

WADDINGTON CUSTOT

HENRY MOORE

BIOGRAPHY

- 1898 Born 30 July, Castleford, Yorkshire
- 1902–10 Attends elementary school in Castleford, wins scholarship to Castleford Secondary School where help and encouragement is received from art teacher, Alice Gostick
- 1915–6 Receives Cambridge Leaving Certificate, becomes a student teacher; teaches at former elementary school in Temple Street, Castleford
- 1917 Travels to London to enlist in Fifteenth Civil Service Rifles, London Regiment; visits British Museum for first time; sent to France, but returns to England after being gassed during battle of Cambrai
- 1918 Spends two months in hospital in Cardiff, followed by army fitness course and promotion to lance corporal; returns to active service, reaching France just before Armistice
- 1919–20 Returns to teaching in Castleford, attends pottery classes
- Receives ex-servicemen's education grant to begin studies at Leeds School of Art, becoming first student of new sculpture department; Barbara Hepworth is fellow student
- 1921 Moves to London with scholarship to study at Royal College of Art; taught by Leon Underwood, a collector of African art and promotor of direct carving; frequents British Museum and visits sculptor Jacob Epstein, who owns collection of Egyptian and tribal art; carves first 'Mother and Child'
- 1923 Travels to Paris for first time; studies Auguste Pellerin's Cézanne paintings; visits Musée du Louvre, Palais de Trocadéro, and Musée Guimet
- 1924 First carvings exhibited in group show at Redfern Gallery, London
- Accepts appointment as part-time instructor at Royal College of Art Sculpture School; awarded Royal College of Art travelling scholarship and studies Renaissance art during six months spent touring Italy the following year
- 1926 Participates in group exhibition at St George's Gallery, London
- 1927 Exhibits in group show at Beaux-Arts Gallery, London
- 1928 First solo exhibition held at Warren Gallery, London; works purchased by Epstein and Augustus John
- First public commission, relief sculpture 'West Wind', for new London Underground headquarters, above St. James's Park Underground Station

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- 1929 Completes Hornton stone 'Reclining Figure', inspired by Toltec carving of rain spirit Chacmool

Marries Irina Radetsky, a Russian painting student at Royal College of Art; the couple move to Hampstead, where friends include Barbara Hepworth, Ben Nicholson, Naum Gabo, and critic Herbert Read
- 1930 Joins the avant-garde Seven and Five Society; work exhibited at British Pavilion, XVII Venice Biennale
- 1931 Resigns from teaching position at Royal College of Art and begins at Chelsea School of Art, London; appointed head of new sculpture department the following year

Second solo exhibition held at Leicester Galleries, London, results in first foreign sale to Museum für Kunst und Gewerbe, Hamburg (additional exhibitions at Leicester Galleries in 1933, 1936 and 1939)

Purchases cottage in Barfreton, Kent, with room to carve outdoors
- 1932 Purchases first camera
- 1933 Becomes member of Paul Nash's new avant-garde group Unit One; the group's only exhibition is held at Mayor Gallery, London, the following year
- 1934 First monograph *Henry Moore, Sculptor* by Herbert Read, published by A. Zwemmer, London

Holidays in Spain and France; visits prehistoric caves at Altamira, Les Eyzies, Font de Gaume, and the battlefield of Cambrai
- 1935 Begins to submit work to intense photographic examination and begins working with small maquettes; Bernard Meadows employed as assistant
- 1936 Serves on organising committee and participates in first *International Surrealist Exhibition*, New Burlington Galleries, London; one of fifteen signatories on English Surrealist group's manifesto against non intervention in Spanish Civil War

'Two Forms' loaned to *Cubism and Abstract Art*, Museum of Modern Art, New York; subsequently purchased, becoming first Moore sculpture in an American public collection
- 1937 Visits Picasso's studio in Paris where 'Guernica' is in progress; illustrates cover for issue of *Contemporary Poetry and Prose* dedicated to Republican efforts in Spain
- 1938 Participates in *International Exhibition of Abstract Art*, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam; includes works by Constantin Brancusi, Paul Klee, and Piet Mondrian

