



Reclining Connected Forms

Catalogue Number

LH 612 cast 7

Artwork Type

Sculpture

Date

1969

Dimensions

artwork (including base): 93 × 224 × 132.5 cm pedestal: 235 × 140

× 60 cm weight uncased: 920 kg case: 252 × 161 × 122 cm weight cased: 1278.5 kg

Medium

bronze

Signature

stamped Moore, 7/9

Ownership

The Henry Moore Foundation: gift of the artist 1977

More Information

Henry Moore identified Reclining Connected Forms as one of his explorations of the theme of internal/external forms, depicting, in his words, 'one form inside another, a form protected by another form'. The closest ancestor of this work is probably Reclining Mother and Child 1960–61, which shares its open oval structure. Their likeness suggests that Moore may have conceived Reclining Connected Forms with the same mother/child relationship in mind. Yet, Reclining Connected Forms seems to carry hints of a darker dynamic. Look at how the interior figure is placed. Rather than being physically bonded to its counterpart, it appears precariously placed, wedged into position hanging off the outer form. Its shape too seems to carry a portent of threat. Where we might expect arms, the figure's flanks converge into thorn-like points, as if to encourage a wide berth.