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For Immediate Release

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ARTIST MICHAEL SAILSTORFER BURIES GOLD TREASURE ON FOLKESTONE BEACH

Revealed today is Berlin-based artist Michael Sailstorfer's new work, *Folkestone Digs*, for the 2014 Folkestone Triennial, which has remained a secret until now. Commissioned by arts producers, Situations, Sailstorfer has announced that he has buried 30 individual pieces of gold under the sand of the Outer Harbour beach, Folkestone.

The beach, which becomes partly covered at high tide, is open to the public. The pieces of gold are dispersed across a wide expanse of beach, which is only revealed during low-tide at 4pm today.

Born in 1979, Michael Sailstorfer lives and works in Berlin. Though the artist's artistic process spans highly elaborate productions to near-imperceptible interventions, a common factor across his work is the disruption of the everyday.

Previous works have included painstakingly collecting fallen autumn leaves, painting and refastening them back onto the tree to simulate a premature spring. Another work enacts a process of 'cabin cannibalism,' with the artist feeding the rotting wooden walls of a small chalet to the wood-burner within, until nothing remains in the landscape but the burning stove. Sailstorfer is intent on expanding the notion of classical sculpture and *Folkestone Digs* is a continuation of his aim 'to make art that comes less from the head and more from the stomach'.

Situations were invited to produce a work for this year's Triennial by Curator, Lewis Biggs, in recognition of their ability to deliver public artworks that remake our sense of place and reshape where, when and how public art occurs.

For more information, updates and visitor information, visit www.situations.org.uk or www.folkestonetriennial.org.uk

Join the conversation: [#folkestonegold](#)

Local people and visitors to Folkestone wanting to dig are encouraged to keep an eye on the weather forecast and the tide times and should pack some suitable footwear. Please read the full FAQs online at www.situations.org.uk

-ENDS

About the artist

Michael Sailstorfer studied at the Akademie der Bildenden Künste in Munich and received his MFA from Goldsmiths College, University of London in 2004. His work has been the subject of recent solo exhibitions at Johann König Gallery in Berlin, Galerie Zink & Gegner in Munich, Jack Hanley Gallery in Los Angeles, and the MARTa Museum in Herford, among others. He has participated in many large-scale international exhibitions including Manifesta 5 in San Sebastian (2004), the 14th Biennale of Sydney (2004), the Liverpool Biennial (2004), and the Yokohama Triennale (2005). He has also shown in many group exhibitions at venues such as the Zentrum für Kunst und Medientechnologie in Karlsruhe, Andrew Kreps Gallery and Artists Space in New York, the Hamburger Kunsthalle, Museum Tinguely in Basel, the Barbican Centre in London, and the Ludwig-Forum für Internationale Kunst in Aachen, among many others. Sailstorfer also recently published *Für Immer war Gestern* (Forever was Yesterday), edited by Nicolas Schafhausen.

About Situations

Founded by Director, Claire Doherty, Situations is an arts organisation based in Bristol, UK, that opens up the potential for artists to make extraordinary ideas happen in unusual and unexpected places, inspiring audiences and participants to explore new horizons. Situations commission and produce both temporary and long-term public artworks, as well as acting as a connector to bring people and partners together through collective programmes and festival events in the UK and internationally. Situations is currently commissioning the public art programme for Oslo Harbour, Norway; the renowned American artist Theaster Gates' first UK project and Katie Paterson's 100-year Future Library project in Oslo.

www.situations.org.uk

About Folkestone Triennial and Creative Foundation

The Folkestone Triennial is one of the most ambitious public art projects presented in the UK. Located in the seaside town of Folkestone on the south-east coast of England. This year in its third edition, the Folkestone Triennial is curated by Lewis Biggs with the title 'Lookout'. Artists are invited to use the town as their 'canvas', utilising public spaces to create striking new pieces that reflect issues affecting both the town and the wider world. Artists commissioned to take part in previous triennials include Cornelia Parker, Tracey Emin, Jeremy Deller, Martin Creed and Richard Wilson.

The Folkestone Triennial takes place every three years and is one of the five key projects of the Creative Foundation, which is an independent visionary arts charity dedicated to enabling the regeneration of Folkestone through creative activity. Working with the people of Folkestone, partners and other stakeholders, the Creative Foundation is transforming the town making it a better place to live, work, visit and study.