

Introduction

The past year has been one of the most exciting in the history of the Museum Collections. As well as celebrating the twentieth anniversary of the museum service (formally initiated in 1994), we successfully completed our most ambitious project to date – the creation of the D'Arcy Thompson Zoology Museum Art Collection, funded over two years by a £100,000 grant from the Art Fund's RENEW scheme, one of only six awarded in the UK.

Three other initiatives have enabled considerable development of the museum service this year. Firstly, we are now in receipt of an annual grant from the Scottish Funding Council as part of its Museums, Galleries & Collections funding stream, designed to enable university museums to expand their provision for collections care, learning and access. In the past, this funding has only been available to five of the Accredited university museums in Scotland, but this has now been extended to include all nine, including the University of Dundee. In the last year this has enabled us to organise much-needed conservation work and to produce a publication documenting the new Zoology Museum Art Collection.

An even more important development for us was the Museums Galleries Scotland internship scheme, funded by HLF's Skills for the Future scheme. We were successful in our bid to be one of the twenty museums around Scotland chosen to host a full-time intern for a year. The successful applicant, Hope Roberts, proved an invaluable addition to the service, enabling us to undertake a considerable amount of activity that was previously impossible with only one member of staff. This has included grant applications, major redisplays of art around the campus and a significant increase in our online profile through social media.

One of the successful grant applications that we made was to Museums Galleries Scotland to purchase a new collections database, KE_EMu, for which we have worked in partnership with The Hunterian at the University of Glasgow. Configuring and setting up this new system has been one of our principal tasks this year, and we hope to have an online version up and running in early 2015, which will provide a significant benefit for researchers and anyone interested in finding out more about our collections.

This report reveals some of the activities that the museum service has been doing in its twentieth year. I hope you will enjoy reading it.

Matthew Jarron
Curator of Museum Services
Archive, Records Management & Museum Services
University of Dundee

www.dundee.ac.uk/museum

 University of Dundee Museum Collections

 @UoD_Museums



Exhibitions

“Absolutely fantastic. Dundee has a great future – creative arts combined with science”

*– visitor to *A Glimpse of a Great Vision**

One of our main aims is to provide an exciting and inspiring exhibition programme. In the absence of a permanent museum building, temporary exhibitions are our principal method of showcasing the collections. During 2013-14 we put on thirteen public exhibitions, mostly in our regular spaces but also at Dundee Science Centre, the new entrance space at Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art & Design and the Dalhousie Building foyer.

Tower Foyer Gallery

The D’Arcy Thompson Print Folio (17 August – 21 September 2013) – the first showing of our specially commissioned series of artists’ prints

Marge Loudon Moody: Made in America 1983-2003 (28 September – 16 November 2013) – striking paintings by this USA-based Duncan of Jordanstone graduate

Adventures in Space and Time (23 November 2013 – 5 January 2014) – original science-fiction comics artwork

Melt (7 February – 29 March 2014) – an exhibition by Jean Duncan, artist in residence at Cechr (the Centre for Environmental Change & Human Resilience)

Do You See What I See? (5 April – 24 May 2014) – an exhibition of optical material curated by our MGS-funded intern Hope Roberts

A Glimpse of a Great Vision (31 May – 26 July 2014) – the major exhibition to mark the end of our Art Fund RENEW project, shown across two gallery spaces

Lamb Gallery

DC Thomson: Press Print Production (28 August – 27 October 2013) – an exhibition to accompany the international print conference Impact8

Darkest Dreams (9 November 2013 – 11 January 2014) – surreal and nightmarish artworks from our collections

Saul Robertson: From Here to Here (18 January – 8 March 2014) – detailed and intriguing paintings and drawings by the Glasgow-based Duncan of Jordanstone graduate

Cabinet of Curiosity (19 March – 20 May 2014) – highlights from the Tayside Medical History Museum collections

A Glimpse of a Great Vision (31 May – 26 July 2014) – see above

13
EXHIBITIONS
33,354
VISITS TO THE LAMB
GALLERY

DJCAD Entrance

Foundations (25 October – 28 November 2013) – an exhibition to mark the 125th anniversary of Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art & Design

(During the year, two other informal displays from the College Collection were also staged in this space.)

