



# Riverlight Art Map

8- Nine Elms on the  
South Bank Art Guide

## 1. TERRA LUDI Simon & Tom Bloor

This commission takes as inspiration the European Romantic tradition of creating artificial rock forms for landscape schemes. Two elements make up the artwork, the first is a geometric rocky outcrop and tree trunk sculpture that references the natural materials often used in play schemes but is created from concrete and bronze, materials more associated with the built environment and art history. The second element is a network of 100 concrete stepping-stones, scattered along the Thames Riverside and Nine Elms Lane. Terra Ludi has been created to encourage passers-by to climb, explore and interact with the public realm.

Simon & Tom Bloor's works and projects focus on our often ambivalent relationship to the structures of public space. They aim to explore art making as a playful process and play as a creative process.

## 2. LIGHT & WATER Kate Davis & David Moore

Here you will discover something magical; a tree house or dolls house, sits openly yet half-concealed in a large London plane tree on the banks of the Thames beside the charming boat-houses moored at Riverlight.

The exquisitely detailed surface of this little Tudor house is so reflective that at times it seems to disappear into the foliage of the tree. The tree house/dolls house presence is intensified by its condensed scale, appearing simultaneously futuristic and historic. The tree itself seems to have become enchanted by this addition and appears to have sprouted shiny leaves, which have fallen and blown across the pathways and benches nearby.

And again we find from this source of shimmering intensity, a series of ripples spreading across the landscaped areas which bring more glinting light, as if taken from the river into the new environment, announcing or recalling the sparkle and presence of the Thames.

The whole effect is a beautifully conceived and embedded series of works that catch you unawares; you don't feel you have been confronted by a work of public art, instead you feel you have discovered something, hidden in plain view.

Kate Davis and David Moore live and work between London and Edinburgh. Both teach sculpture at the Royal College of Art and The University of Edinburgh respectively.

In 2010 they started working under the collective banner 'ME-WE Productions' and have undertaken to work collaboratively on commissions, exhibitions and artists residencies.

## 3. SKYSTATION Peter Newman

Skystation is an interactive public sculpture, inspired by Le Corbusier and Charlotte Perriand's LC4 chaise-longue, that also acts as a piece of public seating. The contours of the work are designed to fit the reclining human form and encourage contemplation of the vast expanse of space above. An object to be both observed and used, Skystation has the incidental effect of bringing its users' heads into close proximity, thereby making conversation between strangers almost inevitable. In the best tradition of British street furniture, it has a commemorative plaque, which reads 'In Loving Memory Of Those Yet To Be Born'.

For almost twenty years Peter Newman has been making photographs, sculptures, paintings and video installations that address a human relationship to space and modernity. From individual to collective means to describe, traverse and connect. The city is seen as a primary instrument of communication and a reflection of creative intent.

## 4. STUDIORCA Project Space

StudioRCA is a new project space established by the Royal College of Art, London's leading postgraduate art and design institution and St James' Group. The studio provides a supportive platform for RCA students – many of whom will become pioneers in their field. The space will act as a test-bed for their ideas and offer them the opportunity to engage with a public audience. The StudioRCA provides a window into an artist's practice, in turn letting a public audience experience artwork as it develops and transforms over a period of time.

The RCA Riverlight Award is an initiative that forms a part of this partnership with the St James' Group which supports emerging contemporary artists from the Royal College of Fine Art's School of Fine Art to create a permanent commission at Riverlight. The programme will select and commission five RCA Fine Art students to realise permanent site-specific artworks for the five large residential lobbies at St James' Roger Stirk Harbour + Partners (RSH + P) Riverlight scheme. These lobby spaces will create a series of four high-profile public gallery windows onto Nine Elms Lane and one onto the Thames River Walk.





# RIVERLIGHT ARTWORKS

**NINE ELMS: A NEW CULTURAL DISTRICT FOR LONDON**  
 Futurecity developed a cultural strategy for Riverlight that celebrates its position at the heart of Nine Elms on the South Bank and marks a significant continuation of the ongoing legacy of commitment to culture by St James. The development of the public areas at Riverlight benefit from the installation of a series of ambitious embedded artworks by leading contemporary artists. All of the commissions have been developed over a number of years in close collaboration with Gillespies, the landscape architects of the scheme. Taking the themes of water and light and the possibilities for play within the public realm, newly commissioned sculptural works encourage passers-by and residents alike to interact with, observe and enjoy the changing light and landscape at Riverlight. In addition to the permanent works, a changing programme of exhibitions will be on display at StudioRCA, a new project space for Nine Elms located at One Riverlight Quay, where students from the Royal College of Art will present artworks and work in progress. Riverlight is a pioneering development that has put art and culture at its heart. Its launch in October 2014 marks a key moment in the evolution of Nine Elms, a new cultural district for London.

## NINE ELMS ON THE SOUTH BANK OPPORTUNITY AREA

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- 1 **TERRA LUDI** Simon & Tom Bloor
  - 2 **LIGHT & WATER** Kate Davis & David Moore
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  - 4 **STUDIORCA** Project Space

- NEW DEVELOPMENTS**
- 5 Battersea Power Station
  - 6 New Covent Garden Market
  - 7 Albert Embankment
  - 8 US Embassy

- GALLERIES/MUSEUMS**
- 9 Garden Museum
  - 10 Beaconsfield Contemporary Art
  - 11 Gasworks Gallery
  - 12 Pump House Gallery
  - 13 Studio Voltaire
  - 14 Royal College of Art
  - 15 Newport Street Gallery (2015)
  - 16 Tate Britain
  - 17 Imperial War Museum
  - 18 575 Wandsworth Road
  - 19 Cabinet Gallery (2016)

For more information on cultural resources in the wider area visit:  
[wandsworth.gov.uk](http://wandsworth.gov.uk)  
[lambeth.gov.uk](http://lambeth.gov.uk)

For a comprehensive overview of the transformation of Nine Elms on the South Bank visit:  
[nineelmslondon.com](http://nineelmslondon.com)