

Stephen Friedman Gallery

Wallpaper*
England's coastline through art
Nuray Bulbul
21 July 2021

Wallpaper*

England's coastline through art

Embark on an outdoor art tour along England's South East coast through our curated guide to the Waterfronts commissions



Image: Holly Hendry, Invertebrate. A Waterfronts commission with the De La Warr Pavilion. Led by Turner Contemporary and Visit Kent, England's Creative Coast runs until 12 November 2021. Photography: Rob Harris

From Margate to Southend-on-Sea, the south east coastline of England is currently boasting an abundance of outdoor art installations to explore this summer. 'Waterfronts', launched by England's Creative Coast is a landmark collaboration between seven arts organisations – Cement Fields, Creative Folkestone, De La Warr Pavilion, Hastings Contemporary, Metal, Towner Eastbourne and Turner Contemporary (which has recently had a minimalist revamp). Brought together by the Waterfronts commissions and the world's first art GeoTour, the project invents a new outdoor cultural experience that connects art with the landscape and local stories with global perspectives.

With summer in full swing (and temperatures reaching new highs in the UK – grab your sunscreen), hop on our curated coastal tour.

Artist: Holly Hendry

Location: Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex



Image: Holly Hendry, Invertebrate. A Waterfronts commission with the De La Warr Pavilion. Led by Turner Contemporary and Visit Kent, England's Creative Coast runs until 12 November 2021. Photography: Rob Harris

Holly Hendry's sculptural commission Invertebrate made in partnership with the De La Warr Pavilion is a consideration of edges. 'Edges seem to be definitive, a beginning or an end, a perimeter of sorts, and a line that highlights contested notions of ownership and free movement,' said Hendry. Depicting a worm, Hendry's work is a three-part sculpture that delves into the environmental effects of waste materials, dinosaur fossils in the Bexhill brickworks and the wreck of the Amsterdam on Bulverhythe. Invertebrate digs beyond the surface world.

Artist: Michael Rakowitz

Location: Margate, Kent

Stephen Friedman Gallery

Wallpaper*
England's coastline through art
Nuray Bulbul
21 July 2021



Image: Michael Rakowitz, April is the cruellest month. A Waterfronts commission with Turner Contemporary for England's Creative Coast. Photography: Thierry Bal

April is the cruellest month is a sculpture modelled by Iraqi-American artist Michael Rakowitz after Daniel Taylor, a young soldier who served with the Royal Artillery in Basra, Iraq, during the 2003 Iraq War. Formed from concrete, calcite, sand and earth from Bosra with chalk from Margate, the sculpture is embedded with fossil-like items that embody trauma: military medals and personal donations by Taylor, members of Veterans for Peace UK and residents of Margate. Standing in solidarity with the Iraqi people, Rakowitz – who contributed

a 'Basra Kiss' recipe to our Artist's Palate series – explains 'The history of poets and rescuers looking out at the sea for inspiration and life has informed my project.'

Artist: Jasleen Kaur

Location: Gravesend, Kent



Image: Jasleen Kaur, The first thing I did was to kiss the ground. A Waterfronts cocommission with Cement Fields in partnership with Estuary 2021. Led by Turner Contemporary and Visit Kent, England's Creative Coast runs until 12 November 2021. Photography: Thierry Bal

Jasleen Kaur intertwines the past with the present by layering social histories within the material and immaterial. Her refashioned objects are based on instinct and resourcefulness, national customs and a reconsidering of materiality and everyday routines. Kaur – who was brought up in a traditional Sikh household in Glasgow – focuses her work on the histories of migration to Gravesend. Her commission, The first thing I did was to kiss the ground, includes a sculpture of a head with hair tied up in a topknot protruding from waves made of marble. This is accompanied by a sound piece made in collaboration with Ain Bailey and Saheli women's group. Kaur's artistry highlights the importance of community groups as forces of resistance and alternative knowledge.

Artist: Mariana Castillo Deball

Location: Eastbourne, East Sussex



Image: Mariana Castillo Deball, chalk geoglyph Waterfronts commission with Towner Eastbourne, Walking through the town I followed a pattern on the pavement that became the magnified silhouette of a woman's profile. Led by Turner Contemporary and Visit Kent, England's Creative Coast runs until 12 November 2021. Video still: Modus

Mariana Castillo Deball's chalk geoglyph began with the harrowing story of two women whose remains were found in Eastbourne. The artist converted their stories into a giant imaginary female character through imagery drawn on the floor and objects relating to the archaeological findings embedded on the concrete along the Eastbourne coast. As Deball describes: 'Walking through the town I follow the pattern on the pavement that becomes the magnified silhouette of a woman's profile'. Her

Stephen Friedman Gallery

Wallpaper*

England's coastline through art

Nuray Bulbul

21 July 2021

kaleidoscopic approach explores the ideologically constructed conditions under which artefacts appear in contemporary culture.

Artist: Pilar Quinteros

Location: Folkestone, Kent



Image; Janus Fortress Folkestone, Pilar Quinteros's Waterfronts co-commission with Creative Folkestone. Led by Turner Contemporary and Visit Kent, England's Creative Coast runs until 12 November 2021. Photography: Thierry Bal

Influenced by Janus, the god of beginnings, endings and transitions in ancient Roman religion and myth, Pilar Quinteros' new multifaceted work is located on the cliff-top overlooking the town. Quinteros's sculpture, which presents two faces – one faced inland

and the other gazing at the sea – embodies the duality of borders of looking outwards while protecting inwards, a rigid division the pandemic has exemplified. She said of the commission: 'Folkestone makes me think of its history as an important border, as a place of simultaneous entries and exits. It is a precise place to think about the supposed opposites and what can be in the middle. Art, I think, opens that possibility.'