

Three internationally renowned artists to display work for Fitzwilliam 2012 sculpture exhibition

Sculpture Promenade 2012

Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge | 6 March 2012 – January 2013

Free admission

The latest in the Fitzwilliam Museum's series of free outdoor sculpture exhibitions will be opening on Tuesday 6 March with works by three internationally renowned contemporary sculptors.

The artists featured in the 2012 Sculpture Promenade are Cambridge based sculptor Helaine Blumenfeld, British sculptor Peter Randall-Page and Japanese sculptor Kan Yasuda. All three artists share a connection, each having worked in the renowned sculpture centre of Pietrasanta, Italy, working with the famous local Carrara marble.

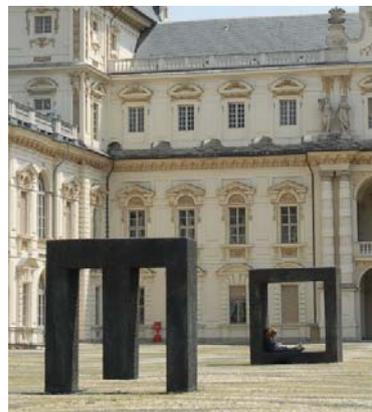
Highlights of the 2012 displays will include:

- **Little Seed** - the proto-type sculpture of Peter Randall-Page's famous work on permanent display at the Eden Project in Cornwall
- **Tensei Tenmoku** - a monumental two part arch sculpture by Kan Yasuda wrought in bronze
- **The Space Within** - cast in bronze with billowing, fluid movement, this three part sculpture by Blumenfeld represents and creates a space within for reflection

This is the third in the Fitzwilliam's series of year-long contemporary sculpture exhibitions. Launched in 2009, the ambition of each Sculpture Promenade is to create displays that are free to explore, bringing some of the finest contemporary art out into the street in a prominent Cambridge city location. Interaction with the sculptures is encouraged, something which will be an important part of the 2012 exhibition as all three artists also create their works with the aim of viewers being able to experience them as much through touch as visually.

This year's promenade has been curated by the Director of the Fitzwilliam Museum, Dr Timothy Potts.

Dr Potts commented: "Each Sculpture Promenade thus far has been a resounding success, bringing in a wide variety of new visitors to the



Tensei Tenmoku
Kan Yasuda



The Space Within (2011) in the Piazza,
Pietrasanta (Erio Forli)
Helaine Blumenfeld



Peter Randall-Page working on a sculpture in
his studio. Below his work Little Seed (2007).



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Museum, especially younger audiences who are those with an interest in contemporary art. This year's Sculpture Promenade presents a selection of dramatic and impressive works by three very distinguished artists, united by their link to the famous Italian sculpture centre of Pietrasanta in Tuscany."

Helaine Blumenfeld commented: "I am thrilled to be exhibiting a number of my Monumental Sculptures in the Promenade. I look forward to seeing how people interact with them. A sculpture is only completed when it is enjoyed by the public.

I have been dedicated to seeing sculpture re-enter the lives of people - not only in the art galleries but on the streets, in parks, in front of public buildings, to take its place as part of a restoration of the Public Spirit. The Fitzwilliam Museum's public profile, the visibility and accessibility of the site and the exciting education programme revolving around the exhibition, will create a suitable platform from which these artworks can inspire, provoke, engage and, ultimately, reach visitors of all ages and backgrounds. "

- Ends -

For further information and images contact the Marketing and Press Office:
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Notes to editors:

About the artists involved -

Helaine Blumenfeld OBE FRBS

Helaine Blumenfeld is recognized as one of Britain's leading sculptors working in marble and bronze. In a career spanning more than four decades, her work has been shown in over 70 exhibitions worldwide. She has completed more than 80 commissions and her sculptures have been sited in public and private settings throughout the UK, Europe and the USA. Blumenfeld recently won the prestigious commission to produce a large-scale marble sculpture "Tempesta" for the 'Lancasters' facing Hyde Park to be installed in April 2012.

Elected Vice-President of the Royal British Society of Sculptors (2004-2009), in 2007 she became the first woman to win the esteemed International Sculpture prize, 'Pietrasanta e la Versilia nel Mondo'. A missionary for sculpture, Blumenfeld has used her public profile to broaden access to and appreciation of her medium, initiating and organizing regular exhibitions at the Harold Martin Botanical Gardens in Leicester and at the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge. In Cambridge there are 4 major Blumenfeld works - "Shadow Figures" at Vision Park, "Esprit" at Newnham College, "The Chauvanist" on Hills Road, and "Flame" at Clare Hall. Blumenfeld also frequently exhibits at The Robert Bowman Modern Gallery in London which has represented her since 2006.

