



New work by Edmund de Waal to be exhibited at Leamington Spa Art Gallery & Museum

The artist-potter Edmund de Waal (1964 -) has been inspired by the healing saline waters of Leamington Spa to create a new installation titled *water-shed*. This newly commissioned piece, supported by the National Lottery through the Arts Council England, will form the centrepiece of a new exhibition that opens at Leamington Spa Art Gallery & Museum on **Friday 22 January**.

The Royal Pump Rooms, where the Art Gallery & Museum is housed, was used for medical treatments, including hydrotherapy from its opening in 1814 until the late 20th Century. De Waal's exciting ceramic installation explores the use of vessels in medicine and looks at the ways in which porcelain containers have been used to hold water. The water-pots are made with some of the darkest celadon blue glazes he has used to date.

The exhibition, *water-shed: New work by Edmund de Waal* (22 January – 11 April) will feature an interesting collection of de Waal's recent work to accompany the newly commissioned piece. Curatorial Officer, Sarah Brown said: 'We are delighted to be able to display the work of such a leading ceramicist. De Waal's intriguing porcelain installations show the prominence of the links between contemporary art and craft.'

Leamington Spa Art Gallery & Museum have invited Edmund de Waal to talk about the ideas and inspiration behind the works that appear in the exhibition on Thursday 4 February at 6.30pm. The cost is £3 per person with free entry to Friends of Leamington Spa Art Gallery & Museum and students. Advance booking is essential for this talk, please call 01926 742700 to reserve a place.

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For more information on the exhibition or associated events please contact Sarah Brown, Curatorial Officer on 01926 742702 (sarah.brown@warwickdc.gov.uk) or Emma Lewis, Publicity Officer on 01926 742709 (emma.lewis@warwickdc.gov.uk). Alternatively visit the artist's website – www.edmunddewaal.com