

Pledge

By Carrie Mason

Audio and Visual Description

Event taking place on Sunday 30th June 2019, at St Peter's Church, Bournemouth, 12.30 – 2.27pm (duration 1hr 57min – the same duration as the 1969 moon landing).

Visual Description

Laid out directly beneath the Moon installation is a strip of canvas fabric between the two central pillars either side of the Moon, measuring 3m by 7m.

1.5m from the edge, in the centre of the canvas is a round wooden disc, 1.1m diameter, with a layer of charcoal over the disc. At the start of the performance the charcoal is in lumps, roughly the size of large pebbles.

At the opposite end of the canvas is a basket, spherical in shape made of metal wire, mounted on a wooden base. This is the 'Pledge' basket, used for audience members to put their own hand-written pledges at the end of the performance.

Carrie Mason - the artists - wearing black hob-nail boots, steps on to the charcoal on the wooden disc, and stamps rhythmically to crush it for 10mins to break up the lumps into a black dust.

Carrie then announces her own Pledge to the audience; "I will take a step to reduce my carbon footprint by..." [which she will improvise during the performance]. She then steps off the charcoal, walks to the basket and places a written pledge inside.

Next Carrie will raise a flag; the flag is made from white fabric with a black circle and the word 'pledge' written on it, on a wooden flagpole approx. 7ft 6" in length (which is the same height as the flag-pole which was planted on the 1969 moon landing). She then turns to the audience and invites them to write their own pledges to reduce their carbon footprint, then ask them to stamp on to the charcoal dust themselves and walk across the canvas to place their written pledge inside the basket. The audience walking across the canvas will leave black footsteps – or 'carbon footprints'.

At the end of the performance, Carrie lowers the flag to signify the end of the 'moon walk'. She then carefully removes the wooden disk, leaving a white circle in the centre of a now-blackened canvas; mirroring the shape of the Moon above.

Audio Description

During the start of the performance, there is approx. 10minutes of Carrie stamping on the wooden disc, wearing hob nail boots, to break up the lumps of charcoal. This creates a crunching sound underfoot. The stamping is constant and rhythmic, in sets of 3-beats, repeated until the charcoal has turned to dust.

After this Carrie will speak to the audience, first announcing her own pledge and then asking the audience to write their own.