



Oundle School SPORTS CENTRE



Peter and Jo Adams Aid Alexander
Oliver and Fiona Anderson
David and Rebecca
Craig and Lauren Anderson
Tony Armstrong Peter and Hilary Aslett
Rupert and Alexandra Atgough
David Baily GC Andrew and Janet Barrett
Michael Barlow and Mrs Fiona Mullins
Richard Baxwood Iain and Heather Black
Dr David Boddington Jeremy Boland
Richard Brownwood Peter Byles
Anthony Byles Jeremy Burgess
Tim Byles Michael Gaskin
Nadine and Christopher Chapman
The Chantry Centre John Clarke
Richard and Tracy Close Smith
Mark and Rebecca Croft
Charles and Joanne Cunningham Aid
Anthony and Mikala Dainton Simon Davis
David Desmetheux James Dwyer
Geoffrey Dwyer James and Rachel Egan
Richard Ellis James Ellis Chris Emmott

TOM
HISCOCKS
Sculpture



TOM HISCOCKS

Sculpture

My personal interest relates to constancy and change in nature, and to the layers of life and experience that makes each of us who we are. The same thing can be experienced by different people in different ways. So it is the suggestion of what happens inside that interests me.

I approach my work exploring the ways in which I can reflect these ideas. I have come to making most of my work in layers. I want my work to change as the angle of view and the context that they are placed in changes, in the same way that we can change according to our state of mind, and who we are with.

MY BACKGROUND

I spent the first few years of my work life with racehorses – as stable lad; assistant trainer and jockey, working in the UK; Ireland; Australia and the USA.

When I chose art as my career path, I studied initially at The Slade summer school, and then at The Cambridge Art School (BA Hons Fine Art), where I achieved a first-class degree, and was awarded the Fine Art Prize in my year group for my degree show.

My work has since been exhibited in solo and shared exhibitions across the UK and Europe and appears in private and public collections across the UK, Europe, America, Australia and Saudi Arabia.

CONTACT

You are welcome to contact me at any time to arrange a studio visit or to discuss how we might work together to create a sculpture that marks a moment or a memory – for you and / or for someone important to you.

tomhiscocks.co.uk

tom@tomhiscocks.co.uk

07969 734 132

*Front cover: TWO CIRCLES II 2021 Mirror polished steel on corten steel base (kinetic) 210 × 100 × 100 cm.
Left: Tom in his studio working on 'Drinking Horse V'.*

All photography by Deborah Husk unless otherwise stated.



Caballo Bebedor II 2021 *Copper on polished steel on stainless steel base 60 × 30 × 20 cm. Edition of 8.*



OCTAVE FLOWER *Phosphorous Bronze and brass 30 × 52 × 52 cm. Edition of 5.*

I created Octave Flower as part of my enquiry into the philosophy of the octave, and the laws of nature. The 8 elements are sized according to the maths of an octave, and each rotates independently on the vertical axis so that there are an infinite number of arrangements in which it can be viewed.

This sculpture resonates in different ways both through its form and its patination, and for me it characterises the parallel ideas of constancy and change.





MRS PIG I Acrylic on American Walnut 50 × 31 × 14 cm. Edition of 8.



MRS PIG II Copper 50 × 25 × 12 cm. Edition of 8.

