

Sculptors' Maquettes

2018

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Introduction

There is something enchanting about a small model; is it the association with the toy farms, dollhouses and dinky cars of childhood or is miniaturisation something that delights in itself as in Gulliver's Travels, the Borrowers, Tom Thumb and many more? In sculpture, 'maquettes' are often conceived to fit in the palm and bear all the characteristics of something made with the fingertips whilst exploring the nature of ideas and forms designed for a larger scale. They incorporate the essentials and eliminate the unnecessary, get straight to the point and hold a freshness akin to pencil sketches.

The maquette, or 'bozzetto' in Italian, was almost universal in the important studios and workshops of the Renaissance and beyond. The maquette represented the last touch of the sculptor's hand before artisans, assistants and apprentices proceeded to work on the larger scale version under the artist's direction. It worked as an effective means of introducing a patron to the concept of a monument or sculpture and this aspect is equally valid to this day.

Details of a larger design are also sometimes referred to as maquettes. In the times of



Cleopatra Egyptian Plaque

the pharaohs, Egyptian craftsmen would carve relief plaques to demonstrate their skills in order to be considered for a commission to carve a temple or tomb. Large sculpture or monuments take considerable commitment of time. material and work so very few are made freeform without preparatory models. Through the making of smaller models, ideas are refined, the masses and forms are honed and the whole sculpture resolved before the final piece is tackled. Michelangelo's use of the maguette was a very practical one. He made small wax models for some of his large marble carvings and according to Vasari he would hold the wax model in water in order to see parts of the sculpture above the surface and relate that to how the figure would emerge from the stone. However, the small wax model of the Slave does much more than that; it gives us a direct and intimate connection to Michelangelo's thought-process. Through his deft modelling, a calligraphic

sketch in wax, one can 'feel' his visual thinking articulated in the hand. He had no necessity to refine further or add detail, the twisting posture and rippling forms were all he needed to imagine the final sculpture full-size in marble.

It is a particularly fascinating and personal aspect of sculpture to see how sculptors find their own use for and means of making models. Being small-scale, they can be made quickly, often in inexpensive materials, without the laboured approach needed on bigger works. A playful and experimental freedom is often tangible in a maquette and many are delightfully unselfconscious as a result. None of this is to say that maquettes are not a serious and important part of sculpture; they are and indeed some collections are formed solely of models. Ancient 'Cabinets of Curiosity' would include maquettes alongside antique fragments and wonders of the natural world, all intended to stimulate the mind and senses.

Our exhibition has gathered a collection of maquettes that celebrates this aspect of sculpture. Some were made as preparatory studies for recognised and much-loved public monuments. Others were made for projects that were ultimately never realised

and yet more were purely private studies for potential large works or explore themes central to the artist's concerns. Some were even made after the creation of a bigger version and carry on the visual thinking sparked off by its construction. The small size of these particular maquettes belies their true scale and they often seem to take up more space than their physical dimensions might imply. They attract attention even from across a room.

In the creation of large, significant sculptures and monuments, sculptors are the architects of the most visible aspect of our culture. As a result, maquettes are the germ or the seed of that culture and in my opinion, this gives them a significance far beyond the enchantment of their tiny scale.

Rungwe Kingdon September 2018



Maguette for Slave

Michelangelo



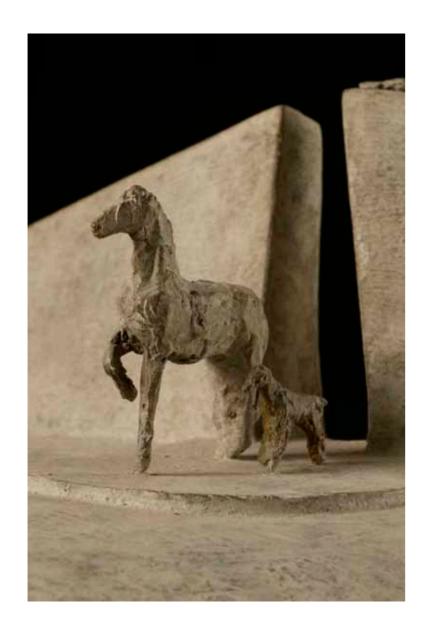






Ozymandias 2002 Anthony Abrahams Sterling Silver Edition of 6 16.5cm high







Maquette for Monument 2004 David Backhouse Bronze Edition of 12 13cm high



Advocate III 2014
Bruce Beasley
Bronze
Unique
610cm high
Central Square, Newcastle



