

ADOPT A WATTS



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CLYTIE

The water nymph Clytie, rejected by the sun god, is captured in bronze during her metamorphosis from flesh to flower, as unfurling leaves creep up her twisting frame. Movement is suggested through the striking torsion of her upper body, recalling Michelangelo's famed serpentine figures. Watts was keen to forge his own modern style of sculpture, one that he believed could 'make you feel the palpitations of colour'. Combining body parts from multiple male and female models, this emotional and tactile work was recognised as being a major influence upon the sculptors of the following generation.

The bust of Clytie is life-size scale, evoking a strong physical presence. The musculature was taken from the Italian model Angelo Colorossi, reminiscent of how Michelangelo worked.

Clytie, Watts's first large sculpture in the round, was the only sculptural subject exhibited during his lifetime. He started work on the clay model in 1867 and the original marble carving was shown, unfinished, at the Royal Academy in 1868, where it was enthusiastically reviewed by W M Rossetti and A C Swinburne. In 1894 Edmund Gosse hailed it retrospectively as the precursor of the New Sculpture movement.

5 YEAR ADOPTION

Price: £2,500
Annual payment: £500
Monthly payment: £41.67

Registered Charity No. 313612



G F Watts, *Clytie*, c.1868-1881, bronze, Watts Gallery Trust Collection

HOW TO ADOPT THIS ARTWORK

Please download our online form or contact the Development team who can answer any queries and send a form by post or email:

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