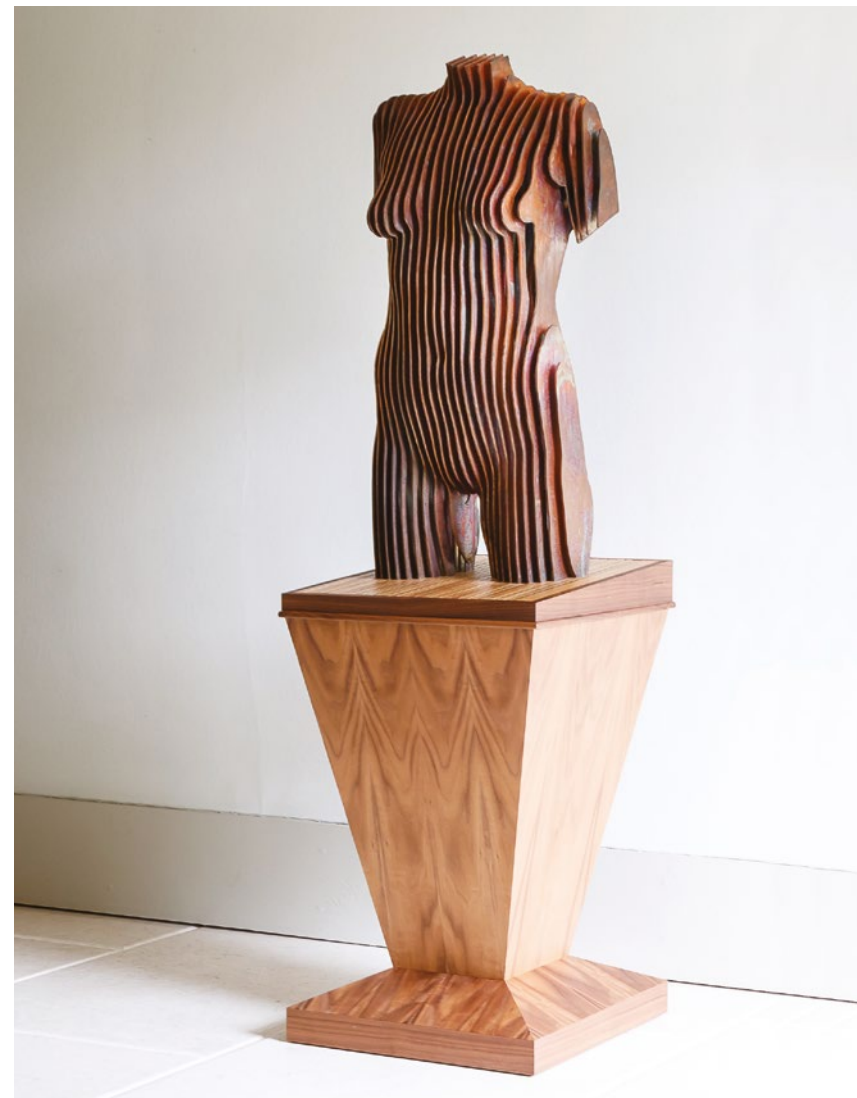
I was walking with some friends along the canal from Great Bedwyn in Spring 2021, and we passed a field where there were three Tamworth sows. I was reminded that there is something majestic and wonderful about all pigs, but these in particular.

The following day I returned to the spot with camera and sketch book and tried to capture their essence. I then created a wax sculpture which became the basis for these sculptures – one in acrylic, and the other in copper. Each is available as part of a limited edition of 8.



Female Torso Marine grade stainless steel 195 × 42 × 42 cm.

I have created this beautiful form in various materials and was delighted to be commissioned to create the stainless-steel version here as a feature within a particularly stunning garden. The designer placed chains behind, with water running down which provides a wonderful backdrop.



Female Torso with Fred Baier base Copper plated Corten steel on American Walnut and Oak base 150 × 45 × 45 cm. Unique.

Fred Baier is a truly inspiring man who creates extraordinary forms in wood. I strongly recommend a visit to his website fredbaier.com. He has created this unique American Walnut and oak base for my copper plated female torso.

As suggested in these images, the marine grade steel is suitable for outside, while the copper plate and wood is an indoor sculpture.



EL TORO I Acrylic on granite 40 × 38 × 38 cm. Edition of 12.

I remember as a child reading 'The story of Ferdinand', a 1936 book that tells the story of a Spanish Bull who would rather smell flowers than fight in bullfights.

