

# Press Release



**Royal College of Art**  
Postgraduate Art and Design

## **ROYAL COLLEGE OF ART GETS BATTERSEA GO-AHEAD**

Plans for a new Royal College of Art campus on Battersea Bridge Road have been approved by Wandsworth councillors.

The scheme is the latest phase in the College's plan to expand its presence in Battersea. Following an extensive programme of renovation, the Sculpture Department has reopened and work on a new Painting Department has already begun.

The campus will eventually house the Schools of Fine Art and Applied Art, and also provide accommodation for start-up units for new businesses in the fields of art and design as well as a gallery and lecture theatre.

The new premises will offer studio and workshop space for photography, printmaking, ceramics, glass, gold and silver work. The floor space will exceed 7,000 square metres. The development will be car free with 58 cycle spaces and a minibus linking to the Kensington site.

Around 250 students and staff will relocate from the main college campus in Kensington.

Sir Christopher Frayling, Rector of the Royal College of Art said:

"We are delighted that the scheme has been granted planning approval. We have worked extremely closely with Wandsworth Council in order to ensure that the new campus will prove a worthy addition to the area, both for the College and for the local residents of the borough. Wandsworth have been very welcoming to us."

Architect Graham Haworth, of Haworth Tompkins said:

"We're very excited that our designs for the building have been so well received by the planners and the general public. The prospect of a contemporary forward looking building on the site, particularly one to house something as creative as the Royal College of Art is good news all round."

Chairman of Planning Applications Committee Leslie McDonnell said:

"The college is a huge asset for Battersea. It will create a vibrant mix of uses for students together with opportunities for start-up businesses. The

development will provide a high quality building that will enhance the character of the area. It is great news for the local community."

## **ENDS**

For further press information or images please contact Áine Duffy, Head of Media Relations & Marketing on + 44 (0)20 7590 4127, e: [aine.duffy@rca.ac.uk](mailto:aine.duffy@rca.ac.uk)

## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

The **Royal College of Art** is the world's only wholly postgraduate university of art and design, specialising in teaching and research and offering the degrees of MA, MPhil and PhD across the disciplines of fine art, applied art, design, communications and humanities. There are over 900 masters and doctoral students and more than a hundred professionals interacting with them – including scholars, leading art and design practitioners, along with specialists, advisors and distinguished visitors.

[www.rca.ac.uk](http://www.rca.ac.uk)

**Haworth Tompkins** is an architectural company producing a wide range of bespoke buildings for specialist clients in the public, private and financial services sectors, manufacturing industry and the Arts, as well as for private individuals.

Founded in 1991, by architects Graham Haworth and Steve Tompkins, the practice has completed a diverse portfolio of work with notable success in buildings for the arts and social housing such as the Royal Court Theatre and Coin Street Housing.

Haworth Tompkins have won numerous design awards and published projects both nationally and internationally. They have a growing international reputation for their design work; in 2007 they were shortlisted for the RIBA Stirling Prize and in 2008 were awarded a International Architecture Award by the Chicago Athenaeum. They were named Young Architects of the year at the 2001 Building Awards and Outstanding Young Architects of 2001 by the Royal Fine Arts Commission.

Current projects include The London Library in St James's, The Hayward Gallery, Coin Street Neighbourhood Centre, Elephant & Castle Housing Regeneration projects, Haunch of Venison Gallery in Bond Street, Aldeburgh Music, Paradise Street Development in Liverpool and Liverpool Playhouse and Everyman Theatres and masterplan work for the National Theatre.

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