

# THE FOLLIES OF YOUTH

THE  
CALDER

**2 APRIL – 31 MAY 2015,  
THE CALDER**

COMMISSIONED BY PAVILION,  
LEEDS & SUPPORTED BY  
THE HEPWORTH WAKEFIELD

Exhibition supported by Arts Council England,  
Heritage Lottery Fund, Safer Communities Fund.

In an attempt to recover Capability Brown's lost designs, three artists – Giles Bailey, Amelia Crouch and Ruth Lyons – have produced work in response to three landscapes in West Yorkshire – Stapleton, Whitley Beaumont and Byram. For information and special events visit [hepworthwakefield.org/pavilion](http://hepworthwakefield.org/pavilion)

**The Follies of Youth**  
**The Calder, The Hepworth, Wakefield**  
**2 April–31 May 2015**

The Follies of Youth was an exhibition of historical research and contemporary art commissioning by visual arts organisation Pavilion hosted by The Hepworth Wakefield. Three artists – Giles Bailey (based in London), Amelia Crouch (Bradford), Ruth Lyons (Cork) – produced work in response to three landscapes in West Yorkshire – Stapleton, Whitley Beaumont and Byram – listed in the account book of Lancelot 'Capability' Brown (1716–1783). Supported by a collective of producers, nicknamed 'the follies', the artists undertook field trips to the ruinous and industrial landscapes. In an attempt to recover Brown's lost designs, the artists engaged the follies in rehearsing certain eighteenth century practices: of Arcadian poetic fantasy, walking etiquette and lime kilning.

Exhibition Images



Amelia Crouch, **Nor stamp hard on the ground neither**, digital video, (2015)



Top: (left) Amelia Crouch, **Nor stamp hard on the ground neither** and (right) also showing mirrored structure from Ruth Lyons, **Pilot Light** (2015). Bottom: Exhibition research/information area by The Follies of Youth. All photo credits: Harry Meadley

## THE FOLLIES OF YOUTH – A PAVILION EXHIBITION

The Follies of Youth is a programme of historical research and contemporary art commissioning by Pavilion. A network of emerging artists, writers and curators, nicknamed “the follies”, has researched Capability Brown’s ‘lost’ West Yorkshire landscapes and supported the production of the new artworks by Amelia Crouch, Ruth Lyons and Giles Bailey.

THE CALDER, THE HEPWORTH WAKEFIELD  
2 APRIL – 31 MAY 2015

### MAPPING EXERCISE I

Whitley Beaumont, Huddersfield  
latitude: 53.644612° / longitude: -1.691476°  
Private land

Brown’s account book:  
*R.H. Beaumont Esqr at Whitley Beaumont in Yorkshire*  
– A Journey there in Sepr 1779 – Sent a Plan for the General  
Alterations of Whitley Beaumont May the 11-1780

Whitley Beaumont Hall, mostly Georgian with parts dating back to 1560, was demolished in 1950, but a belvedere (designed by James Paine) and temple, now in ruin, remain within the landscape. Rumour has it that a large plan, detailing the grounds, was destroyed in a bonfire after the estate office was broken into in the 1960s.

Amelia Crouch, *Nor Stamp Hard on the Ground Neither*  
Video

Amelia Crouch’s video overlays Adam Petrie’s *Rules of Good Deportment or of Good Breeding* (1720) with scenes filmed in the landscape to uncover the ‘natural’ as a cultural construct embedded in both landscape design and bodily movement. It considers whether Brown’s rejection of explicit philosophical or political symbolism was mirrored by a contemporary shift from civility (a symbolic, moral code) to etiquette (a set of rules without moral impetus).

### MAPPING EXERCISE II

Byram Park, Wakefield  
latitude: 53.729072° / longitude: -1.248005°  
Private land

Brown’s account book:  
*July 1782 – Sir John Ramsden Bart for Byram in Yorkshire*  
– A Survey of Byram by John Spyers containing 373 Acres  
– a fair & neat Drawing made of it with Proper References  
to the Contents at One Shilling P. Acre includg Mr Spyers  
Expences – A General Plan for the Alterations of the Place  
sent to Byram in Decr 1782 – A Journey to Byram myself in 1782

The Ramsden Family owned Byram Park until 1922. It was the underground dissolution of limestone and gypsum that caused the hall (designed by John Carr) to be destroyed by a sinkhole in the 1950s. Brown’s drawing and plan are missing and it is not known if his ideas were implemented.

