

RAPHAEL MAKLOUF

Life, Art & The Making of The Mint

Jenny Pery

In a remarkably varied career spanning over six decades, Raphael Maklouf has been both artist and businessman, sculptor and minter. His many portrait busts include that of Queen Elizabeth II, whose effigy he designed for the British coinage. His numerous commissions for commemorative medallions led to the founding of his private mint, Tower Mint, established forty years ago, is expanding and thriving.

This copiously illustrated biography traces Raphael Maklouf's ancestry and early years in Palestine, the development of his artistic career at Camberwell College of Art under the tutelage of the eminent Czech sculptor Dr Karel Vogel, and the extraordinary chain of coincidences that led to the founding of Tower Mint. This engaging account by Jenny Pery gives a vivid insight into Raphael Maklouf's unusual family background and the influences that have formed his beliefs and his artistic and business practices.

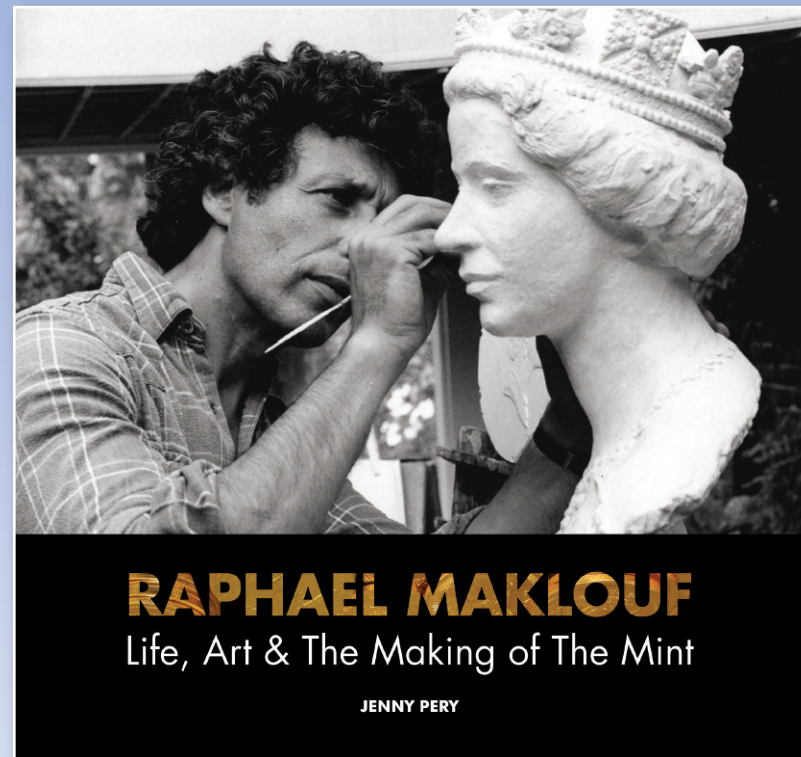
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jenny Pery was born in Calcutta, India. She studied Russian and French at Oxford University, and raised her family in Argyll, Scotland, before taking further degrees in Fine Art in London and Exeter. Now an author and art historian, Pery has written numerous titles on British art, including monographs and books on the painters Solomon J Solomon RA, Claude Rogers OBE, Tristram Hillier RA, John Dodgson, Caziell, Edward Piper, Anthony Eyton RA, Daphne Todd OBE, Benedict Rubbra, Robert Organ, Francis Hewlett and Alan Cotton; the sculptors Bridget McCrum and Dominic Welch; and also on six contemporary wood engravers. Pery now lives permanently on Dartmoor, Devon, where she intersperses writing with painting and print making in her studios.

**For a full listing of all Halsgrove titles,
please visit our website at www.halsgrove.com**

The Halsgrove Group includes DAA Halsgrove Ltd., Halsgrove Ltd. & Halstar Ltd.
Registered in England & Wales Nos. 4136732, 6029724 & 6472636 at Halsgrove House, Wellington TA21 9PZ.
Imprints: Halsgrove, Ryelands, Halstar, PIXZ Books & Halswood Journals. Halsgrove® is a registered trademark. Copyright© 2017

HALSGROVE TITLE INFORMATION



Format: *Hardback, 238 x 258mm, 128 pages, profusely illustrated in colour and b&w throughout*

Price: *£24.99*

ISBN: *978 1 906690 65 6*

Imprint: *Halstar*

Published: *January 2018*



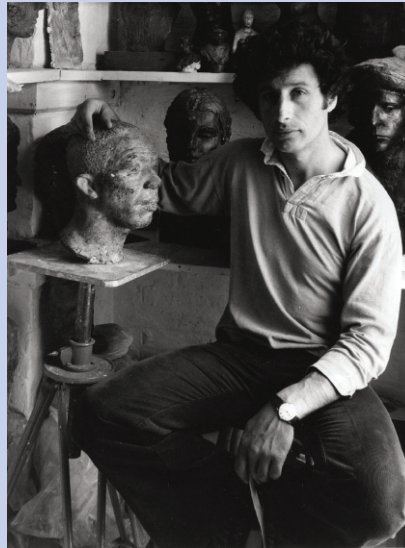
Halsgrove Publishing, Halsgrove House, Ryelands Business Park, Bagley Road,
Wellington, Somerset TA21 9PZ Tel: 01823 653777 Fax: 01823 216796
www.halsgrove.com e-mail: sales@halsgrove.com

