



# Moor House School News and Events

## Year 11 Educational Visit to the Anish Kapoor Exhibition at the Royal Academy of Arts

**10th December 2009**

On Thursdays the students in Key Stage 4 have 'Flexible Learning Day'. For Year 11s this normally means going to East Surrey College where students have been taking part in a range of courses including Media Studies, Floristry and Catering.

Thursday 10th December started off as normal with students going to East Surrey College for the last week of college of the term; the Floristry Group made table decorations using Christmas foliage, while the Catering Group made Christmas Chocolate Logs (which were absolutely delicious).

However for the afternoon session everyone headed into London to an exhibition by the internationally acclaimed artist Anish Kapoor, winner of the 1991 Turner Prize and hailed as one of the most influential and pioneering sculptors of his generation.



This exhibition was being held at the Royal Academy of Arts, and the first amazing exhibit was on show in the courtyard outside. As you can see above it was made from hundreds of highly polished mirrored spheres (balls) that interlink and rise up into the sky, infinitely reflecting and repeating the surroundings while disorientating and distorting the viewer. The name of the piece - 'Tall Tree and The Eye' - felt very appropriate.

On entry into the main exhibition we came across an enormous sculpture made of metal with a cavernous opening, which boggled the mind because it seemed enormous from one angle, but when moving around the side it seemed impossibly narrower. It made you want to climb inside to see what it would be like within it!



Following on from that we came across possibly the most famous piece in the exhibition, called 'Shooting Into The Corner'. This installation had a metal cannon as its centrepiece, and every 20 minutes a block of red wax would be loaded into it and then fired out of it with an explosive BOOM... the wax would spatter against the wall and fall into a sea of red created from the earlier firings. As much a piece of theatre as a piece of art, this was violent and shocking but somehow simultaneously enjoyable and fun.

[You can see a video clip of 'Shooting Into the Corner' by clicking here.](#)

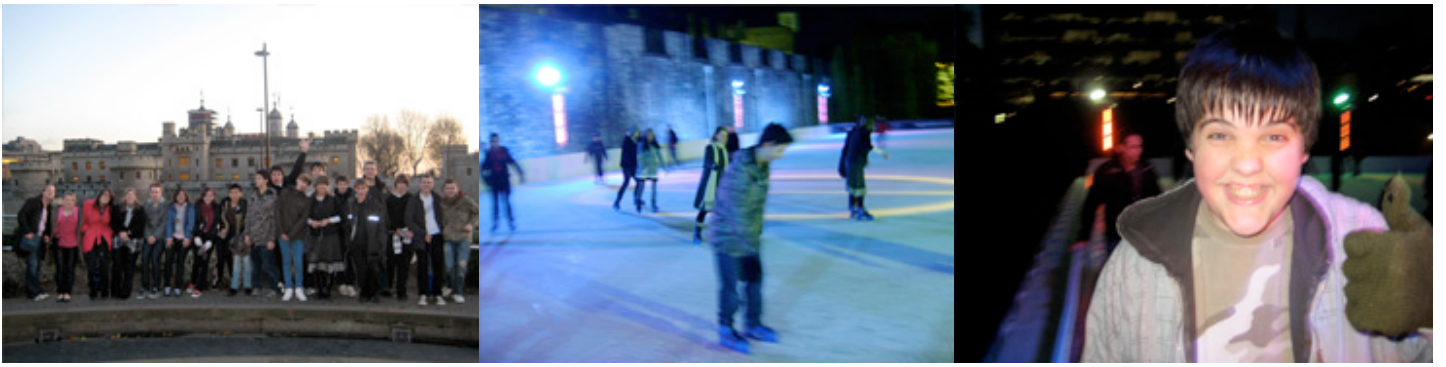


Also in the exhibition we saw the enormous work Svayambh, which is a word from the Sanskrit language which means 'Self Generated'. A massive block of red pigment travelled on an invisible conveyer belt as it passed through intricate archways on its journey through five separate rooms. Each time the block passed through an archway it was sculpted by the archway, with bits of red wax sloughing off and landing on the floor... a bit like the biggest Play-Doh set you have ever seen!

