



## Press Release

# Yorkshire Sculpture Park unveils new works in the landscape this winter

### New additions to the display:

Ai Weiwei, *Circle of Animals / Zodiac Heads*, 2010\*

Edward Allington, *From the Sex of Metals III*, 1990

Willem Boshoff, *Flagstone*, 2016

Tom Friedman, *Hazmat Love*, 2016

Elisabeth Frink, *Protomartyr*, 1976

Idit Nathan and Helen Stratford, *Further Afield*, 2021

\*Conserved and installed in a new location

**We are delighted to announce new arrivals to Yorkshire Sculpture Park (YSP) this holiday season. Put on your winter warmers, walking boots and breathe in the crisp fresh air while exploring the Park. If the weather takes a turn, visitors can enjoy exhibitions at one of our many indoor galleries, shops and eateries.**

As winter falls across YSP, we welcome the changes to the sweeping Yorkshire landscape and art on view in the open air. Set within 500 acres of historic landscape, comprising parkland, woodland, formal gardens, heritage landmarks and lakes – YSP has around 100 modern and contemporary sculptures for visitors to enjoy. Our ever-changing display of sculptures, along with our programme of exhibitions and events, means that there is always something new to discover.

*Hazmat Love* (2016) by North-American artist Tom Friedman greets visitors in the Formal Garden. The stainless steel sculpture depicts two figures who might be embracing, wrestling or dancing together. The relationship between them is unclear and their facial expressions are hidden by mirrored masks. Friedman first created the work using flattened and shaped aluminium roasting trays to resemble baggy fabric, elastic, boots and thick gloves. The marks and folds made by the artist can still be seen in the surface of the work. Friedman described *Hazmat Love* as a scene of 'dystopian romance – love in a toxic environment' so is especially pertinent now.

Continue wandering through the Formal Garden and you will see Edward Allington's sculpture installed last year has a new companion. *From the Sex of Metals III* (1990) joins *From the Sex of Metals IV* (1990), made in response to a question from art critic Stuart Morgan as to what sex Allington's sculptures were to be read as. The artist was unable to answer satisfactorily, and so began these works as a way to explore the question further, asking "to what strange gender does steel belong or bronze, and what is sex but the most extraordinary and elaborate mechanism for filtering fluids?"

*Further Afield* (2021) by Idit Nathan and Helen Stratford is a series of sculptures sited around the Upper Lake for visitors to encounter and respond to. Created following two residencies at YSP in 2017 and 2018, each work is made from wooden railway sleepers, with words engraved into the surface. Certain words have been highlighted by the artists using brightly coloured paint. Over time, the wood will age and become embedded in the landscape of the Park. The instructions on the sculptures invite us to play, think, interact, and use our senses to experience our surroundings in new ways.



Rest and take in the Upper Lake's wildlife at Willem Boshoff's granite sculpture and seat. After yet another turbulent year, *Flagstone* (2016) provides the perfect space for contemplation. In summer 2018, South African artist Boshoff spent a month at YSP, researching and meticulously recording the flora and fauna. The residency was followed by an exhibition in Upper Space and the subsequent gift of *Flagstone* as a permanent work for YSP's landscape.

We are delighted to welcome another work, *Protomartyr* (1976), by the pioneering British artist Elisabeth Frink who was an early supporter of Amnesty International. On loan from a private collection, the life-sized bronze depicts the first Christian martyr, Saint Stephen, who provided

aid to those in need and was tragically sentenced to death. Frink modelled her works using plaster, often starting with metal rods or wire to provide structure. Once the plaster dried she would carve into it using chisels, files and an axe, before casting the work in bronze. Through this process she tried to capture inner and outer states of being.

YSP is committed to providing the highest level of care for artworks. From bracing winds to balmy heatwaves, our expert teams monitor and conserve sculptures so that they look their best for our visitors. A firm favourite, Ai Weiwei's *Circle of Animals / Zodiac Heads* (2010) was originally installed at YSP in celebration of our 40th anniversary in 2017. This summer the dramatic group of 12 bronze animal heads underwent conservation and is back on display in their new position in the Lower Park. Standing at three metres high, the sculptures each weigh 363kg, and were conserved on-site over a period of three months.

After taking in the delights of YSP's landscape and galleries, seek solace at award-winning The Weston Restaurant and enjoy locally sourced food and excellent coffee. As we wave goodbye to a difficult year, YSP is dedicated to keeping our visitors safe, providing an exceptional place to dive into art and nature.

As we look forward to 2022, YSP is thrilled to present a programme of new exhibitions, installations, events and learning initiatives to keep audiences informed and engaged. Highlights include an exhibition of drawings by sculptor and land artist David Nash, the first European museum exhibition of sculpture by iconic North American artist Robert Indiana, and *Summer of Love* – a season celebrating and exploring human connections, kindness, and the magnificent and complex diversity of love.