Maquette for Advocate II 2002

Bruce Beasley

Bronze

Edition of 9

183cm high

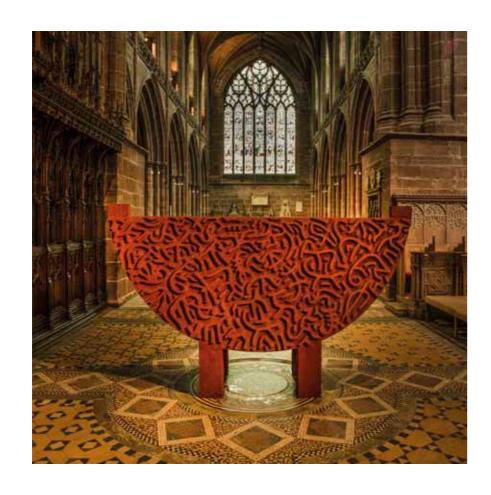


Sumatran Orangutan:
"Old Man of the Woods" (Miniature) 2017
Nick Bibby
Bronze
Edition of 25
20cm high



British Longhorn Bull: Blackbrook Philosopher 2012 Nick Bibby Bronze Edition of 12 38cm high





Ark: High and Dry 2017
Jon Buck
Bronze
Edition of 3
212cm high
Chester Cathedral 'ARK' 2017



Ark: High and Dry Maquette 2018
Jon Buck
Bronze
Edition of 10
41.5cm high



Ship to Shore 2007 Jon Buck Bronze Unique 300cm high Portishead Quays, Nr Bristol







Stairs 1991 Lynn Chadwick Bronze Edition of 9 239cm high 'Lynn Chadwick' Parc Heintz, Luxemburg 2004





Maquette II Walking Woman 1984 Lynn Chadwick Bronze Edition of 9 30cm high



Maquette VII Sitting Woman 1986 Lynn Chadwick Bronze Edition of 9 20cm high



Square Line 1990 Ann Christopher Bronze Edition of 3 325cm high Tower Bridge Road, London Photo Pete Chinn



Square Line - 1 1990 Ann Christopher Bronze & Slate Edition of 9 36cm high



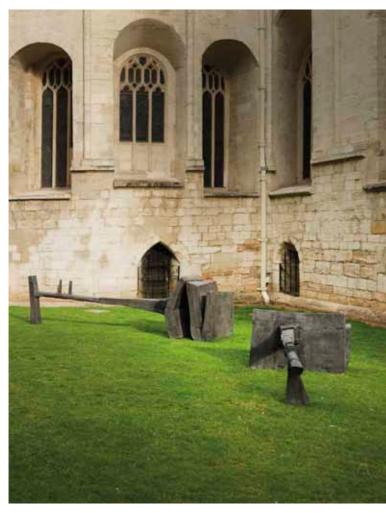
Line From Within 1993
Ann Christopher
Bronze
460cm high
Castle Park, Bristol
Photo Pete Chinn

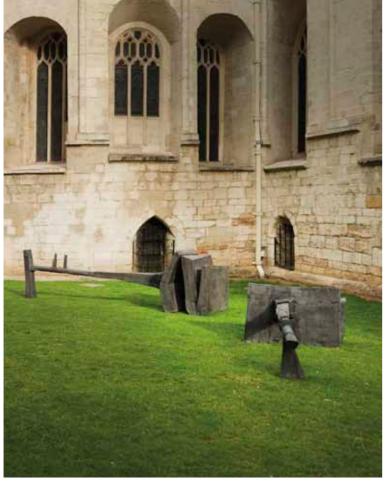


Line From Within - 1 1993 Ann Christopher Bronze & Slate Edition of 9 25.5cm high



Pilgrim 1994 Geoffrey Clarke Aluminium Unique 24cm high

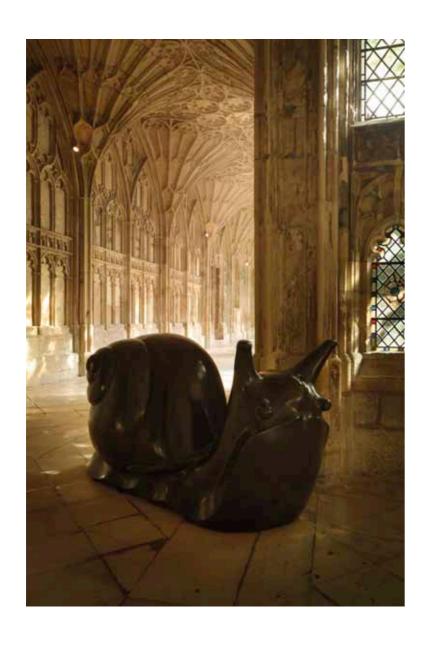






Battersea II & III 1963 Geoffrey Clarke Aluminium Unique 122cm high 'Crucible 2' Gloucester Cathedral 2014

