



Henry Moore: Irina 1968

John Hedgecoe

Henry and Irina Moore

John Hedgecoe

Not on display

Title/Description: Henry and Irina Moore

Artist/Maker: John Hedgecoe

Born: 1968

Object Type: Photograph

Materials: Photograph

Measurements: 515 x 415mm (framed)

Accession Number: 50279

Production Place: Britain, England, Europe

Credit Line: Donated by the Hedgecoe family

Henry and Irina Moore peer out of a doorframe directly at the camera. The photographer is their close friend John Hedgecoe, who had spent most weekends with them since they first met in 1956. Henry Moore was known to be more gregarious than his wife, and Hedgecoe seems to have captured their characteristics. The closeness between photographer and sitters is suggested through their animated expressions.

In total, Hedgecoe took around 6,000 photographs of sculptor Henry Moore. [1] In some of his photography manuals Hedgecoe used his images of the sculptor as an example of how to take a prolonged portrait of a single subject. [2] As Hedgecoe explained, with photography 'you capture forever a frozen instant of time. But how much more meaningful those images can be is made plain when you see a progression of pictures of the same person taken over a long period of time.' [3] Hedgecoe's photographs of Moore formed the basis of four books, which incorporated Hedgecoe's photographs alongside Moore's words. Although he produced around 30 photography manuals, these were Hedgecoe's only books on a single subject.

Tania Moore, January 2021

[1] As estimated by Charlotte Bullions and Emily Unthank at the Henry Moore Foundation, 2020.

[2] John Hedgecoe, *Photographing People* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1980), p.56.

[3] Ibid.

Further Reading

John Hedgecoe and Henry Moore, *Henry Spencer Moore* (Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 1968)

John Hedgecoe and Henry Moore, *Henry Moore: Energy in Space* (Munich: Bruckmann, 1973)

John Hedgecoe and Henry Moore, *Henry Moore: My Ideas, Inspiration and Life as an Artist* (London: Ebury Press, 1986)

John Hedgecoe, *A Monumental Vision: The Sculpture of Henry Moore* (London: Collins & Brown, 1998)

Tania Moore, 'Portrait of a Friendship: John Hedgecoe's Henry Moore' in *Henry Moore: Friendships and Legacies* (Norwich: Sainsbury Centre, 2020)
