## Nottingham Contemporary

## Hollow Earth:

#### Art, Caves & The Subterranean Imaginary





#### Contents

Page

Introduction	3
Caves in Nottingham	4
Stories we tell about caves	6
Caves today	7
Art about caves	9
For more information	11



In this Easy Read document, difficult words are <u>underlined</u>. We explain what these words mean in the sentence after they have been used.

### Introduction



Hollow Earth is a display of artworks by more than 50 artists.



The artworks are about caves.



We are showing the artworks at Nottingham Contemporary from 24 September 2022 to 22 January 2023.

#### **Caves in Nottingham**



Underneath Nottingham there are more than 800 caves.



These caves were hand-carved by the people of Nottingham hundreds of years ago.



Some people lived in the caves.



Some caves were used to store things like beer.



Some caves were used as <u>mines</u>. Mines are where people dig up valuable rocks to sell.



Underneath Nottingham Contemporary is a place called The City of Caves.



You can buy a ticket to visit these caves. You can see the history of Nottingham's caves there.

# Stories we tell about caves



In the past, stories and books from around the world have described things that happened in caves.



Some stories describe gods and monsters living in caves.



Some old books tell stories of people being born or dying in caves.

Some stories describe people coming back to life in caves after they have died.

#### **Caves today**



Now caves are used for different things. Some caves are used as <u>Seed</u> <u>Vaults. These are places where</u> seeds from plants are stored safely.

These seeds are kept safe so that we can plant them in the future if <u>climate</u> <u>change</u> damages the plants we grow for food.

Climate change is the effect humans have on the Earth. It causes the Earth to get hotter and can create floods and other dangerous weather.



Some people think caves would be good places to live if the Earth continues to get hotter.



Other people use caves as safe places to live and hide during wars.



Some people think that Covid-19 and other illnesses started in animals that live in caves.

#### **Art About Caves**



Artists made art in caves thousands of years ago. Some of the oldest artworks in the world are cave paintings.



Caves were used as the first museums and studios where artists made and displayed art.



Some artists today are interested in the history of caves and how we might use caves in the future.



The exhibition in our galleries includes 150 artworks about caves. The exhibition tries to create the feeling of being in a cave.



The artists in the exhibition were thinking about doorways, walls and dark spaces.



Some of the works imagine the sounds and smells of caves.



One of the artworks is a cave made out of paper that you can stand inside.



The artworks are all different. There are paintings, films, photographs, music, old documents and objects found in caves in Nottingham.

### For more information



You can find out more about what we do by looking at our website here: nottinghamcontemporary.org





If you would like to help us show more artworks in the future, please think about giving us some money.

We suggest £3 as a good amount.

If you need more information please contact us by:



• Email: info@nottinghamcontemporary.org



 Phone: 0115 948 9750