

KATE DAVIS

Kate Davis was born in Chesham in 1960, and lives and works in London. She has recently completed a 10-month residency at The Wordsworth Trust, Grasmere. Her solo exhibition *headhearhole*, including text works, drawings, sculptural installation and live performance is on show until the end of December 2007 and will be exhibited at Fred (London) in March 2008. Other recent exhibitions include *Traditional but new* at Galerie Binz & Krämer, Köln, Germany and *drawnapart west* at Day and Faber, London.



My vision becomes your dreams 2007
Installation view at The Wordsworth Trust, Grasmere

Two poetic text works are sited outside the contemporary gallery onto the windows of the cottage where I have spent my 10-month residency. *My vision becomes your dream* is made of white vinyl lettering stuck on the inside of my sitting room window and is best viewed during the day in natural daylight. Its counterpart *My dreams become your vision* is made of black vinyl and it is best seen at night when artificial lighting is used inside the cottage. The placement of both works is specific to the meaning of the texts and exhibiting them outside of the gallery addresses a passing audience as well as an invited, art-specific audience



Target 2005
oak and mirror,
Installation view at Economist Plaza, London. Curated by the Contemporary Art Society, commissioned by The Economist

Kate Davis has received numerous awards, including the Sydney Water Sculpture Prize, (2002); the Jerwood Drawing Prize, 1st prize (2001); the SARGANT Fellowship, British School at Rome (1998); Young Artist of the Year, Whitechapel Gallery (1998). Her work is represented in many public and private collections including The British Museum Drawing Collection, British Land, The Cranford Collection, mima, The National Sculpture Centre, Poland, Campbelltown New City Gallery, Sydney, and The Stanley Picker Collection. She is represented by Fred (London), and is a tutor in Sculpture at The Royal College of Art.



Detail of *Target*, vinyl on mirror

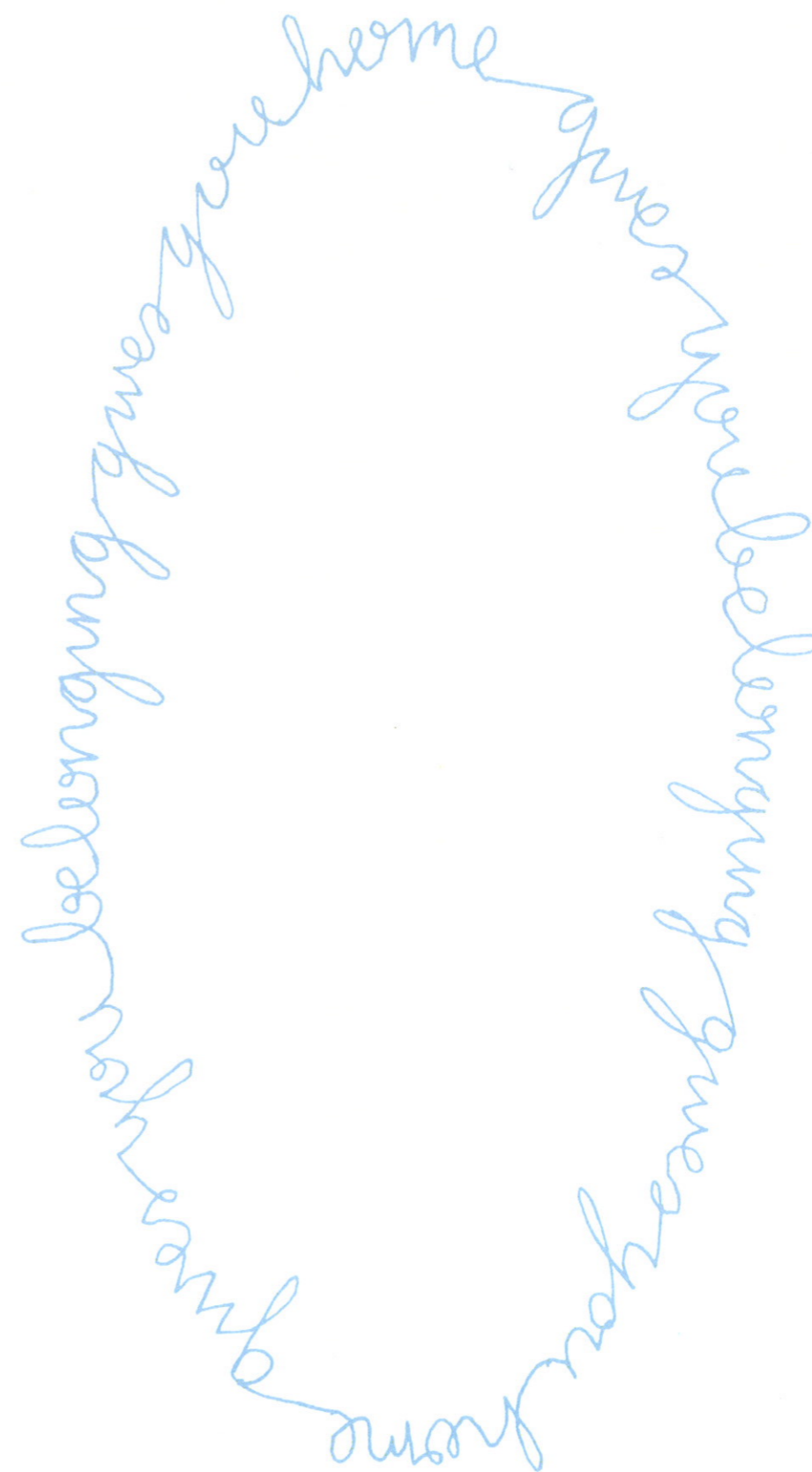
The artist and DLR would like to thank all those who participated in the workshops to date.

