## England's CREATIVE COAST

Mariana Castillo Debo

Experience a new cultural adventure



New contemporary artworks set in the stunning coastal landscape of Essex, Kent and East Sussex. Margate Michael Rakowitz April is the cruellest month

1 May to 14 November 2021 Google coordinates: 51.386864, 1.372729 GPS: 51°23'12.7"N 1°22'21.8"E



A life-size cast of an English veteran soldier stands on Margate seafront at Royal Crescent Promenade, next to the Shelter where T.S Eliot wrote part of his famous poem The Waste Land. The figure is inspired by and holds the same pose as 80 bronze statues of Iragi soldiers that once stood on the Corniche promenade in Basra, Iraq. Installed in 1989, in memory to soldiers who fell in the Iran-Iraq war, the statues disappeared during the Iraq conflict in April 2003. This '81st' figure is an aggregate of materials and objects including calcite and sand from Basra and chalk from Margate. Embedded in the sculpture are objects from members of Veterans of Peace UK and residents of Kent to mark their own stories of conflict. These two coastlines are connected through time, history, geology and materials.

With Turner Contemporary. Visit Margate's worldrenowned gallery showcasing contemporary art. *The Tourists*: Ellen Harvey and JMW Turner, 18 May to 26 September 2021; *Ashes*, Steve McQueen, 18 May to 26 September 2021; The Turner Contemporary Open: 22 October 2021 to 20 February 2022.

2021 marks 10 years since the opening of Turner Contemporary.

Find the geocache locations on the map. Record your finds in the logbook and the app as you collect the geocaches. • Discover local people's stories of hospitality and hostility on the Margate part of the GeoTour

Gravesend Jasleen Kaur The first thing I did was to kiss the ground

22 May to 14 November 2021 Sculpture Google coordinates: 51.444733, 0.374523 GPS: 51°26'41.0"N 0°22'28.3"E



A new sculpture comes to Gravesend, inspired in part by a Sikh ceremonial palki, and in part by a community library bus. Two minutes away from this sculpture, the voices of local people and music emanate from the Pier. These two separate yet linked works are Kaur's response to the town and the Estuary coast as a geographical connecting point, a place steeped in histories of migration and where diverse, diasporic communities meet, arriving and departing. Kaur has reflected on Gravesend's Sikh community and her own Sikh heritage, and used a multiplicity of archival sounds, local voices and musical textures that work across geographies and generations, to create portals of cultural exchange.

A co-commission with Cement Fields. This artwork also forms part of *Estuary 2021*, 22 May to 13 June 2021.

Southend-on-Sea Katrina Palmer HELLO and RETREAT

22 May to 14 November 2021 HELLO Google coordinates: 51.529725, 0.798082 GPS: 51°31'47.0"N 0°47'53.1"E RETREAT Google coordinates: 51.525583, 0.790861 GPS: 51°31'32.1"N 0°47'27.1"E



Palmer's two works consider the coast's literal and metaphorical horizon as both an expansive viewpoint and a limit. On East Beach at Shoeburyness, a huge greeting welcomes you. HELLO, a recreated sound mirror, acts as a beacon of hospitality, facing the Estuary and looking across to Brussels. Originally constructed as pre-radar early warning systems to detect the approach of enemy planes during the inter-war years, Palmer's sculpture turns this on its head, subverting the mirror's original intention with a message that transforms it from an object of defence to a welcoming signal facing out towards Europe. Access to RETREAT, is situated on an old Powder Magazine, built to store gunpowder in the 19th Century at Gunners Park in Shoeburyness. Scan the QR code to access Palmer's audio-visual reading of the region's history online.

A co-commission with Metal. This artwork also forms part of *Estuary 2021*, 22 May to 13 June 2021.

• Trace the voices of Gravesend's Sikh community by finding the geocaches they've created for the town.