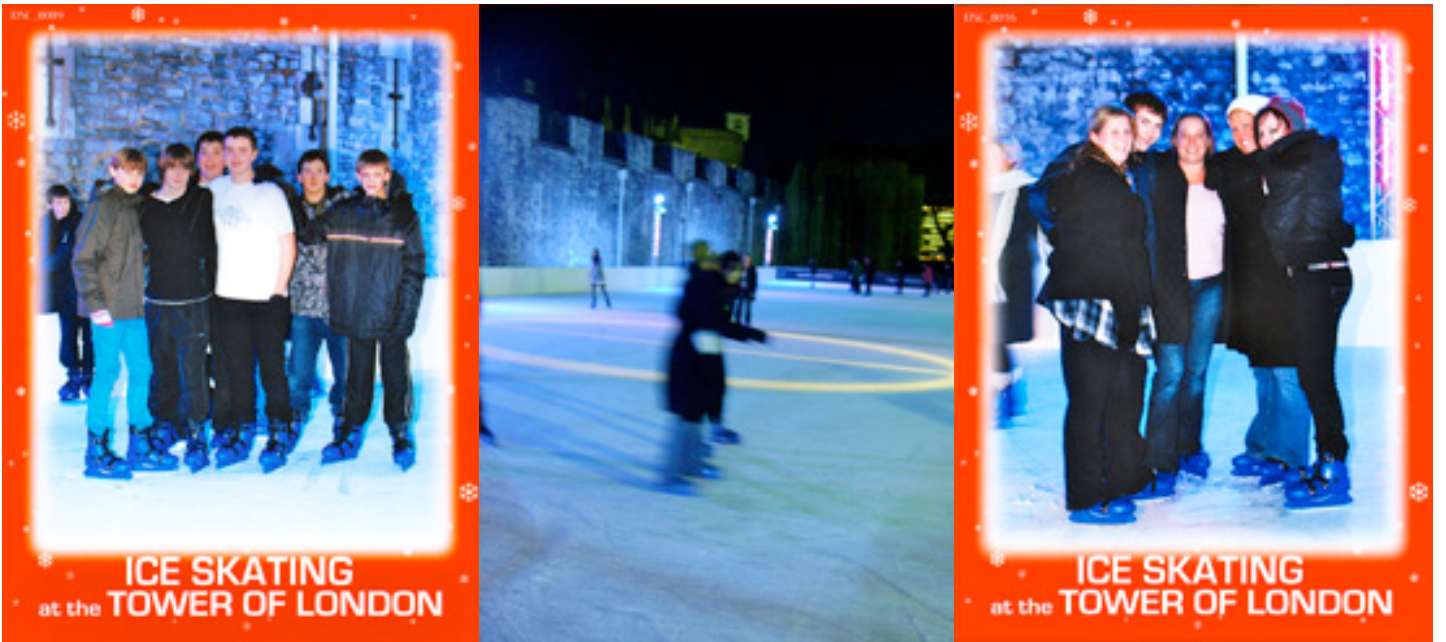


On top of all this was a giant yellow work which literally caved into the wall, and a number of curved mirrored surfaces, all of which distorted the viewer's notion of form and space - a hallmark of Kapoor's work.

While a lot of modern art can seem pointless, nobody could deny that the sculptures in this exhibition were fun, unique and interesting, and it shows that art is something that anybody can enjoy and take an interest in.



After the exhibition we travelled on the London Underground to Tower Hill where we went ice-skating outside The Tower of London. This was an ASDAN Challenge to try a new sport, and even the most nervous of ice-skaters gave it a go and realised that they could do it! Mrs. Greig displayed acrobatic finesse and impressed everyone with her ability to skate backwards as well as forwards, while Mr. Hart showed very limited ability and will clearly have to keep practising if he hopes to join Team GB in 2012.



As the sun set and the evening became chilly we headed off to our final activity for the evening - a meal out at nearby restaurant Wagamama, which serves pan-Asian food in the style of a Japanese Ramen Noodle bar. Students behaviour was impeccable and everybody was enthusiastic to try different and new kinds of food - especially the side dishes which were provided 'on the house' - thanks Wagamama!



The general consensus was that the food was delicious; although Hong did point out that the reason they offer Green Tea for free is probably because it's just 'crushed up leaves in some hot water'. On

this he is absolutely correct! Tom B. also made the point that smaller people can have huge appetites, putting away enough food to feed a small army!

All in all this was a thoroughly interesting and enjoyable day out and marked a very positive end to the Autumn Term for the Year 11s. This activity would not have been possible without the dedication and support of the Year 11 Staff who worked extended hours to make it happen, so thanks are due to Mrs. Greig, Mrs. Vallance, Miss Gerety, Miss Campbell and Miss Murphy.

Report by Mr. Hart