

4. **Artist:** John Sydney Carter

**Sculpture:** Wave form (2002) (see front cover)

John Sydney Carter studied painting, sculpture and design at Leicester College of Art and Design. Much of Carter's work is centred on his love of where the land meets the sea. On his boat, he records the sea, currents, and birds. The pitted surface and flowing lines in this sculpture evokes the crashing and frothing sea spray. Carter also bases his sculptures on science, in particular atomic structure, and water as the building block of life.

5. **Artist:** Jacky Oliver with Birch Wood Special School,

**Sculpture:** Birchwood Red Dragon Fleece Flower (bronze and brass, 2014)



6. **Artist** Jacky Oliver with Ashfield Special School

**Sculpture:** Ashfield Sunflower (bronze and brass, 2014)

Jacky's teaching and collaborating with others to realise their creative potential has always been a very important part of her practice. The two new pieces created with the Leicestershire schools in 2014, demonstrate a partnership between the pupils and the Residency team: Jacky, Nyssa Walters and Lauren Moreland.

After exploring the gardens, the pupils drew both from the plants themselves as well as the surrounding sculptures. Gathering seeds, leaves and other specimens, they made impressions of items they found, as well as developing their own relief drawings in clay. From these, casts have been made creating permanent elements of the sculptures.



The overall form of the pieces have taken their inspiration and structure from a Red Dragon Fleece flower, for the Birch Wood Sculpture and sunflowers leaves and stems for the Ashfield sculpture using a flow of linear form often seen in Jacky's work.



7. **Artist:** Marcus Vergette

**Sculpture:** Listening Bell (forged aluminium, 2006)

Marcus Vergette is a sculptor, film-maker, composer and working musician playing double bass. Chance plays a conscious role in the work of Marcus Vergette. "When we flip a coin to make a decision," he says, "we use randomness to create order." In his sculpture, performances, installations and commissions, he combines simple elements to make complex forms. For example in origami, the turn of a plane can transform a simple sheet material into something that is visually more challenging. If that plane is turned again and again and the structure multiplied, the piece may appear to be entirely removed from its basic origins.

8. **Artist:** Deirdre Hubbard

**Sculpture:** Hybrid (bronze, 2001)



Deirdre Hubbard's sculpture explores the rhythms of natural forms, sometimes retaining the original image but more often moving to some level of abstraction. Always vital is the rhythmic interplay of concave and convex shapes and the resulting curves and counter-curves. She worked and exhibited in London and other venues throughout Britain, and was accepted into the Royal Society of British Sculptors in 1981, as the first non-British member to be admitted. Though she died in October 2009, her work is held in many public and private collections, in both Britain and abroad, and continues to be exhibited widely.

**9. Artist:** Ken Ford

**Sculpture:** Tuscan Landscape (bronze, 2002)

Born and raised in Birstall, Ken Ford was inspired to become an artist by the difference he saw between the city streets where he lived and the countryside around his grandparents' house near Stapleford. He studied at the College of Art in Leicester before going on to the Royal College of Art in London.



In 1955 he won the Prix de Rome for sculpture and spent two years studying at the British School in Rome.

“My sculpture uses the forces and forms of landscape. My usual way of collecting the initial visual material is to walk about in the landscape with a pocket-sized sketchbook, making quick drawings of whatever catches my attention. In this way, I am able to observe and collect many dramas which I use to seed my imagination. I am also interested in human presence and activity in the landscape, and nature's responses to that presence: this dialogue is important. I have a deep seated attachment to the countryside around the area I live in, and also to that of Southern Tuscany in Italy.”

**10. Artist:** Barbara Foster

**Sculpture:** Pan the Herald (bronze, 2004)

“The idea for my goats began as representations of me, as a child playing on the moors and hills of the North of England where I grew up.

Reading about the mythology of the goat led to the making of this youthful urban Pan who brings the wilderness to the city. He is as alive and active on the streets as he is in the fields and forests.”

