



*I like the fact that all stones are different, in the same way as fingerprints or snowflakes, so no two circles can be alike.*

RICHARD LONG

**Richard Long**

***Cornwall Summer Circle, 1995***

**Cornish slate from Delabole**

**189 inches diameter**

**Collection of the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth,**

**Museum purchase, Sid W. Richardson Foundation Endowment Fund**

**Acquired in 1996**

Richard Long builds artwork based on walks that he takes in natural settings. At times his walks take place over a day, while others can take weeks as he walks a small continent from coast to coast. Long describes his artistic activities while taking the walks, saying, "I like the idea that my work can range from the intervention of leaving a circle of stones at a place, to merely rearranging a few stones here and there around the landscape over many miles and days, to making art only by walking, and so having no intervention at all." In some cases, Long brings these materials and his interactions with them back into the museum setting. Many of Long's gallery pieces take the form of stones arranged in perfect circles. The stones in *Cornwall Summer Circle* come from an ancient quarry in Cornwall. Though the stones have a flat surface on which to stand upright, their jagged structure has been left intact, calling to mind the peaks of a mountain range. Long has used one of the simplest elements he encounters during his walks, the stone, to create one of the simplest, most balanced man-made shapes – the circle. The piece reflects the harmony man might find in his interactions with nature, and offers us a reminder of the rawness and beauty in these places that we rarely see.