

The Heath Robinson Museum Celebrates William Heath Robinson's 150th birthday in 2022

2022 marks the 150th birthday of William Heath Robinson, the much-loved English cartoonist, illustrator and artist, whose name is synonymous with whimsically complicated machines and inventions.



Born in Islington on May 31st 1872, he became famous for his gently satirical cartoons and exquisitely ornate book illustrations.

The Heath Robinson Museum, based in Pinner, London, his home between 1908 and 1918, will be celebrating with a programme of events throughout 2022.

The museum was built in 2016 to display the UK's largest collection of Heath Robinson drawings encompassing his famous contraptions as well as beautiful book illustrations. Visitors can explore Heath Robinson's life and artistic development in their permanent gallery which features a timeline, original artworks and interactive exhibits. There will also be three special exhibitions, the first featuring his children's illustrations, then from May 21st visitors can enjoy displays of his unique brand of humour, culminating in their final exhibition of the finest wood engravings of the past century, on loan from the Ashmolean Museum. There will also be art workshops, competitions, live theatre, a Big Birthday Party, expert talks and contemporary craftwork, responding to the humour of Heath Robinson in their shop and on <u>online</u>.

Highlights for 2022 are:

Heath Robinson's Children's Stories exhibition of the children's books that he both wrote and illustrated, 15th January - 15th May

The Humour of William Heath Robinson exhibition 21st May 2022 – 4th September 2022

150th Birthday Party for families 31st May

Play in the Park A Midsummer Night's Dream 28th August (commemorating Heath Robinson's illustrated edition of Shakespeare's play, see illustration below)

Scene through Wood exhibition from the Ashmolean Museum celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Society of Wood Engravers, from 10th September to 11th December, featuring the finest wood engravings of the past century including work by Albrecht Dürer and William Blake

Heath Robinson Museum, Pinner Memorial Park, West End Lane, Pinner HA5 IAE <u>heathrobinsonmuseum.org</u>. Opening Times: Thursday – Sunday from I I am to 4pm. Entry Fee: Included in cost of museum entry

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LtoR Heath Robinson Museum taken from across the lake in Pinner Memorial Park. Inside the permanent gallery. Illustration from A Midsummer Night's Dream published in 1914.

Notes to Editors:

The Heath Robinson Museum was built in 2016 to house a collection of nearly 1,000 original artworks by this muchloved artist and illustrator. A further gallery holds special exhibitions through the year showcasing selections from the museum collection and other renowned artists and illustrators. An activity studio hosts workshops and has drop-in activities for children and their shop sells a range of books and memorabilia about Heath Robinson and have a changing display of original contemporary craftwork by leading local artists. The Museum, which has recently been accredited by the Arts Council, is run by The West House & Heath Robinson Museum Trust, Registered Charity Number 1086567.

Follow us on <u>Facebook Twitter</u> @hrobinsonmuseum and <u>Instagram</u> #HeathRobinson150 Dropbox folder of images of the museum are <u>here</u>. Dropbox folder of examples of Heath Robinson's work are <u>here</u>.

For more information/images please contact Communications Consultant Lucinda MacPherson <u>Lucinda.macpherson@gmail.com</u> or Lucy Smith, Museum Manager <u>Lucy@heathrobinsonmuseum.org</u>. Tel: 020 8866 8420

