
New Colwyn Bay Soundscape Commission to Highlight Environmental Issues as part of UK-Wide Coastal Arts Festival



Jason Singh, commissioned artist. Credit: Jason Singh

Beach of Dreams, a UK-wide coastal arts festival celebrating and exploring the unique heritage, cultures, and climate futures of our coastlines, will take place across England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland from 1 May – 1 June 2025. Alongside an evolving national silk artwork featuring hundreds of naturally dyed hand-woven silk pennants by the arts organisation Kinetika, there will be newly commissioned artworks in eight coastal locations.

Jason Singh, a highly regarded sound artist, beatboxer and DJ, will be creating a unique soundscape commission in Colwyn Bay as part of the national festival. Singh, known for his work in sound installations, community residencies, and live performances, will collaborate with TAPE Community Film and Music and other local community groups to develop a unique soundscape that will contribute to the soundtrack of the Beach of Dreams festival.

This piece will be presented through various mediums, including headphone experiences, augmented reality, and live performance in Colwyn Bay in May of next year. Singh's fascination with the natural

world—listening to plants, trees, wildlife, and people—inspires his delicate, multi-layered works, which have been showcased in major museums and festivals and commissioned by organisations such as the BBC and V&A.

Supported by Arts Council England, the commission responds to the question ‘*What is there that we can’t see?*’ and explores sea defences, the rich cultural heritage of Colwyn Bay and environmental concerns such as plastic pollution. Singh’s commission aims to reflect the natural world and resonate with local audiences.

From 10 – 13 September 2024, Singh will visit Colwyn Bay to collaborate with TAPE Community Film and Music and other local groups. This visit will kick off an exploration of the coast, serving as inspiration for their work. These sessions mark a crucial first step in forging a deep and meaningful connection between Singh and the Colwyn Bay community.

The final commission will be presented as part of a series of public events and performances on 10 May 2025, as a highlight of the national festival. The culmination of the work will be a walk and parade along the 3-mile stretch of the Bay of Colwyn’s coastline, concluding with a grand finale in the centre of the Bay. This will coincide with the Prom Xtra family event, where the new artwork will be unveiled and shared with the public.

The nationwide creative programme of Beach of Dreams will invite participants, organisations, artists, walkers, writers, activists and scientists to embark on a month-long exploration, celebration and activation of the UK’s coastline through events, creative walks, activations and more.

Beach of Dreams, TAPE Community Film and Music and The Bay of Colwyn Town Council invites individuals and organisations in Colwyn Bay and beyond, to take part and become part of the growing national network of organisations who are exploring themes relating to the coastal environment, organising local events, and contributing to Kinetika’s evolving national silk artwork.

Take part in Beach of Dreams and learn more at www.beachofdreams.org

For further information about Colwyn Bay and how you might be able to get involved locally, contact Tina Earley, Town Clerk at clerk@colwyn-tc.gov.uk