Dalhousie Building

Making an Impact (12 August – 21 September 2013) – highlights from our print collections, staged to accompany the *Impact8* conference. Parts of the exhibition have remained on permanent display in the block two corridors of the building.

Dundee Science Centre

Reading the Meter (5 April 2014 – present) – scientific instruments and other measuring devices feature in our annual display at the Science Centre

External Loans

As well as curating our own shows, in the past year we lent 73 objects out to other exhibitions around the country, venues including the Scottish National Portrait Gallery and the Talbot Rice Gallery in Edinburgh, the Pier Arts Centre in Orkney and St Andrews Museum.

Undoubtedly the highlight was the exhibition *D'Arcy Thompson's On Growth and Form* at the Henry Moore Institute in Leeds. Developed by Lisa Le Feuvre of the HMI in collaboration with our curator Matthew Jarron, this exhibition showcased some of D'Arcy's original teaching models in relation of a selection of Moore's *Transformation Drawings* of the 1930s. Matthew also contributed to a study day held at HMI on the influence of D'Arcy Thompson in modern sculpture and to a D'Arcy-themed issue of HMI's journal *Essays in Sculpture*.



**“Half art and half science, the exhibition...
cements Dundee's place at the forefront
of Scottish culture.”**

- STV News on A Glimpse of a Great Vision

MAKING AN IMPACT
an exhibition of highlights from the University of Dundee's print collections
Dalhousie Building, University of Dundee
12 August - 27 September
Mon-Fri 9am-5pm
Free Admission

The Road to Sorrento by Alison Wickham 1934

armms
University of Dundee
museum services

Do You See What I See?

Tower Foyer Gallery,
Tower Building,
University of Dundee

Saturday 5 April – Saturday 24 May
Mon-Fri 09.30-20.30 Sat 09.30-16.30

armms
UNIVERSITY OF DUNDEE

DARKEST DREAMS

an exhibition in the Lamb Gallery,
Tower Building, University of Dundee
9 November 2013 - 11 January 2014
(closed for Christmas 25 Dec - 2 Jan)
Mon-Fri 09.30-20.30 Sat 09.30-16.30
Free Admission
www.dundee.ac.uk/museum

armms
UNIVERSITY OF DUNDEE



Permanent Displays

The D'Arcy Thompson Zoology Museum continues to be our principal permanent display, open regularly on Friday afternoons during the summer, and for special events throughout the year. As well as our general visitors, we receive many visits from biologists, mathematicians, artists and architects from around the world whose work has been influenced by D'Arcy Thompson and who are fascinated to see the collection that inspired it.

