



Nigel Hall RA (1943 -)

Nationality
British

Education

1960-64, West of England College of Art, Bristol
1964-67, Royal College of Art, London



Taught

1971-81 Royal College of Art, London; Chelsea College of Art and Design

Artwork

Vertical Excavation (1983), Nigel Hall RA

Background

Nigel Hall was born in Bristol in 1943. His grandfather was a stonemason working on churches and cathedrals and Nigel was able to observe this work, which was to influence his sculptures and drawings. He studied at the West of England College of Art, Bristol (1960-64) and the Royal College of Art, London (1964-67). Following graduation he won a Harkness Fellowship, and until 1969 lived and worked in Los Angeles, travelling in the USA, Canada and Mexico. Hall went on to teach and examine at the Royal College of Art, and served as MA Sculpture course director at Chelsea College of Art and Design.

The artist

When the CNA collection was being refurbished prior to the first public exhibition, in 1990, the sculptor was consulted; the work that had been purchased by NCDAD in 1974 [DETAILS] had been damaged when engineers used it as to hang their coats. It was decided to part exchange the damaged work for a more robust piece, *Vertical Excavation*. Nigel Hall later became a trustee of the CNA art collection [CONSULT ARCHIVE]. Hall's first one-man exhibition was held at the Galerie Givaudan, Paris, in 1967, and most of his numerous one-man shows held have been in galleries abroad - in New York, Los Angeles, Perth, Melbourne, Sydney, Tokyo, Zurich, Düsseldorf, Cologne and Rome. This international exposure has led to representation in numerous public collections - in the UK, the USA, Asia, Australia and Europe. These include Tate, London; the Museum of Modern Art, New York; the National Gallery of Australia, Canberra; Nationalgalerie, Berlin; Kunsthalle, Zurich and the Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Art. Site-specific projects have featured regularly during Nigel Hall's career. These include a wall sculpture for the entrance to the Australian National Gallery, Canberra; a two-part wall relief in painted and gilded wood for the entrance of Providence Towers, Dallas; and a free-standing steel sculpture for the entrance to Thameslink Road Tunnel, London Docklands, one of his largest. A solo exhibition of his work was held at the Royal Academy in 2011.



Vertical Excavation



In 1970 Hall produced his first tubular aluminium sculptures in which he explored ways of encapsulating space in a linear manner, thus manipulating our perceptions of it. A sense of place and placement have always been integral to his work, and shadows play a role equal to that of line, mass or void, as do changes of aspect from altered viewpoints. An almost minimal refinement and economy of means has recently given way to robust forms that still remain very carefully considered in their configuration. These refer obliquely to mountain landscape, which alters dramatically when the viewer moves within it.

Metadata

Accession number:	C022
Artist:	Nigel Hall RA
Artwork type:	sculpture in one part
Material:	painted aluminium (pale metallic grey)
Measurements:	164.6 x 97.6 x 30.1 or 27.3 x 104.0 x 10.0 cm
Technique:	aluminium welded using the Metal Inert Gas process, and spray painted
Date:	1990
Rights owner:	the artist
Rights status:	UK HE use only
Institution:	Council for National Academic Awards/University of London