

16 June 2016

Tate Britain expert presents Elisabeth Frink talk at Cosford

Date: 4 July 2016

Time: 2.00pm

Cost: FREE

The work of British sculptor Dame Elisabeth Frink CH DEB RA will be the focus of an art lecture taking place at the Royal Air Force Museum Cosford next month. The lecture entitled 'Elisabeth Frink: The Expressive Power of Bronze' will be presented by guest speaker Frank Woodgate, a lecturer and guide at Tate Britain and will take place on Monday 4 July 2016.

During this talk, Woodgate will examine the work of Frink, one of the most influential female sculptors of the 20th century, an artist who achieved an international reputation for her monumental works depicting the human figure, birds and other animals. Frink created art from the 1950s up until her death in 1993 and was most notable for her bronze sculptures; but, from the first small sculpture acquired by the Tate Gallery (when she was a student of 21) until her death, she produced an astonishing body of work. Her bronzes varied in scale and feeling, from small threatening birds to the life-size tranquil Walking Madonna in Salisbury Cathedral Close.

This insight into Frink's work will be presented by guest speaker and Lecturer in Art History, Frank Woodgate. Having lectured at Tate Britain, Tate Modern, Tate on cruises, Dulwich Picture Gallery, in addition to scriptwriting for the Living Paintings Trust (art for the blind and partially-sighted), Woodgate is an expert in this field. He will examine Frink's work in the context of great British and European predecessors such as Henry Moore, Auguste Rodin and Alberto Giacometti, as well as her contemporaries including Reg Butler, Jean Fautrier and Germaine Richier.

The Elisabeth Frink lecture has been made possible thanks to the support of Wrekin Decorative and Fine Arts Society (Wrekin DFAS), a charity dedicated to promoting interest and understanding in the arts for all ages. Earlier this year, Wrekin DFAS working in partnership with the museum's Access and Learning team, embarked on a project to engage younger visitors with more unusual artefacts from the museum's collection. Students studying art GCSE visited the museum and took part in a sculpture workshop, run by Wolverhampton Art Gallery which involved using an easy to mould wax and bronze paint to experiment with their own ideas, inspired by Frink's work.

RAF Museum Cosford Education Assistant Lisa Fawcett said:

"We are fortunate that, with the support of Wrekin DFAS, we are able to offer our visitors the chance to hear the Tate lecturer and guide Frank Woodgate in Shropshire and we hope that as many people as possible take up this unique opportunity."

For the duration of this project, two Elisabeth Frink sculptures from the museum's collection have been displayed together for the very first time. The larger of the two bronze sculptures is normally held in storage at the RAF Museum's London site and was brought to Cosford especially for this project. The

two winged figures, sculptured during the 1960s, both resemble a man's legs morphing into a bird, representative of her work during that period. The sculptures will remain on display in the Museum's Visitor Centre until Autumn 2016 and are free for visitors to view.

For further information or to book your FREE place at the talk being held on Monday 4 July at 2.00pm in the museum's lecture theatre, visit www.rafmuseum.org/cosford. The museum is open daily from 10am and entry to the museum is FREE of charge.

Ends...

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- Royal Air Force Museum Cosford, Shifnal, Shropshire, TF11 8UP
- Open daily from 10am
- Admission to the Royal Air Force Museum is free of charge.
- RAF Museum Cosford images & logo available at:
<http://www.rafmuseum.org.uk/research/media-vault.aspx>
- For further information and all media enquiries please contact Michelle Morgans on 01902 376212 or email michelle.morgans@rafmuseum.org
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