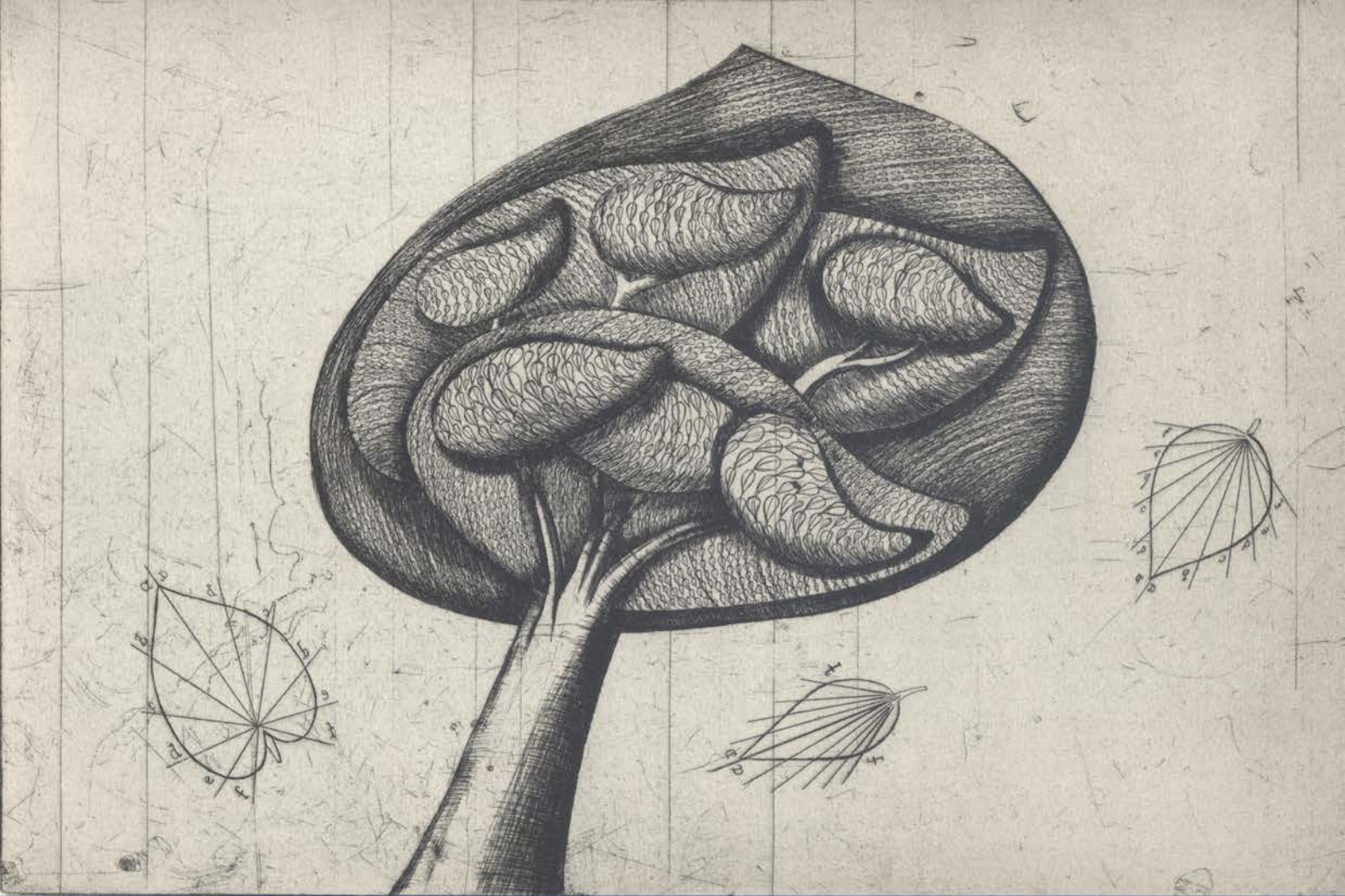
Due to the refurbishment of the School of Medicine at Ninewells, the main displays of the Tayside Medical History Museum had to be dismantled last year. We are now planning the first phase of a completely new version of the museum, for which fundraising has recently begun. In the meantime, an exhibition of highlights from the medical collection was staged in the Lamb Gallery and a new display case has been installed in one of the main hospital waiting areas to show one of the museum's most notable new acquisitions, the Olympic Torch carried in Dundee by the late charity campaigner and double-limb amputee Ronnie McIntosh, shown alongside his prosthetic sports limbs and running shoes.

As well as our regular permanent displays, we also found a new long-term home in Scrymgeour Hall for the University's portraits of past Principals and other notable figures, including Alberto Morrocco's magnificent painting of our former Chancellor, Her Majesty the Queen Mother. In addition to this, we put 52 artworks on long-term display in twelve different schools and departments around the University, as part of our aim to enhance the cultural ambience of the campus. We also created a display of original comics art by Cam Kennedy for the Scottish Centre for Comics Studies in September 2013, to mark the opening of their new comics studio named after the artist.

"Thank you for opening this to the public! The specimens are very interesting and beautifully displayed!"

- visitor to the D'Arcy Thompson Zoology Museum

52
ARTWORKS PUT
ON DISPLAY
AROUND THE
CAMPUS



Collections

During the past year, 1,730 items were catalogued and added to our museum database, bringing total number of accessioned items in the collection to around 29,000. Many of these additions were botanical specimens already housed in the University Herbarium but never previously catalogued – one of our longest-serving volunteers, Richard Blackmore, has been steadily working through this vast collection. A number of Physics instruments were also catalogued, after being found during a clear-out of a retired staff member's office.

