

## Dark Heritage Press Release

For Immediate Release  
16th July 2007

### SLAVE TRADE VOICES HEARD AGAIN IN IPSWICH

The voices of the 18<sup>th</sup> century slave trade will be brought to life in the heart of Ipswich, as the St Nicholas Centre hosts a national touring exhibition, Dark Heritage. The four-week run opens next week (Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July) and is part of the national commemoration of the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Abolition of the Slave Trade.

Installed in a large tent sealed off from the daylight, the centre piece of the Dark Heritage exhibition is a powerful and dramatic three-dimensional soundscape, the Dark. In the Dark your eyes are no use to you. Instead, you will need to rely on your ears, your imagination and your courage to navigate your way through the powerful story it tells. Dark Heritage is supported by specially created educational activities and workshops.

“The cruelty of the Slave Trade, both modern and historic, has been a focus of three different events for us this year,” says Gavin Stone Youth Adviser for the Church of England in Suffolk. “Dark Heritage communicates the message about the horror of slavery in a powerful and emotive way.”

Ipswich will be the second stop on a six city national tour for Dark Heritage, which runs until the end of the year. School groups from across the county will be taking part in Dark Heritage educational workshops for the first week of the installation. It opens to the general public for shows and to community groups for workshops on 23<sup>rd</sup> July between 11am and 6pm weekdays and 10am to 4pm on Saturdays, with public shows starting every half an hour. All access is free of charge.

Dark Heritage is funded by Heritage Lottery Fund and Arts Council England.

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Editors Notes

Further information about Dark Heritage contact Nick Clarke Diocesan Communications Director, 01473 298521 or 07779 780030.

The media is invited to come to a press launch for Dark Heritage at 10am on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July at the St Nicholas Centre, 4 Cutler Street, Ipswich IP1 1UQ.

Gavin Stone is available for interview as are the Dark Heritage Producers Terry and Gabi Braun and writer Maria Oshodi.

More from [www.beearts.org.uk/Darkheritage/t2\\_ipswich.html](http://www.beearts.org.uk/Darkheritage/t2_ipswich.html)

Groups wishing to book a workshop can find out more at [www.beearts.org.uk/Darkheritage/workshop.html](http://www.beearts.org.uk/Darkheritage/workshop.html) or book directly by calling Lisa Lock on 01473 298 551.

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Bee Arts CIC <http://www.beearts.org.uk/> is a new not-for-profit Community Interest Company established in early 2007 by Gabi Braun and Terry Braun to devise and produce community arts and educational projects, with an emphasis on digital arts and new media. Dark Heritage is Bee Arts's first production. Gabi Braun and Terry Braun, are also directors of the BAFTA award-winning Braunarts Ltd., <http://www.braunarts.com/> The DARK was created by Braunarts for Culture Online / The Department for Culture, Media and Sport © 2004.

The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) enables communities to celebrate, look after and learn more about our diverse heritage. From our great museums and historic buildings to local parks and beauty spots or recording and celebrating traditions, customs and history, HLF grants open up our nation's heritage for everyone to enjoy. It has supported more than 22,500 projects, allocating over £3.6billion across the UK. Website: <http://www.hlf.org.uk/>

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