



Creative Journeys

The Artists' Creative Process

Curated by {ART}ACUMEN

A unique public art programme for Bristol's business district

Bristol is one of those wonderful UK cities that has pretty much everything going for it. Great weather (one of the warmest cities in the UK), friendly people, world-class culture, stunning architecture and it's bursting with creativity. Creative Journeys was designed to bring this infectious creativity to the business district; presenting opportunities for the local community to engage with and discover their surroundings through an art walking trail.

Art Acumen invited a diverse group of talented creatives to explore Bristol's dynamic business district in search of something to inspire them for a final artwork, be it an architectural or geological feature, a street name or an event from local history. The artists were asked to consider reinterpreting the obvious, show the hidden or celebrate the unnoticed or forgotten. Each artist meticulously recorded their creative process as part of the commission, to be shown alongside the final work. Through artists' sketches, notes, maquettes and short films they captured their initial inspiration, idea evolution and execution. A wonderful and rare insight into the minds and workings of 12 talented creatives.

The resulting artworks are showcased via an intuitive app along with a record of each creative process. An interactive map guides the participant on an imaginative journey through the eyes of each artist, from painters to dancers and poets to sculptors, as they unveil the area's intricate details, sharing its captivating stories, delving into key historical events, and contemplating themes of resilience and well-being.



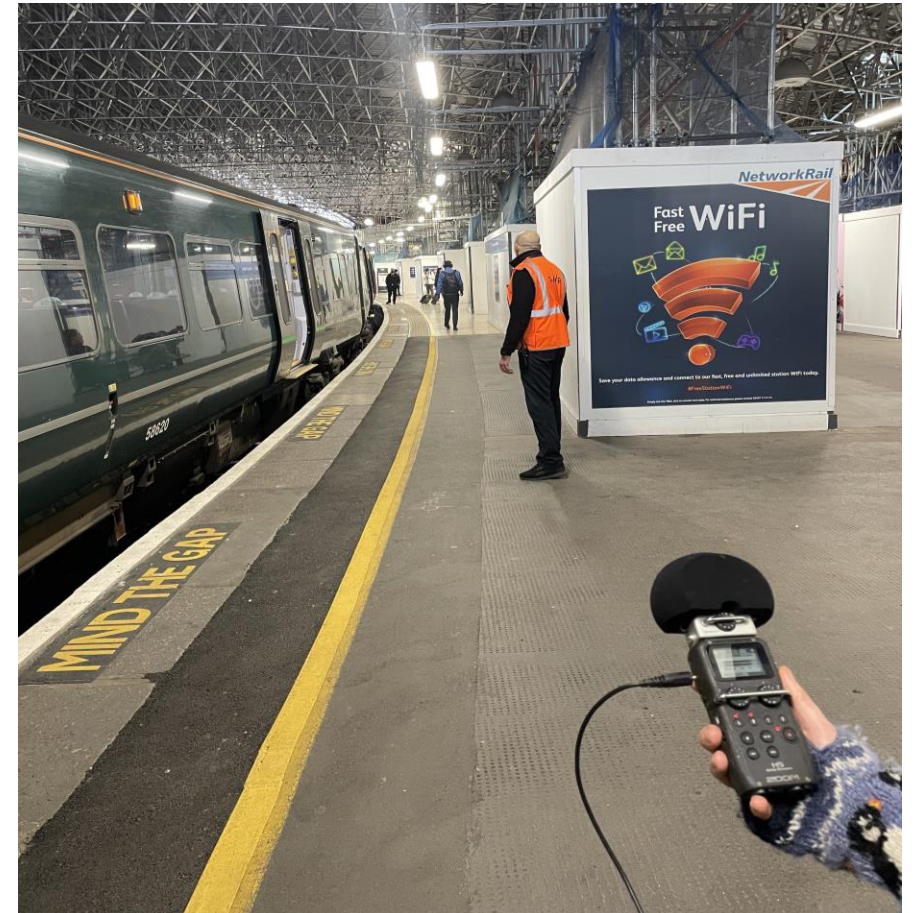
Beth Calverley & Bethany M Roberts

I'm Not Sugar. I Shall Not Melt

Beth Calverley and Bethany M Roberts have created a poetry performance inspired by the sounds and stories behind Bristol Temple Meads Train station. They have explored the bustling nature of the public space and the community created within the train stations walls.

