

Video transcript

Virtual Doors Open Day | Granton Art Centre

2021

[02:48]

*Holly Prentice, Store Manager: Collections*

Welcome to the National Galleries of Scotland Virtual Doors Open Day, 2021. This year we are going to take you behind the scenes of our sculpture store. We store over 10000 artworks in this store. Sculptures range from busts, to larger works, to even larger sculpture. Today, the art movement team are extracting a sculpture for one of our curators to look at. The shelving is quite high, over 3.5 metres tall. We use a stacker, a bit like a forklift, to safely remove the pallet of tubs. The artwork is stored in the tub with some protective layers of tissue, a bit like a pillow for the artwork. Our curator, Imogen, is going to tell you a little bit more about this artwork.

*Imogen Gibbon, Deputy Director & Chief Curator*

This is a portrait bust of Tertina Liebenthal. Liebenthal lived all her life in Edinburgh, she was born in 1889 and died in 1970 and she was a music concert organiser. In 1941, she instigated the long running series of lunchtime music concerts at the National Gallery of Scotland now know as the Scottish National Gallery. As part of the programme for all of those concerts, she was adamant that each programme would include contemporary music composition and each of the concerts was introduced by the bang of the one o'clock gun because the lunchtime concert started at one o'clock and ran until 2 o'clock. At the 699<sup>th</sup> concert at the National Gallery, Liebenthal had just announced the special 700<sup>th</sup> concert and the programme, the celebratory programme that was going to kick off the 700<sup>th</sup> concert and she collapsed and died later in hospital. The 700<sup>th</sup> music concert was eventually put on in 1971 as a tribute. The bust is a bronze bust, it is a cast of the original plaster bust by the sculptor Diona Murray. Murray was an English sculptor, she studied under Henry Moore at the Chelsea School of Art in the early 1930s and then she studied to be singer and then she returned to sculpture in the early 1960s and this bust dates from around that time.

*Holly Prentice, Store Manager: Collections*

We look after these artworks for you, the nation, this is your Collection. We exhibit the sculptures in our four galleries and lend to other galleries both locally and internationally. There is always artwork on the move! You can visit the Gallery of Modern Art and take part in our 'Walk, Talk, Make Sculpture Trail'. There's lots of sculpture to see. We look forward to seeing you soon!