Uniforge (St Paul) Maquette 1966 Geoffrey Clarke Aluminimum Edition of 10 9.8cm high



Snail 2010 Michael Cooper Bronze Edition of 6 92cm high 'Crucible 2' Gloucester Cathedral 2014



Snail 2003 Michael Cooper Kilkenny Blue Limestone Unique 32cm high



Monumental Vital Man VI 2008
Terence Coventry
Bronze
Edition of 5
208cm high
'Crucible' Gloucester Cathedral 2010







Couple I 2007
Terence Coventry
Bronze
Edition of 5
66cm high

Couple I Maquette 2006 Terence Coventry Bronze Edition of 10 25cm high







Boar I 1998 Terence Coventry Bronze Edition of 9 24cm high







Geometric Organic II 2003 Steve Hurst Bronze Unique 145cm high 'Out of the Melting Pot' Parc Heintz, Luxemburg 2005

Geometric Organic 2002 Steve Hurst Sterling Silver Edition of 10 14cm high





George Orwell
Martin Jennings
Bronze
Unique
240cm high
BBC Broadcasting House, London
Photo Norman McBeath

George Orwell Small Maquette 2012

Martin Jennings

Bronze

Edition of 50

15cm high

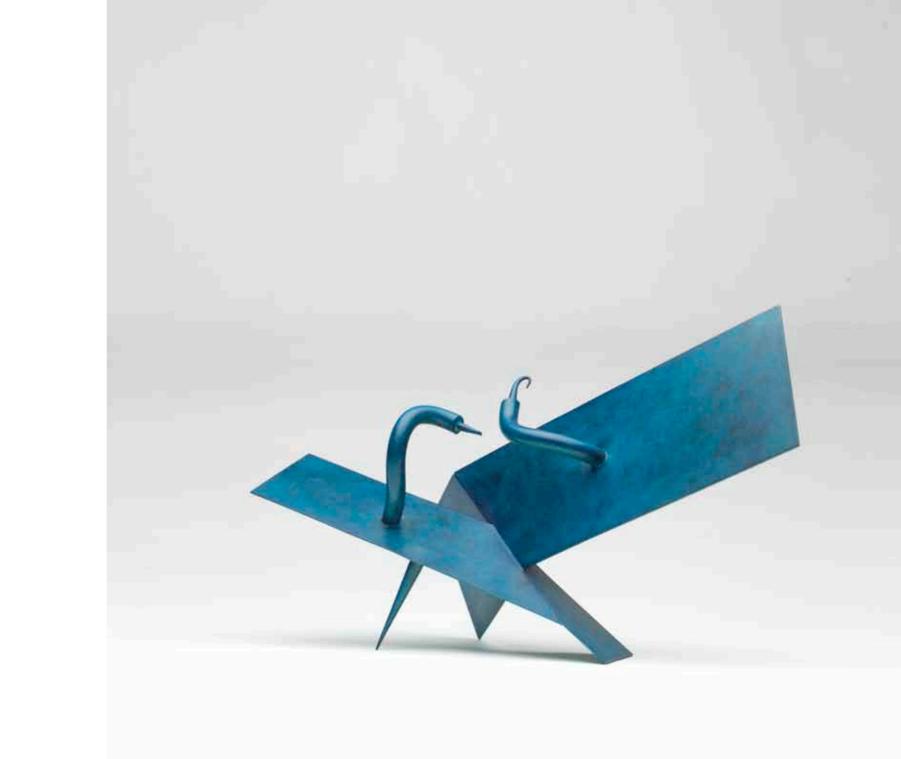


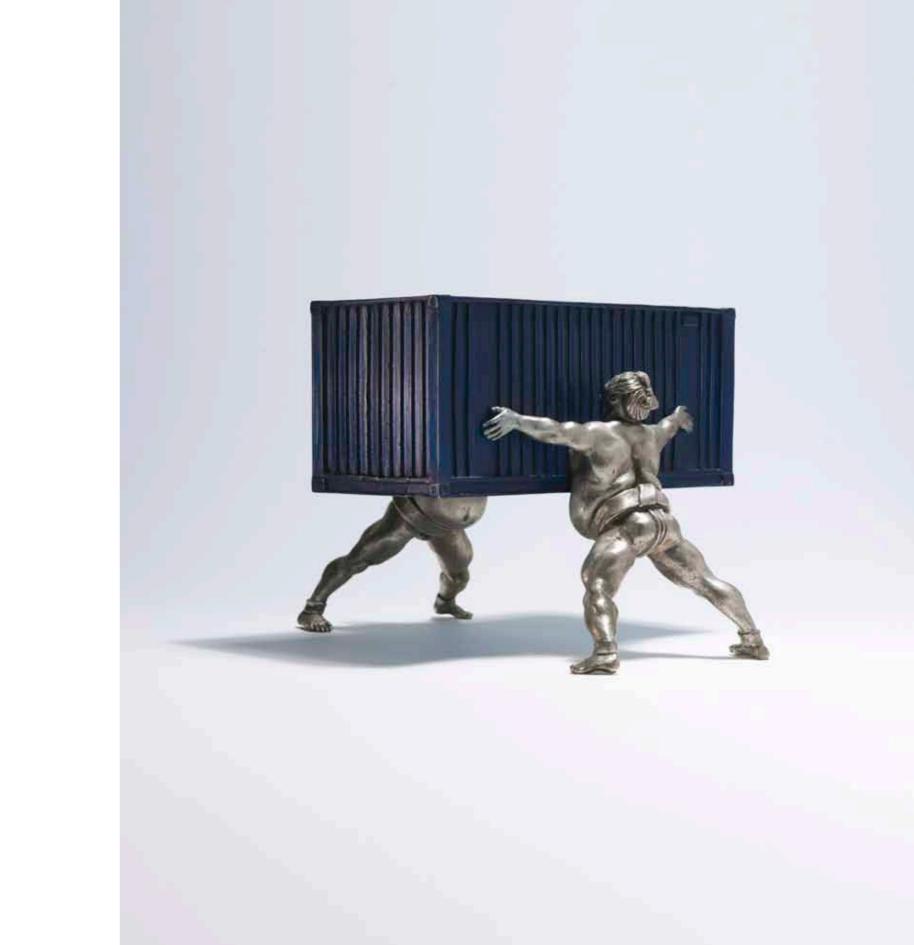
Philip Larkin 2010 Martin Jennings Bronze Unique 210cm high Paragon Station, Hull Photo Martin Jennings

