

Press Release | 15 September 2021

***Goodwood Steps* by Anthony Caro is the latest addition to the Sainsbury Centre Sculpture Park**



Goodwood Steps, 1996, Anthony Caro. Photo: Andy Crouch © Barford Sculptures

***Goodwood Steps* by Anthony Caro**

From 4 October 2021 in the Sculpture Park

Press view: Monday 4 October, 12 – 2pm with light lunch.

High-resolution image available for download: <https://bit.ly/3bAUqzW>

The Sainsbury Centre is delighted to welcome a new addition to their Sculpture Park, located on the campus of the University of East Anglia in Norwich. *Goodwood Steps* (1996) by Anthony Caro is monumental, spanning over 35 metres in length and reaching over 3 metres in height. Occupying the space between art and architecture, the work is fabricated in steel and consists of seven stepped ziggurat sections, joined by floor plates that form sweeping arcs. The surface of the sculpture has oxidised to a rich, earthy iron colour, a finish familiar to many other works by Caro, including *Table Sculpture CCCLXXI* (1977) in the Sainsbury Centre's collection.

One of Caro's most significant works, *Goodwood Steps* was shown in its first iteration in 1994 at Dean Clough Mill, Halifax. In 1996, Caro re-imagined the ziggurat forms as a new freestanding sculpture. This work was first installed at the Cass Foundation at Goodwood, from where its title originates. Later installations include Navy Pier in Chicago, USA in 1998 and Chatsworth House, Derbyshire in 2012.

Lauded as the greatest British sculptor of his generation, Anthony Caro (1924-2013) is internationally recognised as one of the masters of modern sculpture, and is best known for his large-scale metal assemblages made from found industrial objects. Having studied at the Royal Academy School in the early 1950's, Caro began his career working as a studio assistant to Henry Moore. He went on to redefine the concept of sculpture in terms of materials, form and scale and by taking sculpture off the plinth.

He came to public attention in 1963 with a show at the Whitechapel Art Gallery in London, where he exhibited large, brightly painted, abstract sculptures placed directly on the ground, which changed the way that spectators interact with his work. This was a radical departure and influenced a generation, most notably in Britain with the so-called New Generation sculptors such as Phillip King. Caro's role as a teacher at St Martin's School of Art in London (1953 -1981) was instrumental in the dissemination of his ideas and thoughts about the possibilities of sculpture. His innovative work and teaching would help to foster the growing importance of three-dimensional art, and what became known as sculpture in the expanded field.

Positioned in proximity to Denys Lasdun's famous ziggurats, *Goodwood Steps* creates a powerful dialogue with the striking modernist campus. Lasdun saw the ziggurat form as the perfect architectural solution to working in the softly undulating landscape of East Anglia, where his student accommodation blocks sit comfortably in the sloping river valley. Likewise, Caro found the 'stepped' form reduced the potential dominance of working at scale and complemented, rather than overpowered its environment.

Before he died, Caro expressed a desire for the work to be shown on the campus. Caro had personal links to Norwich, his family had originated from the city and in the early 1970s he received an honorary doctorate from the University of East Anglia.

Goodwood Steps will be on display at the Sainsbury Centre Sculpture Park from 4 October 2021 and will remain on loan for three years. The Sculpture Park, which is fast becoming one of the most important sculpture parks in the country, includes works by other notable artists including Henry Moore, Elisabeth Frink, Antony Gormley, Liliane Lijn, Lynn Chadwick, Phillip King, John Davies and Laurence Edwards.

Supported by John Talbot and public funding from Arts Council England.

Entry to the Sculpture Park is free and un-ticketed, all ages and dog walkers are welcome. Limited free parking available. For more information about the Sculpture Park and to download free trail maps for adults and families, visit: sainsburycentre.ac.uk/sculpture-park/

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Notes to Editors

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Exhibition Information

Goodwood Steps, Anthony Caro

From 4 October 2021

FREE to visit in the Sculpture Park during daylight hours, no ticket needed

Two cafes and toilets are available inside the Sainsbury Centre building

Visit sainsburycentre.ac.uk or call 01603 593199 (Monday–Friday, 9am–5pm)

About Anthony Caro

Anthony Caro (1924 - 2013) played a pivotal role in the development of twentieth century sculpture. Caro often worked in steel, but also in a diverse range of other materials, including bronze, silver, lead, stoneware, wood and paper.

Major exhibitions include retrospectives at the Museum of Modern Art, New York (1975), the Trajan Markets, Rome (1992), the Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo (1995), Tate Britain, London (2005), three museums in Pas-de-Calais, France (2008), and *Caro in Yorkshire* at Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Hepworth, Wakefield and the Henry Moore Institute, Leeds (2015).

anthonycaro.org

About the Sainsbury Centre

The Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts is one of the most important public university art galleries in Britain. It was founded in 1973 at the University of East Anglia (UEA) with the support of one of the nation's great philanthropic families, Sir Robert and Lady Sainsbury, who donated their extraordinary art collection which includes works dating from prehistory to the late 20th century from across the globe. A radical new building by Norman Foster was designed to house the collection and was his first public work.

The Sainsbury Centre holds one of the most impressive art collections outside of the national institutions. It includes a significant number of works by modern masters of European art such as Pablo Picasso, Edgar Degas, Elisabeth Frink, Alberto Giacometti, Henry Moore, Sonia Delaunay, Tess Jaray, Francis Bacon, Cornelia Parker, Jean Arp, Mary Martin, Rachel Kneebone and Amedeo Modigliani. There are major holdings from Oceania, Africa, the Americas, Asia, the ancient Mediterranean cultures of Egypt, Greece and Rome, as well as Medieval Europe. Alongside these permanent collections, it hosts a range of exhibitions in the largest suite of temporary exhibitions galleries in Eastern England.

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