

Finishing It

I can't configure
a tablet
chiselled by God's finger

or forge
a scrawled prescription,
but here's an inscription, formed

on the small white dot
of its own
full stop,

the sugared pill
of a poem, one sentence
that speaks ill

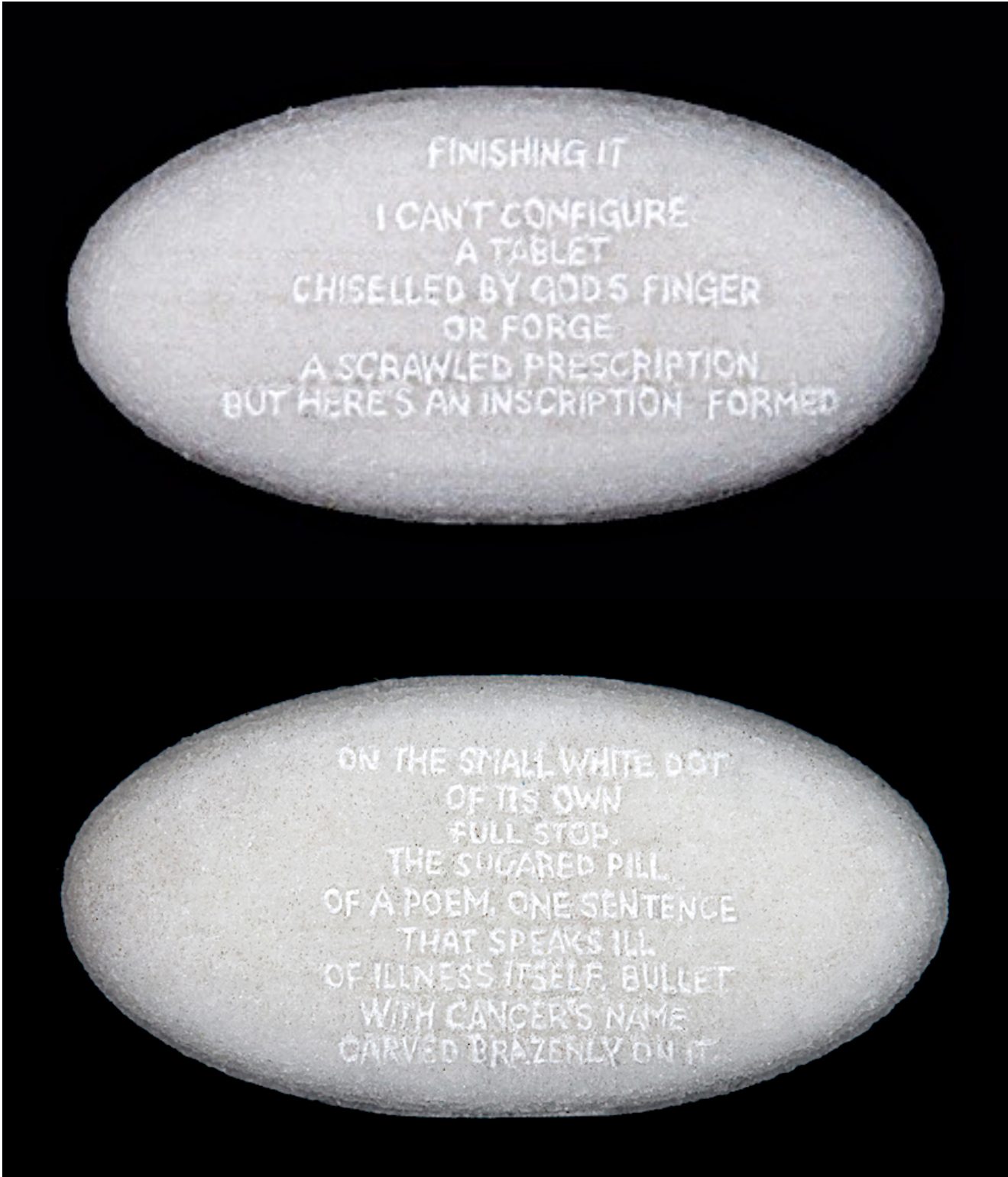
of illness itself, bullet
with cancer's name
carved brazenly on it.

Commissioned by the Institute for Cancer Research in recognition of on-going progress in drug-based cancer treatments. Engraved into a standard sized pill by micro-artist Graham Short. Photographs below: credit John Angerson.

Simon Armitage



Simon Armitage: photo credit John Angerson

Two white, oval-shaped pills are shown against a black background. The top pill has an inscription, and the bottom pill has a longer inscription.

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Photo credit: John Angerson