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CLYTIE IN THE SUNKEN GARDEN

In his *Metamorphoses*, the Roman poet Ovid tells of an ocean nymph named Clytie, who fell in love with the sun-god Apollo. When he deserted her, she was changed into a sunflower that turns its head to follow the sun on its daily course from east to west. Watts's painting of the mythical bust of *Clytie* is life-size, evoking a strong physical presence. The musculature was taken from the Italian model Angelo Colorossi, reminiscent of how Michelangelo worked. The elongated and turned neck is a recurrent motif in Watts's work.

Clytie, Watts's first large, ideal 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. The significance and popularity of *Clytie* are apparent in the considerable number of replicas made of the work in a range of media. This terracotta *Clytie* was made at the pottery that GF Watts's wife, Mary founded and ran.

View this stunning version of *Clytie* in the Sunken Garden at Watts Gallery near the Compton Pottery where it was produced.

5 YEAR ADOPTION

Price: £2,500

Annual payment: £500

Monthly payment: £41.67

Watts Gallery - Artists' Village, Down Lane, Compton, Surrey GU3 1DQ



Clytie, made at the Compton Pottery, unknown date, early 20th century, terracotta, 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:

developmentassistant@wattsgallery.org.uk

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