Produces lead figurines, preferring modelling and casting to direct carving

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- 1939 Resigns from teaching position at Chelsea School of Art as school relocates to Northampton due to outbreak of Second World War; takes over Hepworth's former Hampstead studio
- First elmwood 'Reclining Figure' sold to Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York; green Hornton stone 'Recumbent Figure' presented to Tate Gallery, London
- 1940 Begins *Shelter Drawings*, depicting those taking refuge in the London Underground during the Blitz; appointed Official War Artist by National Gallery director, Sir Kenneth Clark
- Hampstead studio damaged in bombing raid; moves to 'Hoglands', a farmhouse in the hamlet of Perry Green, near Much Hadham, Hertfordshire, where he remains for the rest of his life
- 1941 First retrospective exhibition at Temple Newsam House, Leeds, with Graham Sutherland and John Piper
- Appointed Trustee of Tate Gallery, London, until 1956
- Returns to Castleford, Yorkshire, to sketch coalminers at Wheldale Colliery
- 1942 Appointed to Art Panel of Council for Encouragement of Music and the Arts (CEMA), later Arts Council of Great Britain
- 1943 First solo exhibition abroad at Buchholz Gallery, New York; includes watercolours and drawings
- Monograph by Geoffrey Grigson published by Penguin Books, part of *Penguin Modern Painters* series
- 1944 Installs Hornton stone 'Madonna and Child', commissioned by Canon Walter Hussey for St. Matthew's Church, Northampton
- First of six volumes of catalogue raisonné, documenting complete sculpture, *Henry Moore: Sculpture and Drawings 1921–1948*, edited by David Sylvester with an introduction by Herbert Read, published by Percy Lund, Humphries & Company and A. Zwemmer, London
- 1945 First postwar visit to Paris for British Council group exhibition, *Quelques contemporains anglais*, where he meets Constantin Brancusi
- Awarded Honorary Doctorate from University of Leeds, the first of many national and international awards
- 1946 Installation of 'Memorial Figure' at Dartington Hall, Devon
- Birth of daughter, Mary
- First visit to United States for major retrospective at Museum of Modern Art, New York; exhibition tours to Art Institute of Chicago and San Francisco Museum of Art; meets Jackson Pollock, Georgia O'Keeffe, Mark Tobey, and other notable American artists

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- 1947 Appointed member of Royal Fine Arts Commission (1947–52); solo exhibition of sculpture and drawings, organised by British Council, tours Australia from Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 1948 Committee member of first London County Council open-air exhibition of sculpture held at Battersea Park, London; ‘Three Standing Figures’ exhibited
- Visits Venice for solo exhibition at British Pavilion, XXIV Biennale; wins International Prize for Sculpture
- 1949 ‘Madonna and Child’ installed at St Peter’s, Claydon, Suffolk; *Henry Moore: Sculpture and Drawings 1923–48*, opens at Wakefield City Art Gallery and then Manchester City Art Gallery; tours to Brussels, Paris, Amsterdam, Hamburg, Dusseldorf, Bern, and Athens; ‘Family Group’ installed at Barclay School, Stevenage
- 1950 Fernand Léger visits studio
- 1951 Travels to Greece, for first and only time, on occasion of British Council exhibition at Zappeion Gallery, Athens; visits Mycenae, Corinth, Delphi, Olympia and the Acropolis
- Retrospective exhibition at Tate Gallery, London, on occasion of Festival of Britain; ‘Reclining Figure: Festival’ exhibited at main entrance to South Bank Festival site
- 1953 Begins elmwood carving ‘Upright Internal/External Forms’, takes over two years to complete; completes ‘Draped Reclining Figure’ and ‘Time-Life Screen’, for Time-Life Building, London
- Wins International Sculpture Prize at second São Paulo Biennial; travels to Brazil and Mexico
- 1954 Designs red brick relief for Bouwcentrum, Rotterdam; travels to Italy, Germany and The Netherlands
- 1955 Travels to Yugoslavia, on occasion of solo exhibition organised by British Council which tours worldwide until 1959
- Appointed member of Order of the Companions of Honour (having previously declined a knighthood), and trustee of National Gallery, London until 1974
Foreign Honorary Member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences
- Work included at first Documenta, Kassel, Germany
- 1956 Completion of ‘Family Group’ for Harlow Arts Trust
- 1957 Begins major commission for UNESCO; marble ‘Reclining Figure’ installed outside UNESCO headquarters, Paris, the following year; exhibits at Galerie Berggruen, Paris; awarded prize at Carnegie International, Pittsburgh

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- 1958 Travels to Auschwitz, Poland, as chairman of Auschwitz Memorial Committee, and to United States; awarded Honorary Doctor of Arts, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts
- Establishes relationship with Noack Foundry, Berlin, to produce large bronzes
- Monograph by J.P. Hodin, part of *Modern Sculptors* series, published by A. Zwemmer, London
- 1959 British Council solo exhibition tours to Warsaw, Krakow, Poznan; awarded Gold Medal by Society of Friends of Art, Krakow; International Sculpture Prize, 5th Biennale, Tokyo
- Honorary Doctor of Laws, University of Cambridge
- 1960 Comprehensive British Council solo exhibition tours to Hamburg, Essen, Zurich, Munich, Rome, Paris, Amsterdam, Berlin, Vienna, and Copenhagen
- Will Grohmann's *The Art of Henry Moore* published by Thames and Hudson, London
- Henry Moore: an exhibition of sculpture from 1950–1960*, Whitechapel Art Gallery, London
- 1961 Meets the photographer Errol Jackson who works for him there after his death; photographs studio, works in progress and completed sculptures, these photographic archive is held at Henry Moore Foundation, Leeds
- Member of Akademie der Künste, Berlin; Honorary Doctor of Literature, University of Oxford; Member of American Academy of Arts and Letters
- Solo exhibition of works from collection of Sir Kenneth Clark, Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Edinburgh
- 1962 Arts Council solo exhibition tours to Cambridge, York, Nottingham, and Aldeburgh
- 1963 Invested with insignia of Member of the Order of Merit (Civil Division) by H.M. The Queen and awarded Antonio Feltrinelli Prize for Sculpture, Italy
- Solo exhibition of sculptures and drawings at Wakefield City Art Gallery
- 1964 British Council exhibition, *Henry Moore Esculturas y Dibujos 1928–1962*, tours to Mexico City, Caracas, Rio de Janeiro, and Buenos Aires
- Awarded Fine Arts Medal by American Institute of Architects
- 1965 Purchases summer house in Italy at Forte dei Marmi, near Carrara marble quarries
- Visits New York for installation of two-piece 'Reclining Figure' at Lincoln Center
- 1966 Travels to Canada for installation of 'Three Way Piece No.2: Archer', Nathan Phillips Square, Toronto

