



# FREDERIK MEIJER Gardens & Sculpture Park

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## **MEIJER GARDENS PREMIERS MAJOR GIFT OF HENRY MOORE PRINTS IN UPCOMING EXHIBITION**

*Henry Moore: Master Printmaker*  
October 9, 2009 – January 3, 2010

**GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., — September 30, 2009** — Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park, one of world's most comprehensive sculpture and botanic experiences, is the exclusive venue of 24 master prints by Henry Moore. Although celebrated internationally as one of the most influential sculptors of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Moore was also a master draftsman and printmaker, which became a significant part of his repertoire in the 1960s. **Henry Moore: Master Printmaker** is on view October 9, 2009 through January 3, 2010.

The exhibition is the premier presentation of the important gift of master prints recently presented to Meijer Gardens by Lillian Heidenberg, one of Moore's primary gallerists.

Regarding drawing and printmaking, Moore once said, "I've always loved drawing.... When you draw you look much more intensely at something."

Moore explored many of his major sculptural themes in etchings and lithographs, including seated and reclining figures, the mother and child, and animals. Although he first experimented with printmaking in the 1930s, it became a significant part of his repertoire beginning in the 1960s. The prints offer thematic and aesthetic connections to his sculpture, two of which are found in Meijer Gardens' permanent collection: *Working Model and Divided Oval*, and *Bronze Form*, one of the last sculptures the artist created.

Concurrently on display is **Lynn Chadwick: In Contact**. This retrospective exhibition, the first in the U.S. since the artist's death in 2003, features more than 40 sculptures and five lithographs which trace five decades of Chadwick's career as one of the most important British sculptors of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Both Chadwick and Moore were draftsmen early in their careers. Chadwick worked as an architectural draftsman before transitioning into sculpture, while Moore used etchings and lithographs to explore many of his major sculptural themes. Inspired by Moore, Chadwick maintained a lifelong commitment to the figure; however, Chadwick's forms were mostly linear and planar rather than the rounded and organic forms of Moore.

Both exhibitions are open to the public October 9, 2009 through January 3, 2010.

"British sculpture factors prominently in our permanent collection which, in addition to bronzes by Moore and Chadwick, features magnificent examples by Hepworth, Nash, Frink, Gormley, Woodrow, Flanagan, and Goldsworthy among others," said Becherer, "making both the Chadwick and Moore exhibition even more rewarding to our guests."

**Henry Moore: Master Printmaker** is sponsored by The Meijer Foundation and the Botanic and Sculpture Societies of Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park. The works on display are a gift from Lillian Heidenberg.

### **About Henry Moore**

Moore, the seventh child of a mine manager, fought in World War I and afterwards won a scholarship to the Royal College of Art in London. Within four years he was teaching at the academy, and began sculpting by hand, a

laborious process. Moore soon became well known, but his abstracted imagery was initially seen as being foreign and controversial.

During World War II Moore gained attention for his drawings of those sheltering in the London Underground during the blitzkrieg bombing. After the war, he returned to sculpture, becoming more and more well known, with commissions for massive outdoor works, such as *Reclining Figure* at the Lincoln Center in New York. He continued sculpting, drawing and printmaking until his death at the age of 88, and is celebrated globally as one of the most influential sculptors of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

#### **About Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park**

One of the world's most significant botanic and sculpture experiences, Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park serves more than a half-million visitors annually. Meijer Gardens was recently named one of the world's 30 "Must-See Museums" by Patricia Schultz, author of *1,000 Places to See Before you Die*. The 132-acre grounds feature Michigan's largest tropical conservatory; one of the largest children's gardens in the country; arid and Victorian gardens with bronze sculptures by Degas and Rodin; a carnivorous plant house; outdoor gardens; and a 1750-seat outdoor amphitheater, featuring an eclectic mix of world-renowned musicians every summer. The internationally acclaimed Sculpture Park features a permanent collection including works by Rodin, Oldenburg, Moore, Bourgeois, and Plensa among others. Indoor galleries host changing sculpture exhibitions with recent exhibitions by Picasso, Degas, di Suvero, Borofsky and Calder. For more additional information, please visit [www.MeijerGardens.org](http://www.MeijerGardens.org)

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