PRESS RELEASE

Surrey Sculpture Society's Summer Exhibition to open at Leonardslee Lakes and Gardens.

This summer, the Surrey Sculpture Society again steps over the border into Sussex for its third year exhibiting at the stunning Leonardslee Lakes & Gardens.

The accessible trail, curated specifically for Leonardslee, will be an added attraction for visitors from **14th July until 20th August** and will lead visitors through the upper section of the spectacular gardens created by Sir Edmond Loder, the great Victorian plant hunter and previous owner of Leonardslee.

Visitors will be treated to an extensive exhibition of affordable sculpture, artfully placed within this beautiful setting. The works, created by both established and emerging artists, are in a wide range of materials including bronze, resin, glass, metal, wood, stone, ceramic and found objects. All art-work is for sale.

The venue, which covers some 240 acres of gardens, lakes, parkland and forest, boasts exceptional visitor facilities with five food venues, a farm shop and garden centre, not to mention a troupe of wallabies, a vineyard and the incredible Dolls House Museum.

SSS Leonardslee Exhibition Manager, Abby Martin commented:

It is always a pleasure to be able to partner with the team at Leonardslee who do so much to make the visitor experience exceptional and varied. The sculptures provide a captivating counterpoint to the natural beauty in which they are set and to curate a trail which spans everything from wallabies to vines is a privilege few get to experience! This year, not only do we have the usual Exhibition Trail but we are also excited to be able to introduce some ceramic workshops courtesy of Karen Pearson one of our experienced ceramicists. People can find out more about how they can join in on the Leonardslee or SSS websites.

Adam Streeter, general manager at Leonardslee Lakes and Garden, says: "We are delighted to welcome back the Surrey Sculpture Society's Summer Exhibition. The estate is now seen as a major regional arts centre. Our own Sculpture Park features monumental work by South African artists, and there are paintings and sculptures in Leonardslee House to visit too."

For a family day out, Leonardslee also features a classic afternoon tea at Leonardslee House and Michelin Star dining at Restaurant Interlude, with luxury rooms for an overnight stay.

Admission to the Surrey Sculpture Society's Sculpture Trail is included in the entrance to Leonardslee Lakes and Gardens at Horsham RH13 6PR. Opening Dates 14th July to 20 August 2023, daily from 9am to 5pm (last entry 3.30pm)

For details of entrance fees and visitor information: visit: <u>www.leonardsleegardens.co.uk</u> For information on Surrey Sculpture Society visit <u>www.surreysculpture.org.uk</u>

ENDS Notes to editors: High-res images of Leonardslee Lakes & Gardens and sculptures: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/oj95zudwcmitgtw/AADkGCTu_fi18ILi_EndYM5ca?dl=0

SSS CONTACTS:

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

SSS Communications Coordinator - Caroline Wheaton 07875 527380 communications@surreysculpture.org.uk

Facebook - <u>surreysculpturesociety</u> Instagram - @SurreySculptureSociety #SurreySculptureSociety

Background to Surrey Sculpture Society The 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.

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