



Marlborough Town Council  
In partnership with the  
**North Wessex Downs**  
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty  
and  
Marlborough College



MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE

## **Museum of the Moon joins the Marlborough Dark Skies Fest festival line up and the Festival box office goes LIVE.....**

The Box Office is open for the first Marlborough Dark Skies Fest - a fun festival of events running from the 25th October 2021 and culminating in a jam-packed programme on the weekend of the 30th - 31st of science and art activities celebrating the night sky.

With over 40 events taking place in 13 venues across the town the festival has lots to offer everyone, from exhibitions to workshops, talks to tours and – of course – stargazing! Most events are free but ticketed and tickets are limited so please don't leave it to the last minute!

Find out more at [thelittleboxoffice.com/mdsf](https://thelittleboxoffice.com/mdsf)

The organisers are also very excited to announce **the Museum of the Moon** – a touring artwork by UK artist Luke Jerram – joining the festival line up.

Measuring seven metres in diameter, the moon features 120dpi detailed NASA imagery of the lunar surface. At an approximate scale of 1:500,000, each centimetre of the internally lit spherical sculpture represents 5km of the moon's surface.

The installation is a fusion of lunar imagery, moonlight and surround sound composition created by BAFTA and Ivor Novello award winning composer Dan Jones.

Marlborough Dark Skies Fest are delighted to bring this spectacular installation to Marlborough. The Museum of the Moon will be free to visit at the Chapel of St Michael and All Angels at Marlborough College all week and throughout the weekend in bookable timed entry slots from 25<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> October.

To book, visit: [thelittleboxoffice.com/mdsf](https://thelittleboxoffice.com/mdsf)

### **ENDS**

### **More about Dark Skies**

Interest in the night sky has been growing in recent years, with TV series such as Prof. Brian Cox's Wonders of the... and The Planets, as well as the BBC's long running Sky at Night. Dark Sky festivals take place in several National Parks across the UK, and the International Dark Sky Places programme now has over 130 protected areas across the globe.

With financial help from The Arts Council England, The Royal Astronomical Society, The British Astronomical Association, The Nineveh Charitable Trust and Wiltshire Council - Local Youth Network, Marlborough Dark Skies Fest is an opportunity to celebrate the night sky around Marlborough, a rural town in the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and inspire both visitors and locals about keeping our dark skies dark!.

### **More about the partners**

Marlborough Town Council provides local services to residents and visitors of the Marlborough and Manton parish area, including hosting many annual and one-off community events. More information at [www.marlborough-tc.gov.uk](http://www.marlborough-tc.gov.uk)

The North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) covers 668 square miles (1,730 sq. km) of Berkshire, Hampshire, Oxfordshire and Wiltshire and is the third largest AONB in England. It was created in 1972 to protect and enhance one of the largest tracts of chalk downland in southern England along with other beautiful landscapes. The AONB office at Denford Manor near Hungerford was established in October 2002. Visit [www.northwessexdowns.org.uk](http://www.northwessexdowns.org.uk) for more information.

Founded in 1843, Marlborough College is the largest co-educational independent full boarding school in the UK with over 1000 pupils, in 16 boarding houses, aged 13 to 18. The College is academically ambitious, committed to extending access, and offers a fast-paced, contemporary, challenging and enriching education within a warm, inclusive and spiritual environment. Visit [www.marlboroughcollege.org](http://www.marlboroughcollege.org) for more information.

### **More about Museum of the Moon**

Over its lifetime, the Museum of the Moon will be presented in a number of different ways both indoors and outdoors, so altering the experience and interpretation of the artwork. As it travels from place to place, it will gather new musical compositions and an ongoing collection of personal responses, stories and mythologies, as well as highlighting the latest moon science.

Luke Jerram's multidisciplinary practice involves the creation of sculptures, installations and live arts projects. Living in the UK but working internationally for 19 years, Jerram has created a number of extraordinary art projects which have excited and inspired people around the globe. Jerram has a set of different narratives that make up his practice which are developing in parallel with one another. He is known worldwide for his large scale public artworks.

To find out more about the artwork, its creation and research, visit: <http://my-moon.org/>

Look out for festival news via: **@marlboroughdarkskiesfest** on Facebook

Book tickets via: **[Thelittleboxoffice.com/mdsf](http://Thelittleboxoffice.com/mdsf)**

If you'd like to volunteer during the festival, please contact:

Clare Harris [charris@marlborough-tc.gov.uk](mailto:charris@marlborough-tc.gov.uk)