

## Soul Marks

## 10 years old

Dear Friends,

Firstly THANK YOU for your continued support, both financially and prayerfully, both of which are much needed and appreciated.

Soul Marks was officially 10 years old in February 2013 - hard to believe, I know, but it's true - and so we enclose a page of our highlights! We didn't know what would happen when we started out and could not imagine many of the wonderful people we have met or places we would be asked to go - many blessings!!

It is winter, a season of rich darkness where much germination and growth is going on unseen. There is both an excitement at looking forward to 'what will grow' and occasionally a lack of patience in the waiting, with much work going on in the present! New skills are being learned and the phrase 'the more you know the less you know' has never been more apparent. The seed that is Soul Marks needs watering with prayer - your prayers and mine, and much sitting and trusting in God in the waiting time.

The beginning of a new year is a good time to look back at the last. The end of 2012 and the beginning of 2013 saw the creation of two quiet spaces. The first was in the newly refurbished Presbyterian Steeple Church, Dundee as part of the city's switching on of the Christmas lights. The second space took place on New Years Day at Old St. Pauls Episcopal Church, Edinburgh and was part of Edinburgh's official Hogmanay events. Over 700 people experienced 'Still Space' which was offered in collaboration with labyrinth facilitator Di Williams and the hugely talented Scottish musicians Corrina Hewat and Dave Milligan on harp and piano.

In January 2013 the good folk of 'Sanctuary First' invited me to speak on the subject of 'Art, Space and Worship' at Bo'ness Parish Church. This was followed in February with an invitation to co-lead a day of creative conversation in Haddington for the Scottish Episcopal Church with Professor Will Storrar of Princeton University on 'Scottish Identity'. October took me to Liverpool, where St. Brides Anglican Church invited me to host an ecumenical day conference on 'Community Art for Worship.' On the Sunday I was able to model this by leading the reflection and prayers at their morning communion service. November saw Chaplain Carrie Applegath and myself collaborate for the tenth year running to write, facilitate and co-lead the Edinburgh Sick Kids Hospital's Memorial Service. The service hosted more families and friends of the bereaved than ever before - over 130 people of all ages. We could not have done this without a group of very willing and wonderful volunteers so I would like to take this opportunity to thank them: you know who you are!

So the New Year lies before us. It begins by my attending a Society of Theology Conference in Oxford for postgraduate students, 'Bodies: Bridges and Boundaries'. Then I go further afield to spend time with good friends in Tennessee before leading a 'Space and Worship Workshop' for Arlington Presbytery in Washington DC. January ends by my taking part in the Calvin Symposium on Worship in Grand Rapids, Michigan as part of an invited group from the UK.

Amongst this practical work the PhD work continues. Much of the research of my first year has concentrated on the 'Parallels between Installation Art and Liturgy', one chapter amongst a potential five. The working title of the thesis is 'The Body, Environment And Art: Their Relevance To The Contemporary Church.' September saw me pass from a probationer to a fully-fledged PhD student having passed the requirements necessary. It was good to have got over this hurdle and



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be able to continue onward into second year. The work is exciting, stimulating and often excruciatingly hard!

For me and for Soul Marks there is no doubt that something is growing here, but what new shape and form this next 10 years will take is in the waiting and the living! We ask for your continued prayers and patience as God continues to dream within us, for courage, wisdom, patience, creativity and imagination as we move forward into the future and to give thanks for all the wonder of that has been.

With gracious and humble thanks for your support.

*Carol*

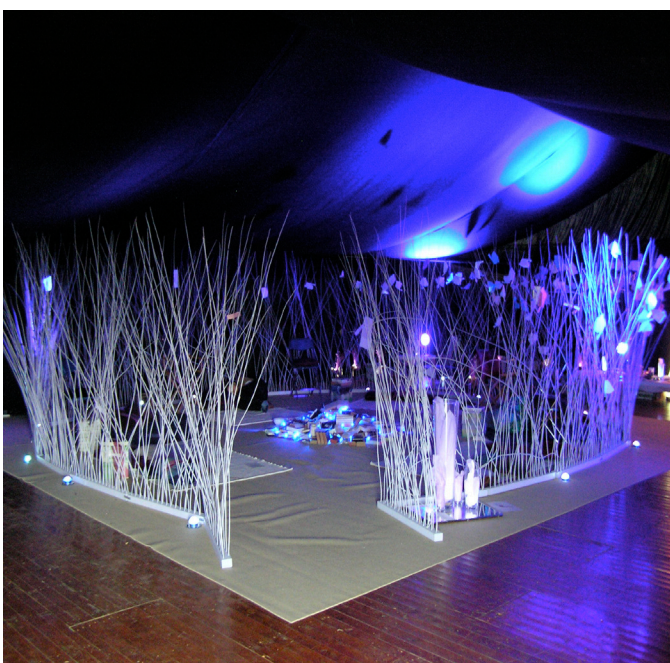
## Visual Reflections 2003-2013



International Palm Trees. New College, Edinburgh  
Created for 'Edinburgh 2010 Mission Conference'.