The first half of the year was dominated by the completion of our most ambitious collecting project. In December 2011 we were awarded £100,000 by the Art Fund's RENEW scheme to build a collection of art inspired by D'Arcy Thompson. Thanks to generous donations and price reductions by the artists and an additional grant from the National Fund for Acquisitions, we ended up acquiring £148,000 worth of artworks for the money. Our final purchases were a painting by the renowned Dundee-born sculptor William Turnbull from his famous *Head* series of the 1950s, a specially commissioned video piece by Jennie Pedley, a sculptural piece and print (shown above) by Marion Smith and five etchings by Gemma Anderson created following a residency in the Zoology Museum. To add to the collection (but not using the Art Fund grant) we have also acquired a print by Salvador Dali, perhaps the most famous of all the many artists inspired by D'Arcy's work.

To help fund the costs of undertaking the project, we also commissioned a special folio of prints by artists based at Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art & Design. Produced by Mark Hunter in the Printmaking Workshop at DJCAD, the D'Arcy Thompson Print Folio was launched during the international print conference *Impact8* and features fourteen prints by sixteen artists, including Dalziel + Scullion, Calum Colvin, Graham Fagan, Elaine Shemilt and Tracy Mackenna & Edwin Janssen. The prints are being sold to help fund on-going collecting in this area and further artists' residencies in the Zoology Museum. To see all the prints and find out more about them visit www.dundee.ac.uk/museum/collections/zoology/printfolio/

A particularly unusual addition to the collections was a long-lost specimen from D'Arcy Thompson's original museum, a stuffed emperor penguin that had been adopted by biology students as an unofficial mascot in the 1960s and 70s and then disappeared, only to turn up many years later in the McManus Collections Unit. After conservation treatment to repair damage, this fine bird is now on permanent display in the Zoology Museum. Further research has revealed that the penguin was almost certainly brought back from the pioneering Dundee Antarctic Expedition of 1892-3, and as such may well be the oldest emperor penguin specimen surviving anywhere in the world!

1,730
OBJECTS
CATALOGUED

With the help of funding from Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art & Design, we continued to acquire a selection of artworks from the DJCAD Degree Show, and this year we also purchased works on behalf of the School of Medicine, to decorate their refurbished spaces at Ninewells. DJCAD also purchased various pieces to add to the artists' book collection, abcd.

Several donations were made to the collections during the past year, mostly works of art. These included a drawing of a bird of paradise from the Zoology Museum by Lara Scouller (donated by the artist), Martin Boyce's screenprint *No Brilliantly Coloured Birds* (donated by DCA Print Studio), two paintings by William Littlejohn (donated by the Royal Scottish Academy from Littlejohn's estate) and a portrait of former Professor of Pathology A C Lendrum by Rozelle Morrocco (donated by his son). We are very grateful to all the generous donors responsible for these and other gifts.

As mentioned in the introduction, a considerable amount of our time over the past year has been devoted to setting up our new museum collections database, KE_EMu, and managing the transfer of nearly 29,000 records from our now-obsolete system INCA. We acquired the system thanks to a grant from Museums Galleries Scotland and have implemented it in collaboration with the Hunterian at the University of Glasgow. As well as giving us greatly improved collections management capability, the new system will also allow us to create an online version allowing anyone to search our collections – this should be available in early 2015.





648
PARTICIPANTS IN
23
SPECIAL EVENTS

Audiences

A key aim of the museum service is to extend our reach to allow as many people as possible to enjoy and be inspired by our amazing collections. Our main exhibition galleries are in public spaces with a high foot-fall, but we are always keen to reach out more directly to audiences through special events relating to our exhibitions and collections. In the past year we held 23 public events, including:

Guided tours of exhibitions by the Curator and invited guests, such as journalist Norman Watson's tour of the *D C Thomson* exhibition, and retired GP Jim McKellican's tour of our medical exhibition *Cabinet of Curiosity*

A series of short lunchtime talks by the Curator, our intern and volunteers to mark our twentieth anniversary, focusing on interesting and unusual objects in the collections

Our regular programme of evening events in the D'Arcy Thompson Zoology Museum, which this year included talks by Derek Robertson, Steve Hubbard and Dave Parish and our annual evening of poetry and prose readings inspired by the museum from Creative Writing students

Two events for Dundee Science Festival – a *Pills & Potions* evening at Ninewells featuring talks and pharmacy material from the Tayside Medical History Museum, and a magic lantern animation workshop in the Zoology Museum featuring artist Jennie Pedley

An animal mask and hat-making workshop in the Zoology Museum for Festival of Museums organised by intern Hope Roberts

Various artists' talks to accompany the *Glimpse of a Great Vision* exhibition, including sculptor Peter Randall-Page and computer artist Andy Lomas

We are also co-organisers of the annual University Culture Day, which brings together entertaining speakers and performers from across the campus to present on a chosen theme, last year's event, *Forbidden Fruit*, focusing on appetite and desire.

