

About Hollow

Hollow is a permanent artwork, commissioned in 2016 for Royal Fort Gardens in Bristol, UK, to mark the opening of the University of Bristol's Life Sciences building. The University is renowned internationally for its research in Life Sciences – addressing many of the acute challenges that currently face humanity, such as food security, the loss of biodiversity, and climate change.

Created by artist Katie Paterson in collaboration with architects Zeller & Moya and in association with members of the School of Biological Sciences, *Hollow* houses a hidden miniature forest of all the world's trees.

Inside *Hollow*, you will discover 10,000 unique tree species, which have been gathered from almost every country on the planet. Under your feet lie fossils, which span 390 million years, and above you thousands of unique tree samples connect across time and space, each with their own story to tell. The relationship these trees have had with the environment, its water and its sunlight, and the plants, animals and fungi that lived with them, can be traced in the wood's surfaces, once the living, growing part of the tree: from the Indian Banyan tree, under which the Buddha achieved enlightenment; to the Japanese Ginkgo tree in Hiroshima (a tree that witnessed and survived one of the darkest moments of human history); to the common, but no less remarkable trees. Entering *Hollow* is to enter the history of our planet.

The artist and architects

KATIE PATERSON

Collaborating with leading scientists and researchers across the world, Katie Paterson's poetic and conceptual projects consider our place on Earth in the context of geological time and change. Her artworks make use of sophisticated technologies and specialist expertise to stage intimate, poetic and philosophical engagements between people and their natural environment. Combining a Romantic sensibility with a research-based approach and coolly minimalist presentation, her work invites you to consider your place in the universe.

ZELLER & MOYE

Zeller & Moya was founded by Christoph Zeller and Ingrid Moya as an architectural studio that operates with an interdisciplinary and global approach, with bases in Mexico City and Berlin. The studio has established a unique working method of extensive experimentation to create work that tells a story of a place or community. Zeller & Moya has designed a wide range of projects at all scales from furniture design to large cultural buildings in different parts of the world.

For further information about Katie Paterson, Zeller & Moya and *Hollow*, including the stories behind each sample of wood and to download audio guides to the artwork please visit the *Hollow* website.

www.hollow.org.uk

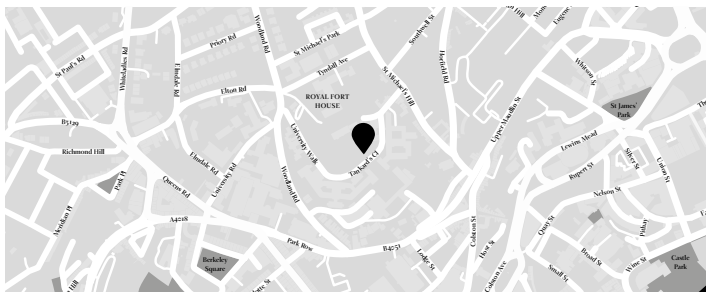
Visitor Information

Royal Fort Gardens, Tyndall Avenue, Bristol, BS8 1TH
(enter at Tankards close and turn to your right to find the artwork).

Please feel free to step inside *Hollow* and explore the artwork.

Located at Royal Fort Gardens, Bristol, the artwork is free of charge to visit and open during daylight hours. Please be aware opening times may vary and are at the discretion of the University of Bristol.

We would advise one or two people at a time enter *Hollow* to fully experience the work.



Join the conversation: [#BristolHollow](https://twitter.com/BristolHollow) | www.hollow.org.uk

Commissioned by the University of Bristol.
Funded by the University of Bristol and Arts Council England.

Produced by Situations www.situations.org.uk
Fabricated by Millimetre Ltd



An artwork by Katie Paterson
in collaboration with architects Zeller & Moya

The tree samples that you will find gathered around you, under your feet and above your head inside *Hollow* are collected from across the globe and from millions of years ago. Almost all of the trees have a story attached to them that in turn tell the story of the planet.

Here are just a few of the stories hidden inside *Hollow*.



As the national tree of the Republic of India, the Indian Banyan is considered sacred, and temples are often built beneath the trees. Known in Hindu mythology as 'the wish-fulfilling tree', banyans represent eternal life and many Indian women water the roots and lay offerings, often in the form of stones, to bring happiness and fertility. In Hinduism, the leaf of the Banyan tree is believed to be the resting place for the god Krishna.



Methuselah is a 4846 year old Great Basin bristlecone pine tree from the White Mountains of Inyo County in Eastern California. One of the oldest known living non-clonal organism with an estimated germination date of 2833 BC.



The Gilboa fossil forest, in the Catskill Mountains in upstate New York, has for several years been recognized as the oldest known fossil forest, dating back 385 million years.



The Monkey Puzzle tree was alive 200 million years ago and rubbed shoulders with the dinosaurs. Its spine-like needles acted as protection from ancient grazing animals now long extinct. It can live for 1,000 years and grows to 50m high with a trunk diameter of over 3m. It grows on the slopes of rocky volcanoes and its bark is fire resistant, so 'islands' of trees can even survive lava flows.

Now explore a digital forest of living memories at www.treebank.online. A project inspired by *Hollow* and developed in partnership with the BBC.