



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOLLOW THE BLOSSOM & SCULPTURE TRAIL AT RAMSTER GARDENS THIS SPRING

Ramster Gardens in the village of Chiddingfold, near Godalming, Surrey is hosting an extensive and accessible sculpture trail from 28th April to 29th May 2023. Curated and installed by the Surrey Sculpture Society, visitors will be able to see over 100 original pieces of affordable art created by both professional and emerging sculptors.

The sculpture trail coincides with the spectacular flowering of Ramster Gardens' signature collections of rhododendrons, azaleas and camelias making this an annual highlight in Surrey's horticultural calendar.

Gill Lawson, the SSS Exhibition Manager commented: "I am delighted to be involved in the Surrey Sculpture Society management team, organising our third exhibition at Ramster Gardens. It is such a lovely, accessible garden which shows the wide variety of sculptures from our members, in all their glory. The previous shows have been very enjoyable with many visitors commenting on the suitability of the gardens to show the sculptures and how relaxed their visit had been. Again this year, the trail will be along the main pathway, and although this is not tarmac, it is level and so will allow inclusive access not only to the sculptures but to the beauty of Ramster in the spring."

Whilst Ramster Gardens is no stranger to sculpture, having commissioned some beautiful pieces as part of its permanent collection, there is no doubt that the addition of this now annual display of contemporary art work, is an additional feature for the public to come and enjoy, with many visitors taking away not just a sculpture for their own home, but also some inspirational garden design ideas.

Rosie Glaister, who owns Ramster Hall, comments: “The sculptures are the 'icing on the cake' to our spring opening which is our most popular time of the year as visitors come to see the rhododendrons, azaleas and camellias which burst into colour. It is such an honour to have these wonderful eye-catching pieces of art integrated with the plantings; the fusion of art and nature is truly captivating”

Visitors can round off their visit with the delicious cakes, sandwiches, snacks and drinks available from the Tea House. Seasonal garden membership is available. The exhibition is open every day between 10am and 5pm, with entry included within the overall ticket price.

For more information, please visit www.ramsterevents.com and www.surreysculpture.org.uk

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Notes to the editors:

High-res images of Ramster Garden and sculptures:
<https://bit.ly/SSSRamsterPhotography>

Media contacts

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Ramster Hall and Garden has been in the same family for over 100 years and is renowned for its spring and autumn colour. The history of the garden goes back to 1890 when Rams Nest as it was then called, was bought by Sir Harry Waechter. He converted the farmhouse into an Edwardian country house and laid the foundations of the present garden from the oak woodland with help from Gauntletts of Chiddingfold, renowned for their interest in Japanese plants and ornaments. In 1922 the property was bought by Sir Henry and keen horticulturalist Lady Norman who introduced many of the rhododendrons and azaleas for which the garden is famous today. In 1927 the garden was first opened for the National Gardens Scheme and has continued to open for this event every year since.

Surrey Sculpture Society was created over 25 years ago by fourteen local sculptors. The Society has since grown into an organisation with over 250 members spread across the South East of England and further afield. We welcome both professionals and talented amateur sculptors.

The Society stages major events annually in prestigious venues across Surrey and Sussex including the Savill Garden in Windsor Great Park, Ramster Gardens, the National Trust property - Standen House, Leonardslee Lakes & Gardens, the Landmark Arts Centre, Teddington and West Horsley Place. Previous exhibition venues include RHS Wisley, Beaulieu, RHS Hyde Hall and the National Trust property at Hatchlands.

We have an exciting and varied Education programme for our members and are proud to sponsor the next generation of sculptors at UCA Farnham and the Art Academy London.

Further information can be found on our website <https://www.surreysculpture.org.uk/> or by contacting the Society's Communications Coordinator, Caroline Wheaton - 07875 527380; communications@surreysculpture.org.uk