Transcription: Bonnie Greer on the sheela-na-gig

This exhibition for me is about transition and flux and flow, which is where we are right now in talking about women. Within the body of the woman, within the essence of the woman is this idea of change, and it's something that civilisations have embraced and also been afraid of. The sheela-na-gig, the Irish sculpture from medieval Ireland was the shocker. The fact that, that it was allowed to be in the church. It's an object that, sort of, it has a vulva, like right there, unmistakable, anatomically correct, in the place it's supposed to be.

This is in a church. All right. So, then you have to stand back for a second and think, 'Right, what's happening here?' This thing tells you what you're told at Ash Wednesday and it says, 'Remember, man, that thou art dust and unto dust thou shalt return.' And that we all came into the world through that vulva. Because at the end of the day, we all come through, or around, or by, most of us come as a result of the birth canal, and that's, that is a primal process. And we're always reconciling and trying to understand or trying to recreate on some level, or deny on some level, that basic process. The objects are an explanation of something that people see and know in nature itself.