

TOWER OF NOWHERE

UK

9:45 600

What was the “inspiration” for the design of this effigy?

Inspired by traditional UK architecture, from monastic towers to ornate arches, we have created a design that reflects both the long tradition of bell founding in the UK, and the ritual and ceremony of live bronze pouring.

What impact does the effigy have on the local community?

The bell casting is surrounded by ritual and theatre, with people being invited to gift metal jewellery (not steel or titanium) to the molten metal and become a part of the bells themselves. The effigy itself will be decorated with bunting, offering messages from the local Nowhere community.

What interesting story happened during the design and execution of this project?

Some of the materials that will be used in founding these bells was used to create the trident, held by an icon of Britannia herself, afore the Queen's Royal Barge that led this year's Jubilee flotilla.

What does the effigy hope to convey to the greater community?

We hope to celebrate the magic of the foundry and the tradition of travelling craftspeople with the spectacle of a working foundry on the Playa and the pouring of molten bronze into a bell mould. This is a ceremonial act taken to an alchemical and homeopathic dimension, with participants from the greater community putting their memory-laden gifts* into the founding to become part of the bell.

What materials were used in the construction of this effigy?

The bells will be cast live, out of bronze, at sundown on Tuesday and to be hung in our tower, constructed of wood and adorned with messages from the Nowhere community.

CORE Art Walk Activities

We cordially invite you to join us for a Traditional English High Tea with Cricket and Croquet on the Village Green.

Please wear your Finest Whites and Summer Dresses and we'll bring the Pimms and lashings of Ginger Beer for an afternoon of repressed jollity.

A brief history of mobile bell founders in pre-industrial Europe...

In pre-industrial Europe, ‘bell founders’ travelled to different towns and villages, casting bells in churchyards. This would always be a big community event, where people contributed in various ways, such as digging the foundry pit (usually in the churchyard) or contributing charcoal to melt the bell bronze.

Once the metal had been melted in its crucible the founders would entreat local dignitaries to give gold and silver to the crucible in order to strengthen the bells resonances.

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