

WORDS ARE NOT ENOUGH

Cornford & Cross

Temporary peace garden over abandoned nuclear bunker

**Public address by Professor Paul Gough,
University of the West of England**

**Meet outside Southwark Town Hall,
Peckham Road, London SE5 8PY
2pm, Saturday 16 June**

Free

In a vacant plot of land, a shaft drops down to a concrete stairway leading into deep shadows. Corridors give onto a network of flooded chambers, echoing with the sound of dripping water. Power generators, an air filtration system, communications equipment, maps, charts and plans are still in place, but obsolete, decaying, and forgotten in total darkness.

Built in 1953 to accommodate council staff in the event of a nuclear attack, the underground shelter is a relic of the Cold War era. Today, as an astonishing economic regeneration gathers pace in Southwark, the land stands ripe for development in this dynamic and promising area of the Capital.

Cornford & Cross will create a temporary peace garden over the entrance to the bunker, and throw a summer party. The aim of this 'peace garden' is to consider how we might relate to the time when the world lived in the shadow of a nuclear holocaust, to invite reflection on the idea of closure, and celebrate the widest range of possibilities now open to Londoners.

Part of Architecture Week and Camberwell Arts Festival 16–24 June 2007
Supported by University of the Arts London, and the University of Wolverhampton