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Publication of *Henry Moore on Sculpture*, Macdonald & Co., London; compilation of articles and other statements on sculpture

Elected Fellow of British Academy, London and Honorary Doctor of Arts, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut

- 1967 Visits United States for unveiling of 'Nuclear Energy' at University of Chicago
- Participates in *Homage to Rodin*, organised by Galerie Lucie Weil, Paris; completes 'Sundial', for Times Building, London
- 1968 Receives Einstein Prize in New York and Honorary Doctor of Laws, University of Toronto
- Major retrospective at Tate Gallery, London, on occasion of seventieth birthday; carvings, bronzes and drawings selected by David Sylvester; majority of photographs in exhibition catalogue are taken by Moore
- Henry Moore* published by Nelson, London; edited and photography by John Hedgecoe
- 1969 Large version of 'The Arch' installed outside Bartholomew County Public Library, Columbus, Indiana
- Honorary Member, Vienna Secession
- 1970 *Henry Moore: Sculpture and Drawings 1921–1969* by Robert Melville, published by Thames and Hudson, London
- Visits New York for solo exhibition at M. Knoedler and Marlborough Gallery
- 1971 Visits Toronto to discuss establishment of Henry Moore Sculpture Centre at Art Gallery of Ontario
- 1972 Major retrospective at Forte di Belvedere, Florence; 168 sculptures and 121 drawings exhibited, as well as graphics and sketchbooks; awarded Cavaliere di Gran Croce dell'Ordine al Merito della Repubblica Italiana
- Returns to hometown of Castleford to unveil 'Draped Reclining Figure'
- 1973 Awarded Commandeur de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres, Paris
- Solo exhibition at Los Angeles County Museum
- 1974 Gifts over two hundred sculptures, drawings and a complete collection of graphics to Henry Moore Sculpture Centre, Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto; visits Toronto for installation and opening
- Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, Columbia University, New York and Honorary Member, Royal Scottish Academy of Painting, Sculpture and Architecture, Edinburgh

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- 1975 Honorary Member, Akademie der Bildenden Künste, Vienna, and Membre de l'Institut, Académie des Beaux-Arts, Paris
- 1977 Inauguration of Henry Moore Foundation at Perry Green, Hertfordshire
- Solo exhibition at Musée de l'Orangerie and Jardin des Tuileries, Paris
- 1978 Gift of thirty-six sculptures to Tate Gallery, London; eightieth birthday exhibitions in London at Tate Gallery and Serpentine Gallery (a mostly openair exhibition in Kensington Gardens)
- 'Mirror, Knife Edge' installed at National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. and three-part 'Dallas Piece' placed outside Dallas City Hall, designed by I.M. Pei
- 1980 'The Arch' gifted to Department of Environment for permanent installation in Kensington Gardens, London
- Lays foundation stone for Henry Moore Centre for the Study of Sculpture, an extension to Leeds City Art Gallery, later Henry Moore Institute
- 1981 British Council solo exhibition tours to Madrid, Lisbon and Barcelona, the first major foreign exhibition in Spain for over forty years
- Elected full member of Académie Européenne des Science, des Arts et des Lettres, Paris, and Honorary Freeman of City of Leeds
- 1982 Henry Moore Centre for the Study of Sculpture, Leeds, opens with exhibition *Henry Moore, Early Carvings 1920–1940*
- Henry Moore Esculturas, Dibujos, Grabados, Obras 1921–1982*, Museo de Arte Moderno, Mexico City; tours to Caracas, Venezuela, the following year
- 1983 *Henry Moore: 60 Years of His Art*, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York
- 1984 Largest ever 'Reclining Figure' installed outside Overseas Chinese Banking Corporation headquarters, Singapore
- Awarded Commandeur de l'Ordre national de la Légion d'honneur by President Mitterrand at Perry Green
- 1985 *Henry Moore's Photographs of His Sculpture*, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; first known exhibition focusing on photography
- 1986 Dies 31 August, Perry Green

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SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

1918 Galerie Goltz, Munich

SELECTED PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

1928 'Das Drei-S-Werk auf der Leipziger Schaufensterschau'. *Musik-Instrumenten Zeitung* (Leipzig),
20 November: 1348