

ROBERT BARLEY
Sculptor, art dealer, historian and classicist



Exhibition of sculptures
Autumn Decorative Fair, 2-7 October 2007

London, 7 May 2007: The Autumn Decorative Antiques & Textiles Fair, 2-7 October 2007, will host a selling exhibition of intriguing sculptures by Robert Barley, in what will be his first ever solo show as an artist.

Robert has been an exhibitor at the Decorative and many other leading Fairs such as Olympia for over 25 years, but his pastime has long been creating sculptures using found objects and precious artefacts.

He has always loved the idiosyncratic collectors and *Kunstkammers* of old, and after a youthful visit to the Pitti Palace in Florence he was inspired to create his own pieces using small precious and curious objects collected over the years, which he combines with found objects from beachcombing the world. (*For further background on Robert Barley see Notes over.*)

The Decorative Antiques & Textiles Fair, which runs three times a year at The Marquee in Battersea Park, London SW11, has always provided visitors with the unusual and the eclectic, from the antique to the contemporary, so Robert Barley's sculptures will be an exciting addition to that mix.

The Autumn event in October 2007 will be larger and more broad-ranging in its offering of stock than ever before, as several new exhibitors will be joining the Fair. Over 125 dealers from the UK and Europe will attend. Visitors will find furniture, objects and art for the home with great decorative appeal. Some 20 or so dealers regularly exhibiting at the Fair specialise in 20th century design, so lovers of modernism are very well-catered for too.

Further information about the October event will be issued soon.

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Notes to Editors

Event: **The Autumn Decorative Antiques & Textiles Fair**
Date: Tuesday 2nd – Sunday 7th October 2007
Venue: The Marquee, Battersea Park, London SW11
Entry: £8.00 including catalogue (for free return visits)
Transport: Sloane Square Tube – a complimentary shuttle service runs from the Sloane Square Hotel to the Marquee every 10-15 minutes during opening hours.
Open: Tuesday 12pm – 8pm
Wednesday & Thursday 11am – 8pm
Friday & Saturday 11am – 7pm
Sunday 11am – 6pm
Organisers: Harvey (Management Services) Ltd
Enquiries: +44 (0)20 7624 5173
Website: www.decorativefair.com

Robert Barley: Notes

The sympathetic reaction of his peers encouraged Robert greatly, and his 'hobby' started to be a passion. His small output was rapidly snapped up and gradually his pieces have found their way in to many major private collections around the world.

When Robert works on his sculptures, he finds he writes creatively at the same time, the two complementing each other. Robert lists some of his hero writers as Edith Sitwell, Denton Welch, JRR Tolkein, Evelyn Waugh and EF Benson.

He has also been profoundly influenced by the Surrealists.

Subjects he finds himself returning to time and again, and which permeate all his work, are Memento Mori, The Crucifixion, flowers and birds.

Robert Barley's work will be displayed in the Foyer of the Autumn Decorative Fair.

All sculptures will be for sale. A selection is shown below. (All are available as hi-res jpegs.)

