EXHIBITIONS LISTING – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Capability Brown Festival 2016

Special exhibitions celebrate 300 years of landscaping genius

This summer, the Capability Brown Festival 2016 celebrates the life, work and legacy of Royal Gardener and landscape architect Lancelot ‘Capability’ Brown with a range of special art exhibitions across the country.

Like an artist, Brown framed views and used perspective to create beautiful naturalistic landscapes which are still much admired today, three hundred years after his birth. Inspired by Brown’s stunning landscapes, these exhibitions will encourage people to take a fresh, new look at his work.

Some of the exhibitions taking place as part of the 300th anniversary celebrations include:

**Capability Brown: Master of the Landscape**
The Gallery, Winchester, Hampshire
Until 16 June 2016
*This exhibition is funded by the Hampshire Cultural Trust, who through this exhibition and complimentary exhibition ‘Capability Brown: Making the Landscape’, will explore Brown’s life, work and achievements.*

**The Empress and the Gardener**
Hampton Court Palace, Richmond upon Thames, Surrey
28 April to 4 September 2016
*A special exhibition of drawings by Brown’s surveyor John Spyers on loan from The State Hermitage Museum in St Petersburg*

**Cartography by Simon Vernon**
Granary Art Gallery, Weston Park, Shifnal, Shropshire
1-30 May 2016
*The art of creating maps was enormously important to Capability Brown in his landscape designs and to the draughtsmen that he employed such as John Spyers. Simon Vernon, one of the world’s leading map makers, takes a 21st century view of Brown’s work in this exhibition.*

**Works by sculptor Emma Stothard**
Burton Constable, Holderness, East Yorkshire
28 May to 29 September 2016
Hull-born sculptor Emma Stothard recreates Brown’s vision at Burton Constable, with an exhibition throughout the parkland of wire and willow sculptures inspired by the wildlife that once roamed Brown’s landscape and quirky stories from the Hall’s history

**Lenses on a Landscape Genius**
The Building Centre, Store Street, London
22 June to 27 October 2016
*A contemporary photography exhibition (taking place throughout the London Festival of Architecture) highlights the work of several leading landscape and garden photographers, each offering their own take on Capability Brown’s landscapes*

**Noble Prospects: Capability Brown and the Yorkshire Landscape**
Mercer Art Gallery, Harrogate, North Yorkshire
25 June to 11 September 2016
*The first ever exhibition dedicated to Brown’s Yorkshire landscapes and created by the Yorkshire Gardens Trust to celebrate their twentieth anniversary*

**The Capability Brown Exhibition at Milton Abbey**
6 July to 21 August 2016
Milton Abbey, Milton Abbas, Dorset
*A multimedia exhibition for all the family featuring film, photography, textiles, a computer game, an interactive tour, and original works by local artists as well as Royal Academician Stephen Farthing*

**The English Garden: Views and Visitors**
Blackwell Hall of the new Weston Library, Oxford, Oxfordshire
8 July to 4 September 2016
*Items from the collections of the Bodleian Library tell the story of eighteenth century garden design, creativity and tourism. A range of additional lectures and talks from Oxford academics will accompany the exhibition over the summer months.*

**A Capable Businessman: Brown’s account book**
Lindley Library London (Royal Horticultural Society), London
5 September to 28 October 2016
*Find out how Capability Brown managed the astonishing range of projects he undertook in this exhibition which focuses on his only known account book. In addition, the exhibition will also feature contemporary horticultural literature from the period.*

**Strange Magic and Delicarta Exhibition ‘Bringing Paper to Life’**
Berrington Hall (cared for by the National Trust), near Leominster, Herefordshire
Until Autumn 2016
*See a range of art installations, from work by environmental artists Red Earth set within parkland and which interprets the landscape’s restoration back to Brown’s original vision, to 18th century characters of Berrington Hall, including Brown, brought to life in exquisitely hand-crafted full-scale paper costumes*

**Scene: a new way of looking**
Wimpole Estate (cared for by the National Trust), Arrington, Hertfordshire
Until 30 October 2016

A major contemporary installation by NEON, an award-winning design practice, that seeks to explore new territories between architecture, design and art

**Petworth Park Revealed: The Naked Landscape**

Petworth House & Park (cared for by the National Trust), Petworth, West Sussex

Until 6 November 2016

*Colonel Wyndham’s room at Petworth is opened for the first time to host an intriguing exhibition that explores the scale and impact of Brown’s work at Petworth. The exhibition includes new aerial footage, films and 3D reconstructions*

In addition, **The Embroiderers’ Guild** presents over 40 textile exhibitions inspired by Brown’s designs and landscapes at venues across England and **Welsh Historic Gardens Trust** will tour venues in Wales including hotels and churches with a bilingual exhibition.

For further details of Capability Brown Festival 2016 exhibitions and other events, visit [www.capabilitybrown.org/events](http://www.capabilitybrown.org/events)

**NOTES TO EDITORS**

For a press pack, or to arrange interviews and request information and images please contact Adela Cragg, Susannah Penn or Jane Bevan at Firebird PR on 01235 835297 / 07977 459547 or via email to pressoffice@capabilitybrown.org

About the Capability Brown Festival 2016

- The Capability Brown Festival unites 20 partner organisations in the UK’s largest festival of its kind to date. It marks the 300th anniversary of the birth of Lancelot ‘Capability’ Brown in August 1716.
- The Festival is managed by the Landscape Institute and is funded with a £911,100 grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund, with additional match funding and funding in kind from the Festival’s partners and supporters.
- Many Brown sites, including those not normally open to the public, will host special events, tours and activities throughout 2016.
- More information can be found at [www.capabilitybrown.org](http://www.capabilitybrown.org)

About The Landscape Institute

The Landscape Institute manages the Capability Brown Festival on behalf of the Festival Partnership. The Landscape Institute is the Royal Chartered institute for landscape architects. As a professional body and educational charity, it works to protect, conserve and enhance the natural and built environment for the public benefit.

About the Heritage Lottery Fund

Thanks to National Lottery players, we invest money to help people across the UK explore, enjoy and protect the heritage they care about - from the archaeology under our feet to the historic parks and buildings we love, from precious memories and collections to rare wildlife. [www.hlf.org.uk](http://www.hlf.org.uk) @heritagelottery