



Cass Sculpture
Foundation



Bill Woodrow

Regardless of History, 2000

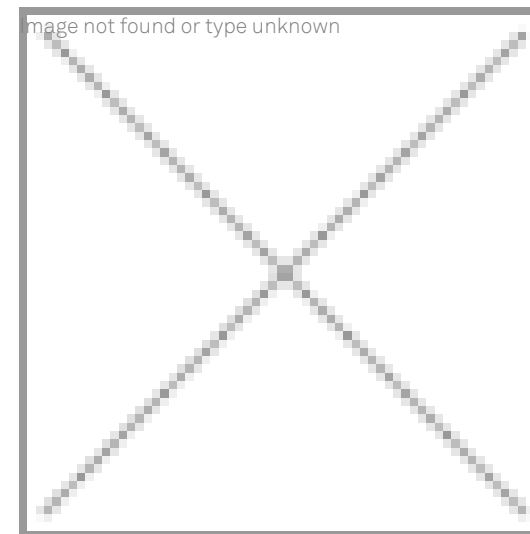
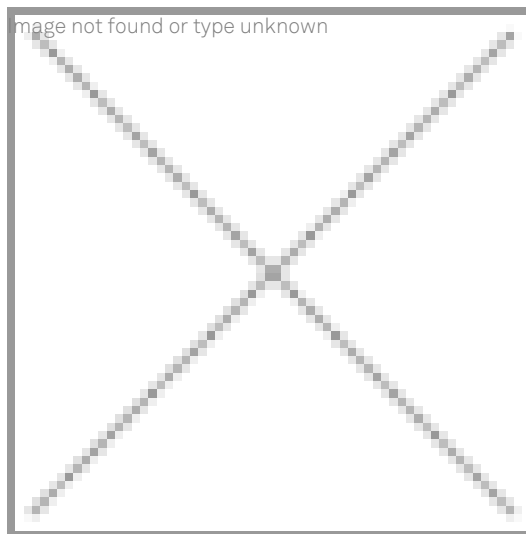
Bronze

920W x 500H x 220D cm

Available for sale



Bill Woodrow's sculpture *Regardless of History* was originally installed on the Fourth Plinth in Trafalgar Square in 2000. It is one in a series of sculptures in which Woodrow used the book as a primary motif. When invited to make a proposal for The Fourth Plinth Woodrow reconsidered a previous maquette for a sculpture he had wanted to realise on a monumental scale—a book and tree with a severed head on the ground. The head in *Regardless of History* is derived from a fallen statue and placed on the plinth in order to mimic traditional methods of display. The head is topped by a book and a tree, both symbolic of the accumulation of growth and knowledge. This composition is bound together by the tree's roots, here providing a narrative on the cyclical quality of time. Full of symbolism, the supremacy of nature over civilisation is shown in *Regardless of History* as it may be observed in the jungles of South America or Thailand, where deserted temples have been reclaimed by nature. Woodrow here emphasises humanity's fragility in the face of nature, suggesting that we should remain respectful of nature's power and our place in a natural order and most significantly learn from our history, a common theme in Woodrow's practice.





Bill Woodrow's early work was made from materials found in dumps, used car lots and scrap yards, partially embedded in plaster and appearing as if they had been excavated. He went on to use large consumer goods, such as refrigerators and cars, cutting the sheet metal and allowing the original structure to remain identifiable, with the cut out attached to the original form. His later compositional works sought to arrange unrelated objects together, altering them in the process and creating new suggestions of meaning. Woodrow achieves this by disassembling familiar, everyday objects in order to consequently reassemble them into new compositional contexts often to surrealistic and uncanny effect.

Bill Woodrow was born near Henley, Oxfordshire in 1948. He studied at Winchester College of Art in 1968, CSM, London in 1971 and Chelsea School of Art from 1972. Bill Woodrow currently divides his time between London and Hampshire. A selection of past and forthcoming solo exhibitions includes: New Art Centre, Roche Court, Salisbury, Wiltshire (2016); WHEREVER I LAY MY HAT - SCULPTURES AND DRAWINGS; Sabine Wachters Fine Arts, Knokke, Belgium (2015); ON THE ROCKS. AGAIN, shared sculptures with Richard Deacon; New Art Centre Sculpture Park and Gallery, Roche Court, Salisbury, Wiltshire (2014); BILL WOODROW RA, Royal Academy of Arts, London (2013); LEAD ASTRAY with Richard Deacon, Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Wakefield; New Art Centre Sculpture Park and Gallery, Roche Court, Salisbury, Wiltshire (2004); REGARDLESS OF HISTORY; Fourth Plinth, Trafalgar Square, London; MONOGRAPHIC ROOM; Tate Modern, London (2000); SITTING ON HISTORY; British Library, London (1998); FOOLS' GOLD; Duveen Galleries, Tate Gallery, London; Camden Arts Centre, London; IN AWE OF THE PAWNBROKER, Oriel, Cardiff; Chisenhale Gallery, London (1993); BILL WOODROW: SCULPTURE (1993); BILL WOODROW: SCULPTURE; XXI Bienal de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil; CHRISTMAS TREE, Tate Gallery, London (1988); The Whitechapel Art Gallery (1972). Woodrow was one of the finalists for the Turner Prize in 1986. In 2000, his work, 'Regardless of History' was commissioned for the Fourth Plinth, Trafalgar Square, London.

To make an enquiry please call the office on; 01243538449 or alternatively, email; sales@sculpture.org.uk