'What is this Place?'  
with the Wild Goose Resource Group.  
Iona Abbey, 2012

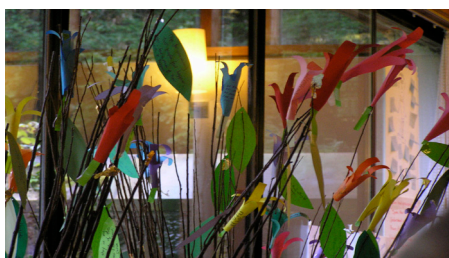


Circle Installtion' in Prayer Zone.  
Church Witout Walls Nation Gathering.  
Higkand Showground. Edinburgh, 2008



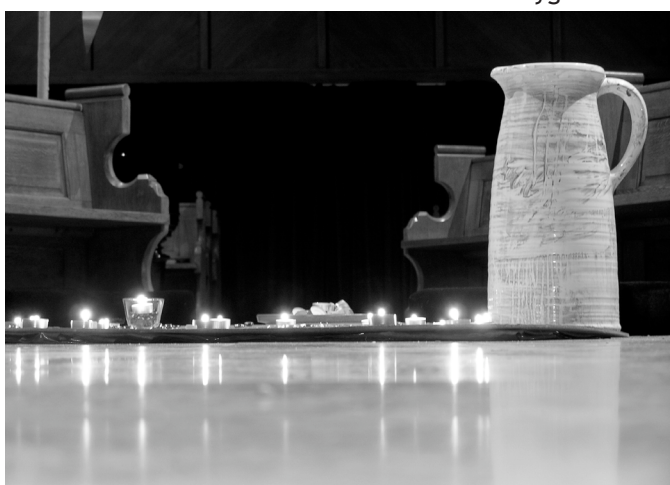
Congregation members creating the worship space at  
Easter, St. James, Leith. 2009





Art and Worship Workshops for the Priority Area Consultation 2004 -2010  
Church of Scotland

Work in Parishes such as :Carnwadric.Toryglen.Cranhill. Provenmill. Pollockshaws. Drumchapel. Muirhouse.....



Evening Worship Space for 'By The Well'  
Welsh Ecumenical Conference  
Cardiff 2006



Methodist Tapestry  
Workshops and Worship service  
Edinburgh 2007



'Loaves and Fishes'  
Scottish Episcopal Conference  
Edinburgh 2004



'Weaving the Word'

Seven workshops led throughout Scotland that enabled people to contribute to the making of an installation.  
Church Without Walls Day of Celebration.  
EICC, Edinburgh.  
2005



Talk, workshop,  
installation and a worship  
Service during a weeks  
residency

Old South Church,  
First Congregational  
Church of Windsor,  
Vermont.  
2009





'A New Heaven and a New Earth'  
Installation for Worship.  
Arts and Worship Conference. Kenturck 2010



'Father Cyril at work reflecting with paint'  
Ecumenical Deaf Priest Retreat.  
Bishops House, Iona 2006

## From the Trustees....

### Trustee Update

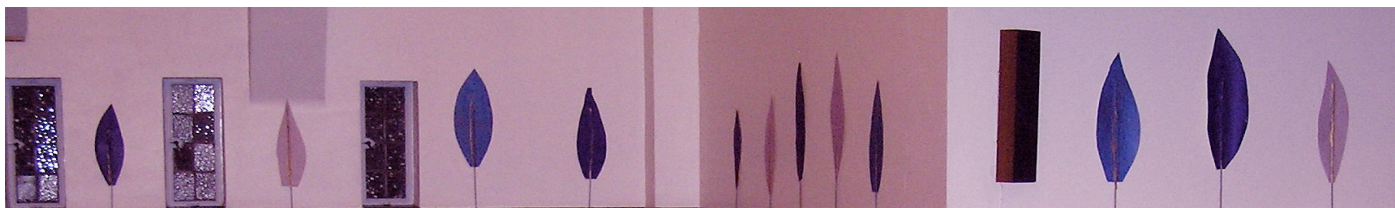
Since last year there have been a few trustee changes. Kate Reynolds and Cath Sinclair have both stepped down after three years as trustees. Kate is now a curate at Old St. Paul's, and we are very excited about her ordination in August. Elspeth Strachan and Geoffrey Stevenson both became trustees late last year. Unhappily for Soul Marks, but happily for Elspeth, she had the chance to move and work on Iona as the Iona Community Hospitality Coordinator and has therefore now stepped down as a trustee. However, in May, we were very glad to welcome back as a trustee Angie Inchley. We are very thankful for the wonderful contributions made to Soul Marks by Kate, Elspeth and Cath. We wish them all the best.

### Financial update

Thanks to the generosity of those who support Soul Marks financially, our vision is continuing to be developed through Carol's recent MLitt and on-going PhD studies. Alongside this she has also been able to continue a small amount of practical work in churches in Dundee, Edinburgh and East Lothian and is looking forward to projects in Edinburgh, Liverpool and as part of group attending a Worship Symposium at Calvin College, Michigan. Recognising that, through Soul Marks, Carol's work has engaged and inspired many people over the last ten years, we are excited about the possibility of reaching many more people in the years ahead.

For the last two years, we have been able to pay Carol's fees and provide a salary for her to continue to develop that vision through her studies. As mentioned above she has also been carrying out other work as far as that is consistent with her studies. However, the balance of our funds has decreased over this period. We are nevertheless keen to continue to provide as much support to Carol as is possible without breaching the reserves policy required by OSCR. Therefore, from September this year we are budgeting to pay Carol a reduced salary (2.5 days per week instead of 4 days per week). We are keen for Carol to find additional financial support from elsewhere. Please do let us know if you have any funding links or tips.

*Alan, Angie and Geoffrey*



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