

ANNE SHINGLETON

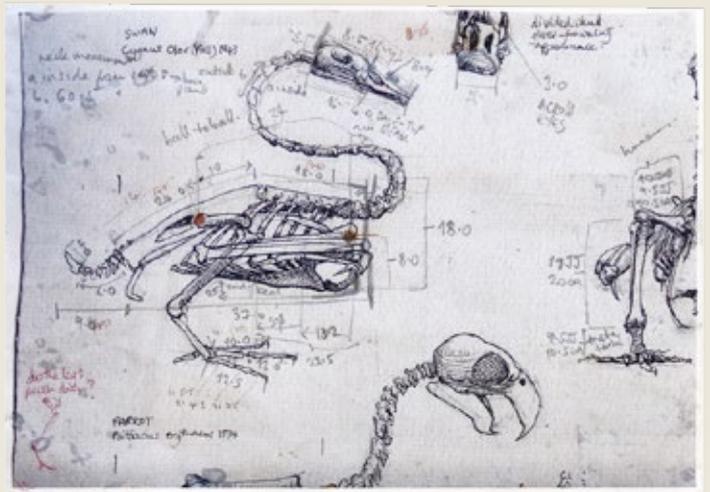
MY SWAN





The idea for this large sculpture has been in my head for 3 years. The first work on it was to gather information on the anatomy of the swan.

I made studies from swans; dead, stuffed, bones and skeletons. Also from videos of birds in the standing and flapping wings pose that particularly interested me.



The next stage was to make small models, about 25 cm high. I generally work in wax for these.



I made a half life size model, again in wax.



The next stage was to make the model in clay for the monumental swan. I chose to enlarge the maquette so that the swan would be bigger than life size, and create more impact. Also any sculpture that is outside under the sky often looks small compared to one that is inside a building. So the increase in size compensates for this.



A mould was made of the maquette and a copy of the swan in hard white resin created. This served for taking measurements for the enlargement with a pantograph.

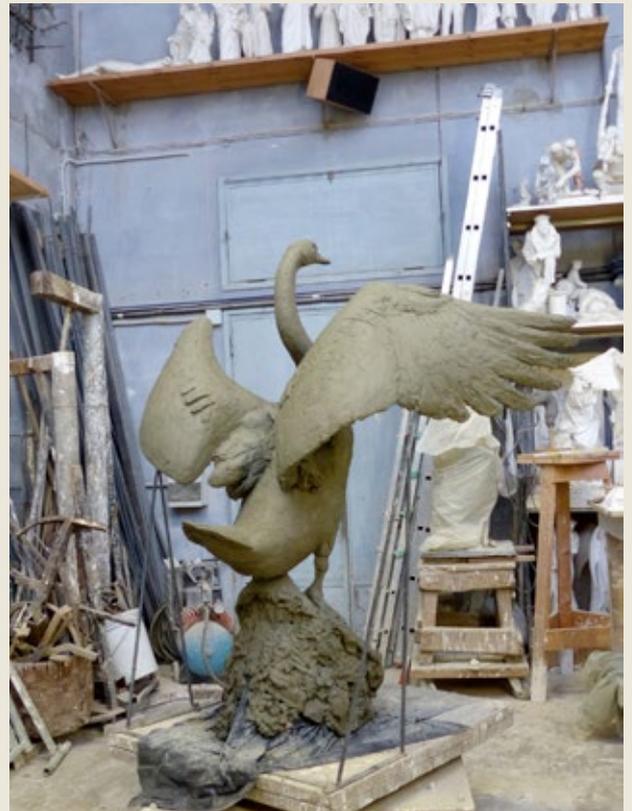


The pantograph enables the large measurements to be defined and so the armature can be constructed to remain within the body of the swan. Once the armature is soldered in place the modelling with the clay can start.





There is always a moment when changes can be made. I chose to modify the angle of the primaries in the clay.



I was fortunate to be able to work in this large purpose built studio for sculpture, in Pietrasanta.
Not having done this before, the modelling took me about 40 days.
A totally enjoyable experience!

A FEW PHOTOS OF THE FINISHED CLAY MODEL.



The next stage is the making of a mould and the working on the waxes from the moulds in the foundry. The finished bronze will be ready sometime early next year 2018!

I will post more on the development of the bronze swan when and as it happens.