

# INCARCERATED

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THREE COUNTRIES

THREE PEOPLE

THREE PRISONERS

# PROJECT & INTENTION

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'Incarcerated' is an interactive, experiential installation project portraying political imprisonment in China, Iran and Burma, exhibited through the plight and stories of three human rights activists currently imprisoned within these countries. It will be an audiovisual representation of their unjust incarceration and demonstrate the context of each through an immersive and interactive experience.

The aim of the project is not only to raise awareness for these prisoners and others like them, but to also encourage audience members to actively involve themselves with the call for their immediate release and for human rights reform in these countries. We plan to achieve this through eliciting human understanding amongst audiences towards those incarcerated; emotively involving audience members in the circumstances these people face.



IRAN



BURMA



CHINA



Nasrin Sotoudeh

Sotoudeh is an Iranian human rights lawyer who represented imprisoned Iranian opposition activists and politicians as well as prisoners sentenced to death for crimes committed when they were minors. In September 2010 Nasrin was arrested and placed in solitary confinement on charges of 'spreading propaganda and conspiring to harm state security'. She is currently sentenced to 6 years and has an additional 10-year ban from practicing law by Iranian authorities despite wide call for her release.



Zaw Zaw Aung

Aung is a 33-year-old activist who was involved in raising awareness and educating people in Burma to understand about human rights and freedom. He was imprisoned in 2008 by the Burmese government for a crime he did not commit and has been given a life sentence with an additional 8 years. Despite the pressure put on Burma by the UN to reform their human rights, many prisoners such as Zaw Zaw remain incarcerated.



Gao Zhisheng

For nearly a decade Gao Zhisheng was one of China's top lawyers. But nearing the Beijing Olympics he became increasingly outspoken about human rights abuses in the country, and in 2008 was arrested by the Chinese government, tortured and his family put under house arrest. His family have since been released, yet Gao's whereabouts were unknown until recently; in prison where he remains to this day.