RAPHAEL MAKLOUF – LIFE, ART & THE MAKING OF THE MINT



Left: Raphael's first 'new' HME 360 ton press, purchased 1970

Below: Raphael with Karel Vogel's Head of Learie Constantine



Left to right: Bronze head of Edmund; Bronze head of Laetitia; Terracotta of David Photos by Kirsten Scully



Above: A selection of dies

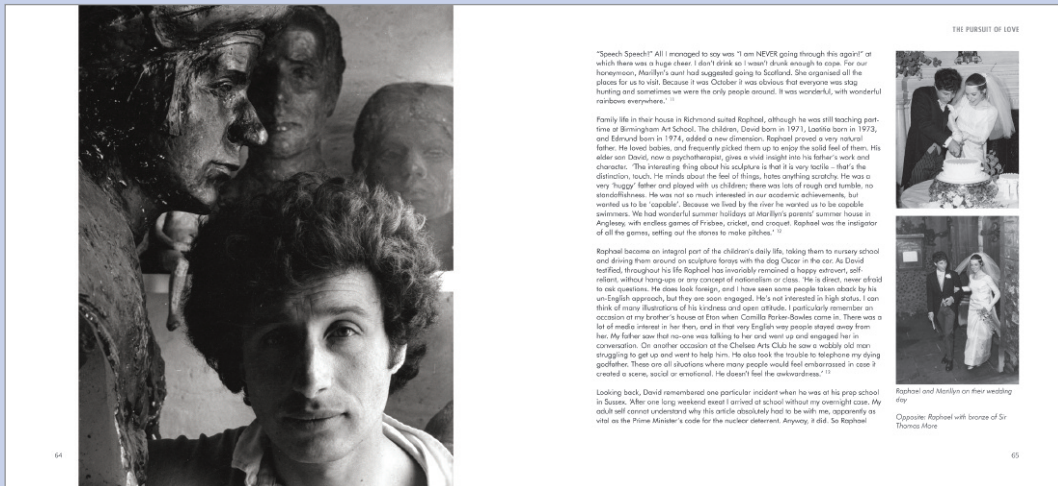
Right: Bronze casting at Camberwell



Below: Foiled chocolate blanks before embossing



Example of a double-page spread.



"Speech Speech!" All I imagined to say was "I am NEVER going through this again!" at which there was a huge cheer. I don't think as I went I drank enough to cope. For our honeymoon, Marilyn's aunt had suggested going to Scotland. She suggested all the places for us to visit. Because it was October it was obvious that everyone was stag hunting and sometimes we were the only people around. It was wonderful, with wonderful outdoor entertainment.

Family life in their house in Richmond suited Raphael, although he was still teaching part-time at Birmingham Art School. The children, David born in 1971, Loonie born in 1973, and Edmund born in 1974, added a new dimension. Raphael proved a very natural father. He loved babies, and frequently picked them up to enjoy the solid feel of them. His older son David, now a psychotherapist, gives a vivid insight into his father's work and character. "The interesting thing about his attitude is that it was tactile – that's the distinction, touch. He thinks about the feel of things, hates anything scratchy. He was a very 'huggy' father and played with us children; there was lots of rough and tumble, no standard behaviour. He was not so much interested in our academic achievements, but wanted us to be 'capable'. Because we lived by the river he wanted us to be capable swimmers. We had wonderful summer holidays at Marilyn's parents' summer house in Anglessey, with endless games of Frisbee, cricket, and croquet. Raphael was the instigator of all the games, setting up the stores to make jobs."

Raphael became an integral part of the children's daily life, taking them to nursery school and driving them around on signature forms with the dog Oscar in the car. As David testified, throughout his life Raphael has invariably remained a happy, generous, self-reliant, without hang-ups or any career of restriction or class. "He is direct, never afraid to ask questions. He does look foreign, and I have seen some people taken aback by his un-English approach, but they are soon engaged. He's not interested in high status. I can think of many illustrations of his kindness and open attitude. I particularly remember an occasion at my brother's house at Eton when Cornelia Fowler-Bowles came in. There was a lot of media interest in her then, and in that was English very people stayed away from her. My father saw that no-one was talking to her and went up and engaged her in conversation. On another occasion at the Chelsea Arts Club he saw a wobbly old man struggling to get up and went to help him. He also took the trouble to telephone my dying grandfather. These are all situations where many people would feel embarrassed in case it created a scene, social or emotional. He doesn't feel the awkwardness."

Louking back, David remembered one particular incident when he was at his prep school in Sussex. "After one long weekend exam I arrived at school without my overnight case. My adult self cannot understand why this article absolutely had to be with me, apparently as vital as the Home Minister's code for the nuclear deterrent. Anyway, it did. So Raphael

THE PURSUIT OF LOVE



Raphael and Marilyn on their wedding day. Opposite: Raphael with bronze of Sir Thomas More