[Listen to the poem](#)

[Creative Journeys captured in interview](#)





Bev Milward

Porcelain Landscapes: Three Grails of Temple

Bev Milward's porcelain sculptures were inspired by the space around Temple Church. The Horse Chestnut tree on Petticoat lane bursts through concrete slabs, surrounded by buildings of all ages. The area has always been one of rapid change, from the storming of the British English civil war in 1643 to the bombing of Temple Church in the Bristol Blitz in 1940. What remains of times before is mostly down to the chance of all things are transient.



[Creative Journeys captured in interview](#)

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Dallas Collins



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Resilience

Resilience was a prevalent theme that Dallas Collins was considering when creating his sculpture. Built in the 12th century, St Mary Redcliffe church has survived subsequent wars and disasters throughout its history. As bombs rained across Bristol during the Good Friday Blitz of 1941, a tramline was thrown up from the city centre by a bomb blast and embedded itself in the church grounds. The existing structure from the tramline reminds us how close the church came to the destructive power of manmade forces. Dallas' sculpture has been produced from the profile form drawn from the top of the tramline.



[Creative Journeys captured in interview](#)

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Emily Gliddon

Temple Gardens

Working with silver, gold and precious stones, Emily uses traditional metalworking skills to explore and expose the inherent beauty of the natural world. She has created a collection of jewellery based on the colours, shapes, forms and textures in Temple Gardens and along the river.

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Jessica Mallock



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Connection

Jessica Mallock walks through the city to find places to connect with nature; these meditative walks inspired a series of watercolour drawings. Looking up through the leaves of trees and seeing the sky, following passageways and finding the river, pools of raindrops gathered on pavements, an old yew tree standing silently offering shelter, and a willow dripping her leaves into the river.

[Creative Journeys captured in interview](#)