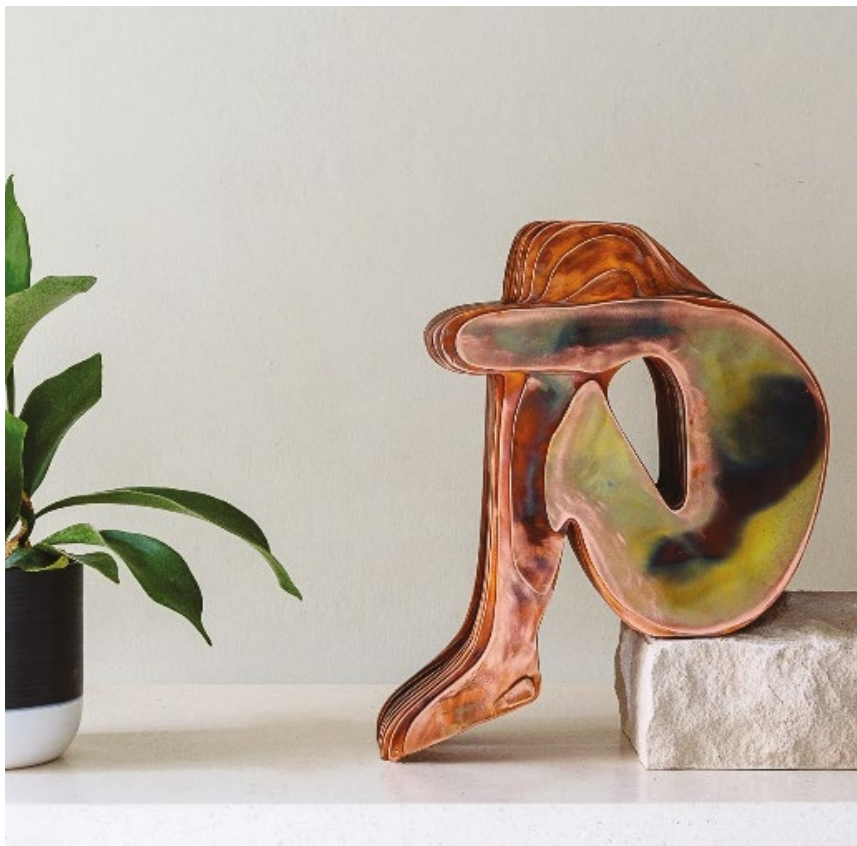
I hope this sculpture captures something of that spirit.

El Toro I is made for showing inside.

El Toro II is suitable for showing either inside or outside.



EL TORO II. Copper on 1 metre tall stainless steel base 65 × 61 × 61 cm. Edition of 5..



Contemplation 2021 Copper on Portland stone 35 × 40 × 14 cm. Edition of 8.

Quite often people ask me how or where the inspiration comes to create a particular form.

In as much as it is possible to answer that, my experience is that all creativity comes from stillness – both physical and mental. It is into that still space that things that have resonated with me might return.

The form for 'Contemplation' took its initial shape in 2014, and has evolved more recently. It is made in layers of 3mm copper, and sits on a rough block of Portland stone. There's a 360 video on my website if you want to see it 'in the round'. This sculpture is suitable for showing inside or outside, and it could be scaled up to suit a particular space.



ONE VII Stainless steel 44 × 51 × 24 cm. Edition of 12.

This sculpture has a serenity about it which it seems that many people can relate to. It has opened the way into some very heartfelt conversations, and I really love it for that.

I have made it in different materials and sizes in very limited editions.

This one is in stainless steel and is suitable for indoors or outside.



Girl in Dark Glasses Acrylic on American Walnut 57 × 48 × 14 cm. Edition of 12.

When I was younger, I used to do head stands on horses as a way of building mutual trust, so when I saw an image of a friend of mine doing the same thing recently, I took it as a challenge to represent that relationship. I hope the result captures something of that mutual trust, as well as the elegance of both horse and rider.

Inspired by the idea, I decided to create a pair on the same theme of yoga on horseback

Both of these sculptures are made in clear acrylic and stand on beautiful American Walnut bases. They are suitable for showing inside.



'Yoga Tree Horse' Acrylic on American Walnut 60 × 48 × 14 cm. Edition of 12.



'Fallow Deer' Copper on stainless steel on Portland stone 52 × 37 × 34 cm. Edition of 8.

I made Fallow deer to coincide with the 2018 Garsington Opera season which is housed at Wormsley Park in Buckinghamshire. Apart from many other beautiful things, the estate is renowned for its herd of deer. I collaborated with a taxidermist to give me an understanding of the exact form of this elegant animal, and using my process of scanning and slicing to make this sculpture in copper, stainless steel and Portland stone. This sculpture is suited to being shown indoors.



KISS II Stainless steel on corten steel base 3 metres × 75 cm × 85 cm. Edition of 5.

