

Albert Toft



Albert was born on 3rd June 1862 in Handsworth, Staffordshire.

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Albert came from a creative family. His dad was chief modeller for Wedgewood (a famous pottery company). His brother became an artist.

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Albert began training as a modeller at Elkington (a silver manufacturer) and also at Wedgewood. He went to art schools in Hanley & Newcastle.

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In 1881 Albert won a scholarship to the National Art Training School, South Kensington. Here he studied sculpture with Eduoard Lantéri.

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After leaving the School in South Kensington, Albert set up his own studio in London where he worked on his sculptures.

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From 1885 Albert was asked to exhibit some of his work at the Royal Academy including sculptures called Spring and The Bather.

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Albert was asked to make statues to mark major events like the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria and the Second Boer War.

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One of the Second Boer War memorials which includes the figure of Peace is located in Cannon Hill Park, Birmingham.



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In 1911, Albert published a book called "Modelling and Sculpture". It was a guide for students about how to model and sculpt.

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After World War I Albert designed war memorials across the UK including the Statues at Birmingham Hall of Memory.



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Albert received lots of recognition for his work. In 1938, he was elected as a fellow of the Royal Society of British Sculptors.

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Albert died on 18th December 1949 at a nursing home in Worthing, West Sussex. He was 87 years old.