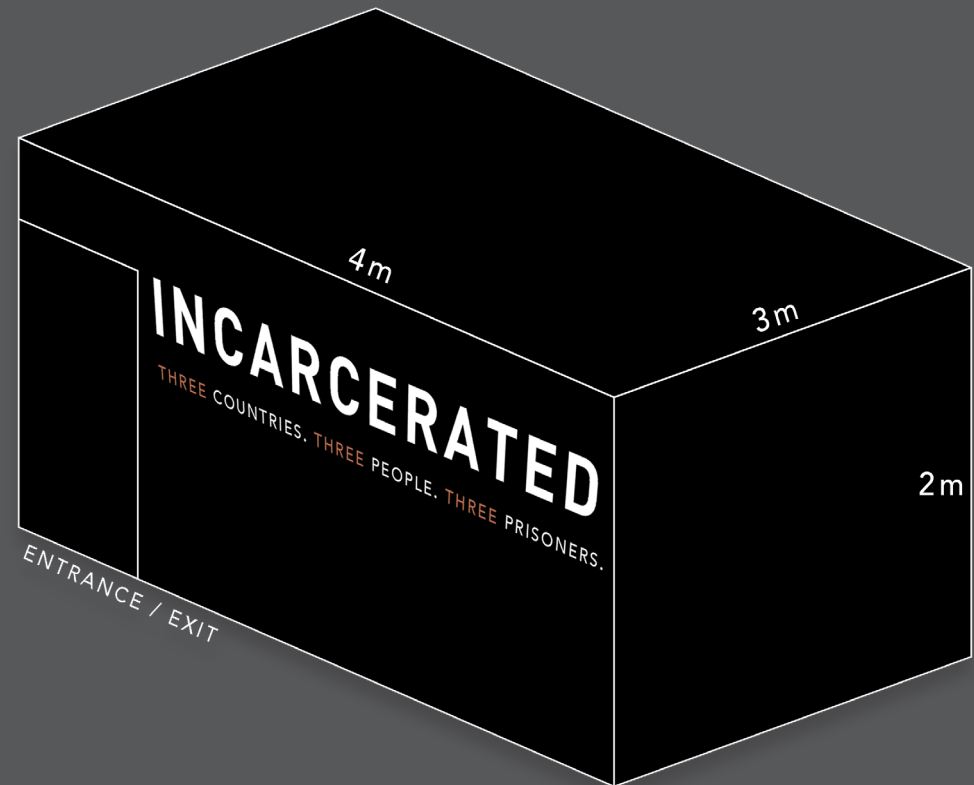
# STRUCTURE

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The piece will take the form of a room, similar in structure and size to a typical prison cell, yet will essentially be a tactile and audio-visual space interactively initiated and altered by audience members as they explore it, gradually portraying the stories of the three political prisoners in the aim of raising awareness and promoting action amongst audiences. Audiences will then have access to further information and necessary methods of action they can take to help in the fight for freedom.

The piece will utilise interactive triggering systems, mapped projection, specialised audio and carefully considered décor to create the most engaging, emotive and effective audience experience. It will run for between 3 and 6 days per exhibition, portraying each political prisoner's story on alternate days to ensure all three are equally represented.

We plan to exhibit in a number of venues during 2013, from festivals to gallery and unused spaces. We are currently in the process of application to suitable festivals around the country, and are intending on further exhibition around the south of England (Bristol, Brighton, Bournemouth, etc) throughout 2013.



# THE ARTISTS

## AL HODGSON

### PROJECT DIRECTOR

Currently studying third year BA Digital Media Production, Al has a background in interactive installation art and visual media. He is passionate about human rights and has worked on a number of interactive installations in studio spaces and festivals over the past 4 years, including his most recent collaborative project 'Forest Floor'; an interactive sound sculpture portraying the life cycle of the natural world and it's symbiotic relationship with civilisation.

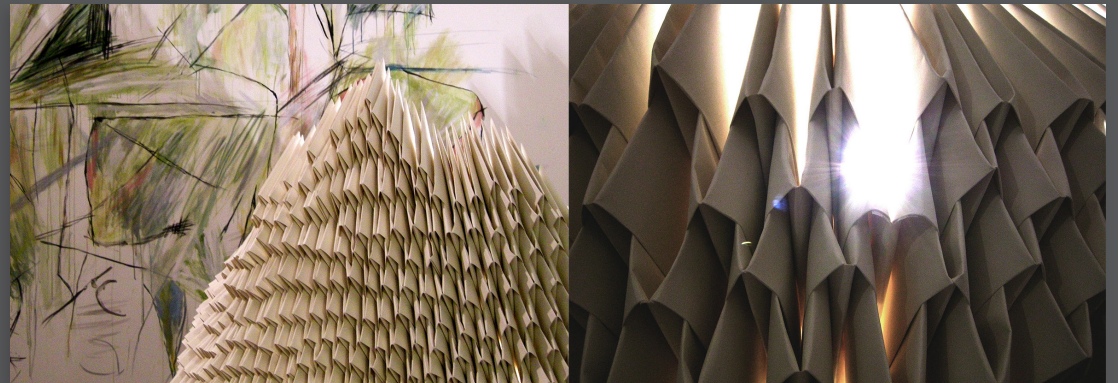


"Forest Floor" - End Of The Road Festival 2012

## PHOEBE FLEMING

### ART DIRECTOR / CURATOR

Having been part of the Young Arnolfini Art Collective (YAAC) in Bristol, exhibiting a range of projects including interactive origami structures and 16mm found footage creations, Phoebe now studies BA Film Production at the Arts University Bournemouth. She has a keen interest in creating works that challenge the audience, encouraging people to think beyond their comfort zone and consider different viewpoints.



#10, Exhibition by the Young Arnolfini Artists Collective, 2010.

# CONTACT

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## ADDITIONAL TEAM

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Projection Artist

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## LINKS / INFORMATION

[Iranhumanrights.org](http://Iranhumanrights.org) - [Nasrin Sotoudeh](#)

[Burmacampaign.org.uk](http://Burmacampaign.org.uk) - [Zaw Zaw Aung](#)

[Freegao.com](http://Freegao.com) - [Gao Zhisheng](#)

[Arts University Bournemouth](#)

[Digital Media Production - AUB](#)

[Forestfloorproject.wordpress.com](http://Forestfloorproject.wordpress.com)