

SOUNDSCAPE ENABLES PANDEMIC REFLECTION FOR CAMBRIDGE BIOMEDICAL CAMPUS COMMUNITY

[CBC's new artist-in-residence Andrea Cockerton to bring campus community together to reflect on pandemic]

It's been two long years since the pandemic began. As part of the Cambridge Biomedical Campus public arts programme, funded by the developers of the campus expansion, Prologis, a new project has launched with the aim of giving voice to what it's been like for people connected to the campus.

For many treating those with the virus or carrying out research, it has been difficult to express feelings from the last 24 months. This project - called **The Dark Heals** - will give the campus community a way to do just that. Artist Andrea Cockerton is asking individuals to express how it has felt and feels, using written and spoken words, drawings, music or video. All contributions will be displayed on a digital multi-media 'wall' and reflected in the composition of a 15-minute ambient soundscape. Created in response to the wall, the soundscape will be live streamed from Cambridge in late April for all campus users to experience, and then via access on demand.

The live performance of the soundscape will be recorded live using 3D sound to provide the feeling of being in the middle of the professional musicians creating it. The audience will be able to listen from anywhere, on headphones, and will be asked to listen 'in the dark' – hence the project name. Artist Andrea Cockerton explains 'you listen differently when you cannot see... your body and mind have a break from all other inputs and it is incredibly restorative. Ultimately, that is what we want this whole project to do for the campus community – restore and heal where it is most needed.'

The deadline for submissions is 25th March, 2022. The project website www.thedarkheals.com provides information and a short video for those wishing to participate.

The Dark Heals is part of the CBC Artist in Residence programme which offers campus patients and employees the opportunity to connect through creative projects. It is curated and managed by international cultural placemaking agency, Futurecity, on behalf of the campus community. The programme is led and funded by property developer Prologis under the s106 agreement with Cambridge City Council to deliver public art across the CBC expansion land. Cockerton was selected by the CBC Public Art Steering Group, made up of campus stakeholders and external advisors.

"The Dark Heals offers our campus community much-needed space to breathe, reflect, express and come together after an extremely difficult two years. Music has a powerful way of connecting deeply to our innermost feelings, and filling us with hope – something that we all need right now. We are so excited to be working with Andrea to create a soundscape that captures our human experience, to be shared now and to be preserved for many years to come" said **Natalie Ellis, Head of Arts, Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**

"We are excited by the potential for this commission to promote wellbeing and build and nurture unexpected collaborations between the CBC research and healthcare community that will support innovation in science and health", said **Andrew Blevins, Senior Vice President, Life Sciences, Prologis**

"People need art now more than ever. Andrea's project creates a unique space in which to articulate the highs and lows of the last two years. Her expertise in creating inspiring soundscapes will seek to honour these emotions, lift our spirits and help us remember that we are not alone, but wholly connected and supporting each other", said **Andy Robinson, Head of Strategy, Futurecity**.

Ends.

ARTIST BIOGRAPHY:

Andrea Cockerton as a teenager Andrea was named West Suffolk Young Musician of the Year and in the late 80's won a music scholarship to Uppingham School, followed by a choral scholarship to study music at Trinity College, Cambridge. During her time at Trinity she sang, toured and recorded as part of the highly regarded Trinity Choir, under conductor Richard Marlow. However, neither life as a pianist or pursuing becoming a singer felt 'right', so she moved towards her other passion of business and entrepreneurship... admittedly a slightly unexpected route for a musician.

For 15 years Cockerton worked in both London and Cambridge in the world of tech start-ups and finance, building expertise in pitching (a different form of sound communication) and keeping music as an unresolved hobby. In 2010, music won out. Cockerton created the ground-breaking sound experience company, We Are Sound, calling on all her musical and entrepreneurial skills. Three years later she founded the not-for-profit Dosoco music foundation to run alongside We Are Sound – Dosoco has gone on to give out over £20,000 to projects using sound and music to change the world. In 2018 Cockerton was listed as one of NESTA's (National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts) and The Observer's #50newradicals for this work, and in 2020 one of She Said.So's alternative music power 100 honourees.

About Cambridge Biomedical Campus (CBC)

Cambridge Biomedical Campus is a thriving community where the worlds of academia, industry, research and health meet, collaborate and work to tackle some of the significant healthcare challenges facing the world today. As the largest employment site in Cambridge – encompassing renowned and much-loved hospitals – we are focused on ensuring patients benefit from the campus' world-leading research. The international nature of the collaborations cut across traditional boundaries to allow us to work together on care, research and training. Our success is based on everyone's willingness to unite to exert a powerful global influence as the campus attracts world class companies, investment and talent to Cambridge with the aim of improving healthcare and knowledge. For more information visit www.cambridge-biomedical.com

About the CBC Public Art Programme

The CBC Public Art Programme is delivering major public art projects as fully integrated elements of the CBC development. A landmark public art commission – The Green & The Gardens designed by artist Ryan Gander - has provided a new area of public realm at the heart of the campus. Alongside this is a campus-wide Artist-in-Residence programme has enabled the commissioning artists from a range of disciplines to work within and across campus organisations to engage patients, employees and wider public audiences in the campus' ground-breaking work. The programme will continue with further commissions linked to Phase 2 of the campus expansion. Artists will be commissioned to create new public art interventions for the green public realm that is coming forward as part of the Phase 2 expansion. <https://cambridge-biomedical.com/public-art/> [need to make sure website updated]

The developer of the expansion of the Cambridge Biomedical Campus is Prologis UK

Prologis, Inc. is the global leader in logistics real estate with a focus on high-barrier, high-growth markets. As of September 30, 2021, the company owned or had investments in, on a wholly owned basis or through co-investment ventures, properties and development projects expected to total approximately 994 million square feet (92 million square meters) in 19 countries. Prologis leases modern logistics facilities to a diverse base of approximately 5,500 customers principally across two major categories: business-to-business and retail/online fulfillment.

Futurecity Ltd is a cultural placemaking agency that creates cultural strategies, brokers cultural partnerships and delivers major arts projects for clients across the public and private sectors. Founded by Mark Davy in 2007, Futurecity has produced over 125 cultural strategies, brokered over 20 cultural partnerships, and worked on over 100 artist commissions for clients across four continents. In 2017, Sherry Dobbin joined as Partner, bringing her expertise across new cultural development models, public-private partnerships, and international programming experience. Futurecity has worked with Liberty Property Trust, a Prologis company, and CBC organisations since 2009 to develop and implement the CBC Public Art Programme, and in 2019 Futurecity delivered the widely acclaimed *The Green and the Gardens* led by artist Ryan Gander.