A significant development this year has been our increasing use of social media to engage with new and existing audiences, spearheaded by our intern Hope Roberts. This has included the launch of a Museum Collections Facebook page and more frequent use of Twitter and Flickr.

Students

As a University Museum, our students are at the heart of what we do, and supporting learning and teaching remains one of our key priorities. In the last year, at least 697 students from eighteen undergraduate or postgraduate courses at the University made use of our collections or staff expertise as part of their coursework or individual projects:

Undergraduate

Fine Art
Textile Design
DJCAD General Foundation Course
Jewellery & Metal Design
Illustration
Graphic Design
Time Based Art & Digital Film
Education (Primary)
English
English and Creative Writing
Art, Philosophy & Contemporary Practice
Biological Sciences
Biomedical Sciences
Zoology

Postgraduate

MFA Art, Society & Publics
MLitt Comics Studies
MSc Forensic Anthropology
MSc Medical Art

18
COURSES AND
c. 700
STUDENTS
USE THE
COLLECTIONS

Several unique projects were developed during the year, including:

Curation in the Classroom – primary education students created their own mini museum displays after visiting the collections.

Undesired Anthropomorphism – as part of the *Art, Science & Visual Thinking* module, third year Fine Art student Charlotte Wilkie Sullivan used the D'Arcy Thompson Zoology Museum to record visitors' reactions to aspects of natural history not normally presented within a museum environment.

Exploring Comparative Anatomy – two students on the MSc Medical Art course based their Masters Show projects on the comparative anatomy collection of animal skulls and jaw bones held in the Dental School. Holly Hunold created a website for the whole collection, with 2D reconstructions of the skeletal and muscular anatomy of key specimens. Chris Ogan created 3D animations based on some of the skulls.

We also provided four formal work placements for undergraduate and postgraduate students from the Universities of Dundee, St Andrews and Aberdeen, plus informal work experience for a further eight students or graduands.

Students from various other institutions also came to use the collections, including art and design students from Dundee & Angus College and MFA students from Glasgow School of Art and Edinburgh College of Art. The Curator also continued to teach evening classes for Continuing Education as well as organising a course on *Discovering Dundee's Historic Collections*.





“It has been a really pleasurable experience working with the museum service this year to deliver inputs on curation and the role it can play in a primary classroom. The students visited the collection at Hawkhill House and then developed their own mini-museums and collections, while reflecting on the skills required to be a curator. I hope to continue to work with you on future projects!”

– Anna Robb, Lecturer in the School of Education, Social Work & Community Education

“Thank you again for all of your help with my module project. My tutors were very impressed with my work and how I displayed it, and I ended up getting top marks. I cannot tell you how grateful I am to you for letting me use the museum, it was an absolutely brilliant experience.”

– Charlotte Wilkie Sullivan, third year student in Fine Art

“As someone with an anthropology background, I have an affinity for skulls and artefacts of all kinds, so finding such expansive collections at Dundee was really exciting. I loved how much access I was given to the collection in the Dental School, and I still can't believe how underutilised that museum is. Everyone was extremely helpful and made it possible to do my research!”

– Holly Hunold, MSc student in Medical Art

“Thank you so much for this amazing year! When I started, I was hoping to get some great experience, but I certainly didn't expect to learn so much and have so much fun at the same time!”

– Lili Bagyanzski, MLitt student on work placement

Research

Supporting the local and international research community is an important part of our remit. During the past year we answered 310 enquiries on a variety of topics from early exhibitions of polar material to Victorian analogies between bone and iron. 119 of these were from University of Dundee staff and students while 191 were external researchers. 278 research visits were made to view material from the collections, 185 from within the University and 93 from external researchers.

