

Quentin Blake: Drawn by Hand

12 February to 12 May 2013

Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge

Quentin Blake is one of the best-known illustrators of his generation. *Drawn by Hand* at the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, looks at individual works he has produced in the past decade: book illustrations, etchings, lithographs, drawings and works done for hospitals in various and contrasting media.

The exhibition includes an original in watercolour pastel from the sequence *The Life of Birds*, donated to the Fitzwilliam by Alice Fleet; as well as originals, drawn in reed-pen and watercolour, from two series of pictures of mothers and their babies swimming underwater which decorate the maternity unit of Angers Hospital, France, and the Birthing Centre of the Rosie Hospital in Cambridge.

This work will be accompanied by a display of pens, brochures, inks, watercolours, quills and other materials from the artist's studio.

Quentin Blake comments '*over the past few years I have produced, in addition to book illustration, a large number of works to appear in museums, hospitals and other public spaces; a sort of odyssey on the drawing-board which I recount in the book *Beyond the Page*. I was delighted to think that an exhibition at the Fitzwilliam gave me the opportunity to allow the spectators to see a diversity of these works and their techniques at close quarters.*



Guided Tour from 'The Life of Birds' series



Cover artwork from 'Rosie's Magic Horse' by Russell Hoban (Walker Books, 2012)



Quentin Blake in his studio.
Photo by Linda Kitson.

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- Ends -

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Notes to editors:

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12 February - 12 May 2013

The Fitzwilliam Museum, Trumpington Street, Cambridge CB2 1RB

ADMISSION FREE

OPEN: Tuesday - Saturday: 10.00 - 17.00
 Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays: 12.00 - 17.00

Quentin Blake

Quentin read English at Downing College, and studied life-drawing at Chelsea School of Art. In 2009 he was responsible for the Informal Panorama which helped to celebrate Cambridge University's 800th anniversary.

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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