



**Thursday 18 May 2023**  
**PRESS RELEASE**

## **Gaia is coming to Truro Cathedral**

Truro Cathedral has announced that it will welcome Luke Jerram's spectacular touring artwork, Gaia, in October 2023.



*Gaia at Liverpool Cathedral for Liverpool City Council's River Festival, 2019. Photo by Gareth Jones.*

Truro Cathedral is delighted to confirm that it will welcome Luke Jerram's spectacular touring artwork, Gaia, from Friday 6 October – Saturday 28 October 2023.

Measuring seven metres in diameter, Gaia features 120dpi detailed NASA imagery of the Earth's surface\*. The artwork provides the opportunity to see the planet on this scale, floating in three dimensions. The installation creates a sense of the Overview Effect, which was first described by author Frank White in 1987. Common features of the experience for astronauts are a feeling of awe for the planet, a profound understanding of the interconnection of all life, and a renewed sense of responsibility for taking care of the environment.

When installed at Truro Cathedral, Gaia will be suspended above the cathedral Crossing, enabling viewers to walk around and under the artwork. A specially made surround-sound composition by BAFTA award-winning Composer Dan Jones will be played alongside the sculpture.

Reverend Simon Robinson, interim Dean of Truro Cathedral, said, "We are very excited to be able to host Gaia this October. This amazing installation will be an awe-inspiring experience for the whole of Cornwall. I hope that as many people as possible feel drawn to Truro Cathedral to experience Gaia."

Visitors will be able to experience Gaia daily throughout its stay from Friday 6 to Saturday 28 October 2023. Entry to Truro Cathedral will remain free throughout the installation, with donations encouraged to enable the cathedral to continue to bring events such as Gaia to the community of Cornwall.

Sean O'Neill, chief operating officer, said, "I love that we have Gaia coming here in October! It's a realisation of our aspiration to bring more, exciting events to the community and engage new audiences with the cathedral."

Artist Luke Jerram said, "I hope visitors to Gaia get to see the Earth as if from space; an incredibly beautiful and precious place. An ecosystem we urgently need to look after – our only home. Halfway through the Earth's sixth mass extinction, we urgently need to wake up, and change our behaviour. We need to quickly make the changes necessary, to prevent runaway Climate Change."



Gaia at Liverpool Cathedral for Liverpool City Council's River Festival, 2019. Photo by Phil Longfoot

There will also be a range of ticketed events and activities accompanying the installation for people to enjoy, including evening viewing sessions, music events, school visits and talks. Additionally, the cathedral will be offering the rare chance to ascend into the roof space and view Gaia from a unique aerial perspective.

You can sign up to receive email updates regarding the forthcoming installation of Gaia and the surrounding events and activities by joining the Truro Cathedral mailing list [www.trurocathedral.org.uk](http://www.trurocathedral.org.uk).

\*The imagery for the artwork has been compiled from Visible Earth series, NASA.

**Contact:**

[gaiaexhibition@trurocathedral.org.uk](mailto:gaiaexhibition@trurocathedral.org.uk)

Liz Mulloy, Gaia Exhibition Marketing & Communications

## About Truro Cathedral

Truro Cathedral is a vibrant, active church at the physical and spiritual heart of our city. Built by the people of Cornwall for everyone to experience and enjoy, Truro Cathedral plays an important role in our modern lives, striking an important balance to provide both sacred space, in which the holiness of God is encountered in an open and inclusive way, and common ground, where issues shared by the whole of humanity can be explored.

Run as an independent, self-funded entity, Truro Cathedral continues to develop its long-term strategic plan, ensuring that the organisation has the resilience to flourish and continue to serve the communities of Cornwall for generations to come. To find out more, visit [www.trurocathedral.org.uk](http://www.trurocathedral.org.uk)

## About Luke Jerram

Luke Jerram's multidisciplinary practice involves the creation of sculptures, installations and live arts projects. Living in the UK but working internationally since 1997, Jerram has created several extraordinary art projects which have excited and inspired people around the globe. In 2022 alone he had 104 exhibitions in 25 different countries, visited by more than 2 million people.

Jerram has a set of different narratives that make up his practice which are developing in parallel with one another. Luke creates artworks at all scales, that deliver messages and inspire communities to recognise often challenging concepts. With many of his latest artworks, including Gaia, Oil Fountain and This Way Forward, Jerram has been using his skills in visual communication to draw attention to planetary health.

Jerram is known worldwide for his large-scale public artworks, including Museum of the Moon, which has been presented more than 300 times in 30 different countries and experienced by more than 20 million people.

Luke Jerram lives in Bristol UK with his wife and two children.

To find out more about Luke Jerram and Gaia, visit: [www.my-earth.org](http://www.my-earth.org)