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## The Royal Parks Foundation Heralds in the New Year with a Fanfare of Trumpets

*The newly installed Tiffany Drinking Fountain brings music to London's Royal Parks to welcome in the New Year*

The Royal Parks Foundation ceremoniously greets the arrival of a notable New Year in the British calendar, with the launch of the *Tiffany Drinking Fountain*, affectionately known as 'Trumpet'.

The Trumpeters of the Life Guards help announce the installation of this new public drinking fountain located in front of the magnificent backdrop of Kensington Palace in Kensington Gardens.

This drinking fountain has been made possible following a generous \$1.25 million gift from The Tiffany & Co. Foundation to the Royal Parks Foundation (USA), a charity established to enable America to support the natural history and heritage of London's Royal Parks. Fernanda Kellogg, Chair of the Board of The Tiffany & Co. Foundation comments; *"We want to help conserve the natural heritage of London's Royal Parks. 2012 will see a huge influx of visitors to London and we are delighted that through Tiffany - Across the Water, we've been able to enhance the Parks and provide free drinking water for so many of these visitors."*

This uniquely-shaped drinking fountain is one of two British designs chosen from an international competition, to find 'The Ultimate Drinking Fountain' for London's eight Royal Parks. The panel of judges selected this design by Ben Addy of Moxon Architects, as a result of its formal clarity and elegance.

Sara Lom, CEO of the Royal Parks Foundation says; *"2012 is a momentous year for Britain, for our capital city and for the Royal Parks, with the numerous sporting events and Queen's Diamond Jubilee taking centre stage. As the charity for London's Royal Parks, we want to celebrate this special occasion and welcome in the New Year with a ceremonial flourish. Perfectly positioned in front of Kensington Palace the Tiffany Drinking Fountain will benefit the seven million visitors expected to visit Kensington Gardens in 2012."*

The drinking fountain design competition is one element of *Tiffany - Across the Water*, which focuses on restoring water features across the capital's eight Royal Parks. Launched by The Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, in the summer of 2010, he comments; *"For centuries water fountains have provided a cooling, civilising presence to quell the heat of the city. Today drinking fountains are at a record low, so this generous donation from The Tiffany & Co. Foundation is cracking news for some of London's most precious assets, the Royal Parks. I hope we create a great new icon to help make drinking fountains an everyday sight, providing refreshing gulps of water for parched people on the go."*

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Alongside the installation of this unique public drinking fountain, *Tiffany - Across the Water* has also helped re-create a magnificent 20ft tall plume fountain in St James's Park and will help restore the much-loved 19<sup>th</sup> century Italian Gardens in Kensington Gardens, as well as make improvements to historic drinking fountains to benefit the Royal Parks' 37 million visitors each year.

Over the course of 2012, a number of these drinking fountains will be installed across London's Royal Parks and will be available to buy for installation in other locations around the world. The Watering Holes drinking fountain by Robin Monotti and Mark Titman, also selected as a winner in the international design competition has been installed in The Green Park and is due for completion by spring 2012.

Visit [www.SupportTheRoyalParks.org](http://www.SupportTheRoyalParks.org) for further information about *Tiffany - Across the Water*.

**-Ends-**

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## **Notes to Editor:**

### **The Tiffany & Co. Foundation**

Established in 2000, The Tiffany & Co. Foundation is a philanthropic foundation that provides grants to non-profit organisations working in two main programme areas: the environment and the arts. The Foundation's environmental conservation programme promotes responsible mining, healthy marine ecosystems, the enhancement of urban environments and the preservation of culturally significant landmarks. In addition, the Foundation fosters design excellence by supporting organisations dedicated to design and the decorative arts. [www.tiffanyandcofoundation.org](http://www.tiffanyandcofoundation.org)