310
ENQUIRIES
278
RESEARCH
VISITS

The creation and dissemination of new knowledge relating to our collections is also an important aim, and this year our research outputs have included a number of essays and conference papers by the Curator, as well as a new publication produced by Museum Services, *A Glimpse of a Great Vision – The D’Arcy Thompson Zoology Museum Art Fund Collection*, describing and illustrating all of the works acquired through the RENEW project. The book has been beautifully designed by artist David Faithfull and is available to buy at £10.

Other Publications:

- Matthew Jarron, “Building the Bridge between Science & Art” - feature in *Scottish Art News*, Autumn 2013
- Matthew Jarron, “Transformations: The Visual Influence of D’Arcy Thompson” - chapter in *Science, Fables & Chimeras: Cultural Encounters*, edited by Laurence Roussillon-Constanty and Philippe Murillo 2013
- Matthew Jarron, “A Sketch of the Universe – D’Arcy Thompson’s On Growth & Form” – paper in the journal *Essays in Sculpture* vol 7 June 2014 (D’Arcy Thompson themed-issue)
- Matthew Jarron, “Holding Forth on Symbolism”, essay in *Generator Publications issue 2: Symbolism, Mythologies & Faith*

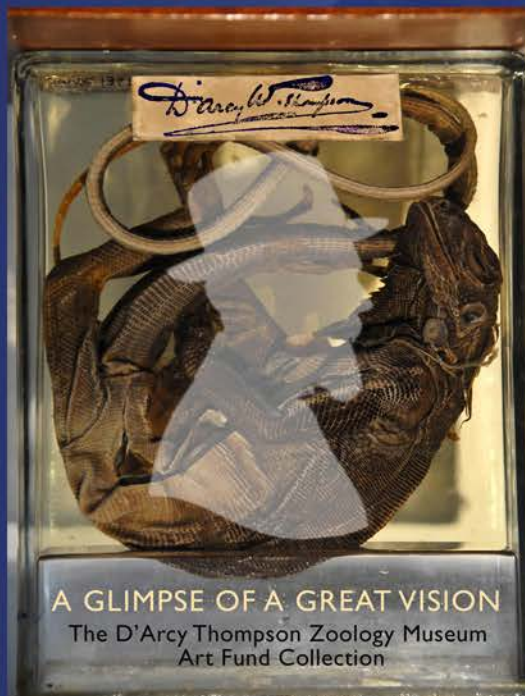
Conference papers:

- Matthew Jarron, “Printing Art in Dundee in the late 19th and early 20th centuries”, *Impact8: Borders and crossings, the artist as explorer*, University of Dundee 30/8/2013
- Matthew Jarron, “A Sketch of the Universe: science, art and the influence of D’Arcy Thompson”, *Impact8: Borders and crossings, the artist as explorer*, University of Dundee 30/8/2013
- Matthew Jarron, “A Sketch of the Universe – the Visual Influences of D’Arcy Thompson’s On Growth and Form”, *4th International Illustration Symposium: Science, Imagination and the Illustration of Knowledge*, University of Oxford 8/11/2013
- Matthew Jarron, “A Sketch of the Universe – D’Arcy Thompson’s On Growth & Form”, Invited Public Lecture at the Slade School of Fine Art, London 20/11/2013
- Matthew Jarron, “A Tinge of Precocity: Art, Politics and the Celtic Revival in Dundee”, *The Celtic Revival in Scotland*, University of Edinburgh 3/5/2014

HENRY MOORE INSTITUTE 70
ESSAYS ON SCULPTURE

D’Arcy Thompson’s On Growth and Form

Henry Moore
Institute



SCIENCE, FABLES AND CHIMERAS

Cultural Encounters

Edited by
Laurence Roussillon-Constanty
and Philippe Murillo



Partnerships

As a small service we are always keen to work in partnership with other organisations to maximise the impact and effectiveness of what we do. Some of the activities undertaken in the past year were:

Great War Dundee – Museum Services was one of the founding members of this city-wide partnership marking the centenary of World War One. Curator Matthew Jarron is also a member of the steering group and was one of the principal authors of a successful HLF bid for £77,400, which will enable a range of activities over the next two years.

Tayside Museums Forum – Matthew is currently Chair of the Forum, which includes representatives of every Accredited museum in the region. In May 2014 we hosted training workshops for members on the use of social media and marketing and fund-raising for small museums.

Impact8 – Museum Services contributed to this major international print conference held at the University in August 2013 by staging three exhibitions and hosting a reception in the Lamb Gallery for delegates. Matthew also gave two papers at the conference.

