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Festival Park artwork of spread legs has been removed



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ARTWORK REMOVED

Controversial 'spread legs' artwork has been removed from Glasgow park gates

A CONTROVERSIAL artwork showing a woman's spread legs at the gates of a park where a teenage girl was allegedly raped has been removed.

The artwork, by Icelandic-Irish artist Rakel McMahon, caused outrage when it appeared on the gates of Festival Park at the weekend.

Following multiple complaints it has now been removed.



Some women had taken matters into their own hands and defaced the piece, called Assumption - to be in context or not be in context, that is the question.

An 18-year-old girl was alleged raped in the Cessnock park in February of this year.

Rakel took to Instagram earlier to defend the work.

She wrote: "I am aware of the horrible attack in that park as I did research on the area, especially looking at safety for women.

"Parks and green areas in a city are in general not safe place for women, specially after dark.

"I am currently working on a project that comments on sexual harassment in parks and public space.

"As a feminist I was aware of that it might be interpreted as sexist... but at the same time it is trying to point out that we should not assume anything?

"Not by how people are dressed, shirt skirts or high heels....the work is two legs in high heels, are they female?

"I feel the work touches upon the discourse on victim blaming in sexual harassment as well as giving the park area a feminine vibe that these green areas need.

"As for now parks, in Iceland, Glasgow or any other city are not safe for everybody.

"The original work was created from flight safety instructions where high heels are always banned during emergency exits."

Glasgow City Council has been contacted for comment.

<https://www.glasgowtimes.co.uk/news/19516422.festival-park-artwork-spread-legs-removed/>