

WOOD FOR TREES



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1992

700m³ sculpture















In a *Midsummers Night Dream* the forest or wood can be read as a metaphor for a psychological situation—a mental state of chaos, confusion, conflict, intrigue and surprise.

Wood for Trees was made in 1992. It consists of a random selection of 700 cubic meters of sculptural components, in a variety of materials.

An access corridor was available around the perimeter of the piece and just enough space was left between the elements so that the piece could be entered.

What you ended up with was the situation where the viewer was a participant in the work and the work could be viewed from within, as a series of close encounters, or from without, where the viewer became an integrated part of the forest.

Two main reactions occurred — that somehow the sanctity and integrity of the individual donor sculptures was in someway compromised — correct — and two — the odd sensation of people coming out of the experience — smiling.

For me personally it was the first time where the massive energy and excitement of the studio production process was on an equal footing with that of the shop window-gallery situation.

This piece has layed certain criteria for future developement, dealing with capacity as a focus point. The work could exist in a scale way in excess of the original or cut down to fit in any space however small — the parameters of the work are how many cubic meters of showing space are available.