Three Cheers
Queluz statues visit Tate Britain

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Plus: the latest on our UK projects and a full events calendar
This edition of Monumentum closes one of our major projects, the restoration of the beautiful mid-eighteenth-century sculptures by John Cheere from the gardens of Queluz Palace in Portugal, marked by a six-month-long exhibition at Tate Britain. It also opens our intervention to rescue Stowe. Stowe is the most important garden in the UK, the fountainhead of the Arcadian landscape which was arguably Britain’s greatest cultural influence on the global historic environment. At its heart presides the mansion, itself a building of outstanding architectural merit and on a truly palatial scale, but one which desperately needs support to halt its destruction by age and weather. This issue is a call to arms. 2008 has been a year of change. Our staffing has been revitalised with the addition of new members: Katy Boaler, Lizzie Edwards and Joe Williams have all helped to create engaging web and print content, which will soon emerge enriching our value to a broad audience.

The current economic downturn can only make things tougher for charities which need to generate funds to secure lasting success. We believe we’re efficient and professional enough to meet what is certain to be a challenge. We have a culture of close partnership with our colleagues at WMF and the invaluable support of an excellent group of sponsors, donors and members, for which I thank you all.

As winter draws near, it’s good to report that the number and variety of our events have increased. Six activities are on offer to provide shelter from the weather and sustenance for the mind (and often for the palate). With newly created membership benefits and a discount for the lecture series, we very much hope we’ll see you regularly and that our work continually enhances your enjoyment of the fragile inheritance that surrounds us.

Jonathan Foyle
Jonathan@wmf.org.uk

Stowe is a pantheon of eighteenth-century design. John Vanbrugh, Charles Bridgeman, William Kent and Robert Adam were amongst those who toiled over the raising and shaping of this unparalleled complex of monuments, set in an idyllic English landscape. The mansion has twice faced demolition: the first time was in 1848 when its owners, the Temple family, were bankrupted; the second was in 1922 as the social and economic upheavals of the First World War effectively ended the country house tradition in Britain. Stowe school was established in the eleventh hour of its path to demolition, and it remains the guardian of this extraordinary building. Today, Stowe is struggling to stay apace with the destruction of time and weather, and the decay will become exponential unless it is arrested soon. Britain cannot afford to lose this majestic building, therefore securing the support to rescue Stowe House will become WMF Britain’s next major priority.

If you would like to help our efforts to rescue Stowe on behalf of the nation please contact us on +44 (0)20 7730 5344

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Queluz was built by the Infante Dom Pedro (1717-86), later ruler of Portugal as Dom Pedro III. As a second-born royal son, being junior to Dom João IV, he inherited the title of Senhor da Casa do Infantado in 1742. With the title came properties, Queluz amongst them, which was used as a hunting lodge. Its genius loci as a royal retreat set the pattern for the site’s development into a summer palace and gardens, a place to remove to from court business and enjoy relative privacy.

Dom Pedro began building in 1746, to the designs of Mateus Vicente de Oliveira (1706-86), architect to the Casa do Infantado. That the principal façade was conceived to address the gardens from the outset betrays the closed, introspective relationship between residence and grounds and emphasises the importance of the gardens in the overall design. The shell of the building rose gradually, unsurprising given the hiatus of the Lisbon earthquake of 1755. But in that same year, Dom Pedro’s representatives visited England and Italy to secure major commissions for sculptures. This may have helped maintain the momentum of the project through the disaster.

Anyone shopping for statuary in eighteenth-century London would have come across the name of John Cheere (1709-87) as England’s foremost supplier of sculptural work, from garden statuary to mantelpieces. He had been apprenticed to a haberdasher from 1725-32, which gave him an understanding of the flow and hang of textiles, but he became a sculptor during the 1730s, landing the conspicuous commission of a gilt statue of William III in St James’s Square in 1739. Twelve years later he produced a gilt statue of George II which still stands in St Helier, Jersey, whilst some garden statuary survives at Wrest Park.

The commission for lead figures at Queluz was probably the largest Cheere ever received. Some have claimed the number ordered was 98 but too little evidence survives to be able to confirm this. Nonetheless, it’s clear that a full repertoire was needed to deliver sufficient variation of characters and themes. Giovanni da Bologna’s samson Slaying the Philistine and a copy of the antique Farnese Hercules were amongst the connoisseurs’ favourites during the age of the Grand Tour. The Four Seasons provided a standard theme in garden environments, but more esoteric subjects were chosen to fill out the ranks. Amongst these, not everyone would agree on the attributions provided for The Story of Melos and The Marriage of Bacchus.