Dundee Science Centre – we have continued our long-standing collaboration by staging exhibitions in the centre and loaning objects for workshops (for example items from the Tayside Medical History Museum for their *Cutting Edge* interactive shows about the history of surgery in February and May 2014). Matthew also gave a talk as part of the Café Science Extra series to accompany the centre's *Myths & Monsters* exhibition.

Matthew also serves as Secretary of the Abertay Historical Society and is a member of various other networks and collaborations including the Dundee Cultural Agencies Network, the Scottish Word & Image Group, the Scottish Society for Art History, Scotland & Medicine and UMiS (University Museums in Scotland). Until January 2014 he was a panel member for the Dundee Visual Artists Awards.





Staff

Curator

Matthew Jarron

MGS Intern

Hope Roberts

Volunteers and Work Placements

Lili Bagyanszki

Heather Barnes

Lily Barnes

Richard Blackmore

Cathy Caudwell

Madeline Dow

Laura Marshall

Penny Matheson

Jeni Morris

Emma Reekie

Jade Reid-Harper

Caroline Taylor

Dasha Tinker

Hannah Vickery

Daisy White

As always, our volunteers are an invaluable resource and the service simply would not be able to function without them. We also receive advice and support for collections held by specific schools and departments from various honorary curators and contacts:

Civil Engineering Collection – Fraser Smith

Comics Art Collection – Chris Murray

D'Arcy Thompson Zoology Museum – Cathy Caudwell (until August 2013), Will Whitfield (from September 2013)

Dental School Collections – Bill Saunders, Sam Cadden

Duncan of Jordanstone College Collection – Calum Colvin

Electrical & Electronic Engineering Collection – David Thompson

Law Collection – Robin White

Mechanical Engineering Collection – Lyall Mitchell

Psychology Collection – Nick Wade

Physics Collection – Rod Gibson

Tayside Medical History Museum – position vacant

Visual Research Centre Collections (including Artists Book Collection Dundee) – Adam Lockhart and Hazel McDonald

We would particularly like to pay tribute to former honorary curator of the Zoology Museum, Cathy Caudwell, who retired from the University last year after having worked tirelessly with the museum in its various forms since the 1980s, and who was instrumental in the creation of the current museum space in 2007. We are delighted that Cathy has continued to work as a volunteer in the museum since her retirement.

Although we have not yet managed to find a new honorary curator for the Medical History Museum following the retirement of Dr Graham Lowe last year, the Curator continues to receive support from an informal museum committee and in particular from committee members Roddy Cameron, John McEwen, Jim McKellican, Joe Richards and Tony Wildsmith.

Finance

Operating Budget 2013-14: £11,382

Scottish Funding Council annual grant: £11,500

We also maintain the remainder of the Fine Art Fund set up in 1960 for the benefit of the University's art collections. This stood at £4,342.49 at 1 August 2013 and £3,175.99 at 31 July 2014.

Grants received:

£25,000 (Art Fund grant towards Peter Randall-Page sculpture)

£6,000 (Art Fund grant for Daniel Brown digital artwork)

£1,500 (Art Fund grant for Growth and Form exhibition catalogue)

£9,000 (Art Fund grant for Mark Wright painting)

£7,766.66 (Art Fund grant for William Turnbull painting)

£2,000 (Art Fund grant for Lindsay Sekulowicz drawings and sculptures)

£2,000 (Art Fund grant for Jennie Pedley film)

£1,600 (Art Fund grant for Marion Smith sculpture and print)

£2,014 (Art Fund grant for Gemma Anderson prints)

£15,000 (National Fund for Acquisitions grant towards Peter Randall-Page sculpture)

£301 (Museums Galleries Scotland grant for Zoology Museum publicity)

£31,766.75 (Museums Galleries Scotland grant for EMu database – interim claim)

£200 (Dundee Science Festival grant to run Jennie Pedley workshop)

The Museums Galleries Scotland internship scheme should also be noted here as the equivalent of receiving £15,000 of grant funding (though the money was paid directly to the intern in lieu of salary costs). We also received £899.30 from MGS on behalf of the Tayside Museums Forum to meet the costs of running a volunteering conference which we hosted for members of the forum.



