



## **Bankside Gallery receives lifeline grant from Government's £1.57bn Culture Recovery Fund**

---

14.10.20

Bankside Gallery has been awarded £50,000 as part of the Government's £1.57 billion Culture Recovery Fund (CRF) to help face the challenges of the coronavirus pandemic and to ensure they have a sustainable future, the Culture Secretary announced on Monday.

Bankside Gallery is one of 1,385 cultural and creative organisations across the country receiving urgently needed support. £257 million of investment was announced on Monday as part of the very first round of the Culture Recovery Fund grants programme being administered by Arts Council England. Further rounds of funding in the cultural and heritage sector are due to be announced over the coming weeks.

Opened by Her Majesty the Queen in 1980, this year marks the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Bankside Gallery. As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Gallery is now working on new ways of making artworks accessible to all, by further developing their online presence and introducing a new Online Store to ensure that watercolours and prints can be appreciated and purchased wherever you are. This support will enable Bankside Gallery to remain open and continue exhibiting and promoting the incredible works by artists of the *Royal Watercolour Society* (RWS) and *Royal Society of Painter-Printmakers* (RE) to the local community and beyond.

### **Culture Secretary Oliver Dowden said:**

"This funding is a vital boost for the theatres, music venues, museums and cultural organisations that form the soul of our nation. It will protect these special places, save jobs and help the culture sector's recovery.

"These places and projects are cultural beacons the length and breadth of the country. This unprecedented investment in the arts is proof this government is here for culture, with further support to come in the days and weeks ahead so that the culture sector can bounce back strongly."

### **Chair, Arts Council England, Sir Nicholas Serota, said:**

“Theatres, museums, galleries, dance companies and music venues bring joy to people and life to our cities, towns and villages. This life-changing funding will save thousands of cultural spaces loved by local communities and international audiences. Further funding is still to be announced and we are working hard to support our sector during these challenging times.”

**Angela Parker, Director of Bankside Gallery said:**

“This is the best 40<sup>th</sup> birthday present we could have asked for! We were so delighted at the news of our successful bid to the Cultural Recovery Fund. These funds provide such a vital lifeline for the industry, and we are extremely grateful to have been amongst the recipients. This support enables us to remain open and to continue exhibiting and promoting wonderful works on paper by artists from the RWS and RE, both physically and virtually, as we navigate our way through the pandemic. Thank you for recognising our cultural value and providing us with this crucial and much needed support.”

## **ENDS**

### **CONTACT**

For further information, comments, images and interviews:

E. [info@banksidegallery.com](mailto:info@banksidegallery.com)

T. +44 (0) 20 7928 7521

---

## **NOTES TO EDITORS:**

### **Bankside Gallery**

Bankside Gallery is the home of the Royal Watercolour Society (RWS), and the Royal Society of Painter Printmakers (RE). Its vibrant exhibitions celebrate the very best in contemporary water-based media and original print, championing the work of both new and established artists.

For nearly 40 years Bankside Gallery has played a crucial role in displaying and promoting work on paper; exploring its boundaries while supporting education activities organised by the RWS and RE.

Opened by Her Majesty the Queen in 1980, Bankside Gallery is a registered educational charity and has historically received no government funding.

[www.banksidegallery.com](http://www.banksidegallery.com) | Charity no. 293194

### **Arts Council England**

Arts Council England is the national development agency for creativity and culture. We have set out our strategic vision in [Let's Create](#) that by 2030 we want England to be a country in which the creativity of each of us is valued and given the chance to flourish and where everyone of us has access to a remarkable range of high quality cultural experiences. We

invest public money from Government and The National Lottery to help support the sector and to deliver this vision. [www.artscouncil.org.uk](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk)

Following the Covid-19 crisis, the Arts Council developed a £160 million **Emergency Response Package**, with nearly 90% coming from the National Lottery, for organisations and individuals needing support. We are also one of several bodies administering the Government's **Culture Recovery Fund** and unprecedented support package of £1.57 billion for the culture and heritage sector. Find out more at [www.artscouncil.org.uk/covid19](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/covid19)