

(SDW expanded statement)

Equal Weight, Equal Value?

191 x 144 x 60 cm

assemblage: industrial scales, carved sandstone, found sandstone

Consideration of the value of art is the concept that inspired this sculpture assemblage. The large antique cast-iron scales weigh two pieces of sandstone of equal mass, one a sculpture called 'Slugs in Love', the other a found, weathered stone from the coast. The idea of balancing a sandstone carving with a found sandstone block of equal weight demonstrates the absurdity of measuring art by its material content. On the other hand, one could debate the value of a block eroded by Nature compared to one carved by hand. Are they equally beautiful? Is the carving style of the sea, wind and rain of equal artistic value to hand-carving?

The two sandstone pieces are secured on trays, which are suspended by the chains of the beam balance. The assemblage weighs about 68 kg. The footing of the central pillar of the beam balance is to be fixed by anchor bolts to a concrete block-base. For safety, each tray will be attached by a concealed steel cable to the concrete base, enabling gentle oscillation but preventing excessive movement caused by wind and handling.

(SDW short statement)

Two sandstones of equal weight are balanced on large antique cast-iron scales: one is a hand-carved sculpture 'Slugs in Love', the other a sea-weathered found stone. The central pillar is bolted to a concrete base; the trays are stabilised by cable.