As Cheere’s workshop worked away beating, welding and smoothing the lead figures into expressive forms, which were anything but leaden, Queluz Palace approached completion. Dom Pedro’s impending marriage to his niece, and heir to the Portuguese throne Doña Maria I, promoted renewed efforts by 1760, which included the creation of the west wing to address the garden and tiled canal. In 1764 the Rococo garlands and swags of the principal façade were being designed by the French artist and silversmith Jean Baptiste Robillon (d. 1782). By the end of the century, Portugal’s jewel was finished, and Cheere’s painted and gilded figures adorned what William Beckford called a “regal paradise”.

Cheere Restored

John Cheere’s spectacular figures for the Portuguese palace at Queluz had fallen into disrepair when WMF stepped in in 2003. Now these expressive masterpieces have reclaimed their former glory.
WMF’s involvement at Queluz began in 2003 when the site was drawn to our attention because the gardens had fallen into an advanced state of disrepair. In 2004 an agreement was reached between WMF and the Portuguese Institute of Architectural Heritage (IPPAR) that established a partnership between the two organisations, with the aim of conserving the sculptures and gardens. The lead sculptures at Queluz were in a bad way. The majority of the large groups had not been significantly maintained since their manufacture in the eighteenth-century and some of the smaller single figures had been repaired using methods and materials that were well-intentioned but ultimately detrimental. Many of the sculptures suffered from water penetration, multiple splits and holes in the lead, plant growth and deformation where they had been impacted by falling trees and branches.

Rupert Harris Conservation, based in London, was employed to repair the Cheere sculptures on behalf of WMF. The conservation process involved removing the original plaster core and corroded iron armature from inside the sculptures and replacing this with a new stainless steel armature. This required some dramatic surgery: the sculptures were cut open before being very carefully reconstructed. Deformation of the figures was corrected and any holes or splits were ‘led’ or ‘burned’, a process whereby the surface to be repaired is suspended horizontally and small amounts of lead are melted onto the affected area so that any fissures are filled. Finally the conservators re-worked the new lead surface in a way that faithfully replicated the surface and tool marks of Cheere’s studio, so that the intervention is virtually indistinguishable from the original.

Due to the rarity of lead sculptures in Portugal there are very few Portuguese interns to be trained by Rupert Harris, and it is expected that WMF will continue to take on a greater role in the project as time goes on. However, a few of the most damaged sculptures have had to be returned to the UK for repair including the two named Wedding of Bacchus and Story of Melos. After conservation these will be exhibited in Tate Britain’s Grand Manner gallery (number 6 on the principal floor) from October 2008 until late March 2009. A major aspect of WMF’s mission is to encourage public access to, and appreciation of, our shared cultural heritage. As John Cheere is amongst the greatest British sculptors, the arrival in London of these two large sculptures presents an opportunity for them to be admired at home, not far from where they were originally manufactured. We very much hope that as many people as possible will take the opportunity to view these wonderful sculptures before they are returned to Portugal in April 2009.

From Cars to Cathedrals

Stephen Bayley, style guru and architecture correspondent of The Observer, explains why his definition of design is so all-encompassing.

I’m no more interested in architects than I am in motorists, but I am utterly fascinated by buildings and vehicles. I learnt from Nikolaus Pevsner that each is a form of architecture: one static, the other mobile. More than that, I’m interested in the way each can be read as technology or as popular culture, as fashion, politics or as style. Exactly how do inanimate objects convey meaning? I’m still struggling to understand, but am nonetheless certain that anything that is made betrays the beliefs and preoccupations of the people who made it. And later, influences the behaviour of the people who use or inhabit it.

Growing up in Liverpool made me interested in architecture. Liverpool has so much to offer: some exciting, some depressing, lots of history. What a curious hold the city exerts. I rarely, re-visit, but it often revisits me. I was born in Wales, have spent most of my life in London, merely went into Liverpool to see the wedding of a friend. It’s a city that is made betrays the beliefs and preoccupations of the people who made it.

Tate Britain Exhibition

The newly restored Wedding of Bacchus and Story of Melos, the final two sculptures to be conserved, will be exhibited at Tate Britain from October 2008 for 6 months. Don’t miss this never-to-be-repeated opportunity to see these wonderful works of British art before they are returned to their rightful home in Portugal. Admission is free.