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Liam Roome

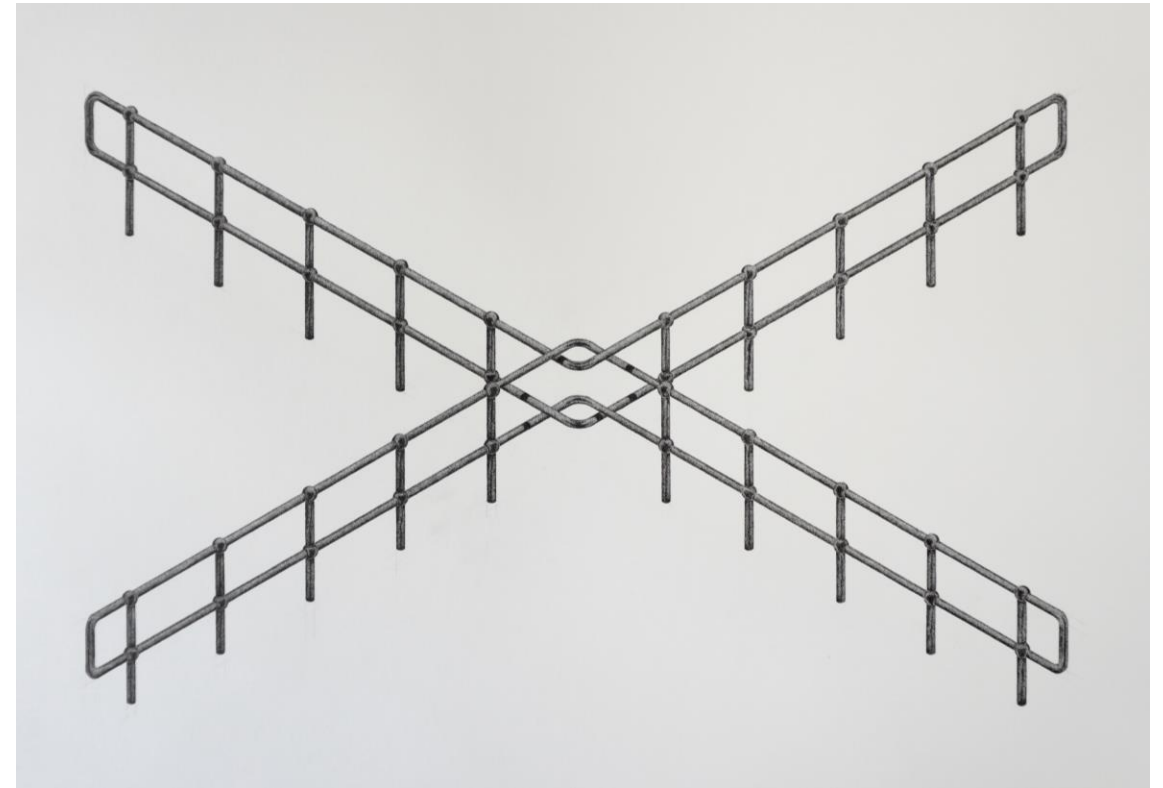
Centre

Liam Roome gathered inspiration for his piece 'Inclosed' when researching the digital centre of Bristol (according to google maps). This digital centre is intangible, imprecise and inaccessible. The closest you can get to it is the riverbank on Finzel Reach, viewed from Castle Park.

Through a laborious ink drawing, Liam has explored an overlooked architectural barrier, reflecting on the impossibility and the transient nature of the city.

[Creative Journeys captured in interview](#)

[Creative Journeys captured in film](#)





Naomi Skinner



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Windows

Naomi Skinner has created an illustration of Bristol's thriving and dynamic culture, framed by the city's architecture. Exploring the past, present and future, she has taken inspiration from Temple Church and the surrounding area.

Wherever you roam, you can frame any view on your phone, Naomi has used this concept to celebrate the history, diversity and vibrancy of Bristol. Through layering the past, present and the development of Bristol's future, in a bright and energetic way, you find beauty in the mundane. The frames contrast the old and the new, showing the energy of the people of this diverse and vibrant city.



[Creative Journeys captured in interview](#)

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Paul Ayers



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Church Views

Stamps designs are often commissioned to commemorate key historical events in a nation's history. Paul Ayers has designed two screenprints that explore key events of the 900-year life of Temple Church. Both, have been hand-printed in five separate layers to create that striking retro feel.

[Creative Journeys captured in interview](#)

[Creative Journeys captured in film](#)





Sarah Dennis



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Temple

Sarah has created a highly detailed paper sculpture inspired by the history of Temple Church, also known as the Holy Church, a peaceful and sacred place hidden amongst towering buildings, roads, and cafes in the centre of Bristol. She has explored the site as an insight into the city's past through key historical events.

The shell and remaining interior of the church is a reminder of the devastation that Bristol endured during the second world war. A place that would have once been for prayer, hope and joy was left roofless; the grass and plants now grow amongst its four walls. Different images in the windows of the church have been used to represent the history of the site.

[Creative Journeys captured in interview](#)

[Creative Journeys captured in film](#)





Sophie Cottle



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Crossing Energy

Sophie Cottle has created a dance performance inspired by intersecting energies at the crossing at St Mary Redcliffe Church. She's explored themes of permanence and impermanence. The three dancers represent how buildings, nature, and traffic interact in the space. This work has been created in collaboration with performers; Anna Kaszuba, Joe Kennedy and Mia Macleod.

[Creative Journeys captured in interview](#)

[Creative Journeys captured in film](#)

[Final Piece](#)





Steph Renshaw

CJ

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Bridge to Bridge

Steph Renshaw has created a 2.6-meter continuous Lino print, made from 30 individually hand-carved printing blocks. The intricate panels depict the waterfront from Temple Bridge to Bristol Bridge. The old buildings with their proud and ornate fronts stand shoulder to shoulder juxtaposing with the huge glossy windows of the new buildings, taking in views of the water and Castle park on the other side.

[Creative Journeys captured in interview](#)

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