

Press Release

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'Two for the price of one' – Reading Guild of Artists exhibiting twice in one week!

This week sees a potential first for the Reading Guild of Artists (RGA) as two of its members, artists, Carole Pembroke and Karen Spencer, have work in two exhibitions in Reading in one week!

Their work features in the first exhibition of the new Holybrook Gallery which opened on Thursday 12 April. The Reading Guild of Artists' exhibition runs until Saturday 21 April.

Anthony Wilder, chairman of the Reading Guild of Artists, said: "We are delighted that some of our RGA artists are exhibiting at the Contemporary Art Fair in Reading – it really is two for the price of one – great!

"It's important that local artists are showing their work alongside other UK and European artists. It makes for a better experience for visitors and offers a wider choice of work for art lovers. With over 170 artists in the RGA we have a wide range of styles. We hope you can find the time to visit both exhibitions in the coming week."

Carole Pembroke, one of the artists exhibiting at both exhibitions and a member of the RGA, said: "My picture in the HolyBrook Gallery is called 'Mama'.

"It was inspired by a short story, of the same name, by Lucia Berlin, an American writer. In the story Mama a hard-living, drinking, smoking woman, married three times, and has four children with whom she has troubled relationships. In the image she is on her way to meet up with her third husband wearing a fur coat given to her by her father and grandfather. The captain of the ship is in love with her. There is a lot of symbolism in the piece. The babies in the water represent her children who she leaves on different continents. The animals and fish she sees on the way."

Carole and Karen are also representing the RGA at the Contemporary Art Fair at Rivermead Leisure Centre next weekend – Friday 20 April to Sunday 22 April. The art fair is a regular celebration on the Reading Arts calendar and

offers a huge range of artwork for art lovers who come to buy works by local, national and international artists.

Karen Spencer, said: "It's great to be representing the RGA at the Contemporary Art Fair. It's always great fun. We have some stunning works to show and hopefully find buyers who will love to have them in their homes and businesses.

"It's not often we have an opportunity to show our local talent with international artists so we have grabbed the opportunity to tell the world about the RGA and art in Reading. It will be great to discuss and enthuse about our work with friends, colleagues and neighbours. Put the date in your diary and come along to see us!"

The Holybrook Gallery exhibition, is located in the Central Library, Abbey Square, Reading. Entrance is free. It runs from Thursday 12 to Monday 21 April. The Gallery is open 10am – 5pm on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday and from 10am -7pm on Tuesday and Thursday.

Holybrook Gallery is available for hire on a weekly basis. Details and application form are available from Caroline Lakeman by email Caroline.lakeman@reading.gov.uk or telephone 0118 9015969.

The Contemporary Art Fair takes place at Rivermead Leisure Centre – Richfield Avenue, Reading RG1 8EQ. Open on Saturday 21 April from 10 am-6pm, and Sunday from 10am-5pm. Tickets for adults are £7 and concessions £6, 5-16years £1 and under 5's free. Tickets can be bought by visiting <https://contemporaryartfairs.co.uk/> or on the door.

Further information on the Reading Guild of Artists, can be found by visiting <http://www.rga-artists.org.uk/> or <https://www.facebook.com/ReadingGuildofArtists/>

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Photo attached

Attached is a photo of Karen Spencer (left) and Carole Pembroke with examples of their artwork

Note to Editors:

The Reading Guild of Artists was founded in 1930. It has a membership of over 170 artists and plays an active role in the development of artists in Reading.