



MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

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seedsedgemoor.com

Residents choose a new artwork for the Burnham-on-Sea seawall

Thursday 7 April: Seed and Burnham-on-Sea & Highbridge Town Council have been working on an exciting joint creative project to commission a new piece of artwork for the seawall in Burnham-on-Sea. The two organisations put out a brief to artists to create a durable piece that responded to the local natural environment and celebrated the ecology of this part of Bridgwater Bay. Submitted proposals were then shortlisted by representatives from the community. Two proposals were selected and voting was opened to members of the community to choose their favourite.

The proposals by the two shortlisted artists, Svetlana Kondakova and Orakel Workshop, were displayed on banners alongside a voting box at The Princess Theatre in Burnham-on-Sea as well as in pop-up locations along South Esplanade last month. Members of the public also had the option to vote online via the Seed website. Close to 1,000 votes were received, with only 72 votes separating the two proposals. Svetlana Kondakova's mosaic murals portraying views of Bridgwater Bay mudflats, and the variety of wildlife they support above and below the surface, were chosen as the public's favourite.

"I am extremely grateful to every single person that voted, winning this commission means the world to me." Said Ms Kondakova. "Burnham-on-Sea is a fascinating place, to be able to look out onto these wildlife-rich mudflats right from the esplanade is really special. My mosaic murals aim to bridge the built and the natural environments by making it look like you are looking through the wall onto the mudflats. With the kind help of local marine biologists and wildlife experts, I have discovered many beautiful and wondrous microorganisms that hide below the surface and I plan to continue with this research in order to be able to highlight the importance of living things of all sizes in this unique habitat.

Svetlana will now begin the process of creating the three mosaic murals inspired by the local landscape and wildlife. To see more about the two proposals, visit www.seedsedgemoor.com/activities/burnham-on-sea-public-artwork/

This project was funded by the Hinkley Action Tourism Partnership, the HPC Community Impact Mitigation Fund, Arts Council England & the National Lottery through the Creative People and Places programme.

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IMAGES



Svetlana Kondakova artwork proposal



Artist Svetlana Kondakova

Full size Images to accompany this release can be downloaded via:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ZeT1JnxJl41l45zDvNSPluWgXZrhOxOt?usp=sharing>

Seed Sedgemoor

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Seed is a Consortium of local organisations comprising:

- Homes in Sedgemoor,
- Community Council for Somerset,
- Bridgwater Senior Citizens Forum,
- Somerset Film;
- Young Somerset and
- Bridgwater Town Council.

We believe that arts, culture and creativity are not elite activities, but should be an ordinary part of everyday life, created by, with and for the people. This can be achieved in partnerships with artists in all forms of the creative arts, working in response to the collective imagination and reflecting the things that are important to the communities of Sedgemoor. We seek to make creative arts, culture and heritage part of everyday life in Sedgemoor by growing new opportunities for its people to participate, create and celebrate.

Seed is part of Arts Council England's **Creative People and Places** programme (**CPP**). Creative People and Places is about more people taking the lead in choosing, creating and taking part in arts and culture experiences in the places where they live. There are 33 projects, each located in a place where people are least likely to engage with arts and culture. We've committed £108 million to the programme so far, covering 33 Projects, 33 Places, 30 consortia and 45 local authorities. Since 2013, there have been 4.5 million engagements with the CPP programme and 86% of people who participate in weren't previously engaging regularly with arts and culture.

www.creativepeopleplaces.org.uk

www.artscouncil.org.uk/creative-people-and-places/creative-people-and-places-projects

If you would like further information about Seed, this announcement or to arrange an interview please contact Kirsten Mulcahy via kirsten@seedsedgemoor.com or on ph. 07875 269 561

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