PRESS RELEASE: Visiting The Glasgow School of Art, Summer 2012

## The Glasgow School of Art welcomes visitors to explore Mackintosh's Masterwork through award-winning guided tours.

Visitors are warmly welcomed to this locally loved landmark and iconic architectural gem. Hour long guided tours take in a wealth of decorative detailing, impressive turn of the century engineering and Mackintosh's most celebrated interior, the Library. The Glasgow School of Art is also home to the world's largest collection of original Mackintosh furniture –highlighted throughout the tour and in the Furniture Gallery.

Still used for its original purpose, the Mackintosh building operates as a fully functioning university, inspiring and supporting artists' education for over 100 years! Tours of the building are taken by talented and enthusiastic student guides or recent graduates of the School. Booking is recommended as spaces are limited on these exciting and insightful tours.

The School's creative output can also be seen in the award winning GSA Shop. Housed in the original live animals drawing studio in the basement of the School, the shop showcases contemporary design products, textiles, ceramics and jewellery from staff, students and alumni.

With a reputation for cutting edge arts education, the School runs contemporary art exhibitions in the main atrium of the building, known as the Mackintosh Museum. Exhibitions are free to the public and highlights include 'Studio 58: Women Artists in Glasgow since World War II' 7<sup>th</sup> July – 30<sup>th</sup> September 2012.

**ENDS** 

## Summer Opening Hours: 18 June – 16 September 2012

**Tours**: 7 days, 10am – 4pm every 45 minutes with additional tour at 5pm. Please see <a href="https://www.gsa.ac.uk/tours">www.gsa.ac.uk/tours</a> for seasonal timetables and ticket prices.

Public bookings: 0141 353 4526 or gsamackintoshbuildingtour.eventbrite.co.uk

Group & Press bookings: 0141 566 1472 or tours@gsa.ac.uk.

**GSA Shop & Visitor Centre:** 9.30am – 6.30pm, 7 days & Bank holidays.

Exhibition Opening Hours: 11am-5pm, 7 days.

The Glasgow School of Art have been awarded Museums & Heritage's 'Winstan Bond Trophy for the Entrepreneurial Attraction / Museum of the Year', May 2011, and won best 'Heritage Experience' and best 'Retail Tourism' at the Scottish Thistle Awards in Oct 2010.

Press enquiries: Jen Stewart +44(0)141 566 1473 or j.stewart@gsa.ac.uk

