



Kate Malone: Inspired by Waddesdon
8 June – 16 October 2016, Wed-Sun 11am-5pm
The Coach House, Waddesdon Manor

Kate Malone, one of the UK's leading ceramic artists, has created a collection of new work reflecting the gardens and collections at Waddesdon Manor, the great Rothschild house in Buckinghamshire.

The exhibition features pieces inspired by the landscape, gardens, architecture and the people that have been a part of Waddesdon over the years, including Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild, the creator of Waddesdon and Alice, his sister and heir, who was a passionate horticulturalist as well a collector. Kate has also been particularly influenced by the wealth of decorative detail in the collections, including Waddesdon's world-famous eighteenth-century French Sèvres porcelain and the intricate passementerie (elaborate tassels, braids and fringing) that decorates many of the curtains and upholstery.

The exhibition forms part of the Contemporary at Waddesdon initiative, commissioning artists to respond to the place and its collections in innovative and inventive ways. Kate's preparation included a research residency working with curators, archivists and gardeners to explore the collection, gardens and the archive at Waddesdon. A significant inspiration was the garden at Eythrope, nearby on the Waddesdon Estate, historically the home of Alice de Rothschild, and its recreated Victorian *potager* (Kitchen garden) . This is an exhibition that will appeal to anyone with a love of gardens, architecture and history and the ways in which places and people can influence artists. In addition to those interested in contemporary ceramics, the show is likely to have wider appeal due to Kate's appearance as one of two expert judges on the BBC series *The Great Pottery Throw Down*.

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Quotes:

Kate Malone: *"I cover new ground in this exhibition by working with new clay-types and creative techniques. My hope was to create a visual feast, with bountiful ceramic sculptures that interpret many aspects of Waddesdon's history. I've aimed to capture the very essence of Waddesdon through displaying a host of artworks which represent the land, farmers, builders, gardeners, and people who have worked and lived there."*

Adrian Sassoon: *"Kate has been exceptionally busy creating her new collection of ceramic artwork for this landmark show. She has taken a broad view of Waddesdon through time, reacting to the place and people who have inspired her. The range of work is astounding, from simple terracotta jugs embossed with agricultural symbolism to elaborate, heavily detailed porcelain sculptures referencing the grand architecture of Waddesdon, to magnificent pumpkins, glazed in wonderful autumnal tones – the show promises to impress and delight."*

Pippa Shirley Head of Collections at Waddesdon: *"This is a really exciting collaboration for us, working with a major ceramic artist in a material for which the collections at the Manor are famous. Waddesdon is all about depth and detail, and in approaching this project, Kate has explored our collections and history from both perspectives to create something both new and rooted in the place. It also builds on a programme of creative responses to Waddesdon from contemporary artists in an innovative and rigorous way."*

Events:

An Encounter with Ceramic Artist Kate Malone

Wed 28 September and Wed 5 October 2016

10.30 am-4.15 pm £40.00.

Participants will discover what inspired Kate Malone in the Manor and Eythrope Gardens, and see the exhibition with Kate herself.

Curator: Rachel Jacobs

Exhibition page:

<http://www.waddesdon.org.uk/collection/exhibitions-waddesdon-manor/2016-kate-malone-at-waddesdon>

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For more information please contact:

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Exhibition images to download:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/0ieq9yl3d5mueah/AAC-3YoNOFZOLd8s7y7Cev62a?dl=0>

Notes to editors:

Kate Malone

Observations in nature, particularly its fruits, nuts and berries combined with her desire to capture the more abstract life force are the overriding influences in Kate's work. In addition to her exploration of nature, Kate has spent her career pioneering glazing techniques via research and experimentation in the chemistry of glazing. The sophistication of her glazes has led to some interesting collaborations with prominent architects and designers, working on inspiring public art projects in hospitals, schools, parks and libraries.

<http://www.katemaloneceramics.com/>

1. **Free bus service from Aylesbury Vale Parkway station:** To encourage the use of public transport, Waddesdon is running a bus service open to all visitors to Waddesdon Manor. The bus will collect from Aylesbury Vale Parkway (AVP) train station at 11.03 each morning (Wed to Sun) to link up with the 09.57 train from London Marylebone. The bus will depart from the Welcome Pavilion in the Waddesdon car park at 4.15pm on Wed, Thurs and Fri in good time to connect with the 16.43 from AVP (which arrives at Marylebone at 17.48). On Sat, Sun and Bank Holiday Mons the departure time will be 4.45pm as the train from AVP leaves at 17.15 (arriving at Marylebone at 18.20).
2. **Waddesdon Manor** was built from 1874 by Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild to display his outstanding collection of art treasures and to entertain the fashionable world. It combines the highest quality 18th-century French decorative arts, magnificent English portraits and Dutch Old Master paintings with one of the finest Victorian gardens in Britain, famous for its Parterre and ornate working Aviary. The house was bequeathed to the National Trust in 1957 and is now managed by a family charitable trust, The Rothschild Foundation, under the chairmanship of Lord Rothschild.
3. In recent years, Waddesdon has hosted a vibrant and varied exhibitions programme which both reflects and complements the collections, history of the house and the Rothschild family and draws in international partners. Recent highlights relating to the historic collections include *Predators and Prey: A Roman mosaic from Lod, Israel* (in partnership with the Israel Antiquities Authority and the British Museum), *Fame and Friendship: Pope, Roubiliac and the Portrait Bust in 18th-Century Britain* (in partnership with the Yale Center for British Art, New Haven) and *Henry Moore: From Paper to Bronze*, which featured 100 drawings and major sculpture by Moore, in partnership with the Henry Moore Foundation. The developing programme of contemporary art at Waddesdon has encouraged artist responses to the historic collections and interiors as well as to the gardens. Collaborators have included Edmund de Waal, who created a major exhibition in 2012, Jane Wildgoose, Simon Periton and Joan Sallas, who installed sculpture inspired by historic prototypes made of intricately folded linen. The Rothschild Foundation has also commissioned site-specific additions to the permanent collections alongside other acquisitions, including major pieces by Richard Long and most recently, Joana Vasconcelos.

Picture captions (overleaf): Courtesy of Adrian Sassoon, London © Kate Malone