

## Press Release

### ***Lent and Easter art exhibitions at Bristol Cathedral***



'Salvation' Saloomeh Asgary

**From 20 February – 30 March, Bristol Cathedral will host *Salvation*; an installation of poignant wooden sculptures by Iranian artist Saloomeh Asgary.**

Saloomeh Asgary was born in Iran in 1981 and in 2003 gained a degree in Painting at the University of Elm o San'at in Tehran. Led by her Christian faith, she studied for three years with a distinguished master of Sculpture in Tehran, before opening her own independent studio. Following a vision which she received from God during a time of Christian worship, Saloomeh began work on a series of sculptures connected with the theme of Salvation, a number of which are being displayed at Bristol Cathedral in the run-up to Easter. Because conversion to Christianity is illegal in Iran, she was not able to display the sculptures or explain their meaning.



*“These designs were conceived during my hours of prayer and worship. Over the two years that I spent chiselling and shaping these sculptures, the Lord was chiselling and shaping me. Many times I can see how God has worked in me. I am the seventh sculpture whom my Creator God has made.”*

**Saloomeh Asgary**

Viewers of the works are invited to pause and reflect on the sculptures and their message of “Surrender yourself afresh to God, inviting him as the master craftsman to fashion you into something beautiful, wonderful and unique, for his splendour”.

In 2009, Saloomeh left Iran and, after spending three years in Turkey, arrived in England in 2013 and is now based as Elam Ministries, working on a sculpture representing Freedom in Persecution. The sculptures are now also based at the UK Elam headquarters.

For further information about these and all of our other events and services, please visit

[www.bristol-cathedral.co.uk/whats-on](http://www.bristol-cathedral.co.uk/whats-on)

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## Notes for Editors

**Salvation by Salomeh Asgary** runs at Bristol Cathedral from 20 February – 30 March.

For more information and photographs, please contact:

Naomi Miller, 0117 946 8184; [naomi.miller@bristol-cathedral.co.uk](mailto:naomi.miller@bristol-cathedral.co.uk)

## Bristol Cathedral at Lent and Easter

The Cathedral is open as usual across Lent and Easter. For our full programme of events during this time, please visit [www.bristol-cathedral.co.uk/whats-on](http://www.bristol-cathedral.co.uk/whats-on)

People have been praying and worshipping on our site for the last thousand years. Today, the Cathedral continues to be a safe, inviting space for all people to pause for thought, find beauty and peace, feel the sacred and come together as communities. From Monday to Friday the Cathedral is open to visitors from 8.00am until 5.00pm, with Choral Evensong or Evening Prayer at 5.15pm. On Saturdays and Sundays we are open from 8.00am until 3.15pm, with Choral Evensong at 3.30pm. Admission is free and all are very welcome to come inside and look around. Feel free to wander and soak up the atmosphere, sit quietly somewhere, or join us in one of our services. You can also visit our shop and café.

## Elam Ministries

Elam Ministries is an organisation which seeks to strengthen and expand the church in the Iran region and beyond. For more information see <https://www.elam.com/>