

# Ronnie Duncan Collection

Works from the 1950s and 1960s

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> January – Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2008**

Gibberd Gallery



Untitled, 1960, Roger Hilton



Bird, 1971-71, Roger Hilton

The Gibberd Gallery hosts an exhibition of artwork on loan from the private collector Ronnie Duncan.

Ronnie Duncan has been collecting artwork for over fifty years and amassed an outstanding collection of paintings and sculpture by modern British artists. This exhibition follows his earliest collecting habits during the 1950s and 1960s and his first love: painting. He purchased work by young innovative painters at a time when Harlow was acquiring similar work by the same generation of sculptors for the Harlow sculpture collection.

Living in North Yorkshire, Ronnie came to know many of the artists working in the area during the 1950s. The Gregory Fellowship programme, founded at Leeds University in 1949, invited some of the finest young painters and sculptors of the time to live and study on the university campus. Ronnie Duncan developed close friendships with many of these artists and was particularly impressed by the work of Alan Davie and Terry Frost. Both artists were at the start of their careers and their work was still relatively affordable. For Terry Frost, his time in Leeds was crucial to his own development; inspired by the Yorkshire landscape, he and Ronnie would often go on walks together in the Dales.

When the Fellows left Leeds, many set up studios in St Ives, Cornwall where Ronnie was to regularly visit. This is where he was first introduced to, among others, Patrick Heron, Trevor Bell and Roger Hilton. His introduction to Roger Hilton marked the beginning of Ronnie's longstanding patronage of Hilton; he has built up a collection that spans Hilton's entire career, just a selection of his which has been brought to Harlow for this exhibition.

**Opening Times:**

Monday – Friday, 9am – 5.30pm  
 Saturdays, 9am – midday  
 Closed Sundays and Bank Holidays  
 Admission Free

[www.visitharlow.com](http://www.visitharlow.com)

Please contact 01279 446438 for further information.

