Norton Simon Museum

Garden Guide

A reusable, interactive guide to inspire conversation and exploration.
Welcome to the Norton Simon Museum’s Sculpture Garden. As you walk through the Garden, you can keep track of your progress on the map on the back cover.

Before we get started, let’s get to know the Garden by experiencing it using our senses.

Take a look around you. What do you see in the Garden? Now, take a deep breath. What does the Garden smell like? Touch the ground. What does the Garden feel like? Close your eyes and listen. What does the Garden sound like?

WRITE your first impression of the Garden below.
Henry Moore was inspired by stories about kings, queens and princesses that he would read to his daughter Mary. He called this sculpture *King and Queen*.

Find this sculpture and imagine that the King and Queen are having a conversation. Fill in the word bubbles with what you think they would say.

**PLEASE REMEMBER NOT TO TOUCH THE SCULPTURES!** Fingerprint residue can damage the surfaces of bronze sculptures.
Have a friend close their eyes, and then lead them to Jacques Lipchitz’s *Dance* (the sculpture is to the right of the pond if you are looking at the garden from the entrance). While your friend’s eyes remain closed, describe the sculpture for them so they can imagine what it looks like. When you’re done, have your friend open their eyes. How does the artwork compare to how they imagined it from your description? Did describing the piece for your friend help you notice anything about the sculpture you might have otherwise overlooked?

**WRITE** about your experience below.
Walking down the path a bit farther, you’ll see Henry Moore’s *Two-Piece Reclining Figure No. 9*. Moore’s semiabstract sculptures are drawn from landscapes and female figures, and they evoke the contours of hills, caves in hillsides and cliffs as well as Mother Nature.

Walking around the sculpture, choose a side and **DRAW** the sculpture below using one continuous line without taking your pencil off the paper (a contour drawing).

What did you learn or notice from drawing the sculpture?
Now, step closer to the pond to view Robert Morris’ *Untitled* (by *Two-Piece Reclining Figure No. 9*). This piece is made of twelve identical steel boxes. Morris saw each of these boxes as a unit that could be reproduced and then added to the existing sculpture.

Remembering not to touch or get too close to the sculpture, how heavy do you think the boxes are? Do you think they’re filled or empty?

If you could rearrange these boxes to form your own sculpture, what would it look like? **DRAW** your ideas below.

Morris titled this piece *Untitled*. What would you call it if you could give it a new title?
The garden’s silver-trunked eucalyptus trees reminded landscape designer Nancy Goslee Power of Edgar Degas’s dancers. Do you see the resemblance?

Are there any other plants in the garden that remind you of people or animals? **DRAW** one of those plants, and then transform it into the person or animal it resembles.
Towards the end of the path, near the Garden Café, spend a minute looking at Barbara Hepworth’s Rock Form (Porthcurno).

What do the shapes in this sculpture suggest to you? Why do you think she chose to make the area around the holes so smooth while the outside is so rough and patterned?

Hepworth was one of the first artists to consider the space around her sculptures as a significant part of the works themselves. Walk around Rock Form and take it in from all sides.

Without touching the sculpture, look through the holes. What do you see? **DRAW** it below.
The pond reflects the sky, art, plants and even you! Look at your reflection in the pond with a loved one. **DRAW** your silhouettes below to remember your time together in the Sculpture Garden.
When you first entered the Garden, you wrote about your first impression of the Garden. After seeing more of the nature and art along your walk, how would you describe the Garden? Gather inspiration from your experience to create a **haiku**, an unrhymed poem made up of three lines.
Sculptures included in the Garden Walk

1. **Henry Moore** (English, 1898–1986), *King and Queen*, 1952–3
   Bronze, Edition of 5 + 2, 64½ x 56 x 35 in. (163.8 x 142.2 x 88.9 cm), Norton Simon Art Foundation, © The Henry Moore Foundation

2. **Jacques Lipchitz** (French, 1891–1973), *Dance*, 1936
   Bronze, Edition of 7, Cast No. 5, 43¼ x 28¼ x 31 in. (109.9 x 71.8 x 78.7 cm) Norton Simon Art Foundation, © Estate of Jacques Lipchitz

3. **Henry Moore** (English, 1898–1986), *Two-Piece Reclining Figure No. 9*, 1968
   Bronze, Edition of 7, Cast No. 2, 56½ x 96 x 52 in. (143.5 x 243.8 x 132.1 cm), Norton Simon Art Foundation, © The Henry Moore Foundation

   Steel blocks, 12 units: 16 x 174 x 18 in. (40.6 x 441.8 x 45.7 cm); each: 6 x 18 x 24 in. (15.2 x 45.7 x 61 cm), Norton Simon Museum, © 2019 Robert Morris

5. **Edgar Degas** (French, 1834–1917), *Dancers in Pink*, c. 1886
   Pastel on paper, mounted on cardboard, 28½ x 15¼ in. (72.4 x 38.7 cm), The Norton Simon Foundation, © The Norton Simon Foundation

6. **Barbara Hepworth** (English, 1903–1975), *Rock Form (Porthcurno)*, 1964
   Bronze, Edition of 6, Cast No. 3, overall: 99¼ x 42 x 17 in. (253.4 x 106.7 x 43.2 cm), Norton Simon Art Foundation, © Bowness, Hepworth Estate