

PRESS RELEASE

No. 587/2016

Date: 19th October 2016

Royal Academicians Artworks Donations

The Ministry of Culture is pleased to announce the receipt of a donation of three artworks by Royal Academicians Barbara Rae and Anne Desmet. These artworks were kindly donated by the artists themselves after the exhibition featuring their works (along with those of Ann Christopher RA) at the Gustavo Bacarisas Galleries in June/July 2016, which was entitled 'Lines & Colours'.

Barbara Rae CBE RA is a painter and printmaker who lives in Edinburgh but travels the world searching for inspiration for her work, including visits to Ireland, France, Spain, Italy, Mexico and the USA. Rae has exhibited in various galleries worldwide such as the Franz Meyer Museum in Mexico City, in addition to her work shown at the Royal Academy of Arts, London. Barbara never works from photographs, preferring to work from sketches composed on location. She has an outstanding ability to represent almost anything with minimal brushstrokes and vivid colour. Barbara was made a Royal Academician in 1996 and Commander of the British Empire in 1999.

Anne Desmet RA is an established artist who specialises in wood engravings, linocuts and mixed media collages. She has had three major museum retrospectives to date, received over 30 international awards, and was the editor of Printmaking Today for 15 years. Anne has taught wood engraving extensively, including at the RA schools, British Museum and Middlesex University. Desmet lives and works in London, and draws inspiration from the city and Italy. Her work is concerned with the topography of the city, and how it is subject to metamorphoses; she is also interested in histories of urban destruction and regeneration. Desmet was elected a member of the RA in 2011 and is in fact only the third wood engraver ever elected to the RA in its history.

Rae's 'Ceide - New Fence' and Desmet's 'Potential Gold' and 'Derelict Warehouse - Olympic Site' will be prominently displayed in the foyer of the John Mackintosh Hall theatre, where they may be seen by a large and diverse portion of our society.

Ministry of Sports, Culture, Heritage and Youth

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