Kiss is an exploration into the parallel and simultaneous states of constancy and change in nature. It is engineered so that the main part of the sculpture rotates on its vertical axis.'



Many Become One Corten steel 105 × 96 × 46 cm. Edition of 5.

'I am profoundly touched by this sculpture every day. To have produced an object in such a hard and severe material as Corten steel that glows with feeling and emotion is quite remarkable and shows the unique skill that Tom has.' (Leicestershire, UK)



TWO III Copper plated mild steel 20 × 30 × 30 cm. Edition of 8.

I made the first version of this piece when my dear father was close to death from cancer in 2014. There are no words to describe it, but I was aware of being very grateful for all that he was, and all that he had given – to me and to many others.



Drinking Horse V Stainless steel on Corten steel base 175 x 50 x 80 cm. Edition of 5.

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Drinking Horse VI Stainless steel 175 x 50 x 80 cm. Edition of 5.

This is the completed version of the sculpture I was making on the inside front cover of this compendium, shown here installed at a wonderful client's home.

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MY MATERIALS

I currently work mainly in copper; stainless steel and acrylic. Each has very particular qualities that they bring to my work.



Copper is one of the few metals that can occur in nature in its native metallic form. Copper is the third most recycled metal, after iron and aluminium. It is estimated that 80% of all copper ever mined is still in use today. It has high electrical and thermal conductivity, which actually makes it very challenging to weld, but the results are spectacular.

Cr

Stainless steel is a much more recent invention. Like copper, stainless steel is 100% recyclable. An average stainless-steel object is composed of about 60% recycled material of which approximately 40% originates from end-of-life products, while the remaining 60% comes from manufacturing processes.

Acrc

Acrylic is recyclable, however, as it's not bio-degradable the process is not as easy as putting it in your recycle bin or taking it to a bottle bank. But you can re-use acrylic, by cutting larger sheets into small pieces and forming them into other products – and that is what I do. As you can see from the image opposite, clear acrylic has a fabulous way of picking up its surrounding light.

The materials are important to my work, and the physicality of the making process also brings its own resonances. I start with the traditional sculpting process in wax or in clay, then I use 3D scanning; computers and laser cutting alongside welding and polishing to create the final sculptures.



Gang of Three Acrylic on stainless steel base 42 × 40 × 56 cm. Unique commission.

Gang of Three was a commissioned portrait, made in acrylic on a polished steel base. It is suitable for showing inside. As the ambient light changes, so what you see changes.

COMMISSION A SCULPTURE

I hope the contents of this compendium give you a flavour of my philosophy. If you would like to work with me to create a sculpture, I am happy to design something new and bespoke, or to evolve an existing idea so that it becomes specific to your particular site.

I generally start with a series of sketches which we can discuss, and then I'll make a maquette - a small scale version of the end sculpture which can be edited as required.

I will be clear about costs and deliverables at each stage of the process, and I take personal responsibility for every stage – from conception to the final delivery and installation.

Here's a couple of comments from customers I have been commissioned by. There are more on my website. Feel free to contact me at any time to arrange a studio visit or to discuss how we might work together to create a sculpture that marks a moment or a memory.



"It was great working with Tom to create a really personal 60th birthday present for my husband - Two Circles is beautiful in its simplicity but at the same time intriguing - I love the different forms it takes as it rotates, and the way it reflects the light as it moves."

Tom totally understood what I was wanting and the finished sculpture is beautifully engineered and made.

It makes us smile every day - we absolutely love it. Thank you Tom".
(Oxford, UK).

'Two Circles 2021' Polished 316 stainless steel on corten base 75 x 50 x 50 cm.



'Digby & Althe 2020' Stainless steel, life size. 316



"Tom's attention to detail is second to none and his patience seemingly limitless! He engaged with us throughout the journey to capture our dogs. He worked diligently to capture their mannerisms; he encouraged feedback and listened to it and, above all else, left us in no doubt that our project was very important to him. The end result is superb: we all love looking at our dogs in metal form. And Tom has become a friend of the family. Thank you again, Tom, from all of us" (Berkshire, UK).



In conversation with Her Majesty The Queen at the unveiling of my work at Valentine's Mansion, Ilford during the Queen's diamond jubilee tour.

tomhiscocks.co.uk
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07969 734 132