



NOVEMBER 2018

## **We Are Warriors**

### ***A refusal to be silent.***

A unique sound and light installation comes to Arnolfini on 1st - 16th December.

**We Are Warriors** contains the voices of 100 incredible women and girls from Bristol who whisper, roar and sing their way into the future.

Each woman is represented by a single tiny light forming a vast and powerful constellation. The public are invited into the art work to add their own light and in so doing show their support for gender equality.

This stunning show is the culmination of an extraordinary year in which Bristol Women's Voice, supported by In Between Time have commemorated the centenary of the first women winning the right to vote in 'Deeds not Words' a series of events designed to raise awareness of women's ongoing fight for equality and women's rights.

More than 100 incredible women and girls from varying backgrounds across Bristol have come together to contribute their voices to the project, Penny Gane, Chair of Bristol Women's Voice said 'This is our final event in what has been a really exciting year as one of the government's 7 Centenary Cities. But our work is not finished. We celebrate our forbears and we carry on the fight for women's rights. We are indeed Warriors.'

Created by Helen Cole, Founder and CEO/Artistic Director of In Between Time, the installation gathers voices from girls and women aged 8 to 85 and brings them together to create a unique soundscape.

To help create the installation, the team partnered with Bristol's Breathing Fire Theatre Company to run interactive workshops, with young girls and women to draw out the real issues women deal with each day in the face of society's continued inequality. The group's unique approach described as 'Playback Theatre' enables audiences to use sound, song and movement to tell their own stories.

The women and girls involved in We Are Warriors have been drawn from across Bristol: from WI groups, Wellbeing groups and schools. The women involved in the workshops discussed the treatment of working class women, the effect of WWII on women's rights and the progress that has been made in the last hundred years. Questions were raised about the future fight for women's equality and how far we still have to go, with the participants feeling empowered to continue the fight for a fairer and more equal society for future generations.

Artistic Director Helen Cole said; "From the age of 13 many a girl's voice is already far quieter than her male peers. How can this still be true today? We Are Warriors encourages women to roar and shout, to fill the room with their noise. It has been a privilege to hear these voices sing."



In Between Time is a charity that works across Bristol to produce extraordinary art works and events in unusual spaces, diversifying who can create and experience art. Helen Cole's work has been recognised and presented numerous times across the UK and internationally from Australia to Brazil, Europe and the US. Her work has also been previously commissioned by Barbican, Spill Festival, Venice Performance Art Festival, Panorama Festival Rio and Performance Space Sydney.

We Are Warriors is commissioned by Bristol Women's Voice, produced by In Between Time and is funded by Government Equalities Office and Arts Council England.

Bristol Women's Voice is a Bristol wide charity working towards women's equality in the city. BWV ensures women's voices are heard by decision makers and their concerns acted on. BWV is the lead organisation in the government's designation of Bristol Centenary City.

**ENDS**

For more information, high res images or to request interviews please contact Plaster Creative Communications on 0117 953 0320 or e-mail:

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### **Editor's Notes**

#### **About Bristol Women Voice**

Bristol Women's Voice is a powerful voice for women making women's equality in Bristol a reality. We bring women together to share ideas and experiences, support campaigns and celebrate success together to make Bristol a showcase for women's involvement, empowerment and equality.

[www.bristolwomensvoice.org.uk](http://www.bristolwomensvoice.org.uk)