

## **INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF CERAMICS**

### **Articles of Association following General Assembly, Korea, 2004**

#### **Introduction:**

Since its establishment in 1953 by Henry J. Reynaud, who was President until his death in 1964, there have been changes in aims of the Academy. Initially it was an association with a strong diplomatic and official emphasis representing major national museums and cultural organisations with practising ceramists invited as advisors. Today the majority of its members are practitioners who, over the years, have pressed for stronger international links between ceramic artists and craftsmen through exhibitions and assemblies.

The biennial General Assembly has become a significant international meeting place for members and guests and, since 1969, the regular publication of the Academy's Bulletin has maintained contact between the members.

In 1973, the Academy's archive and documentation centre was opened at the Ariana Museum providing a wide variety of information on contemporary ceramics, constantly being enriched by slides, catalogues and books presented by members and friends.

#### **ARTICLES**

##### **Article 1: Name and Seat**

- a) The International Academy of Ceramics (hereafter called the Academy) is a non-profit association governed by the Articles of the Swiss Civil Code, Geneva, as well as by its own articles.
- b) The Academy has its seat at the Ariana Museum in Geneva, Switzerland.
- c) The Academy is registered with UNESCO as a non-governmental organisation. It is also a member of FIIG (Federation des Institutions Internationales, Geneva)
- d) The official languages are English and French.

##### **Article 2: Goals**

The Goals of the Academy are:

- a) To stimulate communication and co-operation between ceramists of all countries.
- b) To further relations between ceramists and curators, writers, collectors, gallerists, institutions and cultural associations involved in the promotion of ceramics.
- c) To encourage and support the highest standards of work in the field of ceramics.

##### **Article 3: Means**

To realise these goals, the Academy organises exhibitions and conferences, undertakes studies, edits publications and maintains a centre of research and documentation on ceramics.

##### **Article 4: Composition of the Academy**

The Academy is composed of:

- individual members
- members emeritus
- members of honour
- patrons
- collective members
- correspondents

Individual members are ceramists or other persons having a professional interest in contemporary ceramics, accepted by a majority vote of the IAC Council after examination of application files. Only individual members have voting rights.

Members emeritus are individual members who have served the Academy well and are exempt from paying membership fees due to age or infirmity. They continue to receive all information and rights of membership.

Members of Honour are personalities in artistic, literary or political fields who have made a significant contribution to the aims of the Academy.

Patrons are persons who regularly contribute substantial gifts to the Academy.

Collective members are associations, schools, museums or ceramics centres accepted by the Council after examination of their application files. Correspondents can be nominated by Council to act as Academy contacts in countries having no elected members.

Membership lists are available to all members on request.

#### **Article 5: Organisation**

The organs of the Academy are;

- The General Assembly
- The Council
- The Executive
- The Secretariat

#### **Article 6: The General Assembly**

a) The General Assembly is composed of all members of the Academy.

b) The General Assembly is the decision-making body of the Academy unless specified elsewhere in these articles. It meets every second year to hear and approve the report of the Council and the accounts. It votes on the Academy's programme and budget for the following two years. It elects new Councillors after presentation of candidates six months before the Assembly.

c) Decisions of the General Assembly are adopted by a simple majority of the voting members present (50% + 1). A member may delegate his powers to another member or to the President. Such delegations must be presented in writing to the Secretariat at least one month before the vote takes place.

d) Notice of a General Assembly meeting is sent to members at least three months before it is to take place, Such notice to include the agenda, financial statement and any issues which are to be voted upon. Members who have contributions relating to that agenda or any other relevant matters for discussion must submit them in writing to the Secretariat at least one month before the General Assembly.

#### **Article 7: The Council**

a) Members of the Council are elected for a six year term from the individual members of the Academy by a secret ballot at the General Assembly. They are eligible to be re-elected for a further two years.

b) The Council is composed of 15-18 members, including non-voting honorary and administrative positions. The Council decides the functions of its members according to its needs. Membership of Council, as far as possible, corresponds to the various geographical regions represented in the Academy.

- c) Nominations for new Council Members must be received in writing at least six months before a General Assembly.
- d) Officers and members of Council are not re-numerated.
- e) If a Council member is unable to attend a meeting he / she may delegate an individual member from his / her own country or region.
- f) The Council administers the Academy. It commits the Academy legally by signatures of two members of the Executive, one of which must be that of the President or one of the elected Vice-Presidents.
- g) The Council meets at least once a year.
- h) The presence of more than half the Council members represents a quorum.  
Decisions are adopted by a simple majority vote. In the case of an equal division, the President casts the deciding vote.
- i) The Council, acting as Jury, elects new Academy Members for presentation at the following General Assembly.

### **Article 8: The Executive**

- a) The Executive is composed of the President, three Vice Presidents, the Secretary-General and the Treasurer of the Academy. Its composition is confirmed at the first Council meeting following a General Assembly.
- b) The Executive is charged with current affairs, and communicates with Council members as necessary for the proper functioning of the Academy.
- c) The Executive convenes the General Assembly.
- d) Vice Presidents are elected by the General Assembly for a period of six years. Nominees must have previously served on Council.
- e) The President is elected by postal vote of all-members for a period of six years. Nominees must previously have served on the Council.

### **Article 9: The Secretariat**

The Secretariat, headed by the Secretary General, includes all staff, either regular or occasional, who through their skills in administration, translation, archive maintenance, account keeping or general office duties, assist in the efficient running of the Academy office.

