

Turner  
Contemporary

England's  
**CREATIVE  
COAST**

**KENT**  
GARDEN of ENGLAND

visitkent.co.uk

PRESS RELEASE

**Artworks leading recovery: [England's Creative Coast](#) reveals *Waterfronts*, a series of seven site-specific art commissions along the South East coast which take the border between land and sea as their inspiration.**

Led by Turner Contemporary and Visit Kent, *England's Creative Coast* is a new outdoor cultural experience taking place from May until November 2021. The project launches on Thursday 29 April 2021 at 2pm with a digital event which will be followed by the unveiling of the artworks throughout May 2021. Curated by Tamsin Dillon, *Waterfronts* introduces new works from internationally-acclaimed artists: Andreas Angelidakis, Mariana Castillo-Deball, Holly Hendry, Jasleen Kaur, Katrina Palmer, Pilar Quinteros and Michael Rakowitz.



In progress detail of 'April is the cruellest month', Michael Rakowitz's *Waterfronts* commission for Margate. To open to the public with Turner Contemporary on Saturday 1 May 2021. Photo © Ben Ryan.

*England's Creative Coast* is a landmark project between seven outstanding arts organisations — **Cement Fields, Creative Folkestone, De La Warr Pavilion, Hastings Contemporary, Metal, Towner Eastbourne** and **Turner Contemporary** — to create a new outdoor cultural experience that connects art with landscape and local stories with global perspectives. It brings together the *Waterfronts* commissions and the world's first art GeoTour, with each partner presenting their own section of the project and a local engagement programme at its heart.

Sarah Dance, Project Director of England's Creative Coast, states:

"Conceived as a project outside of gallery walls, *England's Creative Coast* offers a naturally socially-distanced experience that connects people and places across the extraordinary network of arts organisations along the South East coast. We hope that in these troubled times these site-specific art commissions and geocache trail brimming with seaside tales inspire creativity through adventure."

**Turner Contemporary presents Michael Rakowitz: 'April is the cruellest month'**

Margate, 1 May – 12 November

**Cement Fields presents Jasleen Kaur: 'The first thing I did was to kiss the ground'**

Gravesend, 22 May – 12 November (launching with [Estuary 2021](#))

**Metal presents Katrina Palmer: 'Hello' and 'Retreat'**

Southend-on-Sea, 22 May – 12 November (launching with [Estuary 2021](#))

**De La Warr Pavilion presents Holly Hendry: 'Invertebrate'**

Bexhill-on-Sea, 29 May – 12 November

**Hastings Contemporary presents Andreas Angelidakis: 'Seawall'**

Hastings, 29 May – 12 November

**Towner Eastbourne presents Mariana Castillo Deball: 'Walking through the town I followed a pattern on the pavement that became the magnified silhouette of a woman's profile'**

Eastbourne, 29 May – 12 November

**Creative Folkestone presents Pilar Quinteros: 'Janus Fortress Folkestone'**

Folkestone, 29 May – 12 November 2021 (featuring in the 2021 [Folkestone Triennial](#), 'The Plot')

*Waterfronts* curator Tamsin Dillon states:

"*Waterfronts* offers audiences the chance to consider the natural, historical and political aspects of England's porous coastline through the eyes of seven artists from five countries. Each spent time exploring the layered histories and complexities of their partner's specific locations, bringing to these their own unique working methods and personal perspectives on this liminal space between land and water. Their responses propose a new take on this rich and varied region which stretches from the Thames Estuary to the Sussex Downs, encompassing Britain's busiest trading and immigration routes, popular seaside resorts and the white cliffs of Dover.

"In recent years Brexit and the climate crisis have brought greater scrutiny to Britain's borders, and now — because of the pandemic — crossing international borders has become so much more difficult and so much more of an issue for us all: with social distancing has come national, or international, distancing. Meanwhile, the public realm — always a fertile and sensitive context for art — is now more vital than ever. The seven *Waterfronts* artists engage with important issues, while the 're-set' we have all been experiencing during the past year means that their outdoor works have a new and reinforced relevance, both conceptually and in terms of their physicality.

“**Michael Rakowitz**’s sculpture, placed ‘in conversation with other figures on the shores of Margate’ references very particular stories and histories. It is a meditation on the nature of the ‘conventional’ memorial statue, who can decide to create it and what might happen to it over time. On the south coast **Holly Hendry**’s three-part sculpture, referencing contemporary life as well as the history of Bexhill, will reside in and around the iconic De La Warr Pavilion building; while in Hastings, the idea of the cast concrete accropode system of flood defences is reconfigured as a group of soft sculptures by **Andreas Angelidakis**.

“Evolving over the course of its presentation, **Pilar Quinteros**’ monumental and interactive Janus-faced chalk head will gaze both across to Europe and inland to the town of Folkestone; whilst **Mariana Castillo-Deball** introduces geoglyphs into the streets of Eastbourne and its surrounding South Downs, re-inventing an archeological story of an ancient woman and literally weaving it into the landscape. **Katrina Palmer**’s two-part sculptural project; a sound-mirror and a powder magazine (that leads to a short story, a moving image work and an audio file) located at Shoeburyness, explores stories of Englishness and thwarted attempts to move forward, where defensive military ruins sit alongside recreational coastal culture; while Gravesend’s rich history of migration was the starting point for **Jasleen Kaur**’s sculpture and sound-based work.”

*England’s Creative Coast* is led by Turner Contemporary and Visit Kent, and principally funded by Arts Council England and VisitEngland through the Discover England Fund.

**For images, press enquiries and to book to attend the launch, please contact Pickles PR:**  
**Gair Burton:** gair@picklespr.com; 00 44 (0)7402 784 470  
**Alfred Worrall:** alfred@picklespr.com; 00 44 (0)7507 061 206

**For full information about each of the *Waterfronts* artworks please click [here](#).**

**Please visit the [media kit for](#) full information and images for *England’s Creative Coast*.**

## NOTES TO EDITORS

[England's Creative Coast](#) also includes:

### The world's first art GeoTour

Using geocaching, the GPS-enabled digital treasure hunt technology, communities from each of the seven locations are invited to share their personal stories of what it's like to live in that particular coastal place, or respond to the new artwork in their town and give visitors a new way to interact with the landscape.

Local people from each location are working with each partner arts organisation to create new caches (containers hidden within the landscape featuring rewards) that will lead visitors on a 'Geotour' of the region — the first ever art geocache tour in the world. Through gaming, travellers will enjoy an authentic experience of the place they're visiting. By working with local people, the partner galleries will connect with their communities in new ways, enabling the exploration of place and art by visitors as never before.

### Self-build itineraries

England's Creative Coast offers a new website affiliated to local businesses as well as key travel operators across the region. Developed by Visit Kent, the website [www.englandscreativecoast.com](http://www.englandscreativecoast.com) enables visitors to curate their own journeys, in a pick and mix style, offering a variety of cultural experiences across England's Creative Coast, as well as recommendations for the best food, drink and accommodation for a complete cultural travel experience.

### Funding

*England's Creative Coast* is principally funded by Arts Council England's Cultural Destinations programme and Visit England / Visit Britain through the Discover England Fund, supported by South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP), East Sussex County Council, Kent County Council, Essex County Council, Visit Essex, Southend Borough Council, Coastal West Sussex, Historic Dockyard Chatham and Southeastern and in partnership with Cement Fields, Creative Folkestone, De La Warr Pavilion, Hastings Contemporary, Metal, Towner Eastbourne.

