

# Yorkshire Sculpture Park

## Media Release

5 September 2006  
For immediate release



### walks to illuminate

An exhibition of work by artist Simon Whitehead  
16 September to 12 November 2006  
YSP Garden Gallery

Simon Whitehead is a movement artist whose work explores the area between performance and sculpture. Simon was commissioned in 2004 to create a project that responded to the role and context of Yorkshire Sculpture Park.

A visit to YSP is to experience sculpture while walking in a landscape. **Walks to Illuminate** developed this concept and invited visitors to harvest solar energy as they journeyed around the Sculpture Park. This, in turn, powered 'light' shoes enabling nightwalks on seasonally important dates.

"We walked around the park in our light shoes and played hide and seek behind the trees. It was a magical walk"

"We both felt as though we were part of the Park rather than visitors to it."

This exhibition presents the YSP commission within the context of Simon's recent career. Other works include **2mph: a pace for walking in rough country with cattle and sheep**, which documents Simon's walk from west Wales to Smithfield Market in London, along the old cattle drovers' roads with a fellow artist, a dog called Gertie, a hand cart and a stuffed goose. The journey is interpreted in the gallery space through hand-drawn maps, 2 minutes of film footage taken daily from the goose's perspective at 2pm and objects used in the journey, or gathered on the way.

Through performance and artefact, Simon Whitehead explores intriguing assumptions about relationships to place, territory and belonging in an age of increasing mobility and change.

#### Editors' notes

- The Press view takes place on Friday 15th September at 4pm
  - The YSP autumn programme also includes exhibitions by James Turrell and Kenny Hunter
  - 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 (5pm from 30 October). Admission free.
  - 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).
  - Walks to illuminate is supported by a Creative Wales Award from the Arts Council of Wales.
- For further information and images contact: Vic Darley, t. 01924 832515 f. 01924 832600, [press-marketing@yosp.co.uk](mailto:press-marketing@yosp.co.uk), [www.yosp.co.uk](http://www.yosp.co.uk) [www.untitledstates.net](http://www.untitledstates.net)



