

Unicorn & Oak Tree

Barry Flanagan

Sold



REF: 10719

Height: 25.5 cm (10")

Width: 16 cm (6.3")

Depth: 10 cm (3.9")

## Description

Inscribed KAP F and dated 89.

Bronze with brown patina

Executed in 1989, this work is unique. It was submitted to the Her Majesty, The Queen, amongst works by other artists, for designs featuring a unicorn for a coat of arms reputedly to be used in the Houses of Parliament.

Barry Flanagan RA

Born: 11 January 1941, Prestatyn, Wales, UK

Elected ARA: 27 May 1987

Elected RA: 26 June 1991

Sculptor

Barry Flanagan was born in North Wales in 1941. A sculptor who has always retained an ironic attitude towards his medium, he oscillates between the abstract and the figurative, largely using lumps of quarried Hornton stone or marble to create his works. His hare sculptures, cast in bronze, are archetypal Flanagan, personified in a number of roles or settings, they seem anthropomorphic, despite their seemingly primitive representation and immense scale.

He studied at Birmingham College of Arts and Crafts from 1957 to 1958 and at St Martin's School of Art, London from 1964 to 1966. He taught at St Martin's School of Art and at the Central School of Arts and Crafts, London from 1967 to 1971.

Flanagan's first solo exhibition was held in 1966 at the Rowan Gallery, London, where he continued to exhibit regularly throughout the 1970s and subsequently at Waddington Galleries, London, who now represent him. He rapidly established an international reputation and has exhibited in solo shows throughout the world since 1968, including the Museum of Modern Art, New York (1974), Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris (1983) and the Tate Gallery, London (1986). In 1982 he represented Britain at the Venice Biennale with an exhibition of stone and bronze sculptures. His work has also been included in numerous key international group shows since 1966.

His first Retrospective exhibition, 'Barry Flanagan: Sculpture 1966-1976', was held at the Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven, The Netherlands (1977). It toured to the Arnolfini Gallery, Bristol and the Serpentine Gallery, London. Similarly, a major Retrospective of his work was organised by Fundación 'la Caixa', Madrid in collaboration with The British Council, touring to Musée des Beaux-Arts (1993-94).

Many of Flanagan's sculpture are installed in public spaces. These works include Baby Elephant and Hare on Bell in Equitable Life Tower West, New York (1984), Nine Foot Hare, a bronze sculpture in Victoria Plaza Hotel, London (1984) and Kouros Horse in the town of Santa Eulalia, Ibiza (1992).

Among Flanagan's commissions are outdoor sculpture for Sint Pietersplein, commissioned by the City of Ghent, Belgium (1980), the sculpture Camdonian commissioned by Camden Borough Council for Lincoln's

Inn Fields, London (1980) and two bronze Leaping Hare sculptures, commissioned by Kawakyo Company, Osaka for the main entrance to a hotel on the Japanese coast.

In 1995 Flanagan won the Wollaston Award for the most distinguished work in the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition with his bronze The Cricketer (1989) which has since been donated to Jesus College, Cambridge.

Flanagan lives and works in Dublin.

Recent solo exhibitions

2003 Musée d'Art moderne et d'Art contemporain, Nice

Narborough ...