This exhibition has been made possible by a generous donation from The Henry Moore Foundation.
Looking ahead

2010 Watch List

Watch Listed 1998
Hadlow Tower, Kent

Watch Listed 2004
Battersea Power Station, south-west London

Watch Listed 2008
Aboriginal Rock Art, Dampier Archipelago, Western Australia

Threats to World Heritage

The biennial WMF World Monuments Watch reveals common threats, both natural and man-made, to cultural heritage around the world. The 2008 Watch List, WMF’s seventh, highlighted the threat mankind poses to its own cultural heritage through pollution, unmanaged tourism, climate change, conflict and economic and development pressures as urban expansion continues.

In the UK, English Heritage places 1 in 30 of England’s 30,554 Grade I and II* buildings at risk of loss through neglect and decay. WMF Britain’s Heritage has identified that many of our historic buildings are endangered by redundancy as technologies and tastes develop in response to global influences and economic pressure.

What is the Watch?

Launched in 1995, the Watch is the flagship advocacy programme of the World Monuments Fund. One of the organisation’s most effective tools, the Watch acts as a potent call to action on behalf of sites in urgent need of immediate help.

Selection of the sites is based on:
» Significance
» The urgency of the threat
» Viability of proposed solution

With the announcement of each new list, WMF presents a snapshot of the state of the world’s cultural heritage. A site’s inclusion on the Watch challenges international and local communities to work together to help protect and preserve important places for future generations.

How can the Watch help to save your heritage?

The Watch places UK sites such as the nineteenth-century monastery of St Francis and Gorton Manchester on the world stage alongside famous sites such as the Taj Mahal. Inclusion on the Watch brings an international level of advocacy which can secure global attention, elevating local campaigns into national and global arenas.

Sites can be nominated by anyone who cares for the future of a building – governments, conservation professionals, NGOs or concerned and passionate individuals.

Inclusion on the Watch does not guarantee a site WMF funding but WMF will offer advice and support towards advocacy, funding, partnership building, fieldwork, technical advice, education and training.

The nomination forms for the 2010 Watch will be available to download from our website from November onwards. The deadline for the nominations to be submitted to WMF will be the end of June 2009. An independent panel of experts will select the final list later that year in time for publication in October 2009.

For more information about the Watch List and the nomination process contact David Gundry, david@wmf.org.uk.

Watch Listed 1998
Hadlow Tower, Kent

W kidnapped in 1998 drew attention to the plight of Hadlow Tower. In spite of tremendous support from English Heritage, The Heritage Lottery Fund and other organisations the fundraising appeal for Hadlow Tower was forced to halt in 2006 due to the property being in private ownership. However the remarkable intervention of the local authority Tonbridge District Council which was prepared to issue a Compulsory Purchase Order in order to rescue the tower and transfer ownership to ‘The Vivat Trust’ in a “back-to-back deal” has now made it possible to secure a Lottery grant and raise other funds. The Vivat Trust is once again seeking financial support for the project – just under £3 million has been raised to date, yet a further £1.5 million is needed before works can commence and the building is secured.

-inspired by William Buckland’s 1812 slender tower at Fortinhill in Wiltshire which collapsed in 1825, Hadlow Tower is a Gothic Revival prospect tower. It was built between 1835 and 1838 and remodelled in 1840 for William Barton May to the designs of George Ledwell Taylor of Thirsk, and is the tallest surviving Gothic folly in England. It once had a highly decorated surface consisting largely of Roman cement with a splendid lantern at the top, yet it is currently an unadorned stump.

The proposed project will restore the tower to its full height, reinstates the lantern, repair the decorative features and convert the building to perform two functions. It will offer holiday accommodation for up to six people, whilst also allowing daily public access to the ground floor, where a permanent exhibition about the history of the site, the tower, and its rescue will be housed. Holiday accommodation as an end use will generate an income for the building and cover the costs of maintenance and any future repairs. The repaired building will join the Vivat Trust’s portfolio of twenty historic buildings available for rent as luxurious holiday accommodation.

Alice Yates, Vivat Trust
alice@vivat.org.uk

Watch Listed 2004
Battersea Power Station, south-west London

In 1993 Battersea Power Station Community Group began its campaign to preserve and give a productive new lease of life to an iconic south London landmark.

Growing concern led to its Watch Listing in 2004. In 2007 BPSCG proposed that the new Energy Technologies Institute should be housed in the A Station switch house. The Institute was set up by the Department of Trade and Industry to carry out research into technologies for combating climate change. It seemed to us to be an apt use for the building. Sadly, the idea was not taken up by the new owners, Real Estate Opportunities (RED) and the new Institute has gone elsewhere.