Visitors will be able to enjoy further additions to works in the open air throughout 2022.

**-ENDS-**



Tom Friedman, *Hazmat Love*, 2016  
Photo © Jonty Wilde, courtesy Yorkshire Sculpture Park



Edward Allington, *From the Sex of Metals III* and *From the Sex of Metals IV*, 1990. Photo © Jonty Wilde, courtesy Yorkshire Sculpture Park



Idit Nathan and Helen Stratford, *Further Afield*, 2021  
Photo © Jonty Wilde, courtesy Yorkshire Sculpture Park

## Notes for Editors

### Press enquiries

Svetlana Leu, Sutton: +44 (0)20 7183 3577 / [svetlana@suttoncomms.com](mailto:svetlana@suttoncomms.com)

Gemma Donovan, Communications Officer, YSP / +44 (0)1924 832 515 / [gemma.donovan@ysp.org.uk](mailto:gemma.donovan@ysp.org.uk)

Download images at [ysp.org.uk/media](http://ysp.org.uk/media)

### Listings information

Yorkshire Sculpture Park, West Bretton, Wakefield WF4 4LG

Near Wakefield and Barnsley – M1 Junction 38

+44 (0)1924 832631 | [ysp.org.uk](http://ysp.org.uk) | @YSPsculpture

Open seven days a week, except Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

Booking essential, via [ysp.org.uk](http://ysp.org.uk)

### Social media

Instagram and Twitter: @YSPsculpture

Facebook: @YorkshireSculpturePark

#ArtWithoutWalls

### About Yorkshire Sculpture Park

Yorkshire Sculpture Park (YSP) is the leading international centre for modern and contemporary sculpture. Welcoming around 500,000 visitors each year pre-pandemic, YSP is an independent charitable trust and registered museum situated in the 500-acre, 18th-century Bretton Hall estate in West Yorkshire.

Founded in 1977 by Executive Director Peter Murray, YSP is the largest sculpture park of its kind in Europe. It is the only place in Europe to see Barbara Hepworth's recently restored *The Family of Man* in its entirety, alongside a significant collection of sculpture, including bronzes by Henry Moore, important pieces by Phyllida Barlow, Roger Hiorns and Ai Weiwei, and site-related works by Katrina Palmer, Andy Goldsworthy, David Nash, Sean Scully and James Turrell.

YSP mounts a year-round temporary exhibitions programme including some of the world's leading artists across six indoor galleries and the open air. Recent highlights include exhibitions by Fiona Banner, Anthony Caro, Tony Cragg, Amar Kanwar, KAWS, Joan Miró, Henry Moore, Annie Morris, Giuseppe Penone, Jaume Plensa, Ursula von Rydingsvard, Sean Scully, Yinka Shonibare CBE, Chiharu Shiota, David Smith and Bill Viola.

Across its 45-year history, YSP has worked with over 1,000 artists from more than 40 countries, on varied projects from short-term residencies to major surveys. YSP supports artists at vital stages in their careers and is rare in having the accommodation, workshops and expertise to enable open-ended and risk-taking practice, giving artists space, time and support to think and to develop new ideas.

Over this time, YSP has sought to ignite, nurture and sustain interest in and debate around contemporary art and sculpture, especially with those for whom art participation is not habitual or familiar. It enables open access to art, situations and ideas, and continues to re-evaluate and expand the approach to considering art's role and relevance in society. Supporting 40,000 people each year pre-pandemic through YSP's learning programme, this innovative work develops ability, confidence and life aspiration in participants.

YSP's core work is made possible by investment from Arts Council England, Wakefield Council, the Liz and Terry Bramall Foundation and Sakurako and William Fisher through the Sakana Foundation. YSP was named Art Fund Museum of the Year in 2014.

## **Creative Case for Diversity**

Yorkshire Sculpture Park was founded in 1977 to enable fairer cultural access and opportunity and we are committed to being part of change towards a fairer world. We do not tolerate discrimination in any form and are proactive in our programme, policies and behaviours to address inequalities locally, nationally and internationally. We recognise that economic, social and cultural disadvantage is complex and intersectional and shape our activity accordingly. Diversity and equality are crucial to the arts because they release the true potential of our nation's artistic talent – from every background. At YSP, we support Arts Council England's mission – great art and culture for everyone. We share ACE's commitment to promote and embed diversity in our workforce and cultural programme. This is called the 'Creative Case for Diversity'.



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**



**LIZ AND TERRY  
BRAMALL FOUNDATION**

**SAKANA  
FOUNDATION**

**ROGER  
EVANS**