

# SOUTHWARK

## ◆ CATHEDRAL ◆

## News release

For Immediate Release  
Wednesday 19 May 2021

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### Monumental installation by Mark Titchner to be unveiled at Southwark Cathedral

A major art installation, entitled *Please Believe These Days Will Pass*, by artist Mark Titchner, is to be unveiled at Southwark Cathedral on Wednesday 2 June.

Mark's *Please Believe* artwork appeared on posters and billboards across the country during the early stages of Lockdown and was widely shared on social media.

"I had no idea then how this artwork would connect itself to the terrible days that followed and how far it would ultimately travel. Something about that message seemed to connect with the need for hope that was so felt so keenly by us all," said Mark. The installation was originally supposed to be for the Cathedral's annual Lent Art Installation, but was pushed back because of the pandemic.

The Very Revd Andrew Nunn, Dean of Southwark, said, "As we move as a nation through the various stages of the roadmap leading to the complete relaxation of the Coronavirus restrictions, it is easy to believe that it is all behind us. But the world is still in the grip of a pandemic. Mark Titchner's monumental installation in Southwark Cathedral will be a stark reminder that we need to look beyond these islands to a world still suffering. But it is also a message of hope, because the truth is 'these days will pass' and we must hold on to that belief, that hope."

Mark says that his artwork "partially veils the Cathedral's altar, imposing its message upon the Gothic architecture of the building and placing it within the context of faith and contemplation. I am excited and grateful for the opportunity to present a new large-scale version of this work to a new audience within the resonant, historical setting of Southwark Cathedral."

Opening times are 8am - 6pm daily.

For more information click here: <https://cathedral.southwark.anglican.org/visiting/please-believe-these-days-will-pass/>



– Ends –

**Notes to Editors:**

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***The artist***

Mark Titchner's (b. 1973) work involves an exploration of the tensions between the different belief systems that inform our society, be they religious, scientific or political. Focusing on an exploration of words and language, in recent years much of his production has been based in the public realm both in the UK and internationally. These public works have often been created from extended group activities, working particularly with young people and in mental health settings. He was nominated for the Turner Prize in 2006, participated in the Venice Biennale in 2007 and was Artist in Residence at the Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto in 2012. In 2018 he completed a major new permanent public work *Me, Here Now* which is installed at London Bridge station. His work is held in many public collections including Tate, The Arts Council, The Government Art Collection, The British Council, South London Gallery, Guildhall Art Gallery, Manchester Art Gallery and Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery.

During the early stages of Lockdown he produced the project *Please believe these days will pass*. Poster and billboard versions of this artwork appeared in hundreds of sites in cities around the UK. The work was widely shared on social media and utilised around the world for news editorials. Find out more about him here: <http://marktitchner.com/>

### ***Art Installations at Southwark Cathedral***

The Art Installation at Southwark Cathedral was usually unveiled at the start of Lent, but because of the pandemic, was pushed back to June. Now in its 10th year, its purpose is to give people new access points to the Cathedral, through an exploration of unconventional materials and mediums.

The intention is to bring new contemporary art to those who may not otherwise access it. The 2021 Art Installation aims to bring in new audiences to the Cathedral and to make the Cathedral a more stimulating and interactive environment where visitors and members of the congregation can respond to the themes of Lent through engagement with the artwork.

#### **Previous installations**

2012 David Mach RA - *Die Harder*

2013 Nic Fiddian Green - *Christ Rests*

2014 Angela Wright - *40 Days* / Edmund de Waal - *another hour*

2015 Angela Glajcar - *Within the Light*

2016 Peter Burke - *Earthworks*

2017 Liz Harrison - *corrodere*

2018 Susie MacMurray - *Doubt*

2019 Alison Clark - *Footfall*

2020 Michelle Rumney - *Pilgrimage*

Mark Titchner - *Please Believe These Days Will Pass*