

Andrea Geile FRSS

## Supporting statement for nomination for the role of Trustee of the Society, 2026

After becoming a Trustee in 2023, I am standing for re-election to serve a second term.

I have been a member since 2012 and became a Fellow in 2016. As a British/German sculptor based in Edinburgh I aim to bring some cross-cultural energy to the organisation.

For the last three years I have been representing the North of England, Scotland and Northern Ireland. I hope to continue because I really like hanging out with sculptors and feel passionately about the importance of sculpture in society. The Society is a diverse organisation when it comes to the stages and experiences of the artist members in their respective careers. I strongly believe in the camaraderie, expertise and shared love for sculpture at the Society. The support given to each other is sincere and it is creating solidarity. You get out what you put in and being a Trustee is a good way to give something back to the community.

Previously I served on the Board of Directors at Edinburgh Printmakers and on the Board of Directors at Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop. During my tenures both member organisations went thru long periods of capital investment. Caroline and the RSS team are encountering many challenges with the building work at Dora House which they have managed admirably. Furthermore, the art environment is changing and the Society has to adapt to this. I hope to use some of my experience to strengthen the management team and board during this time of redevelopment. I plan to continue to help raise the RSS profile, and work towards general future-proofing to the benefit of the members.

One of the values of the society for each member is in coming together and building strength. One of the ways the society has enabled this are the regional zoom meetings. They are a wonderful source of support and new friendships. It is an opportunity to ask questions arising out of our practice. Over the last three years I have build on this and facilitated a mix of talks and lively in-depth discussions. The conversations touch on a variety of subjects, from practical questions to the tangible and intangible qualities in art. It is a forum to talk about sculpture with sculptors on a professional level.

I have also facilitated a number of in-person group meetings welcoming new and old members from near and far to a day of sculpture activities. These have been fun days visiting wonderful sculpture exhibitions with time for reflection and in-depth conversations.

Last but not least, there are now a number of exhibition opportunities that have come from group members. This has little to do with me but has generated out of the positive atmosphere we all have helped to build.

My hope for the future is that we keep all the activities going but find even more ways to work together in forms of shared professional opportunities like exhibitions projects, symposia, residencies and exchanges. The more the merrier. The new Dora House is a big step in that direction.

Running my own busy practice is at times intense and makes my life a bit self-contained. In contrast, being a Trustee has been sociable and a lot of fun as well as valuable. I would be delighted to continue help to shape and support the work of the society together with the board of trustees, management team and members.

My website link <https://www.andreageile.co.uk/>