

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Exorcising the Fear

British Sculpture from the 50s & 60s

Private View: Tuesday 10th January, 6 – 8pm
11th January – 3rd March 2012

Taking the sixtieth anniversary year of the XXVI Venice Biennale of 1952 as its starting point, *Exorcising the Fear* will explore a pivotal point in the history of British sculpture. Returning to the essay by Herbert Read which left an indelible mark on the history of art with the phrase 'the geometry of fear', the exhibition aims to recapture the excitement and vitality of the moment when eight young British sculptors – **Robert Adams, Kenneth Armitage, Reg Butler, Geoffrey Clarke, Lynn Chadwick, Bernard Meadows, Eduardo Paolozzi** and **William Turnbull** - burst onto an international scene and jump started a chain reaction that brought about a crucial sculptural renaissance in the history of British sculpture, the impact of which can still be felt today.



Kenneth Armitage, *Model for Krefeld Monument*, 1956

Pangolin London are delighted to be able to show three rare works that are particularly closely related to those exhibited at the biennale (Lynn Chadwick's *Bull Frog*, Reg Butler's *Young Girl* and Geoffrey Clarke's *Man*) along with a superb collection of further works chosen for their direct relationship with those on display in Venice. The exhibition will include another rare Lynn Chadwick entitled *Beast*, which has not been seen in public since the 1950s. The work is over two metres high and made from welded iron and glass. Other highlights in the exhibition include Eduardo Paolozzi's 1957 bronze *Frog Eating a Lizard* and William Turnbull's minimal bronze with green patina on stone base, entitled *Strange Fruit*. Demonstrating the wide range of materials in the exhibition, Pangolin London will also exhibit Robert Adam's *Divided Column* made from birch wood.

A number of works from the subsequent generation of sculptors (including Elizabeth Frink, Ralph Brown, John Hoskin, Michael Ayrton and George Fullard) have also been included to highlight the immediate impact of the exhibition on artists working in the decade or so after this legendary biennale. The majority of the works at Pangolin London's *Exorcising the Fear* will be on loan to the gallery from major private collections including The Ingram Collection and the estates of Lynn Chadwick and Elisabeth Frink.

Whilst Polly Bielecka's enlightening text in the accompanying catalogue for *Exorcising the Fear* poses a number of broader questions such as whether the term the 'geometry of fear' can still be considered an appropriate description, the exhibition is primarily intended as a celebration of this seminal moment in the history of British sculpture. The exhibition will aim to show the impact this group of British artists had on the art world in Post War times and how the works that were produced during the 1950s and 1960s continue to influence and inspire artists today.

PANGOLIN LONDON



William Turnbull, *Strange Fruit*, 1959



Geoffrey Clarke, *Man*, 1952

Pangolin London is one of the city's only sculpture specialists for both Modern and Contemporary British artists. Affiliated with Europe's leading sculpture foundry, Pangolin Editions, the gallery is dedicated to exhibiting sculpture of all mediums and scale. Previous exhibitions have included works by Marcus Harvey, Polly Morgan, David Bailey, Sarah Lucas, Antony Gormley, Damien Hirst and Anthony Caro to name a few. In addition to the exhibitions at the gallery, Pangolin London also curates a changing exhibition of large scale sculpture throughout the public spaces and canal-side at Kings Place as well as holding a series of talks and lectures to coincide with these sculptural exhibitions. In the 30 year history of Pangolin Editions, the foundry has worked with many of the artists present in Pangolin London's forthcoming exhibition, *Exorcising the Fear*, including Lynn Chadwick, Kenneth Armitage, Ralph Brown and Eduardo Paolozzi. The unique relationships that formed between the foundry and these artists add another dimension to the exhibition, reinforcing the understanding and empathy the gallery has with the works on show.

A fully illustrated catalogue will accompany the exhibition.

Open Tues - Saturday 10am-6pm

www.pangolinlondon.com



Bernard Meadows, *Maquette for Flat Bird*, 1956



Lynn Chadwick, *Beast*, 1953



Robert Adams, *Divided Column*, 1952



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