In October 2007 came a major success when the Department of Culture Media and Sport (DCMS) upgraded the listing of Battersea Power Station from Grade II to Grade II*, which had been applied for in 2003, at the suggestion of WMF Britain’s Colin Amery. The upgrade was opposed by the previous owners, Parkview, but was eventually approved following lobbying from WMF Britain, the Twentieth Century Society and BPSCG.

We have been less successful in persuading the current owners, Real Estate Opportunities, to adopt a phased programme of repair and refurbishment works. Instead RED seems to be going down the “grand plan” route. In July, RED unveiled its masterplan for the site, including an 800ft tower by Rafael Vinoly. This wilfully controversial proposal diminishes the Power Station’s landmark presence and is certain to be called in to by a lengthy public inquiry.

It is true that RED has carried out some holding repairs. However RED has also confirmed that they are intending to go ahead with the demolition and rebuilding of the chimneys. This is despite the existence of a 2005 engineering report (funded by WMF Britain) that suggested that the chimneys can be repaired. Their fear is that, once the chimneys are down, RED will apply for delisting.

Keith Garner, BPSCG
ko.theprager@btinternet.com
**Winter Lecture Series 2008**

**Monday 13 October / 19:00**
St George's Bloomsbury, London

**John Julius Norwich: Trying to Please**

Lord Norwich, Chairman Emeritus of World Monuments Fund Britain, will be sharing some of the many anecdotes from his colourful new autobiography, conjuring up ‘a world which seems, on the whole, safer, wittier and richer than our own’ (Jason Goodwin, The Spectator).

Sponsored by: World Monuments Fund Britain

**Tuesday 4 November / 19:00**
St George's Bloomsbury, London

**Stephen Bayley: All That is Solid Melts into Air**

See The Observer’s ‘Style guru’, Stephen Bayley at St George’s Bloomsbury this November. Stephen, an eminent author on design, explains how Marx’s dictum “All That is Solid Melts into Air” resonates on design, explains how Marx’s dictum ‘All That is Solid Melts into Air’ resonates on design, explains how Marx’s dictum.

**Monday 12 November / 19:00**
St George's Bloomsbury, London

**Temple Church, London**

**Professor Martin Biddle: The Church of the Holy Sepulchre**

In his talk he asks, “Who were the people who created it, what was it for, and how has its meaning changed over time?”

**Tuesday 23 September / 18:30**
RIBA, 66 Portland Place, London

**Modernism in China: Architectural Visions and Revolutions**

Join WMF Britain at the Royal Institute of British Architects for an evening talk by Dr Ren Ren followed by a private view of this stunning exhibition.

**Tuesday 2 December / 19:00**
St George's Bloomsbury, London

**Stonehenge: The Generation Game**

Julian Richards brought us BBC2’s ‘Meet The Ancestors’ in which he traced the origins of Stonehenge. In his talk he asks, “Who were the people who created it, what was it for, and how has its meaning changed over time?”

**Trips**

February 9 – 16, 2008

**Legendary Angkor**

With An Optional Extension to Luang Prabang, Laos

Angkor, the vast Hindu-Buddhist temple complex in north-central Cambodia, has been the subject of WMF conservation projects for over fifteen years. Come and join WMF and get an inside look at the iconic Angkor Wat temple and the Churning of the Sea of Milk gallery currently undergoing conservation by our WMF team, as well as our new visitor centre at the 12th-century temple-city of Preah Khan. This one-of-a-kind tour of Angkor will be followed by an optional extension to Laos to visit the historic Mekong temple and the Churning of the Sea of Milk. This one-of-a-kind tour of Angkor, the vast Hindu-Buddhist temple complex in north-central Cambodia, has been the subject of WMF conservation projects for over fifteen years.

**Future Events**

In Spring/Summer 2009, Symm (www.symm.co.uk) and WMF Britain will present a series of study days which will explore aspects of architectural excellence. To register your interest and to be added to our mailing list, please email Sarah Meaker at sarah@wmf.org.uk or telephone +44 (0)20 7730 5344. WMF would like to thank Foyle's Bookshop for their kind sponsorship of the Tony Robinson lecture back in June.