After a career as a fashion model in Europe and London, where she now lives, she graduated from Middlesex University with a BA(Hons) in Fine Art in 1991, and was elected a member of the Royal British Society of Sculptors in 1996.



**2. Artist:** Anthony Locke

**Sculpture:** Cutting Edge (mild steel)

**3 Artist:** Anthony Locke

**Sculpture:** Slipped Disc (mild steel, copper and aluminum)

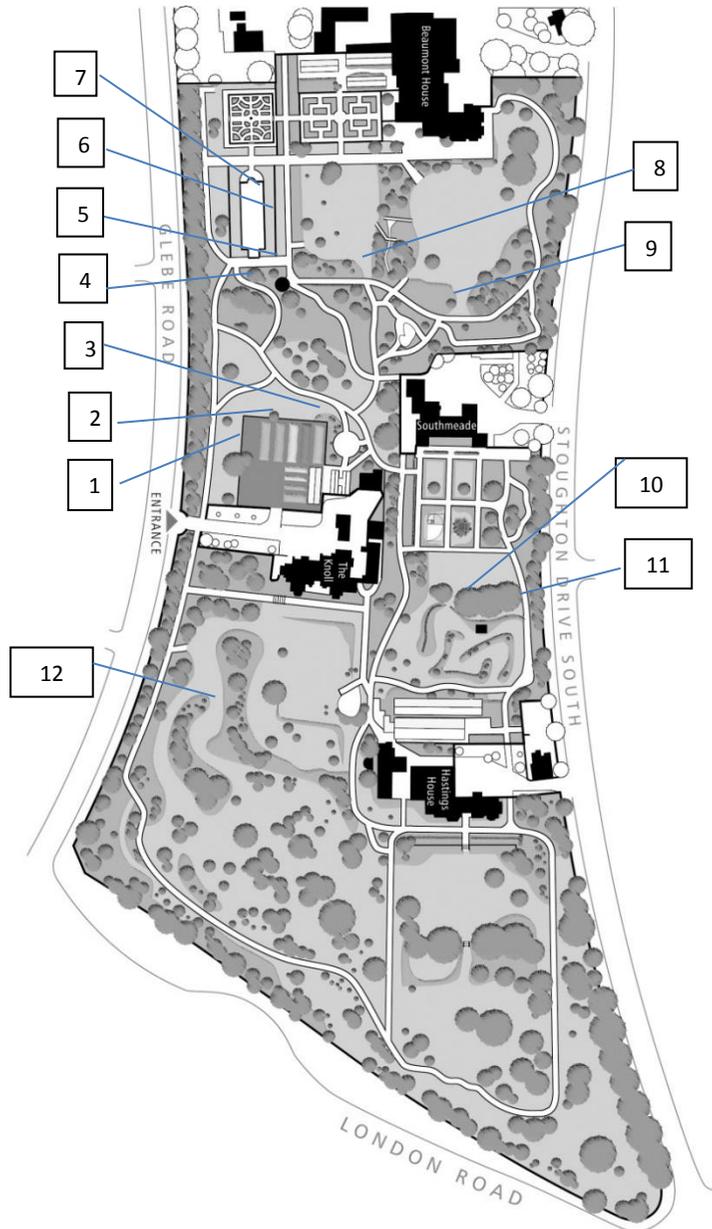
There are two works on display in the Botanic Garden. They are both exercises in trying to create illusions. *Slipped Disc* is fairly obvious in giving the appearance of a disc sliding down a slope. The disc itself consists of two offset circular plates separated, but connected by a collar between them. The shape gives different perspectives. Inset in one side of the disc is a copper and an aluminum hemisphere. These reflect the light in a different glow from the main structure.

*Cutting Edge* has a circular main feature. Whilst there are two plates, they are not offset or separated at the edge. Therefore there is a sharp edge all round. The disc is balanced on two interlinked, but opposite to one another triangles. The intention is to give the impression that the disc is posed precariously between them.

