

**Media release:**

**Bristolians invited to take part in a democratic film of Bristol this summer**

Bristolians are invited to take part in a film celebrating the incredible people of their city. Created together with renowned Australian theatre company Back to Back Theatre, THE DEMOCRATIC SET will be a mass-film of the city located in the neighbourhoods of Knowle West and Easton from 17-20 July.

THE DEMOCRATIC SET is the first arts project of *We Are Bristol*, a three year programme produced by In Between Time and developed in partnership with Knowle West Media Centre, Up Our Street and Ambition Lawrence Weston.

Helen Cole, CEO/Artistic Director at In Between Time: *“We Are Bristol places the people of Bristol centre stage. Bringing world leading artists into conversation and co-creation with the people of this city together we see what is possible when we deploy the tactics of art to create social change."*

THE DEMOCRATIC SET is funded by Bristol City Council; Elise Hurcombe, Senior Arts Officer at Bristol City Council Arts and Events team commented: “*Making arts and culture assessable for all is the core aim for the Cultural Investment Programme that is partly funding this work and it is clear that the collaborations and partners that this ambitious project brings together will enable that to happen. Inclusion and co-creation is the key to social change.”*

Back to Back’s THE DEMOCRATIC SET works together with the people of each city to create short films and performances that explore the belief that all people are equal and should enjoy the same social, political and economic rights and opportunities.

It will take place in Netham Park, Easton on 17- 18 July and Filwood Community Centre, Knowle West on 19-20 July. People of all ages living in Bristol are invited to sign up to be part of the film before 1 July at [www.inbetweentime.co.uk](http://www.inbetweentime.co.uk/) It is free to take part and no previous performance is required; groups applications are encouraged to allow more people to be involved.

Back to Back Theatre from Australia is world leading and globally recognised. The company creates new forms of contemporary theatre imagined from the minds and experiences of a unique ensemble of actors with a disability, giving voice to the social and political issues that speak to all people.

THE DEMOCRATIC SET is a rapid series of short live performances and screen-based video portraits created in collaboration with communities. THE DEMOCRATIC SET came to the UK for the first time for In Between Time’s IBT10 Festival.  This time In Between Time have invited Back to Back Theatre to come back to Bristol to create a new film eight years later in deep engagement with a wider range of people from this city. Here is the short film created at IBT10: <https://youtu.be/OySf21am57M>

*“Occasionally it’s like a dream sequence in a David Lynch film, disturbing, unstoppable…. But mostly it’s full of laughter and hope, a feeling very much helped by the wide demographic of its contributors.”* – RealTime Arts on THE DEMOCRATIC SET

A premiere of THE DEMOCRATIC SET film involving everyone that has taken part will take place in Bristol in 2019. More information about the project is available at inbetweentime.co.uk

ENDS



**Notes to editor:**

For more information, interviews and images please contact:

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**We Are Bristol** *We Are Bristol* is an ambitious three year programme produced by In Between Time and developed in partnership with Knowle West Media Centre, Up Our Street and Ambition Lawrence Weston.

*We Are Bristol* will bring citizens from across the city together to collaborate and create exceptional new artistic work alongside a programme of critical city-wide debates with local, national and international audiences. The programmebuilds on an existing long-term partnership that began with 2015’s *Night Walks with Teenagers* by Mammalian Diving Reflex and continued in 2017 inviting 40 incredible Bristolians from across the city to collaborate with New York theatre company 600 HIGHWAYMEN to create *The Record*, which premiered at IBT17 Festival last year. This short film sums up what Bristolians got from working on *The Record*: <https://youtu.be/uBJfvXdG1aA>

**In Between Time** (IBT) is an international producer that creates extraordinary events and the IBT Festivals. Respected as a global pioneer of contemporary culture, IBT work across art forms to tell stories that inspire, awaken the imagination, or act as a catalyst for change. IBT create site-specific live projects, placing dance, theatre, music and performance in unexpected places to tell compelling stories and create unique immersive experiences. [www.inbetweentime.co.uk](http://www.inbetweentime.co.uk)

**Knowle West Media Centre** (KWMC) is an arts organisation and charity based in South Bristol. Since 1996 it has supported people to make positive changes in their lives and communities - using technology and the arts to come up with creative solutions to problems and explore new ways of doing things. KWMC offers a wide range of activities, from after-school groups for young people exploring music and media, to talks, exhibitions, and the new making and training space KWMC: The Factory. Visit [www.kwmc.org.uk](http://www.kwmc.org.uk) or follow @knowlewestmedia on Twitter.

**Up Our Street** Up Our Street brings people together to create change in our neighbourhood. We deliver communications and community development projects to inspire, inform, and motivate people to action. Our focus is the neighbourhoods of Easton and Lawrence Hill which are home to a large and diverse population with a spirit of resilience and a history of grassroots community activism. <http://www.upourstreet.org.uk/>

**Ambition Lawrence Weston** is a registered charity and company limited by guarantee. It is the Development Trust overseeing the regeneration of the Lawrence Weston area, resident led and driven we aim to deliver the residents 10 year community development plan. For further information please visit [www.Ambitionlw.org](http://www.Ambitionlw.org)

**Back to Back Theatre**

Over the last 30 years Back to Back Theatre has made a body of work that questions the assumptions of what is possible in theatre but also the assumptions we hold about ourselves and others. Back to Back Theatre is based in Geelong, Australia.

**The Democratic Set**

**Original Concept, Design & Direction** Bruce Gladwin

**Design & Original Set Construction** Mark Cuthbertson

**Original Videography** Rhian Hinkley

*Back to Back Theatre is assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council and supported by the Victorian Government through Creative Victoria, the City of Greater Geelong and Creative Partnerships Australia.*

[www.backtobacktheatre.com](http://www.backtobacktheatre.com)