

For release on 5 May 2016

Monumental Henry Moore sculpture celebrates bicentennial year of the Fitzwilliam Museum

Historic Trumpington Street in Cambridge, home to some of the University's famous colleges and the Fitzwilliam, one of the world's finest Museums, will be transformed by the arrival of a Henry Moore sculpture on long-term loan to the Fitzwilliam.



Henry Moore, *Hill Arches*, 1973

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The enormous four piece bronze sculpture, *Hill Arches* (1973), will arrive on the front lawn of the Fitzwilliam on 5 May 2016. It will sit in contrast to the majestic neo-classical portico of the Founder's building built between 1837-48 which is renowned for its resplendent white portland stone façade and columns which constitute part of the iconic Cambridge skyline.

The Museum's grand galleries house an internationally significant collection of over half a million masterworks of art and artefacts from antiquities to the present day.

Dr. Victoria Avery, Keeper of Applied Arts at the Fitzwilliam Museum said, '2016 marks 200 years since the death of the Museum's founder and 30 years since the death of Henry Moore, arguably the greatest British sculptor of the 20th century. We are therefore absolutely thrilled to have Moore's majestic *Hill Arches* on loan for the next two years. This bronze colossus will enliven the front lawn, welcoming visitors into the Museum in this our bicentenary year. It will also complement our permanent collection of bronzes by Moore in the Twentieth Century Gallery, so please do come and enjoy!'

Henry Moore (1898 - 1986) is considered one of the world's greatest sculptors of the modern era. He is best known for his sculptural work but he was also an exceptionally prolific and talented draughtsman.

Moore's sculptures are on display throughout the world. Although Moore preferred to make sculptures of the human figure for architectural or natural settings, with *Hill Arches* Moore created a landscape in its own right - perhaps, as the title suggests, an echo of the rolling hills of his native Yorkshire.

The
Fitzwilliam
Museum
200 YEARS

With *Hill Arches* the tension between solid mass and open void is exactly balanced. As so often in Moore's work the piece is open to many interpretations. There is a strong internal, external relationship in the sculpture, with the arching forms shielding an internal ball.

Sebastiano Barassi, Head of Collections and Exhibitions at the Henry Moore Foundation added, 'I am delighted that a monumental sculpture by Henry Moore is returning to the gardens of the Fitzwilliam Museum, following the loan of Large Reclining Figure in 2005-7. Today's arrival of *Hill Arches* marks the continuation of Moore's and the Foundation's longstanding association with the Fitzwilliam and Cambridge. Moore's work is now visible in many important sites and collections across the city, and I hope the presence of this sculpture outside one of Cambridge's most recognisable buildings will be enjoyed by residents and visitors alike.'

The loan from the Henry Moore Foundation enables the sculpture to be seen from a fresh perspective, in a historic urban setting, but also alongside the Museum's permanent collection of Henry Moore bronze sculpture, drawings and prints in the Twentieth Century Gallery.

Dr Victoria Avery, Keeper of Applied Arts will give a free lunchtime talk at the Fitzwilliam Museum '*Hill Arches* and other works by Henry Moore' on June 1st 2016 (1.15pm; Education Seminar Room).

- Ends -

For further information and images contact the Press Office:
01223 332941 | press@fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk

Notes to editors:

The Fitzwilliam Museum, Trumpington Street, Cambridge CB2 1RB
FREE ADMISSION

OPEN: Tuesday - Saturday: 10.00 - 17.00

Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays: 12.00 - 17.00

CLOSED: 24-26 & 31 December, 1 January and Good Friday.

Founded in 1816 the Fitzwilliam Museum is the principal museum of the University of Cambridge and lead partner for the University of Cambridge Museums (UCM) Major Partner Museum programme, funded by The Arts Council. The Fitzwilliam's collections explore 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, world class prints and drawings, and outstanding collections of coins, Asian arts, ceramics and other applied arts. 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. www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk

Bicentenary Business Partners

The Museum's year-long celebrations of exhibitions and events for all have been made possible by our Business Partners. TTP Group plc, ACE Cultural Tours, Hewitsons LLP, Marshall of Cambridge, Rheebridge Ltd and Sotheby's are supporting the bicentenary year.

The Henry Moore Foundation

The Henry Moore Foundation maintains the artist's studios and grounds at Perry Green in Hertfordshire, as well as the world's largest collection of Moore's sculpture, drawings, graphics, textiles and tapestries. New visitor facilities are due to be completed in late spring 2016 and Henry Moore Studios & Gardens will open to the public on 1 July 2016. The Foundation also awards grants to support sculpture across the UK and has an active sculpture research and exhibitions programme at the Henry Moore Institute in Leeds.