

The Society's Talks 2021



Understanding Sculpture: The Public Statues and Sculpture Association by

Holly Trusted and Joanna Barnes

Co-chairs and co-founders of the PSSA

Wolfson Room, 10&11 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AH

1 p.m. on Wednesday 17 November 2021

Holly Trusted and Joanna Barnes write:

"Last year the Public Statues and Sculpture Association (the PSSA, <u>pssauk.org</u>) was founded; Joanna Barnes and Holly Trusted are the co-chairs. The PSSA was set up to further the knowledge and understanding of sculpture internationally. This lecture will tell you more about our work."

"The PSSA has been tremendously active during the course of 2020 and 2021. Last year was a momentous time for public portrait sculpture, for both good and regrettable reasons. Undoubtedly many people became aware for the first time of the power of public sculpture: its history and its impact on our lives today. In June 2020 toppling statues became a phenomenon with which we are now all too familiar when the statue of Edward Colston was ousted from its plinth in Bristol. In November 2020 we hosted a well-attended webinar on toppling statues, emphasising that the PSSA believed in the idea of retaining and explaining such contested heritage. We then published a book of some of the papers from the webinar. But we have achieved much else: on International Women's Day in March we launched a database of statues of women. We are continuing to publish the series of reference books on the Public Sculpture of Britain (often called the Pevsner of sculpture). And in the Spring and Autumn of this year we have been running a successful series of online lectures on women sculptors. Currently we are hosting the Marsh Awards for public sculpture; several members of the Society of Portrait Sculptors are past winners of these awards."

"Portrait sculpture is a fundamental strand of all we do, and we are delighted to be able to share with an informed audience what we hope will be an illuminating and enjoyable summation of what we do."



TICKETS

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