 Explore digital art park, NetPark, at Metal in Chalkwell, then travel across the Essex coastline to uncover hidden histories and stories in Shoeburyness, Paglesham, Jaywick, Walton-on-the Naze and Harwich. Hastings Andreas Angelidakis Seawall

29 May to 14 November 2021 Google coordinates: 50.856031, 0.593255 GPS: 50°51'21.7"N 0°35'35.7"E



Eight accropodes next to Hastings Contemporary gallery have been created for you to safely sit, meet, gather and discuss one of the most pressing issues of our time – climate change. Accropodes are a human response to flooding – sea-defence mechanisms used to create a border against the sea, in an attempt to blockade the everencroaching ocean and protect the land beyond. Angelidakis takes the unpredictable nature of climate change and its potential impact on the horizon of the Sussex coast as his inspiration for this new sculpture. He has created a new kind of accropode, designed to spark dialogue and break down barriers between people.

A co-commission with Hastings Contemporary. See temporary exhibitions of modern and contemporary art: *Seaside modern: art and life on the beach*, 27 May to 31 October 2021. Bexhill-on-Sea Holly Hendry Invertebrate

29 May to 14 November 2021 Google coordinates: 50.837167, 0.472000 GPS: 50°50'13.8"N 0°28'19.2"E



Burrowing over and under the coastal landscape, Hendry's three-part sculpture has taken up residence and 'inhabited' the inside and outside of the iconic modernist De La Warr Pavilion – on the lawn between building and sea, on the balcony, on the roof and in a solo exhibition by Hendry. Like the story of the 'tooth-worm' unearthed in her research of Bexhill, Hendry has made a delving and consuming creature, the building acting as a body and the ocean as a mouth, digesting and consuming the shore. These artworks magnify the vulnerability of these edges on a human, architectural and geographic scale and the relationship between the Pavilion and the coast nearby.

De La Warr Pavilion has all the variety of a festival in one building. Holly Hendry: Indifferent Deep, 19 May to 30 August 2021; Bexhill artist workspace – summer exhibition, 9 July to 11 July; Rock against racism: militant entertainment 1976–82, 18 September 2021 to 9 January 2022.

• Find geocaches with local people's stories of the rich coastal identity of Hastings and their thoughts on the places we call home.

• Burrow into the history and stories of Bexhill, find the geocaches created by local groups.

Folkestone Pilar Quinteros Janus Fortress: Folkestone

29 May to 14 November 2021 Google coordinates: 51.082139, 1.189889 GPS: 51°04'55.7"N 1°11'23.6"E



A two-faced head of Janus, the god of beginnings and transitions who presided over passages, doors, gates and endings in Roman mythology, sits on Folkestone's East Cliff Green. Looking out to sea towards Europe and inland to England, the sculpture gazes in both directions, contemplating what connects, as well as what divides us. The sculpture, made of plaster and chalk, will evolve and erode, reflecting the gradual erosion of the coastline as well as Folkestone's history as a fort of England. The cliffs are at once a protector and a place where the limits of borders are ever-present.

A co-commission with Creative Folkestone. This artwork also forms part of *Folkestone Triennial 2021: The Plot*, 22 July to 2 November 2021. Explore the UK's largest urban outdoor exhibition of contemporary art, Folkestone Artworks and the town's vibrant Creative Quarter by finding the geocaches in the town.

### Eastbourne

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

29 May to 14 November 2021 Google coordinates: 50.746348, 0.262685 GPS: 50°44'46.5"N 0°15'46.1"E



This work draws on both the ancient and more recent geological and social history of Eastbourne and the surrounding area, creating, Castillo Deball explains, "a work that can be experienced as an image, a walking path, or a narrative".

Her starting points were two nearby archaeological finds: the 'Beachy Head Woman', an ancient female skeleton dating to the Roman period who is thought to have originated from sub-Saharan Africa; and the body of a young 'Frankish woman' excavated at St Anne's, Eastbourne, in the late 90s along with a number of funerary objects dating back to the Iron and Bronze age.

