

## Textiles

The Textiles Department aims to encourage individuality, enhance skills and invite students to challenge and be challenged by related issues while exploring the breadth and diversity of textiles. Personal research is at the heart of the Textile postgraduate programme: through experimentation and making, students develop their personal expression and the identity of their work.

Constantly evolving technology, innovation, art, design and traditional craft skills cohabit and fuse in the subject of textiles, creating the need for a full and intensive two-year programme. Students base their study in one of the specialisms of Print, Mixed Media, Weave and Knit and orientate their study in the context of 'body' or 'space'. Printed Textiles students express individual research through imagery and colour, while challenging the relationship with materials and substrate. Students in Weave and Knit experiment with yarns, structures and materials through hand and machine

techniques, pushing the boundaries of current textile practice.

Collaborative work is strongly encouraged: industry projects and competitions in the first year introduce realistic experience to the curriculum and provide students with useful contacts, while the second year is predominantly self-directed.

### Applying

The criteria for acceptance by the Royal College of Art are talent and potential, along with the commitment and the ambition to achieve in art and design. Candidates are selected for places entirely on merit, and we welcome applications from all over the world. All departments hold open days during the application period.

The College is introducing an online application process for 2010/11 admissions. MA Applications will be accepted from 1 December 2009 to

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18 January 2010. Full details of the MA Application Process and Entry Requirements are available at [www.rca.ac.uk/admissions](http://www.rca.ac.uk/admissions).

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### Key Dates and Contacts

#### 1 December 2009

online applications open

#### 18 January 2010

closing date for receipt of applications

#### 27 January 2010

closing date for receipt of portfolios

#### 26 February 2010

invitations issued to candidates selected for interview

#### 19 March 2010

interviews completed

#### 31 March 2010

results letters sent

### Open Days

10 December and 13 January, both from 3pm

### Enquiries

+44 (0)20 7590 4362  
[textiles@rca.ac.uk](mailto:textiles@rca.ac.uk)  
[www.rca.ac.uk](http://www.rca.ac.uk)

### General admissions enquiries:

[admissions@rca.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@rca.ac.uk)

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## Staff

### Head of Department

Professor Clare Johnston

### Senior Tutors

Sarah Dallas (Knitwear/Knitted Textiles);  
Philippa Watkins (Woven Textiles);  
Anne Toomey (Printed Textiles and Deputy Head of Department); Freddie Robins (Mixed Media Textiles)

### Tutor Mixed Media Textiles

Julian Roberts

### Visiting Professors

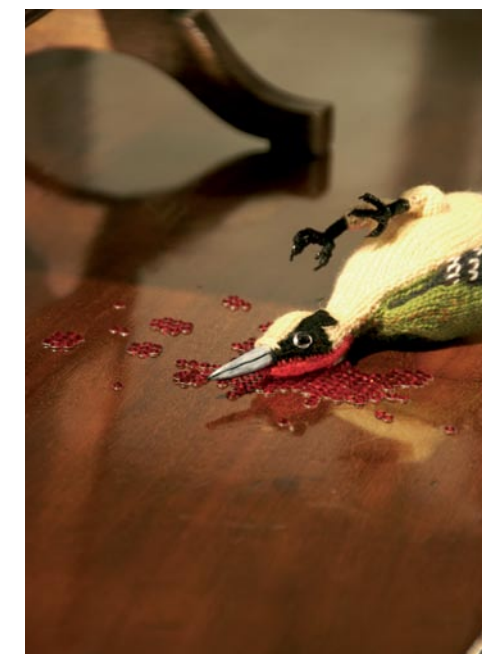
Karen Nicol; Orla Kiely

### Regular Visiting Lecturers include:

Kate Blee; Sid Bryan; Amanda Griffiths;  
Emma Sewell; Sue Timney; Philippa Wagner

### Research Tutor

Dr Claire Pajaczkowska



## MA Programme

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The demands of the curriculum require passion and commitment and a strong sense of personal responsibility for the students' own learning and development. By experimenting, students develop their personal expression and identity in their work. Constantly evolving technology, innovation, art, design and traditional craft skills co-habit and fuse in the subject of textiles, creating the need for a full and intensive two-year programme. Collaborative work is strongly encouraged across the College and students are positively influenced by the melting pot of RCA culture.

### Course Description

Students base their study in one of the four Textiles specialisms: knit, mixed media, print and weave and orientate their study in the context of 'body' or 'space'.

- Body – involves fabric design for fashion, accessories and clothing, incorporating issues such as health, well-being and smart wearables
- Space – incorporates textile and material design for the built environment, interiors, furnishings and transport.

Both pathways will take relevant contemporary issues into strong consideration such as market knowledge, sustainability and manufacture.

During the first year, students are required to take part in induction programmes using department

equipment and technology, to ensure that they have adequate specialist skills. Practical instruction in dyeing, fabric and fibre technologies is provided. Industrial projects are included to introduce students to a great variety of design experiences.

Progress is monitored through tutorials, group critiques, work reviews and seminars. All students must pass a formal Interim Exam to progress to the second year, when they are expected to direct their work towards a specified context.

### MA Entrance Requirements

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Applicants should have:

- a BA in Textiles or a related Art and Design subject, or equivalent experience
- a personal proposal for the intended direction of their MA study.

Passion, commitment and a strong sense of personal responsibility for one's own learning and development are essential for MA study.

Portfolio

- The portfolio should comprise recent work, including sketchbooks, research and design development
- All work should be marked with the year it was executed.

## Research

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Research-degree students are welcomed into the School of Fashion and Textiles, which has expanded its MPhil and PhD numbers and now has a well-established history of successful graduates and leading-edge researchers in the disciplines. Research students have a school-based senior tutor, supervisor and specialist adviser. Research-specific activities form part of a wider pattern of lectures and seminars across the College, enhanced by the extensive relationships we have with world-class academic, museum and industrial institutions. The presence of MPhil and PhD students continue to stimulate the culture of research, creativity, individualism and analysis that benefit the whole of the School of Fashion and Textiles.

Current or Recent Areas of Research include: Innovative materials and process development for current and future applications; Fashion and textile practice, pedagogy and theory; Societal issues related to fashion and textiles; Contemporary, historical and cultural reflection of fashion and textiles, art and design.

## MPhil/PhD Entrance Requirements

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### MPhil

- Applicants must normally have obtained a good relevant undergraduate degree or an equivalent qualification.
- Exceptionally, other qualifications may be approved, providing that the Academic Board for Concessions and Discipline (ABCD) is satisfied that the applicant has the ability to pursue the programme of research successfully.
- Applicants should normally be aged over 21 years by 1 September of the proposed year of admission.

### PhD

Applicants must have a relevant research Master's degree or an equivalent qualification. The majority of successful applicants are accepted onto the MPhil register in the first instance, with a view to transferring to the PhD register following their first or second year of study.



