



THE
HEPWORTH
WAKEFIELD

Release date: Monday 19 September

Famous Hepworth sculpture to take a Trinity Walk



A famous Hepworth sculpture will move to a new home just yards away from where the renowned sculptor was born.

Trinity Walk shopping centre, in Wakefield, will play host to Barbara Hepworth's sculpture *Ascending Form (Gloria)* – a first for an outdoor UK shopping centre – as part of a unique partnership with the now world-famous art gallery The Hepworth Wakefield.

Both organisations opened their doors in Wakefield in May 2011 and the gallery has agreed to loan the piece to the shopping centre to celebrate their joint fifth birthdays. The sculpture was gifted to Wakefield in 2010 through the Eric and Jean Cass Gift via the Contemporary Art Society in 2010 and forms part of The Hepworth Wakefield's ongoing acquisitions programme.

Hepworth was born on the edge of Wakefield city centre on Duke of York Street – just a few minutes' walk away from where the piece will now sit in the centre, which welcomes around 11million visits a year.

Made in 1958 and is based on two diamond shapes, a larger sitting on top of a smaller,

suggesting growth and upward movement. Several critics have interpreted the shape as a pair of hands in prayer, reinforced by Hepworth's renewed spirituality during the 1950s following the death of her son, Paul, in 1953. This sculpture had special, and specifically religious, significance to Hepworth and she chose a cast of it for the cemetery in St Ives where she was buried.

The sculpture will be unveiled on Wednesday September 28 in the centre's main mall and will stand at around 1.5m high.

Cormac Hamilton, Trinity Walk's centre manager, said: "We understand Barbara Hepworth was always keen to see her works displayed in the public realm, so there is no better place than in her home city just a few minutes' walk from the house she was born in. The sculpture will be seen by millions of our shoppers every year and we wanted to do something different, unique and something that helped us bring the city even closer together. By joining forces with an amazing gallery like The Hepworth Wakefield, we can promote more of what the city has to offer – which continues to surprise people when they visit for the first time or after a long period away."

Simon Wallis OBE, Director of The Hepworth Wakefield, said: "As part of celebrating our fifth anniversary this year we are delighted to be working in partnership with Trinity Walk to exhibit an important sculpture by Barbara Hepworth in the heart of Wakefield. Art of this quality enhances public spaces, engages wide audiences and helps to enrich our daily lives. I hope that people will enjoy slowing down to appreciate this sculpture in its new temporary home and feel inspired to learn more at The Hepworth Wakefield about this internationally renowned Wakefield-born artist."

Ends.

Photo by Hannah Webster. Image courtesy The Hepworth Wakefield / www.hepworthwakefield.org

MEDIA CALL:

EVENT: Unveiling of Hepworth sculpture to celebrate Trinity Walk and The Hepworth Wakefield turning five-years-old

TIME: 9.30am – 10.30am

DATE: Wednesday September 28

LOCATION: Costa Coffee, Trinity Walk shopping centre, Wakefield, WF1 1QR – parking available and refreshments too

WHO: Simon Wallis (Director The Hepworth Wakefield), Cormac Hamilton (Centre Manager Trinity Walk), guests and local students

TO CONFIRM ATTENDANCE CONTACT:

Graham Poucher, PR Manager Trinity Walk, 07587 180005

graham.poucher@trinitywalk.com

NOTES TO EDITORS:

- Trinity Walk is a 550,000 sq ft shopping centre located in Wakefield city centre
- It welcomes around 11million shoppers a year
- It is home to almost 60 stores, cafes, restaurants and services
- The centre is anchored by one of the largest Sainsbury's superstores in the area (117,000 sq ft) and Debenhams – Wakefield's first, modern department store
- The centre opened on May 6, 2011
- Follow Trinity Walk on Twitter @trinitywalk and Facebook facebook.com/trinitywalk

ABOUT THE HEPWORTH WAKEFIELD

The Hepworth Wakefield is an award-winning art gallery in the heart of Yorkshire, set within Wakefield's historic waterfront, overlooking the River Calder. Designed by the acclaimed David Chipperfield Architects, the gallery opened in May 2011 and has already welcomed around 1.6 million visitors.

Named after Barbara Hepworth, one of the most important artists of the 20th century who was born and brought up in Wakefield, the gallery presents major exhibitions of the best international modern and contemporary art. It also is home to Wakefield's art collection – an impressive compendium of modern British and contemporary art – and has dedicated galleries exploring Hepworth's art and working process.

The Hepworth Wakefield, Gallery Walk, Wakefield WF1 5AW

Tuesday – Sunday; 10am – 5pm.

Closed Mondays (except Bank and local school holidays)

Free admission (except for ticketed events)

Twitter: @HepworthGallery

Facebook: www.facebook.com/TheHepworthWakefield

Instagram: [hepworthwakefield](https://www.instagram.com/hepworthwakefield)

For interviews, images or enquiries please contact:

Graham Poucher

PR Manager at Trinity Walk

T: 01924 239413

E: graham.poucher@trinitywalk.com