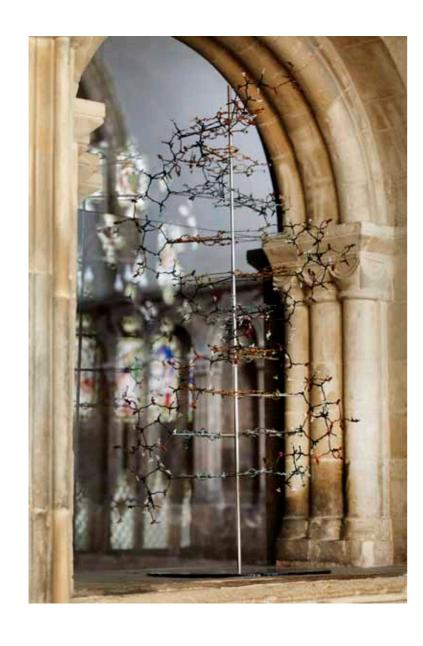


Philip Larkin Maquette 2009 Martin Jennings Bronze Edition of 20 38cm high

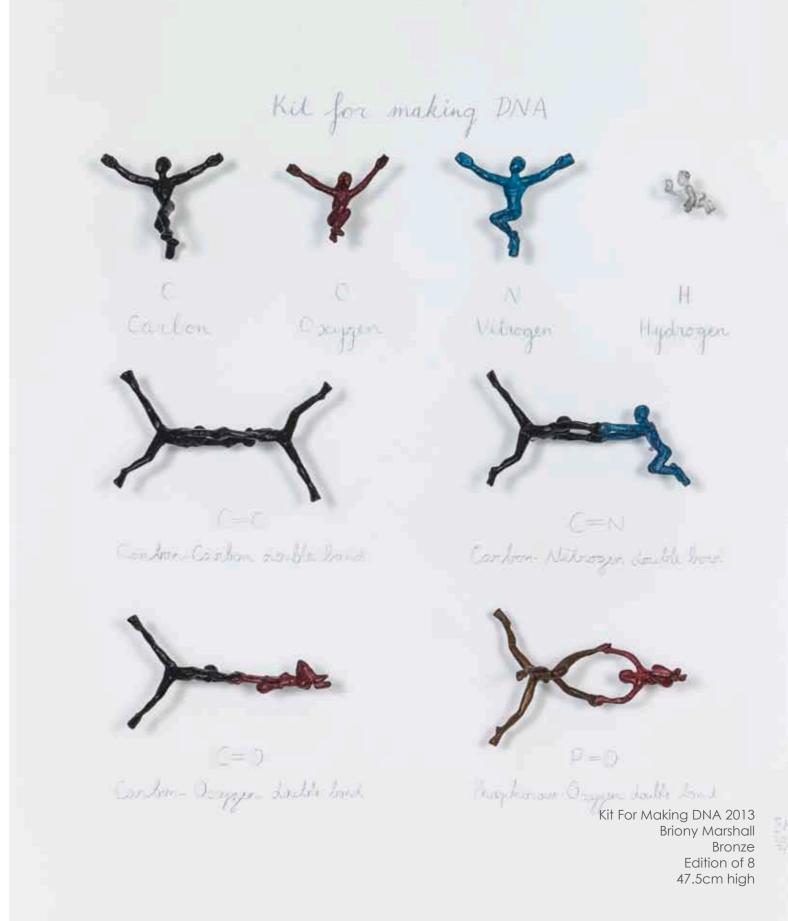




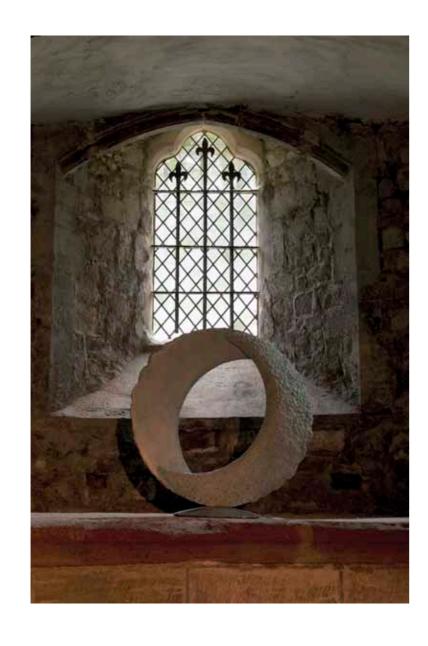




DNA - Helix of Life 2013
Briony Marshall
Bronze
Edition of 3
185cm high
'Crucible 2' Gloucester Cathedral 2014









Luna 2009 Charlotte Mayer Bronze Edition of 8 95cm high 'Crucible' Gloucester Cathedral 2010



Wind and Fire 1997 Charlotte Mayer Bronze Unique 250cm & 300cm high BNP Paribas, London









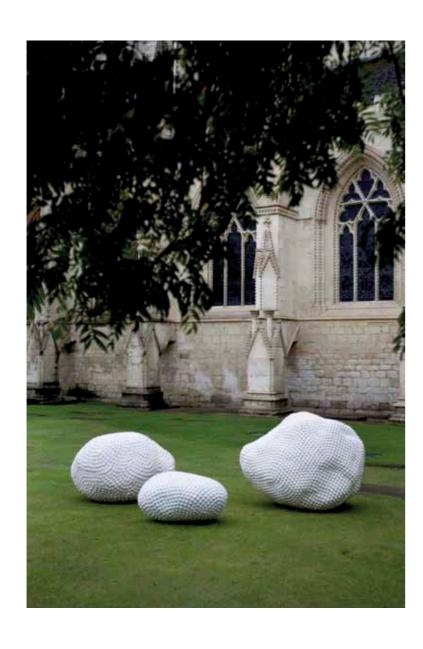


The Appetites of Gravity 2003
Eilis O'Connell
Bronze and Stainless Steel
Unique
520cm high
Dundalk Institute of Technology, Ireland









Theme and Variation I, II & III 2008
Peter Randall-Page
Bronze
Edition of 4
140cm high
'Crucible' Gloucester Cathedral 2010



Theme and Variation 2008
Peter Randall-Page
Sterling Silver
Edition of 4
12cm high





Indensity 2014
Almuth Tebbenhoff
Marble
Unique
80cm high
'ARK' Chester Cathedral 2017



Indensity Cube Large 2018
Almuth Tebbenhoff
Bronze
Edition of 8
23cm high







Emperor 2002 William Tucker Bronze Edition of 5 165cm high 'Crucible 2' Gloucester Cathedral 2014

Study for 'Emperor' 2002 William Tucker Bronze Edition of 6 12cm high







Secret 2010 William Tucker Bronze
Edition of 3
133cm high
'ARK' Chester Cathedral 2017

Study for The Secret 2004 William Tucker Bronze Edition of 6 11cm high





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