

Basic Detail Report



00054858

Title

Windjammer Sailors

Date

2016

Primary Maker

Brett 'Mon' Garling

Medium

Bronze - silicon bronze 95 percent copper; 1 percent manganese; 4 percent silicon Patina -- graphite applied with heat; microcrystalline wax

Dimensions

Overall: 2748 × 1400 × 3150 mm weight of bronze estimated at 700kg - one tonne thickness of bronze approx 5-7mm

Name

Sculpture

History

Australian artist Dennis Adams (1914-2001) conceived the sculpture in the 1980s. In the 1930s he had sailed on the windjammers, desperate to experience sail while he could. He sailed to England in 1935 to study art at the Royal Academy on the Herzogin Cecilie as an 'able-bodied passenger', returning to Australia in early 1939 on the Lawhill. Knowing that the ships were soon to become unviable, he dreamt of a life chronicled so evocatively by poets, sea captains and writers like John Masefield, Joseph Conrad and Alan Villiers. Adams joined the port watch and climbed the rigging with paintbox in hand sketching on squares of sailcloth. He captured moments of action on the yardarms and the routine maintenance tasks so critical to the survival of Erikson's fleet. He ran economical, lean ships which were not insured, while his cargoes were.