Commissioned by DLR Art, 2007
The DLR Public Arts Programme has been developed with Modus Operandi Art Consultants
For more information visit www.dlrart.co.uk



COMMISSION FOR LANGDON PARK STATION BY ARTIST KATE DAVIS

Belonging 2007
Study for text work for Langdon Park Station



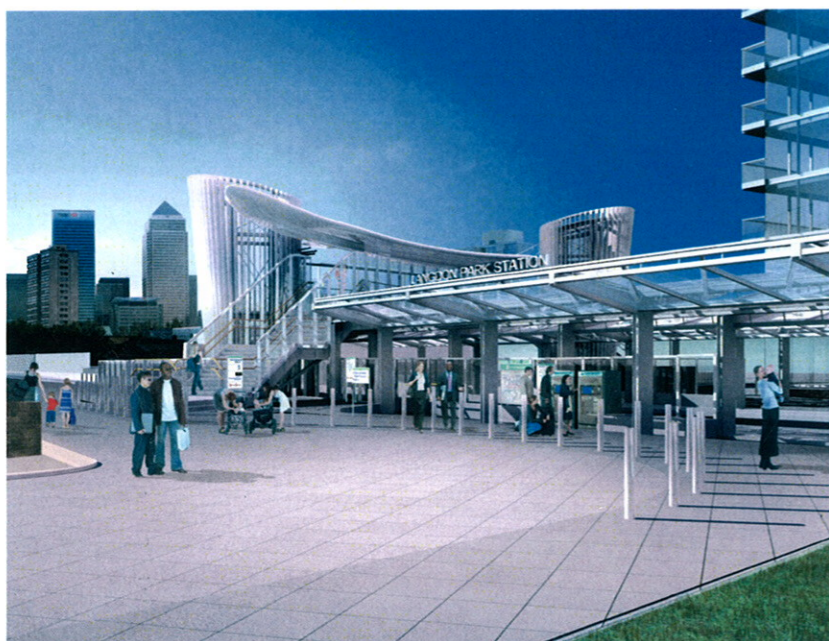
DLR ART COMMISSION FOR LANGDON PARK STATION BY ARTIST KATE DAVIS

London-based artist Kate Davis has been invited by the Docklands Light Railway to develop artworks for Langdon Park Station.

Workshop with local children led by the artist

This is one of the first commissions through DLR Art, the Docklands Light Railway Public Arts Programme launched in July 2007. The construction of the new station at Langdon Park, designed by Consarc Architects, presented an exciting opportunity for an artist to develop a permanent commission within the station and surrounding environment.

Artists were invited to respond to the design of the station as a regenerative symbol and landmark. The subtly curved bridge connects the green space of Langdon Park with a Piazza, and the distinctive lift towers announce the station entrances, functioning as beacons in the landscape and creating a visual identity for the station visible from Chrisp Street and across Langdon Park. The sculptural quality of the lift towers and bridge canopy create a landmark while the transparency along the length of the bridge and the clear view along the platform visually link the two sides.



The Art Commission

The DLR selected Kate Davis for the commission from a shortlist of artists, inspired by her previous work and by her proposed approach for Langdon Park Station, which was to draw on the local context and the experiences of people who will use the station every day. In her work she expresses her interest in built and natural landscapes, and the relationships between the made and the found, the analysed and the intuited. One of her main concerns over the last few years has been to look at how language and image work together particularly in works in the public domain.

