

M. Simmonds

Matthew Simmonds graduated from university with a degree in history of art in 1984, specialising in the art and architecture of the medieval period. After working for several years as an illustrator, in 1991 he trained as an architectural stone carver, and in this capacity he has worked on the restoration of several important historic monuments in England, most notably Westminster Abbey and the cathedrals of Salisbury and Ely. In 1997 he transferred to Pietrasanta, Italy, where he specialised in figurative and ornamental marble carving. Since this time he has worked both in Italy and the UK, gaining a reputation as a fine classical marble carver.

In 1999 he won first prize at the Verona International Sculpture Symposium with his sculpture “Hidden Landscape”, gaining his first recognition as a sculptor. Since then he has participated in various international sculpture symposia and competitions worldwide, winning several prizes. His sculpture explores the theme of internal spaces carved directly into the stone, through the use both of architectural miniatures and abstract forms. In 1996 he held his first solo show, at the Sant’Agostino Cultural Centre in Pietrasanta. He has exhibited in Italy, Britain, Germany, China and the USA.

Sculpture shows, symposia and prizes

- 2007 Borne and Bidder prize for best sculpture, Royal Society of Miniaturists
annual show, The Mall Gallery, London International Sculpture
Symposium, Leingarten, Germany
- 2006 “Sculpture nel Giardino”, solo exhibition, Albergo Batelli, Marina di
Pietrasanta, Italy
“Sculpture”, solo exhibition, Centro Culturale Luigi Rosso, Pietrasanta, Italy
- 2005 International Sculpture Symposium, Hualien, Taiwan
“I Segni e le Forme”, collective exhibition, Pietrasanta, Italy
- 2003 First International Sculpture Exhibition, Guilin Yuzi Paradise, China
“Sculpture in the Garden”, collective exhibition, University of Leicester
Botanical Gardens, United Kingdom
- 2002 International Sculpture Symposium, Sant’Ippolito, Italy
“La Pietra Lavorata”, collective exhibition, San Niccolò, Arezzo, Italy
“Mater Materia”, collective exhibition, Florida International University, Miami, USA
- 2001 International Sculpture Symposium, Nantopietra, Vicenza, Italy, Second Prize
- 2000 Third International Sculpture Symposium of Verona, Third Prize
- 1999 Second International Sculpture Symposium of Verona, First Prize
- 1996 International Sculpture Symposium, Teulada, Sardinia, Italy