to work harmoniously with colleagues and students of all cultures and backgrounds
- Commitment to continuous professional development.

Desirable

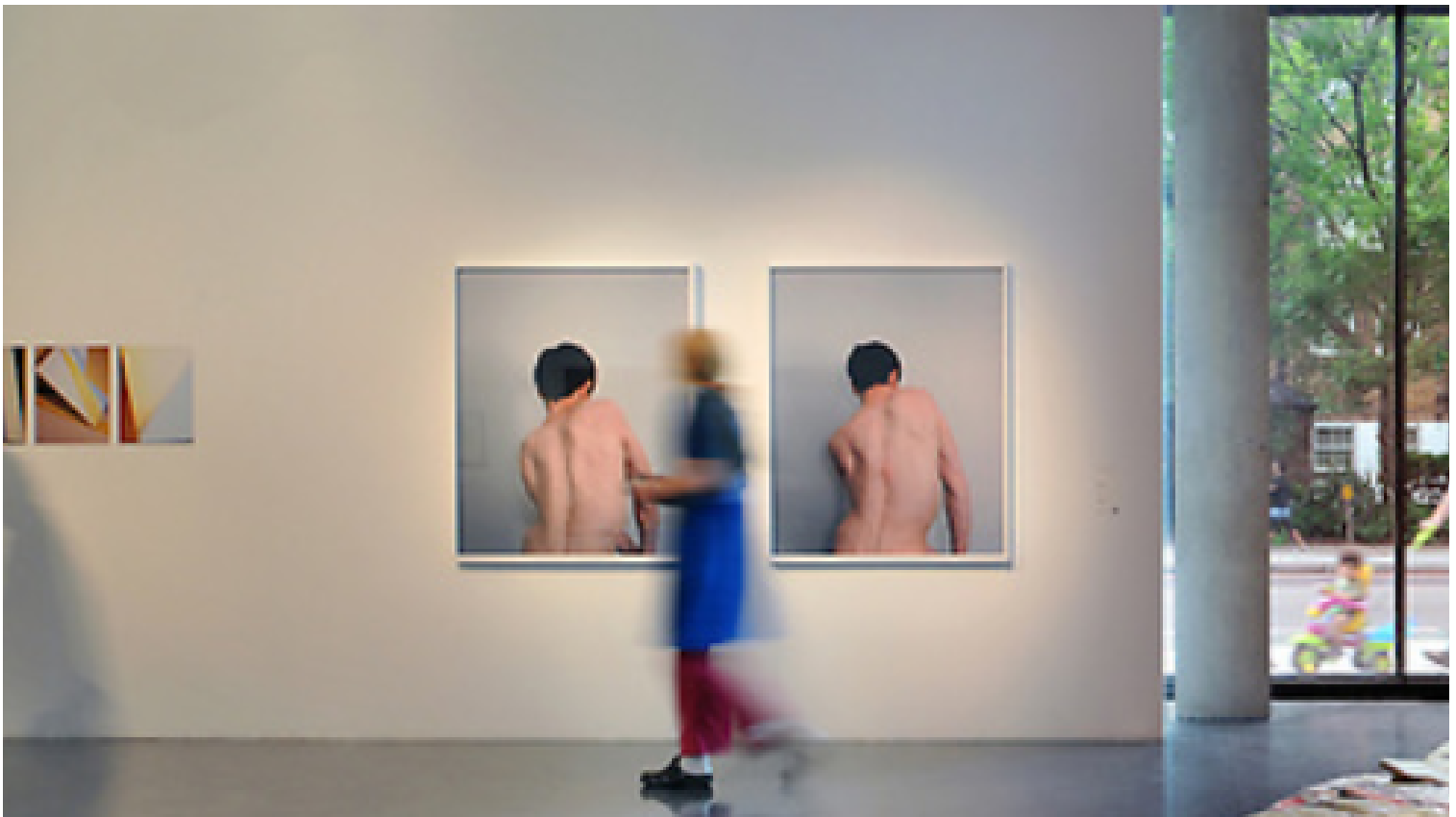
- Evidence of the ability to supervise academic work at undergraduate and masters level
- A doctorate in relevant field or evidence of appropriate professional practice or academic achievement
- A postgraduate certificate (PGCert) in higher education and/or accredited fellow of the Higher Education Academy, or willingness to undertake appropriate training to achieve such within two years of appointment
- Have completed research supervision training or willingness to undertake and complete appropriate training within two years of appointment



Pay & Benefits

Additional Information:

- Full time salary: Grade 9 £55,040 - £61,322 per annum including London Allowance. Salary will be at 60%.
- 30 days annual leave plus extended breaks at Christmas and Easter, at the discretion of the College. Pro rata for part time employees,
- interest-free season ticket loan are available alongside many other benefits
- Location:: Battersea and Kensington
- Department: School of Arts and Humanities
- Programme: Curating Contemporary Art
- 0.6 fte (21 hours per week) and permanent.
- Responsible to: Head of Programme
- Working hours 9.30am to 5.30pm with an hour each day for lunch.
- Time to conduct research will be allocated to the person appointed on the basis of the College's Academic Employment Framework. This stipulates a minimum of 20% research time for a research academic.



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

30 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 on 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 six weeks' paternity leave entitlement at full pay.

Enhanced sick pay

Occupational sick pay after three 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.



Equality, diversity and inclusion - Disability and neurodiversity

Disability Confident

RCA is a Disability Confident Committed employer. You may recognise the logo from our job adverts.

Disability Confident is a government scheme designed to encourage employers to recruit, retain, and develop disabled people. RCA was originally awarded the Disability Confident certificate in October 2022, which broadens and deepens our existing commitment as an employer.

As a Disability Confident Committed employer, we commit to the below core activities:

- ensure our recruitment process is inclusive and accessible
- communicating and promoting vacancies
- offering an interview to disabled people who meet the minimum criteria for the job
- anticipating and providing reasonable adjustments as required
- supporting any existing employee who acquires a disability or long-term health condition, enabling them to stay in work
- at least one activity that will make a difference for disabled people





12 YEARS as the world's
N°1 University for Art & Design

QS World University Rankings by Subject 2015–26

Together, the RCA community can generate change now for a sustainable future everywhere.