

'OUMUAMUA PRESS RELEASE v1.1

A fantastic new project is underway at EAARO, to complement its search for extraterrestrial intelligence.

'Oumuamua. Is it an alien artefact? An asteroid? Maybe a comet?

A team of volunteers is set to develop an exciting large-scale sculpture of the first observed interstellar object to leave our solar system faster than it entered.

The 'Oumuamua sculpture will tour nationally and internationally to some of our most prestigious art venues and other high-profile public art sites, allowing for wide engagement in this thrilling art-science initiative, with plans to fuse sound, video projections and live performance.

Inspired by the mystery of this curious interstellar object, and creatively provoked by its name, which translates to 'messenger from afar, arriving first', EAARO sees this project as a challenge to the SETI paradigm, one that asks whether we should be searching for extraterrestrial intelligence closer to home as well as the further reaches of our galaxy.

EAARO will encourage the spectator to engage creatively in a variety of ways, and then to leave asking some of the most fundamental questions we as humans face:

- What is our place here?
- Are there other 'intelligent' forms of life beyond our own planet?
- What responsibilities do we have as custodians of Planet Earth?

Notes to Editors:

EAARO is a not for profit charitable company established in 2011 as a space research organisation with an unusually high level of public engagement:

<http://www.eaaro.org.uk/>

EAARO's objective is to educate and inspire people in the areas of Science, technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics (STEAM) through meaningful space research. EAARO managing director Jason Williams can be contacted by email:

jason@eaaro.org.uk or by phone 07802 357542 (mobile), 0203 432 6648 (landline).



1013
North Gate
Alconbury Airfield
PE28 4WX

EMAIL info@eaaro.org.uk
WEBSITE www.eaaro.org.uk

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