Ruth Lyons, *Pilot Light*  
Structure and photograph

Ruth Lyons’ *Pilot Light* reflects on the geology of Byram Park, historically surrounded by limestone quarries and kilns. Limestone is heated with oxy-acetylene to produce a light that is projected across the landscape using a large mirror. This demonstrates Thomas Drummond’s use of limelight and a heliostat to triangulate the land for the production for the first Ordnance Survey map of Ireland. A response *Pilot Light* projection will take place in Dowth Henge, a megalithic site, in Co. Meath, Ireland.

### MAPPING EXERCISE III

Stapleton Park, Wakefield  
latitude: 53.667095° / longitude: -1.233054°  
Private land

Brown’s account book:  
*1782 The Right Honorable the Lord Stourton – for Stourton House in Yorkshire – Mr Spyers Expences to & from Stourton House in Yorkshire, from Octr the 31st to Decr the 4-1782*  
– there in October 1782 myself

In 1789 Edward Lascelles sold Stapleton Park to his tenant, Lord Charles Philip Stourton, who is said “to have considerably enlarged the Park” with the addition of “one hundred thousand trees”. In 1937, the hall (also designed by Carr) was bought by West Riding Mental Hospital Board, but deemed unfit for use and demolished.



### MAPPING EXERCISE III (CONT.)

Giles Bailey & The Follies of Youth, *Out of a Morass*  
Installation with video

Starting from an interest in the painterly influences that shaped Brown's vision, *Out of a Morass* experiments with alternative readings of his legacy and the influence of culture on our visions of landscape. It charts Arcadian vistas echoing across history, from Nicolas Poussin's *Landscape with a Man Killed by a Snake* (1648) to the graphic design of pesto jars. A series of experimental research exercises weave together these speculative results to construct an image of the "lost" landscape.

### RESEARCH SPACE

#### Video

Giles Bailey interviews Gustav Metzger about his experience working as a joiner on the Brown designed Harewood Estate in the 1940s.

#### Drawing

Ellen Burroughs' interpretation of Brown's plan for Temple Newsam. The original is located in the West Yorkshire Archive Service.

#### Wall display

Extracts from the *New Arcadian Journal*, edited by Patrick Eyres, which is preparing a publication to mark the tercentenary of Brown's birth in 2016.

#### Archive boxes

Please look through our project research files.

LOTTERY FUNDED  
The Calder  
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND  
Culture  
The Elephant Trust  
NEW ARCADIAN PRESS  
The Follies of Youth is a Pavilion exhibition presented in partnership with The Hepworth Wakefield.  
layout & typography: Kaia Lazzarini

### Publicity Postcard:



### THE FOLLIES OF YOUTH – A PAVILION EXHIBITION

THE CALDER, THE HEPWORTH WAKEFIELD  
GALLERY WALK, WAKEFIELD, WEST YORKSHIRE WF1 5AW

The Follies of Youth is a programme of historical research and contemporary art commissioning by Pavilion. Three artists – Giles Bailey, Amelia Crouch and Ruth Lyons – have produced work in response to three landscapes in West Yorkshire – Stapleton, Whitley Beaumont and Byram – listed in the account book of Lancelot "Capability" Brown (1716–83). Supported by a collective of producers, nicknamed "the follies," the artists have undertaken field trips to the ruinous and industrial landscapes. In an attempt to recover Brown's lost designs, the artists have engaged the follies in rehearsing certain eighteenth century practices of Arcadian poetic fantasy, walking etiquette and lime kilning. The results of the exercises will be exhibited at The Calder, a former textile mill on the banks of the River Calder.

#### OPEN

2 April – 31 May 2015  
Tuesday – Sunday, 12–4.30pm  
Closed Mondays except for bank holidays  
and during local school holidays.

A programme of critical events  
accompanies the exhibition.  
For more information and to book:  
[pavilion.org.uk](http://pavilion.org.uk)  
[hepworthwakefield.org](http://hepworthwakefield.org)

#### LATE NIGHT

16 April, 5–9pm  
From 5–6pm the artists will be  
in conversation with Patrick Eyres.

LOTTERY FUNDED  
The Calder  
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND  
Culture  
The Elephant Trust  
NEW ARCADIAN PRESS  
Pavilion Commissioning Fund

image: Doug Bowen, Lime Kiln at The Good Hatchery, 2014  
design: Kaia Lazzarini

## Press / Publications

Himfield, D. (2015), 'Lepton estate is the subject of a bizarre film tribute to legendary landscaper Capability Brown' *Huddersfield Examiner*, 24 April 2015.

Stauvers, L. (2016), 'The Follies of Youth: Re-imagining Brown's Lost Landscapes,' in Eyres P. (ed.), *Yorkshire Capabilities: New Arcadian Journal*. no. 75/76, June 2016, pp. 109-139.