



P R E S S R E L E A S E

When the moon fell out of orbit
from the Institute for Imagined Futures & Unknown Lands

Mission Gallery, Swansea

June 2 – July 15 2012

For *When the moon fell out of orbit*, the Institute for Imagined Futures & Unknown Lands, led by researcher Fern Thomas, is on a quest to find the lost bell of Mission Gallery.

Mission Gallery, situated in the Maritime Quarter of Swansea, began its life as St Nicholas Church, a non-denominational Seaman's Mission, built in 1868. It is thought that the bell tower was removed following the Second World War after nearby bombing rendered it unsafe.

The bell has not been seen or heard since.

As part of the quest, the Institute is researching the history of the building, including drawing on the resources of local archives and contacting museums, historical societies and talking with members of the community in hope of discovering what happened to the bell.

Inside the gallery the Institute will construct a platform as a place for the bell to return.

When the moon fell out of orbit takes its title from a dream. Other works in the exhibition such as the site-specific work, *A boat to sail turbulent seas*, filmed in Mission Gallery, makes reference to the building's role in the maritime history of Swansea, and also emerges from images found in dreams and inner landscapes.

The gallery space will be activated throughout the duration of the exhibition through performance, live action and scheduled events.

Notes:

The *Institute for Imagined Futures & Unknown Lands* is a research unit based in the future, studying the past, which is actually the present. Research of the Institute is interdisciplinary, incorporating anthropology, ecology, art, archaeology, philosophy, social sculpture and phenomenology. Research can take the form of actions, images, maps, events, publications, journeys and discussion.

Working with images, dreams and inner landscapes, the time travelling Institute focuses on how we vision the future and how we can work with the idea of 'Imagined Futures & Unknown Lands'.

For more information please contact Mission Gallery 01792 652016 info@missiongallery.co.uk
or visit www.imaginedfuturesunknownlands.org