



Yorkshire Sculpture Park MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

Kenny Hunter: Natural Selection

Longside Gallery 29 July - 5 November 2006

Free admission. Press view 28 July 2006

Scottish artist Kenny Hunter presents a stunning exhibition of sculpture, film and text in Yorkshire Sculpture Park's 500sqm Longside Gallery. The exhibition includes new work that has been enabled by YSP, and is his largest solo show to date.

Hunter's people, animals and recognisably contemporary objects have a stilled and seamless clarity. Ranging from intimate to monumental in scale, these sculptures establish a complicated and direct dialogue with the viewer. They are often placed in historical sculptural poses: they stand, recline or are seated and are placed on the top of columns or pedestals. Features and attributes are immediate, recognisable and precisely defined. The ultra-smooth form does not simply recreate a classical mode, but alludes to children's toys and cartoons.

Recent work features seemingly ordinary, young people. They are deeply engaging and loaded with potential, dressed in contemporary, or sometimes overtly fashionable, clothes. The exhibition includes **Feedback Loop** 2003, (Aberdeen Art Gallery Collection) and the reclining figure, **Youth With Split Apple** 2004.

In a recent group of works, **Animal Virtues** 2004-06, Hunter looks at r-selected species: those that are opportunist, and particularly those that have adapted to survival in an urban environment. They sit on constructed arrangements of everyday objects, which are carefully cast and coloured, or are found objects. Hunter investigates the idea of made and found sculpture and the formal presentation of work on plinths or pedestals. He constantly questions and responds to the world around him, and his extraordinary talent enables him to make startling and thought-provoking works.

Born in 1962, Kenny Hunter studied at Glasgow School of Art. He is based in Glasgow and has had recent solo shows at Talbot Rice, Edinburgh (2003); CCA, Glasgow (2003/4); Aberdeen Art Gallery; Conner Contemporary Art; Washington and artconnexion, Lille (all 2004). In 2005, he was resident in New York (at Location One). Other shows have included Modern Art and Houldsworth, London; Arnolfini, Bristol and the Scottish National Portrait Gallery. He has made commissions for Glasgow Museums; the Tron Theatre, Glasgow; and Aberdeen Art Gallery. Hunter is currently working on a major new public sculpture for Barnsley MBC, to commemorate the town's mining heritage. A book with text by Alex Hodby will be available.



Anomie (Bronze the retrospection)
2005



I ♥ Rapid Change 1
2005



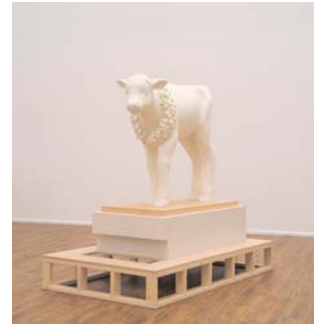
Fox 2004
(one of the Animal Virtues series)



This exhibition is generously sponsored by **Glenfiddich** and features **The Lion, the Poet and Daisy Cutter** from the Glenfiddich collection. The group of works, **Animal Virtues**, are a development of the series which was commissioned by Glenfiddich and the Artconnexion Gallery with support from the Scottish Executive and which was premiered as part of the Entente Cordiale celebrations in 2004.

Editor's Notes

- Yorkshire Sculpture Park, near Wakefield, is an independent art gallery, registered museum and charity. Registered charity number 1067908
- YSP curates changing international exhibitions of modern and contemporary sculpture in 500 acres of 18th century landscaped grounds and gardens. The park is open daily 10am – 6pm. Admission free.
- General enquiries contact 01924 832631 www.yssp.co.uk
- Yorkshire Sculpture Park receives funding from: Arts Council England. Wakefield MDC. The Henry Moore Foundation. West Yorkshire Grants (a joint committee of Bradford, Calderdale, Kirklees, Leeds and Wakefield Councils).
- Glenfiddich is delighted to support Kenny Hunter: Natural Selection as part of an on-going commitment to its former Artists in Residence. Kenny Hunter was one of the first artists to be awarded a prestigious residency at the Speyside distillery in 2002, since which time over 30 leading artists from across the globe have participated in the programme. For further information on Glenfiddich Artists in Residence and the 2006 artists including Rosalind Nashishibi, Annie Pootoogook and Mustafa Mulaka contact: Lesley Booth 0779 941 4474, lesley.booth@newcenturypr.com
- **Press enquiries and images contact: Jan Wells, t. 01924 832515 or Vic Darley t. 01924 832513 f. 01924 832600, press-marketing@yssp.co.uk, www.yssp.co.uk**



Calf 2004



Dub Monument 2004



Youth With Split Apple
2005