

Culture of Wood: Robert Koenig Retrospective

Saturday 1st August – Saturday 26th September 2009
Gibberd Gallery



Images: 'Grand Orchard' panel (detail), 'Fisherman' (detail) and 'Ram's Head' panel by Robert Koenig.

This summer the Gibberd Gallery in partnership with the Friends of Harlow Sculpture Collection celebrates the launch of Harlow Sculpture Town with a programme of exhibitions, talks and children's activities, including a stunning exhibition of carved wood sculptures by Robert Koenig.

Each summer the Gibberd Gallery profiles the work of artists who are represented in Harlow's sculpture collection. This year's show celebrates Robert Koenig's longstanding relationship to the town with a retrospective exhibition of work that includes relief panels, carved wood figures as well as drawings and other studies.

A consistent theme in Robert's work has been the carved and painted wood relief panel. The earliest examples of this type of work appeared in 1981 with panels like 'Rustic Umbrellas', purchased by the Arts Council of Great Britain and '104 Seated Figures', exhibited at the time in the Whitechapel Gallery, London. What typified these and later panels were the use of the repeated motif used in order to achieve a sense of pattern and rhythm.

Robert Koenig's recent work address issues of ancestry, belonging, heritage and tradition. He has carved numerous figures, several of which will be on display at the Gibberd Gallery. These themes culminate in Koenig's latest and ongoing project called "Odyssey" which will be the topic of Robert's talk at the Gibberd Gallery in September.

Talks

Robert Koenig Talk

16th September, 7pm

A talk by Robert Koenig on his artistic practice including details about his latest and ongoing project called "Odyssey".

Statuemanía: How Britain Invented Public Sculpture

19th August, 7pm

A talk by Benedict Read, FSA, Deputy Chairman of the Public Monuments and Sculpture Association and Senior Fellow in Art History at the University of Leeds.

Family Sculpture Workshops at the Museum of Harlow Gardens

Cardboard Modelling

Tuesday 25th and Wednesday 26th August, 10am – 12noon and 1pm – 4pm

Join a drop-in cardboard modelling session at the Museum of Harlow with artist Nicola Burrell to make sculptures and other models to take home with you.

Children must be accompanied by an adult. Free.

Willow Weaving

Thursday 27th, Friday 28th and Saturday 29th August, 10am – 12noon and 1pm – 4pm

Come and help make large scale willow structures with Martin Hazell inspired by the Museum collections and the town's sculpture collection.

Children must be accompanied by an adult. Free.

For full details about these family workshops please call the Museum on 01279 454959.

Gibberd Gallery
Civic Centre
The Water Gardens
Harlow
Essex
CM20 1WG

Opening Times:

Weekdays 9.00am - 5.00pm

Saturdays 9.00am–12noon

Closed on Sundays and Bank Holidays

Admission Free

www.harlow.gov.uk



Friends of Harlow
SCULPTURE COLLECTION

Harlow
Council
Working together for Harlow