

## List of spaces

### Opened through the Capacity Scheme

- 01. The Island
- 09. The Looking Glass/Neon Studios
- 10. The Milk Bar
- 11. The Parlour Showrooms
- 12. Victorian Toilets
- 13. The Control Room
- 16. Waring House
- 17. The Weighbridge
- 20. Cheltenham Road library
- 21. Horfield Police Station
- 22. North Bristol Baths
- 25. Stapleton Road Tavern
- 27. Freak Street Studios
- 28. Invisible Circus Paintworks Warehouse
- 29. The College

### Temporary agreement with a landlord

- 03. Bridewell Space
- 05. Lightbox Gallery: Happiness project
- 06. Akila Pop-Up Art Space
- 18. The Motorcycle Showrooms
- 26. All Hallow's Phoenix Theatre

### Council owned Community Asset

- 23. Arts Cafe West
- 24. Trinity Centre

### Independent business

- 02. The Station
- 04. Co-Lab Gallery/Paper Studios
- 07. Antlers: Philadelphia St Gallery
- 08. Made in Bristol
- 19. Hamilton House

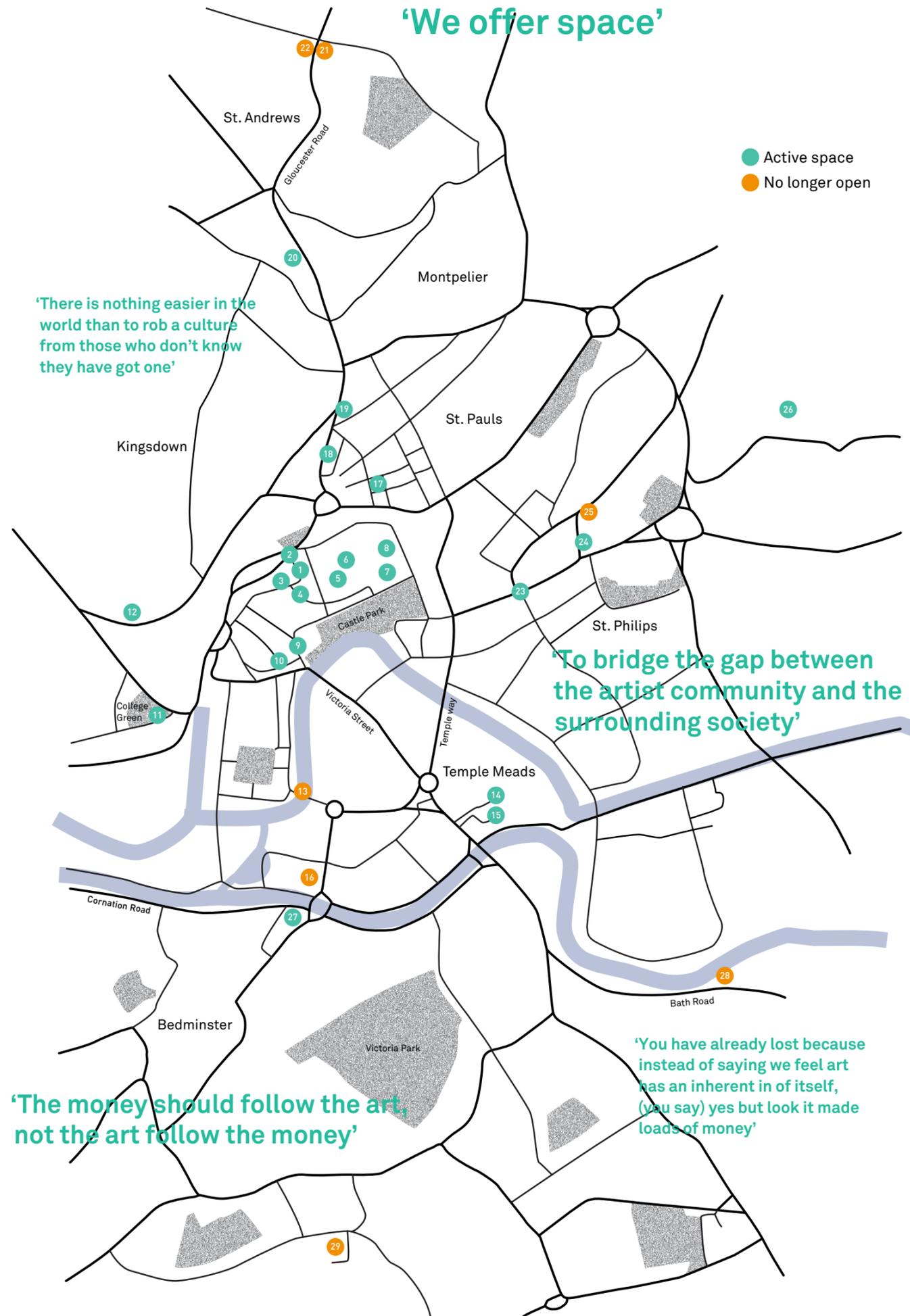
### New regeneration zone

- 14. Severn Project
- 15. Enterprise Zone: Creative Commons

- Active Space
- No longer open



Designed by Fanny Wacklin Nilsson  
 Exhibition curated by The Showroom Projects  
 Photography by Seb King and Dan Synertree



# This Made City



An exhibition celebrating and reviewing the creative use of disused spaces in Bristol and beyond.

