

[Home](#)[Why Mail?](#)[Knowledge Centre](#)[Creative Showreel](#)[Marketing Masterclass](#)

[MMC](#) > [News](#) > 'Letter Box' installation is stolen from London's Big Egg Hunt

'Letter Box' installation is stolen from London's Big Egg Hunt

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An installation designed like an iconic Royal Mail red letter box has been stolen from The Fabergé Big Egg Hunt, with organisers now appealing for its return.

The letter box egg, measuring 2ft 6in (74cm) tall, was one of two stolen at the weekend. While the other has since been found, the work by artist Benjamin Shine, which was on Carnaby Street, is still at large.

Shine has appealed for anyone with information about his missing egg to come forward.

"Although I'm flattered someone wanted it so badly, I'm extremely disappointed thieves selfishly stole a piece created to raise vital funds for two very worthwhile charities," he said.

"I'm also saddened that people currently out and about in London having fun taking part in the Faberge Big Egg Hunt won't be able to see the Egg Letter Box."

Over 200 giant eggs have been hidden in secret locations throughout central London for 'The Fabergé Big Egg Hunt', an event which challenges the public to take on the world's biggest Easter egg hunt, whilst raising vital funds for charities Action for Children and Elephant Family.

Members of the public are searching out all the giant eggs, which have been exclusively designed, embellished and decorated by some of the world's leading artists, architects, jewellers and designers including Mulberry, Sir Ridley Scott, Zandra Rhodes, Diane Von Furstenberg, Marc Quinn, Bruce Oldfield, the Chapman Brothers, Theo Fennell, William Curley, Candy and Candy, Zaha Hadid, Bompas and Parr and Polly Morgan.

The challenge victor will win the world's most extraordinary prize, the Diamond Jubilee Egg, a creation valued at over £100,000. Crafted with precisely 500 grams of rose gold, the design is a one-of-a-kind, based on Fabergé's much loved Matelassé jewellery collection.

It features 60 gemstones – one for each year of Her Majesty The Queen's reign – set in the pleats of its quilted rose gold surface and comprising diamonds, emeralds, rubies and sapphires.

To enter to win the prize, while raising money for the charities at the same time, hunters need to locate the unique SMS keyword displayed on each of the eggs and text the keyword to a dedicated text number, 80001. For each keyword participants text in, they will be entered into the prize draw. The more eggs they find, the more chances to win and the winning entry will be drawn at random.

The Fabergé Big Egg Hunt is seeking to raise up to £2 million for leading children's charity, Action for Children, and Elephant Family, the UK's biggest funder for the endangered Asian elephant.