### **Article 10: The Auditor**

- a) The accounts, after checking by the Auditor are submitted as required to the City of Geneva for approval, and presented at the General Assembly by the Treasurer or another member of the Executive.
- b) The Auditor is re-appointed at each General Assembly.

### **Article 11: Committees**

To carry out its programme, the General Assembly, the Council or the Executive may create committees or working groups to.- study particular aspects of the Academy's activities and make recommendations or proposals. Such proposals are submitted to members either through the Bulletin or at a General Assembly.

### **Article 12: Resources**

As a non-profit organisation, the income of the Academy includes the following sources:

- members' subscriptions
- voluntary subsidies from governments, national and international organisations,
- associations, industries and other interested groups
- donations and legacies
- other sources appropriate to the status and junctions of the Academy and approved by Council

### **Article 13: Modification of Articles**

- a) Draft amendments to the articles presented by an individual member of the Academy with at least five other signatories, must be sent to the Secretariat at least six months before a General Assembly and must be communicated to all Academy members at least three months before that meeting at which they will be presented for discussion and approval. All these signatories must sign all subsequent communications.
- b) Modifications of Articles must be adopted by a two-thirds majority of all members.
- c) Votes held at a General Assembly may include proxy votes presented to the Secretariat one month in advance of the vote.

### **Article 14: Dissolution**

- a) The dissolution and liquidation of the Academy may be pronounced only after debate at an extraordinary General Assembly and subsequent vote of all individual voting members of the Academy.
- b) Dissolution will be adopted by a two-thirds majority of votes cast.
- c) In the case of dissolution and liquidation, the General Assembly shall designate two commissioners (preferably members of the Academy) to carry out the liquidation.
- d) The net assets remaining in possession of the Academy shall be used to acquire ceramic objects for museums, or to give awards to artists or writers specialising in the field of ceramics.

### **Article 15: Internal Rules**

Internal rules of the Academy may be modified by Council as necessary. Any such modifications will be presented to the membership either through the Bulletin or at a General Assembly.

## **INTERNAL RULES**

### **Rule 1: Membership Status**

#### **a) Individual Member**

A maker, writer, collector, gallerist, curator or restorer elected on presentation of an appropriate portfolio (see Rule 2). Individual Members have voting rights. Members of Council must be individual members. Only members elected as makers have exhibiting rights in IAC members' exhibitions. Members whose subscriptions are unpaid forfeit their membership rights until payment is made. Annual subscription for individual members is CHF 150.

#### **b) Member Emeritus**

An individual member who has been active in the Academy until retirement continues to receive all benefits of membership, including voting rights, without paying subscription. Such membership must be agreed to by Council.

#### **c) Member of Honour**

A member elected without presentation of a portfolio due to their international status as a practitioner or supporter of the arts. A Member of Honour pays no subscription and has no vote. An elected member who is subsequently honoured continues have voting rights without payment of subscription. Members may submit proposals to Council for consideration.

#### **d) Patron**

An individual member, who submits no portfolio, but pays a minimum annual subscription of CHF 1,000. - or a significant capital gift. Patrons have voting rights.

e) Collective Member

Representatives of professional associations, schools museums, or ceramics centres pay a corporate membership of CHF 200.-. They have no voting rights. Two representatives may attend a General Assembly, paying members' registration fee.

f) Correspondent

Representatives nominated by Council to act as contacts in countries having no elected members. Correspondents pay no subscriptions, and have no voting rights, but may attend General Assemblies as observers. They receive bulletins and all information.

**Rule 2: Admission of new members:**

a) Candidates must be nominated by three individual members of the Academy; preferably at least one of them should be from the candidate's home country. One of these sponsors assumes the role of principal sponsor responsible for submitting the candidate's file. Candidates from countries where there are few or no members and who have difficulties in finding three member sponsors should discuss their situation with the Secretariat before submitting any application file. A member is limited to three nominations at each election.

b) A complete file for individual membership with as much of the information as possible on a CD. This information should include:

- A letter from the candidate expressing acceptance of the nomination and the reasons why he or she wishes to become a member.
- A letter of recommendation from each of the three sponsors with reasons for their support.
- The candidate's detailed curriculum vitae (resume), including date of birth, and complete address, telephone, fax, e-mail and website) and a one-page summary of the
- CV and biography.
- Artist candidates should submit 5 digital images of work at a resolution of 300 dpi, plus relevant reviews, articles or catalogues.
- Writers, curators, collectors and other individual candidates should send articles, catalogues, photographs and other appropriate evidence of their professional ceramics-related activity.
- An application fee of CHF 150.-, which on selection will constitute the subscription fee for the new member for the following year. The application fee from non-selected members will be retained by the IAC and for administrative costs, return postage, etc.

c) Candidates for collective membership should also have the three letters of support from their sponsors, plus visual or written evidence of the professional activities of the organisation with appropriate programmes, membership lists, exhibition catalogues, to provide a comprehensive description to aid the jury in its decision.

d) All complete files must be sent by the main sponsor to the Secretariat at least six months before the Council meeting when elections take place, (that is, the deadlines for submission are: January 2009, 2011, 2013, etc.).

e) All candidates will be informed of the election results as soon as possible after the jury has made its decision. During the General Assembly after the selection, the President will present the new members and images of their work to the membership.