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FLOWERS

Sokari Douglas Camp CBE

All the World is Now Richer

6– 10 October 2026

Private View: Tuesday 6 October, 6-8 pm

Flowers Gallery is pleased to present *All the World is Now Richer* (2009-2010), a major sculpture by British Nigerian artist **Sokari Douglas Camp CBE**, from Tuesday 6 to Saturday 10 October 2026, to coincide with Black History Month.



The large-scale memorial acts as a constructive and positive response to slavery, celebrating the courage, resilience and contributions of people of African descent. This presentation will support efforts to raise the remaining funds required to cast the sculpture in bronze and realise its permanent installation in Burgess Park, London. Alongside the main sculpture, a selection of smaller related pieces will also be on display.

Douglas Camp's research led her to the words of William Prescott, a former slave, who stated in 1937: **'They will remember that we were sold but they won't remember that we were strong. They will remember that we were bought, but not that we were brave.'** It is Prescott's assertion of bravery that provides the central impulse for Douglas Camp's work. Rather than creating a memorial solely focused on suffering, *All the World is Now Richer* acknowledges the brutality of slavery while celebrating the strength, survival and achievements of those who endured it.

From our rich ancestral lands, we were bought, sold and used, but we were brave, we were strong, we survived. All the world is now richer. – Sokari Douglas Camp

Working in her London studio, Douglas Camp constructs her figures herself from sheet steel, cutting strips of metal using gas and welding techniques. The works are built intuitively in a manner reminiscent of patchwork quilts. In deliberately avoiding the conventional process of modelling in clay before casting in bronze, the artist has developed a direct and distinctive material language that remains visible in the finished forms.

For Douglas Camp, the history of slavery is also inseparable from the history of Britain. Living in London has heightened her awareness of the extent to which the transatlantic slave trade supported the city's wealth and development. The proposed memorial seeks to make this history visible within the contemporary urban landscape, while also recognising the communities and individuals whose lives, labour, and resilience have contributed to the richness of the present.

All the World is Now Richer has been exhibited at the Harewood House Trust, Leeds (2007), House of Commons, London (2012), Bristol Cathedral, Bristol (2014), Norwich Cathedral (2014), St Paul's Cathedral, London (2014), Westminster City Council Hall, London (2022).

Douglas Camp describes the ambition of the project as creating "something positive about slavery": a permanent public work through which the bravery of enslaved people and their descendants can be remembered and celebrated for generations to come.

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Sokari Douglas Camp CBE (b. 1958)

British Nigerian artist Sokari Douglas Camp CBE focuses on socio-political issues and the history of the African Diaspora in her practice. Born in Buguma, Rivers State, Nigeria, Douglas Camp studied fine art at Central School of Art and Design and the Royal College of Art in London. In 1984, she was selected by Rose Garrard as Flowers Gallery's 'Artist of the Day' programme, marking an early recognition of her work.

Based in London, Sokari Douglas Camp's work is featured in the collections of the National Museum of African Art, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C, USA; Setagaya Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan; and the British Museum, London. In 2003, Douglas Camp was one of the shortlisted artists for the Fourth Plinth in London's Trafalgar Square. In 2005, she was awarded a CBE in recognition of her services to art, and she won the competition to design a London memorial for Ken Saro-Wiwa. Her large-scale steel work *Europe Supported by Africa and America* (2015) was displayed at the V&A, London from 2022 until 2023.

Image: Sokari Douglas Camp, *All the World is Now Richer*, 2009-2010, Steel, 216 x 560 x 124 cm, Photography by Sal Idriss.