

# National Portrait Gallery unveils sculpture of Tim Berners-Lee

First commissioned portrait of the inventor of the world wide web is a bronze made by Sean Henry in honour of his 60th birthday

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A painted bronze sculpture of Sir Tim Berners-Lee carrying the leather rucksack in which he keeps his laptop has been unveiled at the National Portrait Gallery.

Apart from photographs, it is the first commissioned portrait of the inventor of the world wide web.

The two-thirds life-size statue was made by Sean Henry, who spent two days watching and photographing Berners-Lee in Boston. The computer scientist later had two further sittings at Henry's studio in the UK.

Henry said: "Tim is a very dynamic person to sculpt as he has a very active mind and is active physically, too.

"Above all, what came through was his strong sense of purpose ... it felt important to try to capture this in the work."

The sculpture was commissioned by the gallery to celebrate Berners-Lee's 60th birthday, was sponsored by JP Morgan and is the NPG's first commissioned portrait sculpture for seven years.