The Langdon Park commission consists of three distinct yet interrelated elements, which are:

- A text work for the bridge to inspire and uplift the passengers and local residents, to carry a thought with them on their outward or homeward journey,
- A drawing within the paving to encourage a visual association with location and place of living,
- An art seat with a view to a sculptural installation beyond the platform.

Artist's impression of the new station at Langdon Park

DAVIS COMMENTS:

"My aim has been to create a complementary art intervention within the striking architectural identity of Langdon Park Station that acknowledges and responds to the station's function and how it is used by the passengers and locals."

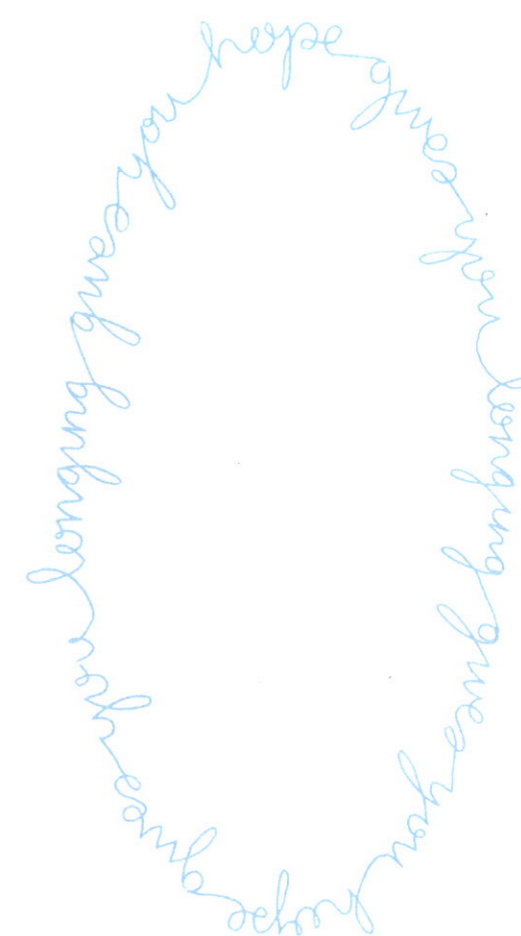
A 'text work' for the bridge

The views and ideas of the local communities have been included from the very beginning through a series of workshops that focused on 'the sense of belonging' and aspiration in order to create the text work for the commission. Themes of 'the journey', real or imagined, were used as starting points. The participants were asked to bring a line of text and its source relating to the subject of 'journey', and by selecting and combining words and phrases, new texts were created. These became Kate's inspiration for the words and phrases that will be produced in vinyl lettering on the glazing and canopy of the bridge.

The lettering will be hand written to imply an individual's voice. The placement and style of text within the architecture is carefully considered to complement the form of the bridge and canopy. Words and phrases can be read, but also function as visual images. Every two years, it is proposed that a new vinyl text is created, inspired by local people. In this way the community will have a continual investment in their local station and environs, and social changes in the community can be reflected. The first version of this artwork will be installed in early 2008.

A 'drawing' within the paving

The second element of Kate Davis' commission is conceived as a series of individual 'studs' set into the paving. These will also form a composite drawing or image when seen together from the vantage point of the bridge or from the proposed surrounding high-level buildings. 'The drawing' extends across the north and south side of the bridge therefore unifying both sides of the station. Kate likens the individual studs and their relationship to the larger 'drawing' to individual members of a community who come together to form the whole. This artwork will be installed in early 2008.



Longing 2007
Study for text work for
Langdon Park Station

A sculpture with a view

The third element of Kate Davis' proposal, completing the conjunction of language, image and object, is a sculpture, placed within the landscaped area between the platform and the park. A particular seat on the platform will frame the best view of the sculpture, creating a sight-line across the station, running parallel with the bridge. This will not only allow passengers to sit and contemplate while they are in the station, but also acts as a viewing point for the other elements of the commission, carefully positioned to create resonances and reference points. This artwork will be installed in early 2008.

These three art components bring together and unify three different ways of experiencing and understanding the world in which we live: through written language, image and object.

The elements of Kate Davis' proposal have been chosen carefully not only to work together conceptually but also to enhance and enliven all the visually striking design elements of Langdon Park Station, in particular the spectacular bridge canopy, complementing and integrating with the overall architectural design.