

# Global art in postcard form: Surface Gallery's annual exhibition returns

By **danibacon** -



*International Postcard Show 2024 (Image: Surface Gallery)*

**Nottingham's Surface Gallery is bringing its longest-running tradition, the International Postcard Show, back to the city on January 10<sup>th</sup> – February 8<sup>th</sup>, showcasing global creativity in postcard form for nearly 25 years.**

This staple of the city's art scene invites visitors to freely explore a vibrant display of postcard-sized original artworks submitted by local and international artists, with entries historically arriving from as far as Japan and Australia.

"It's amazing to see the creativity that a simple postcard can inspire," said Jez Kirby, Surface Gallery's exhibition coordinator of 13 years.

"It's an inclusive platform, welcoming both young artists and seasoned professionals to exhibit side by side."



*"It's amazing to see the creativity that a simple postcard can inspire." – Jez Kirby, Surface Gallery exhibition coordinator. (Image: Surface Gallery)*

Established in 1999, [Surface Gallery](#) has long supported emerging and mid-career artists, providing affordable spaces for exhibitions and studios. The International Postcard Show is one of its oldest traditions, with a history spanning more than two decades.

The popular annual exhibition involves artists submitting works with no theme as long as it adheres to strict postcard dimensions, inspiring incredible ingenuity. Visitors can purchase any artwork for just £15.

Kirby explained, "I think this is central to the show's popularity with artists, in that it forces them to create original artwork within strict limitations. They like the challenge, and visitors like to see the results of that challenge."

In a bid to further support the community, this year's submissions also include works from school groups and community organisations with a discounted entry fee.



Pop art postcard from a previous year's International Postcard Show (artist unknown) (Image: Surface Gallery)

Although this year's rendition remains under the same format as previous Postcard Shows, the gallery's exhibition coordinator believes there's a good reason behind it, "This is a staple, not just at Surface, but in the Nottingham exhibition calendar, and there's no real reason to change it," said Kirby.

### Get involved!

The exhibition also offers a competition where visitors can vote for their favourite postcards.

This year's top prize, sponsored by *Opulent Art*, has doubled to £100. Additional awards include a year's subscription to *Aesthetica Magazine*, an Etsy voucher, and the opportunity to hold an independent exhibition at Surface Gallery's alternative space, Le Loovre.

Whether you're an art enthusiast or simply curious, the [International Postcard Show](#) promises something for everyone – and it's completely free to visit.

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