



Photo/TV call: Tuesday 08 March 2011, 3.30pm, mima galleries.

Rene Porteous presenting Kate Brindley, mima Director, with sketch of *Scullery Sink* by her late Husband Glynn Porteous. Both available for interview.

mima gets a lot more than just the kitchen sink.

mima is currently showing *Questions of Belonging* an exhibition of Middlesbrough's collection. As part of the exhibition mima asked members of the public to write to us with their stories about works in the collection and vote for their favourite piece on display.

Scullery Sink by Glynn Porteous has often won the public weekly vote and has emerged as the people's favourite. When local resident Rene Porteous saw this painting by her late husband, Glynn Porteous, hanging on the wall in mima, she decided to come to mima and tell us more about it. Rene has since taken mima on a journey of discovery about her husband's life and work.

Rene and our education officer, Claire Pounder, have been to visit the house on Acton Street, Middlesbrough, where the original painting was completed to see if the subject, the scullery sink, was still there. They didn't find the sink but they did find the original front door and the views from the bedrooms still match other sketches by Glynn Porteous. A picture diary of their journey can be found on mima's facebook page.

To support Middlesbrough's collection Rene has generously decided to gift mima the original sketch for *Scullery Sink*, alongside providing our archive with priceless information about her husband, his life and his work. Rene is also working on a website to celebrate her husband's work.

mima Director Kate Brindley said: "It's always exciting to collect stories about pieces in the collection, it really helps bring them to life. Rene has shown true spirit and generosity and mima is delighted to be the proud custodians of Glynn's *Scullery Sink* painting and original sketch."

Rene Porteous, said: "I think the whole experience has been exciting, from mima choosing to display the work right up to the nostalgic visit to the original house in Acton Street. I have some great information for the website that will share and celebrate Glynn's life and work."

Scullery Sink by Glynn Porteous will be on display as part of *Questions of belonging* exhibition until 13 March. Entry is FREE.

mima is also inviting you to send in your own collection stories by visiting *Questions of Belonging* and recording them in the special collections notebook or emailing them to mima@middlesbrough.gov.uk

<ENDS>

Notes to editors

mima Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art

mima is one of the UK's leading galleries for modern and contemporary art and craft. The landmark building designed by Erick van Egeraat Architects is situated in the heart of Middlesbrough. mima opened to international critical acclaim in January 2007. Hosting temporary exhibitions of fine art and craft from 1900 to the present, mima showcases work by internationally acclaimed artists. Exhibitions change throughout the year and admission is free.

Glynn Porteous

Glynn was a Middlesbrough artist who owned an art shop on Linthorpe Road and was a well-liked public character. He attended Marton Grove Infant School and then the Art School at the then Constantine Technical College on Borough Road, Middlesbrough. In 1955 he successfully applied to Slade School of Art, London but had to defer due to National service. He joined 5th Royal Inniskillen Dragoon Guards at Catterick and fought in Germany. In 1957 he began his studies at Slade. He studied under artist William Coldstream. After Slade he worked in a London design Studio before returning to his home town and a career in Cleveland County Council's Surveyors Department where he remained for almost 20 years before taking voluntary redundancy in 1987. With his wife, Rene Porteous he set up a gallery in Forbes Buildings, Linthorpe Road, before opening an art shop on Linthorpe Road that closed in 1993. He died in 2003.

For further press information, images or interviews contact:

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Gallery Opening Times

Tues, Wed, Fri & Sat 10.00am-5.00pm,
Thurs 10.00am-7.00pm (free parking from 4pm),
Sun 12noon-4.00pm
Closed Monday
Open Bank Holidays (Sunday opening hours apply)

Admission FREE

mima

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