

# NEWS

Home UK World Business Politics Tech Science Health Education

England | Regions | Bristol

## Artist Liz Crow's austerity mud figures ground up

16 minutes ago | Bristol



Artist and activist Liz Crow created 650 mud people to represent austerity in every constituency in the UK

**Hundreds of tiny mud people created by a disabled activist to highlight austerity in the UK have been ground up and scattered over the sea.**

The 650 statues called Figures and made by Bristol-based Liz Crow, represented all the UK's constituencies.

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Ms Crow wanted people to think about the effects of continued austerity on people at "the sharp end" ahead of the recent general election.

The artist said saying goodbye to the figures had been "emotional".



Mud was gathered from the bank of the River Avon at the start of the life cycle of the figures

Ms Crow planned to take the figures through a life cycle.

It began on the banks of the River Avon at Shirehampton in Bristol where the mud was gathered.



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The artist was carried on to the bank of the River Thames to create her mud people at low tide

This was then taken to the banks of the River Thames in London where the artist moulded the figures over 11 days and nights while sitting opposite the Houses of Parliament.



The "demanding" work took Ms Crow 11 days and nights to complete

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The figures were taken on a mobile exhibition tour starting in Trafalgar Square then on to David Cameron's constituency office in Witney, Oxfordshire, and returning to Bristol.



Liz Crow said she wanted people to think about what sort of society people in the UK want to be part of

Before making their final journey by boat to be scattered over the sea near Portishead, the figures were taken to a brick makers to be ground up.



The figures were ground up at a brick yard at the end of the "difficult and demanding project"

"It was really emotional," said Ms Crow.



The end of the life cycle of the figures came when Liz Crow scattered the pieces into the sea at Portishead

"I had such a strong sense of what the figures represented."

As the pieces were thrown into the sea, Ms Crow said she was thinking about "what it is to be human and the sort of society we want".



Liz Crow said it would take months for her to recover physically from the project

She believes the election result shows society thinks "some people are more significant than others".

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