The main material used is mild steel, which has been polished with a grinder. Inevitably rust will form. Whilst this would be an interesting transformation to watch, however, periodically, the sculptures will be re-polished and lacquered to continue to reflect the light and possibly the flowers and foliage.

Anthony is a keen admirer of the work of Sir Anthony Caro, Alberto Giacometti, Henry Moore and Pablo Picasso. He had a period of work experience with Andy Goldsworthy at the Yorkshire Sculpture Park. He now lives in Glenfield.





## Sculpture Collection



Wave by John Sydney Carter

From 2002 – 2014 The University of Leicester Botanic Garden hosted thirteen summer sculpture exhibitions hosting some 500 artworks by 373 sculptors from all over the world.

A few of the Botanic Garden's twelve permanent sculptures are a legacy from these exhibitions, others are more recent acquisitions. The Garden provides a striking backdrop for the artworks from a variety of artists using different materials.



**1. Artist** Jacky Oliver

**Sculpture:** Pin Oak (steel, 2015)

Working as Artist in Residence at the University of Leicester Botanic Garden in October 2014, Jacky was able to combine her passion for drawing, making, working with people and horticulture. Having originally trained in jewellery at the Royal College of Art, she was later able utilize her blacksmithing skills to allow her to create metal work on a much larger scale.

Jacky's piece named Pin Oak was developed from a numerous drawings and models from observations of the tree near the entrance to the gardens. When studying the leaves individually in her sketches it was easy for her to appreciate a variety of shapes and textures of oak leaves, however she discovered that when the leaves are seen as a whole the complexity obscured the pattern of the each leaf's contour. She has tried to work with the idea of the intricacy of the lines when seen together and apart, aspects of the leaf design have been recreated and presented as a series of three linear sculptures working as one.

This piece was forged from stainless steel, heated and twisted to become linear simplifications of the form of leaves. She has tried to capture the essence of the oak without over illustrating its form, making a beautiful linear piece which flows and twists in the landscape. Abstracting the visual essence of the Pin Oak without mimicking it.



**11. Artist:** Anat Golandski

**Sculpture:** Born to be Free (grey marble 2004)

"The driving force of my sculptures is the idea of figures crossing boundaries, breaking through walls, and, in using their will-power, to penetrate the material, transforming that material. One idea behind this piece is of women, imprisoned in their own social and mental cages, managing to transform themselves and their environment and becoming complete people.

The figures and material are fluid and moving. The sculpture is to be seen as a bas-relief in which the figures are entering one side and emerging from the other."

**12. Artist:** Tony Long

**Sculpture:** Epistrophe (corten steel, 1980s, exhibited 2004)

The immense, but graceful, sculpture by Tony Long entitled Epistrophe, it was created in Switzerland during the late 1980s after his five year old son was killed in a road accident.

Made of steel and weighing 5-tonnes, much of its symbolism relates to Tony's lost son and the doubts he had about his continued creativity in the aftermath. Tony says about his work:

"Points, lines, surfaces, illusory bodies: a geometry which – contrary to the ambient urban architectonic – recalls with nostalgia the result of an organic growth ... My earlier labyrinthine constructions, 'controlled', evoke not without some hesitation the monumentality of the baroque ... a quick ironic glance at the endemic eclecticism ... Industrial materials, techniques and processes permit a personal integrity and continuity ... Finally doubt – doubt eternal, omnipresent – which accompanies without relenting the conflict with the object. Hysteresis? Perhaps, only the future will show."

The American sculptor, Tony Long, worked in steel. During his lifetime, he had studios in New York, Paris, Burgdorf-Berne, Ann Arbor, Cambridge, MA and Graz. He died suddenly at age 58 on 30th May, 2001. The rare lichen growths on its surface are the only examples found in Leicestershire.