### **The Royal Parks Foundation**

The Royal Parks Foundation is the charity for London's eight amazing Royal Parks. Established in 2003, it reaches out to make the Parks part of more people's lives - raising funds for a wide variety of projects from wildlife conservation and landscape restoration, to community sport art and education. Its charity registration number is 1097545, for more information, please visit [www.SupportTheRoyalParks.org](http://www.SupportTheRoyalParks.org)

### **London's Royal Parks**

London's Royal Parks are unique, covering 5,000 acres of carefully conserved historic parkland in one of the world's greatest cities. The eight parks are: Bushy Park, The Green Park, Greenwich Park, Hyde Park, Kensington Gardens, The Regent's Park and Primrose Hill, Richmond Park and St James's Park. The parks are managed by The Royal Parks agency, which also manages Victoria Tower Gardens, Brompton Cemetery, the gardens of 10, 11 and 12 Downing Street, and Grosvenor Square Gardens. For further information please visit: [www.royalparks.org.uk](http://www.royalparks.org.uk)

### **Moxon Architects**

Moxon Architects overriding ambition is to bring architectural intelligence to bear on as wide a range of projects as possible, irrespective of scale or budget. To this end the practice actively pursues work in markedly different fields - and consequently has a diverse range of clients - from the private and domestic to local authority highways departments and commercial law firms. The practice was established in 2004 by Ben Addy who actively seeks to encourage a restless, inquisitive and exploratory design process in all the practice's projects. This approach was further augmented when Tim Murray joined as director in 2008 fostering a keenness for diligence and perfectionism in execution on site. For further information on the Architects visit [www.moxonarchitects.com](http://www.moxonarchitects.com) and to purchase the drinking fountain visit [www.rpfountain.com](http://www.rpfountain.com)

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## **Castle Foundry**

Over the last 20 years Castle Fine Arts Foundry has grown to become one of the UK's leading art foundries. The business is dedicated to helping sculptors and designers realise their artistic vision; casting, fabricating and installing works of all scales worldwide. [www.bronzefoundry.co.uk](http://www.bronzefoundry.co.uk)

## **International Design Competition**

As there was no off-the-shelf drinking fountain suitable for The Royal Parks Grade I listed landscapes, there was a need to find a simple, practical and aesthetically pleasing design through a design competition, created by the Royal Parks Foundation and The Tiffany & Co. Foundation in partnership with the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) and launched by Mayor of London, Boris Johnson in June 2010.

The competition was open internationally to all design disciplines, including architects, engineers, product designers and artists. The competition saw a very high number of entries for a competition of this type, in total 150 applicants from 26 countries.

Two British winners were selected anonymously by a panel of distinguished judges; Ben Addy of Moxon Architects for Trumpet and Robin Monotti Architects with Mark Titman for Watering Holes. The winning designs were judged on aesthetics of the design, robustness for quality of life in a public park, ease of maintenance and installation, sustainability and impact on the environment and affordability.

### **The Judging Panel consisted of:**

**Michael Freeman** (Panel Chair), a Trustee of the Royal Parks Foundation and co-founder of Argent Group, currently developing 8m sq ft at King's Cross;

**Paul Williams**, RIBA's advisor, co-founded the leading architectural practice Stanton Williams in 1985,

**Fernanda Kellogg** is Chair of the Board of The Tiffany & Co Foundation;

**Paul Finch** the advisor and chair of CABE (Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment) is the Programme Director of the World Architecture Festival;

**Andrew Graham-Dixon** is a leading art critic and TV presenter. He is the Chief Art Correspondent for the Sunday Telegraph and a Turner Prize judge;

**Sara Lom** is Chief Executive of the Royal Parks Foundation, the charity for the eight Royal Parks,

**Simon Richards** is Park Manager of Richmond Park;

**Emily Campbell** is currently Director of Design at the RSA and was previously the British Council Arts Group's first Head of Design & Architecture;

**Robin Levien** is a product design specialist who, with his colleague Dave Tilbury, has designed 15 per cent of all bathroom suites currently sold in the UK.