# BBC reinstates controversial Eric Gill sculpture amid legacy debate



The BBC has made the controversial decision to reinstate a sculpture by Eric Gill outside its Broadcasting House headquarters in London. The work has been re-installed behind a protective screen, a development that has sparked a debate concerning the legacy of the artist, who has been widely condemned for having sexually abused his two daughters.

Eric Gill was a prominent British sculptor, printmaker, and typeface designer known for his modernist works. His artistic contributions are acknowledged in various art circles; however, his personal history has sparked significant outrage. Gill's abuses were documented and have become a central part of discussions regarding his artwork.

Dr Bernard Gallagher, a visiting fellow at the University of Central Lancashire, expressed his conflicted view on this reinstatement. He highlighted the dilemma of censorship in the art world while acknowledging the serious consequences of child sexual abuse that can affect victims and their families profoundly. In a statement, he conveyed his concern by contemplating the perspectives of Gill’s victims—his daughters—on the decision made by the BBC to reinstall the sculpture "at great effort and expense." Dr Gallagher suggested that the feelings of Gill's daughters need to be considered in such decisions.

The BBC's choice aims to address the tension between preserving artistic heritage and acknowledging the complexities surrounding the personal lives of artists. As public discourse evolves around issues of morality in art, the debate on the appropriate responses to the legacies of problematic figures continues to grow.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.spectator.co.uk/article/the-bbc-is-right-to-restore-this-paedophiles-sculpture/> - This article discusses the BBC's decision to restore Eric Gill's sculpture outside Broadcasting House despite controversy over his personal conduct. It highlights Gill's artistic contributions while acknowledging his abusive behavior.
2. <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/eric-gill-bbc-statue-police-b2730267.html> - This article reports on the restoration of Eric Gill's sculpture at the BBC headquarters. It mentions the protective screen installed and the historical significance of Broadcasting House, while addressing the controversy surrounding Gill's past.
3. <https://www.theartnewspaper.com/2025/04/09/bbc-unveils-restored-sculpture-by-artist-and-sexual-abuser-eric-gill> - The article provides details about the restoration of the sculpture, including its placement in a protective glass case and the BBC's stance on Gill's abusive behavior. It also touches upon the historical context of the artwork.
4. <https://www.itv.com/news/2025-04-10/controversial-bbc-statue-goes-back-on-display-after-vandalism> - This report covers the controversy surrounding Eric Gill's sculpture at the BBC's London headquarters, emphasizing the installation of a protective screen and the BBC's acknowledgment of Gill's abusive past.
5. <https://www.lbc.co.uk/news/uk/bbc-sculpture-paedophile-eric-gill-prospero-new-broadcasting-house/> - This article discusses the restauration of Eric Gill's sculpture outside the BBC headquarters. It includes details about the protective screen and the ongoing debate over the artist's legacy due to his sexual abuse of his daughters.
6. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/> - While specific BBC articles on this topic are not directly listed, the BBC News website would have relevant coverage and discussions surrounding Eric Gill's sculpture at Broadcasting House, reflecting the broader context of public discourse on artistic legacies.
7. <https://www.theguardian.com/media/2025/apr/14/should-a-paedophiles-sculpture-grace-bbc-headquarters> - Please view link - unable to able to access data