Follow the route, painted in the shape of a rope, to find replicas of the various objects unearthed, which have been embedded into the ground, and discover different parts of the town as you walk. Travel to each place and your walk will create a silhouette shape of a woman's head and shoulders.

With Towner Eastbourne. See Towner Eastbourne's Collection display curated by Castillo Deball, 29 May 2021 to 16 January 2022; and more, *John Nash: The Landscape of Love and Solace*, 18 May to 26 September 2021.

 Find stories told by local Folkestone school children, local scouts and community groups and their response to the sculpture on this treasure hunt.  Uncover the story of the Beachy Head Lady and Eastbourne residents by finding the caches hidden in the landscape.

# From May to November 2021, discover the hidden gems of the South East Coast

#### Discover...

... new contemporary artworks set in the stunning coastal landscape of Essex, Kent and East Sussex.

Seven artists have responded to the unique qualities of seven distinct, creative coastal towns – Margate, Folkestone, Hastings, Bexhill-on-Sea, Eastbourne, Gravesend and Southend-on-Sea – focusing on a range of stories and questions across social, political, natural and geological themes, offering fresh perspectives for you to contemplate. The *Waterfronts* series connects and celebrates the South East shoreline, and arts organisations in these places, opening sequentially from 1 May to 12 November 2021.

### Explore...

... coastal towns alive with creativity, cultural venues and festivals, presenting some of the most thought-provoking contemporary art being produced today. Uncover vibrant creative quarters, intriguing seaside history, great food and great places to stay.

### Play...

... the world's first Art GeoTour treasure hunt to uncover the facts, stories and histories of each coastal town, in locations off the beaten track. This GeoTour will guide you through the landscape to find and log the hidden outdoor geocaches.

### Connect

Download the app at www.geocaching.com and create an account or sign in.

Once you're all set-up, tap the magnifying glass icon, then "Search by GeoTour". Look out for the "England's Creative Coast GeoTour" or search using code "GT4A5".

Select the geocache you want to find and use the navigation to find and log the hidden geocaches. These contain local hidden histories and stories, created by the arts organisations and local people in each of England's Creative Coast's coastal towns.

### Plan your trip at

www.englandscreativecoast.com



### Getting around England's Creative Coast

### See more when you go car-free

### By train

Reach the *England's Creative Coast* destinations between 25 minutes and 2 hours from London by train.

Southeastern's High Speed service takes you speedily to **Gravesend** (25 mins), **Folkestone** (53 mins) and **Margate** (86 mins).

For East Sussex, Southern and Southeastern take you to and between **Hastings**, **Bexhillon-Sea** and **Eastbourne** from London and Ashford International.

**Southend-on-Sea** and **Shoeburyness** can be reached easily and quickly from London on C2C.

### By ferry

Essex: Harwich Port connects to trains across the region. Jetstream Tours takes you across the water from Tilbury in Essex to Gravesend in Kent.

Kent: Port of Dover connects to nearby Folkestone and Margate.

### By bike

Follow the National Cycle Network and dedicated routes such as those along the Margate and Thanet coastline and between Hastings, Bexhill-on-Sea and Eastbourne for an awe-inspiring active journey.

### By foot

Venture along the National Coastal Path – the longest waymarked coastal path in the world, spotting wildlife and breathing in the invigorating coastal air with every step.

### Travelling from abroad

Eurotunnel links England to France in 30 minutes, at Dover, Kent.

Eurostar at Ashford International and London St Pancras connects you with many coastal towns.

Southend and Stansted airports in Essex and Gatwick in West Sussex bring you close to the coast.

Stena Line ferry service connects Harwich Port with Hoek Van Holland.





*England's Creative Coast* connects and celebrates the distinct, creative coast across 1400km of the South East's stunning coastline.

Be inspired and plan your trip at www.englandscreativecoast.com



Project Director: Sarah Dance Waterfronts Curator: Tamsin Dillon