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## New Fourth Plinth sculpture to be unveiled next week

A bronze boy astride a rocking horse is the latest in a series of temporary artworks to be displayed in Trafalgar Square.



Image 1 of 2

Powerless Structures Fig 101, the latest sculpture to go on display in Trafalgar Square Photo: James O Jenkins

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Named *Powerless Structures, Fig 101*, the four-metre-high, bronze-cast piece will go on display from Thursday February 23 and is the work of Scandinavian design duo Elmgreen & Dragset. The pair has already featured in exhibitions of their work in the Serpentine Gallery and Tate Modern; their best-known works include *Prada Marfa* – a full-scale replica of a Prada boutique in the middle of the Texan desert, and *Short Cut* – a car and a caravan breaking through the ground which was first shown in Milan.

The artwork is the latest design to be commissioned for The Fourth Plinth Programme, and is supported by Arts Council England, AlixPartners and Louis Vuitton. Since September 2005, when Marc Quinn's sculpture *Alison Lapper Pregnant* was unveiled, the Fourth Plinth Commissioning Group has selected contemporary works to appear on the fourth plinth of Trafalgar Square in **London** on a rolling basis. Elmgreen & Dragset's design was preceded by Yinka Shonibare's sculpture *Nelson's Ship in a Bottle* and will be followed by Katharina Fritsch's creation *Hahn / Cock* in 2013.

The pose of the boy mimics the authoritarian pose traditionally found in equestrian sculptures, and is located metres from Nelson's Column and other historically significant statues within the square. Instead of acknowledging the heroism of powerful leaders, the work is intended to celebrate the daily struggles faced by all people on an everyday basis, and reflect the youthful optimism of a child at play.

Speaking in advance of the sculpture's unveiling Moira Sinclair, executive director of Arts Council England, said: "The Fourth Plinth provides a unique international platform for some of the world's finest contemporary artists, allowing them to comment on London and the world we live in. Elmgreen and Dragset's new commission maintains all the joy, intrigue and depth that we have come to expect, and gives a timely visibility to the place of the very young in our society. I hope Londoners take it to their hearts."