Significance of the Model

The sculpture I have chosen to model is by English artist Henry Spencer Moore and was completed in 1930. The title of the piece is Reclining Woman and it currently resides in the National Gallery of Canada in Ottawa. The piece is similar in style to much of his other works as it depicts a slightly abstract form of a woman who is lounging or relaxing position. The sculpture is interesting due to the choice to use Green Horton Stone rather than a more commonly used marble variety. The sculptor is said to like the stone due to its unfinished and weathered look that is achieved immediately after the sculpture is completed. It is said that anxiety is a common theme for his works and he attempted to show it through position of the body of his sculptures.[[1]](#footnote-1) The 1930s found him with anxiety and mental health issues following his service in the First World War and evident growing tensions in Germany as a result of Hitler’s rise to power and the belief that a second war was imminent.

This particular work is well traveled around the European continent visiting various modern art shows through the mid twentieth century. It then had a brief stint in a personal collection in England before the sudden passing of its owner. Following that it was sold to the National Gallery of Canada in 1956 and has been in its possession ever since.

1. David Wistow. “Henry Moore: What’s in a Name?”. Art Gallery of Ontario. October 18th 2010.

   http://artmatters.ca/wp/category/henry-moore/ [↑](#footnote-ref-1)