In July 2011 on behalf of HM The Queen, Culture Secretary Jeremy Hunt presented Blumenfeld with an OBE for her outstanding contribution to art. Blumenfeld is one of the few non-British artists ever to have been honoured in this way.

Works on display in the 2012 Sculpture Promenade:
Angels: Harmony | The Space Within | Cleopatra | Ascent

Peter Randall-Page FRBS

Peter Randall-Page was born in the UK in 1954 and studied sculpture at Bath Academy of Art from 1973-77. Over the past 25 years Peter Randall-Page has gained an international reputation through his sculpture drawings and prints. He has undertaken numerous large scale commissions and exhibited widely. His work is held in public and private collections throughout the world including Japan, South Korea, Australia, USA, Europe and East Africa.

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A selection of his public sculptures can be found in many of the main urban centres in the UK, such as London, Edinburgh, Cardiff, Manchester, Bristol, Oxford, Cambridge and Newcastle Upon Tyne where his sculpture 'Give and Take' won the 2006 Marsh Award for Public Sculpture. As a member of the design team for the Education Resource Centre (The Core) at the Eden Project, Cornwall, Peter influenced the overall design of the building incorporating an enormous granite sculpture, 'Seed', at its heart, installed in 2007. In 2009-10 Randall-Page had a major one person show in and around the Underground Gallery at the Yorkshire Sculpture Park and he is represented in the permanent collections of the Tate Gallery and the British Museum amongst others.

His practice has always been informed and inspired by the study of organic form and its subjective impact on our emotions. In 1999, he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Arts from the University of Plymouth, an Honorary Doctorate of Letters from York St John University in 2009 and an Honorary Doctorate of Letters from Exeter University in 2010; from 2002 to 2005 he was an Associate Research Fellow at Dartington College of Arts.

Works on display in the 2012 Sculpture Promenade:

Little Seed | Triangulation | Pythagoras Stone | Cupressus I | Sum of the Parts | Exhalation
Solid Air II, III & IV | Un-named | Theme Variation I, Theme Variation II, Theme Variation III

Kan Yasuda

Kan Yasuda is considered one of the foremost Japanese sculptors working today. A protégé of Isamu Noguchi, he has won many awards for his work. He was born in the city of Bibai on Japan's northern island Hokkaido in 1945. He received a master's degree in sculpture from Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music in 1969. He moved to Italy in 1970 on a fellowship from the Italian Government and studied with Professor Pericle Fazzini at the Academy of Fine Arts in Rome. Afterwards he set up his studio at Pietrasanta in northern Italy, world famous for its superior quality marble, where he continues to live and work at marble and bronze sculptures. In 1994/5 Kan had a one man show at The Yorkshire Sculpture Park.

The Director Peter Murray wrote: "Kan Yasuda having lived and worked in Italy for over twenty seven years, has a strong affinity with both the cultures and life styles of West and East. Although his sculpture possesses a meditative stillness, it is not directly concerned with eastern philosophy or religion but with mankind in general. The artist would like to feel that everyone viewing his work can take something from it - 'catch some image'. He believes that everyone has a key to another world and his sculpture could be perceived as an entrance to this world.

Kan's intention was through the sculptures to create space for the visitors to become part of the exhibition... This was particularly true for children who were encouraged to walk through and around the sculptures."

Works on display in the 2012 Sculpture Promenade:

Tempi-Segreto del Cielo | Risonanza | Tensei Tenmoku

The Fitzwilliam Museum

Founded in 1816 the Fitzwilliam is the principal museum of the University of Cambridge, with collections exploring world history and art from antiquity to the present day. It houses over half a million objects from ancient Egyptian, Greek and Roman artefacts, to medieval illuminated manuscripts, masterpiece paintings from the Renaissance to the 21st century and outstanding collections of applied arts, ceramics, coins, and Asian arts.

Welcoming over 400,000 visitors a year, the Fitzwilliam presents a wide ranging public programme of major exhibitions, events and education activities, and is an internationally recognised institute of learning, research and conservation.

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