

Press Release – 1 October 2012

'UNTIL THE FAR DISTANCE'

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A NEW EXHIBITION BY YOUNG PEOPLE OPENS AT THE HEPWORTH WAKEFIELD, FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF SEMINAL BRITISH ARTIST, RICHARD LONG

For the past three weeks a group of young people from Wakefield have been working with The Hepworth Wakefield to develop a new exhibition focusing on the landscape of Wakefield and Yorkshire.

Bringing the outside into the gallery, *Until the Far Distance* offers visitors an insight into how experiences of the landscape can become art and is inspired by the work of seminal British artist Richard Long, whose work is on display at the gallery until Sunday 14 October, as part of ARTIST ROOMS.

Working with regional artists, Karen Logan, Gillian Brent and Bryony Pritchard, the group undertook a wide variety of activities to gain inspiration for their exhibition by exploring the local area around The Hepworth Wakefield, the Yorkshire Sculpture Park (where the work of Richard Long is also on display) and the Yorkshire Moors.

Through writing, drawing, photography, compass readings and GPS mapping, the group recorded their comments on the importance of working in the local area. Group participant Vicki Brown from Wakefield said: "We want each visitor to feel as though they have been on a journey with us, exploring the beauty and true nature of Wakefield and surrounding areas."

The group consists of young people from different walks of life, aged between 16-25 years old, each with a different reason for being involved in the project. Collectively the group has driven the project from start to finish, from imaginative ideas and promotion to curating the final exhibition on display. The group commented: "It's changed our perceptions of art and our general way of thinking, making it more open. It's also motivated each of us individually, increasing our confidence and reassuring us of our abilities".

Victoria Boome, Non-Formal Learning Manager at The Hepworth Wakefield said: "Developing opportunities for young people to get involved with the gallery is at the heart of what we do here. It has been great to see the skills of these young people develop, and the resulting exhibition looks wonderful within the gallery spaces. I very much hope people will come down to see for themselves."

Until the Far Distance will be on display at The Hepworth Wakefield from Tuesday 2 October until Sunday 7 October. At a special celebration event on Friday 5 October, 4 – 7pm the group will be sharing and demonstrating some of the skills which they have learnt.

For information on The Hepworth Wakefield please visit www.hepworthwakefield.org or call 01924 247360.

ENDS

INTERVIEW & PHOTO-CALL: FRIDAY 5 OCTOBER, 3.00PM, THE HEPWORTH WAKEFIELD

Opportunity to interview and photograph members of the young people's group with their art works.

RSVP to sarahforrest@hepworthwakefield.org / 01924 247363

MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

To request images, interviews with the participants or further information on The Hepworth Wakefield please contact:

Sarah Forrest <u>sarahforrest@hepworthwakefield.org</u> 01924 247353

The Hepworth Wakefield, Gallery Walk, West Yorkshire, WF1 5AW
Free admission
Open Tuesday – Sunday, 10am – 5pm and 10am – 9pm Third Thursday of every month
Closed Mondays (except for Bank Holidays and school holidays)
www.hepworthwakefield.org
01924 247360
Twitter www.twitter.com/HepworthGallery
Facebook www.facebook.com/TheHepworthWakefield