## The Parlour Showrooms

Sat 13–Sun 21  
 July 2013  
 10–6pm



# Introduction

This Made City, is an invitation into a temporary artistic landscape, to consider why arts and artists are important to a city and its people. We know its not always easy to speak about the impact of the arts in a single sentence or a few figures, so we offer a space instead.

Here, we look at how disused or vacant buildings have been used by artists as places of work and exchange, to replenish the cities creative landscape.

We are curating this exhibition now because the council are thinking about changing their policy on discretionary rates relief, a policy that makes it possible for artists to use empty spaces for a very low cost. This Made City is about documenting a movement in Bristol, as well as questioning how we can keep spaces open for creative use into the future.

## A Wider Context

'Pop-up', 'temporary use', and 'meanwhile use'; these terms describe creative and temporary use of vacant space.

This vacant space can be an empty shop unit or a block of offices and it can be transformed into a space for; studios, exhibitions, events, shared offices or as a test space for a new business idea.

Meanwhile use is about "realising the opportunities vacant space presents". (Meanwhile Space)

The practice of meanwhile use is not confined to our city or shores, It's a growing global movement, seeking to innovate, utilise and create. One thing seems clear, it's doing much more than simply filling a gap, it can play a crucial role in both short and long-term efforts to improve how a neighbourhood looks and feels.



## What is Capacity?

Capacity Bristol's mission was to turn the city's unused spaces into creative spaces. Through Capacity, artists were given access to over 30 buildings, over a six-year period.

Set up by the City Council's Arts Team, the project provided new opportunities for Bristol's renowned creative community whilst also breathing new life into empty premises across the city.

Capacity Bristol drew to a close in 2012, due to cuts in local government funding. Its impact however, has been recognised on an international scale, as Bristol has been described as "one of the most vibrant and creative cities in the world for this type of activity," (Centre for regeneration, Wales) as a result of the project's successes.

[capacitybristol.wordpress.com](http://capacitybristol.wordpress.com)



## What is Business Rates Relief?

Business Rates are charged on all commercial properties and used to pay for services provided by Bristol City Council. Local Authorities have the option to apply discretionary business rates relief to a commercial property if it is occupied by an organisation with charitable or not for profit aims. This means the Local Authority (Bristol City Council) and Central Government pays some or all of the business rates rather than the occupier of the building.

Bristol City Council are currently reviewing the Discretionary Business Rates Relief Policy and aim to have a new policy in place for the financial year 2014/5. The public can view the proposed new policy and contribute to a consultation using the following link:

[citizenspace.com/bristol/deputy-chief-executive/drr2013](http://citizenspace.com/bristol/deputy-chief-executive/drr2013)



## Listing of events

**Residence at the Parlour, Games & discussion**  
Sat 13 July, 12.30-4pm, Free  
Join Bristol based artist-led community Residence to settle some age-old art battles once and for all with a game of ping-pong. A game of versus, choose your battle, support your team, help decide.

**Ilana Mitchell in conversation, Breakfast Talk**  
Sun 14 July, 10.30-12pm, £4  
Ilana Mitchell, artistic director of Wunderbar discusses the politics of artistic practice in the city; drawing upon her experience of working in public and artist-led spaces. Coffee and pastries included. Curated by The Showroom Projects, Residence and Cara Davies. For Tickets: [inthecityseries/tickets](http://inthecityseries/tickets) #inthecity. Combined performance & talk ticket offer online.

**My Son & Heir by Search Party, Performance**  
Sun 14 July, 6pm, £7  
My Son & Heir is a rabbit-skinning, back-garden camping, plastic-gun wielding reflection on how we raise boys and a relentless celebration of parenthood. Search Party are an internationally celebrated performance company and part of Residence, an artist-led community based at The Milk Bar, Bristol. Commissioned by The Showroom Projects with support from University of Chichester.

**Table procession**  
Mon 15 July, 12pm  
The arrival of the long table. During the week a different artists group will be around the table to talk to you.

**Meanwhile Use, Talk**  
Wed 17 July, 6-8pm, Free  
Discover how meanwhile use became a National movement with Ruth Essex ([capacitybristol.wordpress.com](http://capacitybristol.wordpress.com)) and Ms Shankari Raj Edgar ([nudgegroup.com](http://nudgegroup.com))

**The future of disused spaces, Discussion**  
Fri 19 July, 12-2pm, Free  
A discussion for artists, led by Tana Holmes (from BCC arts team) to share ideas about the sustainability of using disused spaces in the current political context.

**This Made City Finale**  
21 July, 3-4pm, Free  
Join us for our closing event, to celebrate in song with Utterance Choir. Expect beautiful choral melodies composed especially for This Made City, by Verity Standen.

**Come and meet the artists working in these spaces. A different group will be 'around the table' each day to talk to you.**

**Sat 13th, 12.30-4pm The Milk Bar: Residence**

**Mon 15th, 10-2pm Bridewell Space, 2-6pm Hamilton House**

**Tue 16th, 10-6pm The Parlour: MAYK, Stand and Stare and Interval**

**Wed 17th, 10-6pm The Island (ArtSpaceLifeSpace),**

**Thur 18th, 10-6pm The Invisible Circus**

**Fri 19th, 10-12pm NEON, 12-2pm The Looking Glass and Motorcycle Showrooms, 4-6pm Antlers**

**Sun 21th, 3-4pm Choral singing finale**

## Hosting timetable