

VANITY FAIR



Floating Dreams by Ik-Joong Kang

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It's surprisingly easy to walk by a piece of public art without noticing it; with eyes likely glued to our phones, it takes something monumental—like Damien Hirst's *Charity*, the enormous replica of the collection boxes used by The Spastics Society (now Scope) which sat outside the Gherkin as part of [Sculpture in the City](#) in 2015—to stop us. Totally Thames, the month-long festival celebrating the 42-mile stretch of London river from Hampton Court Palace to Dartford Crossing, has commissioned one such installation. *Floating Dreams*, by the Korean artist Ik-Joong Kang, whose work has appeared in New

York's Metropolitan Museum and the Whitney, sees a three-storey illuminated lantern structure installed on the Thames by the Millennium Bridge. The work features 500 drawings by people who fled North Korea for the South during the Korean War; now in their 80s and 90s, the drawings speak to a longing for home and hope of reunification. Go at night to see the sculpture lit up in its full glory. And if you want more, [Robilant + Voena](#) on Dover Street are hosting an exhibition of the artist's work from 6-23 September.

[Totally Thames](#) (1 – 30 September); @[totallythames](#)

Pictured: *Floating Dreams* (2016) by Ik-Joong Kang. Image credit: Peter MacDiarmid