



Press Release

Surrey Sculpture launches a new programme of events **- 'Understanding Sculpture'**

The Surrey Sculpture Society (SSS) is launching an ambitious programme of events across Surrey. Entitled 'Understanding Sculpture' the events will promote the art form throughout the summer and into the autumn, starting with a series of demonstrations by renowned sculptors who are members of the Society.

The demonstrations will be held at Cass Art, suppliers of materials for artists, based at Kingston-upon-Thames. The first event, **Creating a Portrait in Clay**, will be on **Saturday 22nd July from 12.30 - 3pm**. This will be presented by SSS member Roz Fletcher, who is a multi disciplinary visual artist, sculpting in clay. Roz skilfully combines her love of form with colour.

The second demonstration on **22nd July will run from 3.30pm until 6pm**, presented by SSS member Carol Orwin, who will be demonstrating **Casting a Sculpture from a Mould**. Carol specialises in the animal form and commented on her work: 'I am passionately interested in the muscular form, movement and power of the animals that I model. I aim to catch their vitality, nature and personality without compromising the anatomical integrity of the sculpture.'

Roz Fletcher commented on the aims of the Society's 'Understanding Sculpture' events programme:

'The sculpture demonstrations at Cass Art are an excellent opportunity for the general public to see what the Surrey Sculptors get up to. It lifts the veil on how sculptors work. The first demonstrations are taking place at the start of the summer holidays. It's a taster session, no need to sign up for a course. More demos will be taking place towards the end of the summer holidays.'

The end of summer demonstrations will take place on Saturday, 2nd September, when SSS member Irina Guzman will be presenting a demonstration on Clay Sculpture from 10 am - 12.30 pm. Irina has worked as a stage and costume designer and also a puppet maker and started to work in clay in 2009.

Also on **Saturday, 2nd September**, SSS member Malcolm West, will present his demonstration on **Figure Modelling from Clay from 1pm - 3.30 pm**. Malcolm is inspired by movement and beauty, classical subjects and dance. One of his recent commissions was to produce a portrait of Madonna in jelly beans, which was auctioned for charity and bought by Madame Tussauds.

There will be a maximum of 15 students for each demonstration and tickets are £20, with booking essential via Cass Art at Kingston.

SSS Chair Henriette van der Does commented: *'The series of sculpture demonstrations will help to encourage and inspire those who are interested in taking up the art form, as well as those who have already had some experience with sculpting. We have over 250 members in our Society ranging from emerging new talent through to top commissioned sculptors and we welcome new members, who have the chance to submit their work for our many major exhibitions in prestigious locations.'*

Interest can be taken further by visiting the Surrey Sculpture Society's exhibition at the **Landmark Arts Centre, Teddington from 3rd - 5th November**, where there will be a range of demonstrations and videos during the exhibition, which will show a wide range of sculptures in various materials, with 2D sketches and paintings all on show in the dramatic and distinctive setting of a 19th century Grade II listed former church. Entry to this event will be free.

The Landmark event will also include the works of the winners of the **Surrey Sculpture Society Prize for New and Emerging Artists 2017**, in association with The Art Academy London, which was founded with the purpose of benefiting society through art and art education. The winners of the prize will be announced shortly.

Also part of 'Understanding Sculpture', SSS is organising a series of public lectures by leading sculptors, who share their experience, inspiration and skills. The next lecture will be presented by renowned sculptor, **Michael Speller, on October 18th at 7.30 pm at Surrey University**. Michael's many commissions include 'Encompass', unveiled by HRH Prince Andrew in Greenwich, and a sculptural centre piece to an award winning garden at RHS Chelsea. The lecture is open to the public at a nominal £5 entry fee.

Summer exhibitions

SSS Sculpture Trails at RHS Gardens

Also taking place this summer will be the Society's two Royal Horticultural Society Sculpture Trails at RHS Garden Hyde Hall at Chelmsford, Essex, which opened on 24th June until 30th July, this will be followed by the SSS annual Sculpture Trail at RHS Garden Wisley, which opens on 19th August and runs until 24th September.

For more information and booking the SSS Demonstrations at Cass Art, visit www.cassart.co.uk. For further information on the SSS visit www.surreysculpture.org.uk

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For more information on this press release, further images or to arrange interviews with sculptors, please contact:

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Note for Editors:

About Surrey Sculpture Society

From small beginnings the Surrey Sculpture Society has grown into a major force, now attracting considerable interest from the media and has been featured on the BBC Radio 2 Arts Show and on BBC One TV.

The SSS now has over 250 members spread across the South East of England and further afield across the UK, encompassing both professionals and talented emerging sculptors. It aims to promote interaction between sculptors, to organise exhibitions and to encourage an appreciation of sculpture.

The Society stages major events annually in prestigious venues including RHS Wisley, RHS Hyde Hall, Beaulieu, Guildford Cathedral, Fulham Palace and the Landmark Arts Centre as well as at other renowned locations.