**Winter Lecture Series: £14 WMFB members; £19 Non-members**

**Tickets for the Winter Lecture Series: £14 WMFB members; £19 Non-members**

**Wednesday 12 November / 19:00**
Temple Church, London

**The Church of the Holy Sepulchre**

Professor Biddle examines the history and influence of The Holy Sepulchre, built over the supposed tomb of Christ in Jerusalem, which made it the epicentre of the Medieval Christian world and the model for round churches, such as that surviving at the heart of London’s Temple.

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**Admission is free**

**Sculptures from Queluz Palace, Portugal**

Since 2004 WMFB has been restoring a unique collection of mid-eighteenth-century lead garden sculptures by John Cheere which survive at Queluz Palace, near Lisbon, Portugal. Following their successful repair, WMF Britain welcomes you to come and see for yourself these wonderful works of art before they are returned to Portugal.

**One of these buildings is in Britain, one abroad. Just tell us in which town or city in an email to Sarah Meaker at sarah@wmf.org.uk by Friday 12 December. The winner will receive two free tickets to each of our spring events.**

**Win event tickets**

**Mid-October 2008 – April 2009**
Tate Britain, Millbank, London

**Sculptures from Queluz Palace, Lisbon**

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**Admission is free**

**The Henry Moore Foundation**

All lectures and events are bookable online at www.wmf.org.uk/activities, by post using the insert in this magazine or by calling our Ticket Hotline on +44 (0)20 7730 5344. All major credit cards are accepted.

Please note that ticket prices, where applicable, include a voluntary donation.
**JOIN WORLD MONUMENTS FUND BRITAIN**

Do you care about our cultural heritage? Do you want to ensure your money goes towards a structured, professional and worldwide effort to halt the loss and destruction of endangered sites? Do you want to enjoy cultural events with a like-minded audience?

If so, then joining WMF Britain as a member is an ideal way to become involved.

Membership is more than a valuable pledge of support for the world’s greatest monuments and buildings.

By becoming a member you will receive Monumentum, WMF Britain’s biannual magazine, packed with news and features, e-alerts about news, activities and the biannual Watch List of 100 Most Endangered Sites.

Members enjoy ‘2-for-1’ access to UK historic attractions such as Hampton Court, St Paul’s Cathedral, Blenheim Palace, Warwick Castle and Chatsworth.

In addition you will be offered, at a discount rate, some of the best arts and architectural events in Britain, including private views of major exhibitions, as well as talks from top-name speakers such as John Julius Norwich, Stephen Bayley and Julian Richards.

WMF/Symm Study Days explore the finest architecture in Britain, and our members receive a discount.

You will also have the unique opportunity to travel abroad on exclusive trips in order to discover and savour the beauty of foreign art and architecture. Each trip is hosted by architectural and conservation specialists and is accompanied by WMF staff.

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<td><strong>YOUNG MEMBER (STUDENTS &amp; UNDER 30)</strong></td>
<td>2-for-1 entry to St Paul’s Cathedral, Hampton Court and the Treasure Houses of the UK, Monumentum, 1 discounted ticket per lecture</td>
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<td><strong>FOUNDATION MEMBER</strong></td>
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<td><strong>CAPITAL ‘PATRON’ MEMBER</strong></td>
<td>2-for-1 entry Monumentum, 2 free tickets per lecture and 2 further discounted tickets per lecture, Invitations to special member events and private tours abroad, Watch List of 100 Most Endangered Sites plus other special WMF publications</td>
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<td><strong>INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBER</strong></td>
<td>The International Council is a dedicated group of WMF supporters who participate in specially organised trips, lectures, receptions, along with other events focussing on WMF’s work and who bring their networks to bear as advocates for our mission.</td>
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To become a member of this lively and essential organisation, go to our website at www.wmf.org.uk/involved and join online. Alternatively, join by post by completing the form in this magazine, or calling our Membership Hotline on +44 (0)20 7730 5344.

We look forward to welcoming you very soon.

Members can now get a special room rate at the stunning Hartwell House Hotel, near Aylesbury in Buckinghamshire (www.hartwell-house.com). Up until the end of April 2009, all WMF members can take advantage of a nightly rate of just £135 per person (Sunday to Friday) and a Saturday night rate of £165 per person. This is based on two people sharing a double or twin-bedded room and is inclusive of dinner to the value of £39.00 per person, cooked breakfast, use of the Hartwell Spa, service and VAT. Guests will also find a bottle of wine in their room on arrival. Call 01296 747444 for more details. To book, please quote your WMF membership number which you’ll find on your membership card. Offer excludes Christmas and New Year.