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Primary school pupils choose works
for an exhibition at the
Sigurjón Ólafsson Museum

February 23 – November 30, 2007



Selected quotations by primary school pupils

Infant

LSÓ 1137

Cute and adorable, but the world is large and dangerous.

Harpa 2.cl. Smáraskóli

The sculpture is cool, it's made of light-coloured stone and is sort of round and smooth, very cute. Not too flashy with everything all over the place and too much in one sculpture. This sculpture is simple and cool. It makes you feel calm.

Sunneva 9.ME Vogaskóli

A lovely and beautiful sculpture. Reminds me of infants in the world that have their whole lives ahead of them.

Jóhanna Björk 7.G Hvassaleitisskóli

Fisherman

LSÓ 012

I feel like a fisherman who thinks: This is my final moment.

Þórður Ágúst 6.N Laugarnesskóli

Viking

LSÓ 162

I chose this sculpture because it is so original and so beautifully made. It's like the way life was a long time ago.

Jovan 6.L Laugarnesskóli

Once there was a troll who was able to change into a Viking, and when he did he started sneaking into ships to find something to eat. When he finished he swam to Iceland and turned to stone and then his name was Hvítserkur.

Agnar Alexander 3.S Laugarnesskóli

... reminds you that the Icelanders were once Vikings and the coarseness reminds you of lava, this sculpture tells you a story and is also about the way Iceland is made.

Viktor 10.cl. Landakotsskóli

Creation

LSÓ 072

I think this is beautiful
I think it is like a monster
I think this is big
I think it is very beautiful.

Karen 3.S Laugarnesskóli

This sculpture is peaceful
A gorgeous sculpture
Like a bird, and light
A beautiful, glittering light.

Niels 3.S Laugarnesskóli

The Widow

LSÓ 198

This reminds me of the story about the little girl with the matches, because it's like she is all alone. I think this sculpture is beautiful but also chilling. This sculpture gets to me, and it is also very empty.

Arna Rín 6.S Laugarnesskóli

I find it sad and chilling. She embraces the gravestone and stares into space like she sees something, with tears in her eyes.

Hákon 6.N Laugarnesskóli

A Cat II

LSÓ 142

The sculpture reminds me of the cat my grandmother used to have and how it played between the legs of the chairs in the kitchen. I think there is amazing movement in this sculpture – and it also makes me want to see it from another angle.

Jón H. 10.cl. Landakotsskóli

Harbinger of Spring

LSÓ 151

... reminds you of a flame ...

Heiður 9.ME Vogaskóli

Sculpture

LSÓ 157

I have that same sense of humour. I can understand very well what the artist was thinking but I can't describe it in words. A real artist can see the absurdity and laughter in it, towards the world.

Böðvar Ingi 6.N Laugarnesskóli

Wooden Knot

LSÓ 152

A three-toed sloth lies
With its lazy body
On its belly
Like a frozen stone.

Marteinn 3.S Laugarnesskóli

Knud Rasmussen

LSÓ 025

To me this sculpture is
Like a skier travelling on ice.
He has six foxes
And they stand and look at the Northern Lights.

I think this is a beautiful sculpture
It is like it's smiling at me.
I see that he is warm-hearted
And considerate.

Selma 3.S Laugarnesskóla

This is a sculpture of sled dogs that are good friends. They're always out pulling the sled. The dog at the front is called Hringur – he and Snati were the best dogs, they were most often outside.

Hafþór Ernir 3.S Laugarnesskóli

The Battle for the Magic Egg

LSÓ 098

Here we have either war or a volcano about to erupt.

Óliver Adam 2.cl. Smáraskóli

Children at Play

LSÓ 206

Children play and play
Because they love being alive
They are content and happy

Sólrún Bára 3.S Laugarnesskóli

Playing hopscotch is fun, and it's also fun trying to think. Lying on your side is funny, too. I feel like they're playing hopscotch and they're kind to each other and warm-hearted.

Thelma Dís 3.S Laugarnesskóli

Mask

LSÓ 011

My first thought was that the sculptor wanted to show that people hide behind masks. We all have a mask, a shyness, to hide anger, to not be yourself but someone else. To me it was so easy to understand this sculpture because I saw that I also wear a mask. I saw that some people are not themselves but are pretending to be someone else. That's when they're wearing the mask.

Heimir 6.L Laugarnesskóli

Yearning for Life

LSÓ 226

Life

Life is the most important thing there is.
You go to heaven
When it leaves.

Urður 3.S Laugarnesskóli

Nearer to Thee

LSÓ 113

Original and slightly futuristic, sort of like a futuristic building if you use your imagination.

