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MARK WALLINGER SELF (TIMES NEW ROMAN) I AM INNOCENT

The capital letter I; Times New Roman; a life-size sculpture of Self

Times New Roman is how we are all represented by default. I. A standing figure, a cipher made concrete. The smallest poem of our sense of self, in the world, of the world, our self is shared with everyone. What I have to say is said in our stead.

Where is I if it is us and how can I ever be me?

I am.

Language includes us in the continuum, an ever present tense, forever and ever.

Then I am God and my mother's thoughts in her war time diary. I am Holden Caulfield, Saint Augustine of Hippo reading Jane Eyre: An Autobiography, which I have just this second finished writing.

I am Innocent.

Papa.

Omnipotent and omnipresent, his eyes never leave you. I am watching you. My head is spinning.

Papa.

I am Innocent. Trust me, I won't hurt you. I am God's emissary in Earth.

Trust me, I am an artist, the king's ambassador. I will show you the man.

Painter and Pope: the looker and the looked at are gone.

All portraits are self portraits. All self portraits are of me, a stranger. Paint me looking at you, paint him looking at me. Paint me looking at my self back to front, looking back to the future, I am thinking that I won't be.

Can you see into the future? Will there be anybody there, looking back.

I is someone else. It wasn't me. I didn't do it.

I am Innocent.

X.

Mark Wallinger's installation State Britain, described in Artforum magazine as "...one of the most remarkable political works of art ever..." was on display at Tate Britain in 2007. His proposal for a 165ft high White Horse was the winner of the Ebbsfleet Landmark Commission and is soon to be constructed. In 2009 he curated the hugely successful Hayward touring exhibition, The Russian Linesman. In 1999, Wallinger's sculpture Ecce Homo was the first project chosen for the vacant Fourth Plinth in Trafalgar Square, and he represented Great Britain at the 2001 Venice Biennale. He has been nominated twice for the Turner Prize and was the winner in 2007. His video work Via Dolorosa, is permanently installed in a crypt in the Duomo in Milan. Of his many major national and international exhibitions the most recent took place at the Kunstnerhus in Oslo earlier this year. His work is represented in important museum collections worldwide. Thames and Hudson is publishing a definitive monograph in 2011.