



This is a Leeds Arts University Repository copy of:

Mum said you should always brush your hair

Author: Sheila Gaffney

Output type: Artefact

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Citation: Gaffney, S. (2023). *Mum said you should always brush your hair*. [Artefact]

Abstract

The output is bronze sculpture created by Gaffney, titled 'Mum said you should always brush your hair', measuring 29 x 17 x 13 cm.

Research process: Methods used are transcription; life modelling where it is the definition of life that is critical, combining material process with psychological and social behaviour to perform modelling-modelling; casting as part of the research project to construct a new definition of sculptural practice as Embodied Dreaming.

Research insights: The sculpture is one of a series of works made in response to the question 'how can sculpture convey what it is like to inhabit a woman's body as the researcher knows it?' Which is differently positioned from the masculine contributions to the history of figuration that constitute the European and British sculptural canon from Rodin to the present day.

Dissemination: The output was included in 'If Not Now, When? Generations of Women in Sculpture in Britain, 1960 – 2022', an exhibition that presents the outcomes of a significant research project, 'Hepworth's Progeny' hosted by The Hepworth Wakefield (2021 – 23) and in collaboration with art historian Griselda Pollock and sculptor Lorna Green. The work was exhibited at The Hepworth Wakefield (31 March – 15 October 2023) and Saatchi Gallery London (15 November 2023 – 22 January 2024), it was reviewed for the Guardian Online by Hannah Clugston (3 April 2023).

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Art and design

Hannah Clugston

🐦 @HannahClugston

Mon 3 Apr 2023 13.02 BST



Review

If Not Now, When? review - a timely tour through feminist sculpture



📷 Keeping an eye on yourself ... Mum said you should always brush your hair by Sheila Gaffney. Photograph: Adam Vaughan/EPA

The Hepworth Wakefield

From flattened coffee pots to a steel wedding dress, embroidery to a rotting dessert trolley, a kaleidoscopic range of work by women sculptors is part of a vital generational study

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THE HEPWORTH WAKEFIELD



Helen Chadwick, *In the Kitchen (Washing Machine)*, 1977. Courtesy of Richard Soltoun Gallery, London / Rome. © The Estate of Helen Chadwick

IF NOT NOW, WHEN?

GENERATIONS OF WOMEN IN SCULPTURE IN BRITAIN, 1960 – 2022

Thursday 30 March 2023

Private View 6 – 8pm Speeches 6.30pm

The Director and Trustees invite you to a private view and drinks reception to celebrate the opening of our new exhibition.

Supported by Griselda Pollock



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Supported using public funding by
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