N. Ragnar 9.ME Vogaskóli

The Cripple

LSÓ 003

This sculpture reminds me of Quasimodo, who was my favourite character in the Hunchback of Notre Dame.

Hildur Ýr 9.ÁP Vogaskóli

The Wall

LSÓ 158

For a long time I have wanted to see a wall
I don't care how big it is
As long as it's beautiful.

Berta 3.S Laugarnesskóla

Swans

LSÓ 021

“To become free, we all have to give a little part of ourselves.” This is the first thing on my mind when I look at this sculpture. We all think we can have everything and give nothing in return, we're completely selfish. Everyone needs a protective wing to cover their shoulder, otherwise we will freeze to death in the blizzard of life. The one who gave both his extremities was rewarded with love, charity and shelter.

Andrea 10.cl. Landakotsskóli.

I think swans are beautiful and serene and they always stick out in a flock of birds, it's like they're seeing something spectacular, perhaps the future, but they can't get to it yet. They have something good to look forward to.

Elísabet Birta 10.BE Vogaskóli

Circulation

LSÓ 166

It reminds me of winter, like the sculpture is frozen.

Martha 10.BE Vogaskóli

Tree

I have a tree in my garden.

It's pretty.

It's made of silver.

And it's my favourite tree.

It's fun to play with.

Drífa Hrönn 3.S Laugarnesskóli

My Mother

LSÓ 007

Dear mother, you who have looked after me so much

I want to have you here –

You have beautiful hair and eyes.

I want you to stroke my hair.

I promise that wherever you are

I will never forget you.

Anita 6.L Laugarnesskóli

Merry-Go-Round

LSÓ 079

Monkey bars

I am the monkey bars

In the old days I was called merry-go-round

It's a cool name.

I think the sculpture is beautiful.

Katrín 3.S Laugarnesskóli

... reminds you of books written in a secret language from the old days.

Sigurjón 2.cl. Smáraskóli

Mythical Creature

LSÓ 015

The artist objectifies an ancient creature here in a very cool, artistic way.

I have heard about this sculpture and I want to see it with my own eyes.

It reminds me of Icelandic folk tales.

Gísli 10.cl. Landakotsskóli

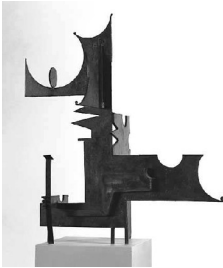


Pallas Aþena

LSÓ 055

The sculpture is like a man who is staring at me because he thinks I am beautiful and have a good heart.

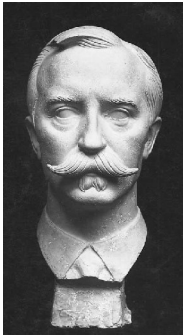
Guðlaug Dís 3.S Laugarnesskóli



A Glimpse Behind the Moon LSÓ 030

The sculpture reminds me of night, and the part that is cut out is the light from the moon.

Óliver Adam 2.cl. Smáraskóli



Stefán Stefánsson

LSÓ 216

A man was out walking
His name was Þór of Kjarnarból.
He had a girl and two naughty boys
He wanted to move, to be sure
But he was rather too broke for that.

Úlfur 3.S Laugarnesskóli



The Giant of Fire

LSÓ 042

I often feel like this wonderful giant. I consider myself a glowing, magnificent flame during this worst part of childhood. The sculpture is very colourful but also has depth and mystical allure.

Jóhann 10.cl. Landakotsskóli

The title of this exhibition refers to the catalogue raisonné catalogue of Sigurjón Ólafsson's artwork that has now been made accessible on the museum's website:

www.lso.is.

There, everyone with access to the Internet can view listings of all the three-dimensional works that Sigurjón is known to have created with pictures where available. This catalogue raisonné was previously released as a part of the publication *Sigurjón Ólafsson - Life and Art*, and has now been updated.

This exhibition was inspired by the opportunity to introduce school children to Sigurjón's work through the online catalogue. The children were invited to view a selection of works and choose those sculptures that they wanted to see. Their requests were to be accompanied by written text, giving their reasons, an interpretation of the work, thoughts that surfaced when it was viewed, a poem, prose, or similar. Many art teachers in the children's primary schools assisted them with their selections.

The museum received approximately 100 requests from an equal number of children. Unfortunately there was not enough space to display all the works that the children wanted to see; however in the final selection process the pupils' wishes were taken into account, as was the overall theme of the exhibition. A selection of texts that the children sent in is published in this catalogue, including texts for works that could not be included in the exhibition.

Sigurjón Ólafsson Museum
Laugarnestangi 70
105 Reykjavík
www.LSO.is - LSO@LSO.is
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Sigurjón Ólafsson
1908 – 1982

