



London. The museum showcases the breadth of Morris's extraordinary vision, guiding visitors through his work, art and philosophy while offering innovative displays in a new temporary exhibition space, complementing the permanent collection. Transformed from local treasure to world-class visitor attraction, in its first six months the Gallery has welcomed over 80,000 visitors and has engaged thousands of schoolchildren, inspiring the next generation with an understanding of design and creativity. The Gallery forms an important cornerstone of Walthamstow Forest's economic and artistic regeneration, setting the standard for ambitious plans to make the area a better place for its community of 250,000 people.

### **The Hepworth Wakefield**

The Hepworth Wakefield is home to the city's art collection and the Hepworth Family gift, which consists of over 44 prototypes in plaster and aluminium by Barbara Hepworth. In addition, the gallery holds a series of her drawings and a large group of lithographs and screenprints. Also displaying exhibitions by contemporary artists, the gallery is the largest purpose-built exhibition space outside London. 2012 was The Hepworth Wakefield's first full year its innovative and far-ranging public programme continued to reach new audiences, from Zombie Walks to events with London 2012 Olympic hopefuls. The gallery's permanent collection of over 5,000 works of art grew with its first contemporary art acquisition: Eva Rothschild's *'Wandering Palm'*. 2012 saw the development of a cultural tourism partnership between The Hepworth Wakefield, the Henry Moore Institute, Leeds Art Gallery and Yorkshire Sculpture Park. As a result, the 'Yorkshire Sculpture Triangle' launched in early 2013.

The winners were chosen by an independent panel of judges chaired by Art Fund director, Stephen Deuchar. The judges were Daily Telegraph's Arts Editor in Chief Sarah Crompton, writer and broadcaster Bettany Hughes, Tristram Hunt MP and the artist Bob and Roberta Smith.

### **Judges' initial reactions after their visits**

Following his visit to the William Morris Gallery in May, Museum of the year judge Bob and Roberta Smith said: "We were presented by the William Morris Gallery with a tremendous story of optimism, hope and vision that equals Morris's own vision of celebrating human beings' creativity. In the current climate it's amazing to see a local authority realise the power of art in regenerating a borough."

Fellow Museum of the Year judge Sarah Crompton was struck by the 'impressive' education programme at The Hepworth Wakefield and said she was "thrilled to see how cleverly this relatively new gallery has built such an excellent programme around the core collection from their local heroine."

The William Morris Gallery and The Hepworth Wakefield were two of ten finalists in the running for the prize, announced on 2 April 2013. They were (in alphabetical order):

- **BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead**
- **The Beaney, Canterbury**
- **Dulwich Picture Gallery, London**
- **The Hepworth Wakefield, Wakefield**
- **Horniman Museum & Gardens, London**
- **Kelvingrove Museum and Art Gallery, Glasgow**
- **Museum of Archeology & Anthropology, Cambridge**
- **Narberth Museum, Wales**
- **Preston Park Museum, Stockton-on-Tees**

- **William Morris Gallery, London**

[Dropbox file of all images](#)

All information about Museum of the Year 2013 and the Clore Award for Learning can be found at [artfund.org/prize](http://artfund.org/prize)

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#### **About the Art Fund**

The Art Fund is the national fundraising charity, helping museums to buy and show great art for everyone. Over the past 5 years we've given £24m to help over 200 museums and galleries acquire works of art for their collections, from ancient sculpture and treasure hoards to Old Master paintings and contemporary commissions. We also support a range of programmes which promote museums and their collections to wider audiences, including the national tour of the ARTIST ROOMS collection, the Art Fund Prize which rewards and celebrates Museum of the Year, and our Art Guide, a pioneering smartphone app offering the most comprehensive guide to seeing art across the UK. We are independently funded, the majority of our income coming from 95,000 members who, through the National Art Pass, enjoy free entry to over 220 hundred museums, galleries and historic houses across the UK, as well as 50% off entry to major exhibitions.

Find out more about the Art Fund and the National Art Pass at [www.artfund.org](http://www.artfund.org).

#### **The Art Fund Prize for Museum of the Year 2013**

Each year the Art Fund celebrates the very best UK museums and galleries, rewarding and highlighting their innovation and creativity in bringing objects and collections to life. An independent panel of judges comes together to put the spotlight on museums battling it out for the Prize, and crown the winner Museum of the Year at a prestigious ceremony in London.

The past winners are:

2012 Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter  
2011 The British Museum, for A History of the World, London  
2010 The Ulster Museum, Belfast  
2009 Wedgwood Museum, Stoke-on-Trent  
2008 The Lightbox gallery and museum, Woking  
2007 Pallant House Gallery, Chichester, East Sussex  
2006 Brunel's SS Great Britain, Bristol  
2005 Big Pit: the National Mining Museum of Wales  
2004 Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Edinburgh  
2003 National Centre for Citizenship and the Law, Galleries of Justice, Nottingham

#### **The Clore Award**

The Clore Award for Learning recognises and celebrates museums and galleries which put learning at the heart of what they do. Previous winners include Manchester's Whitworth Art Gallery. More information on the Clore Award for Museum Learning can be found at [artfund.org/prize](http://artfund.org/prize)

The Clore Duffield Foundation is chaired by Dame Vivien Duffield DBE and has a strong focus on supporting cultural learning, particularly within museums and galleries and at heritage sites. It is one of the founding partners of the Cultural Learning Alliance, a collective voice working to ensure that all children and young people have meaningful access to culture in this difficult economic climate.  
[www.cloreduffield.org.uk](http://www.cloreduffield.org.uk). [www.culturallearningalliance.org.uk](http://www.culturallearningalliance.org.uk)