

CASE STUDY 2

MONUMENTS THAT MOVE ME PROJECT

GLASGOW MUSEUMS AND DEPOT ARTS

Why take part?

One of the aims of this collaborative project is to promote Springburn Exhibition Space as a community resource and encourage creative use of the space. The Project Co-ordinator saw Takeover Day as an opportunity to get feedback from young people on the current use of the space, as well as providing a platform for the project's music group to share their songs.

Who took part?

Four young people, aged 16-25, performed and a further 15 attended. The event was advertised on Facebook, on Depot Arts' website, through mail-outs and with posters in the leisure centre where the Springburn Exhibition Space is located. Word of mouth and personal invites were also important ways of communicating with young people.

What did they do?

Held on the evening of Takeover Day, the programme took the form of a drop-in event with a range of creative activities and live performances by the young people of North Glasgow.

How did they spend their time on the day?

- The evening started with performances in the reception area to attract an audience, moving into the exhibition space where the performances continued.
- Time to look at the current exhibition and to handle objects from the Glasgow Cafes' handling kit.
- A facilitated informal discussion about the young people's impressions of the space and what they would like to see there.

What happened next?

Some of the young people who took part in Takeover Day had never visited Springburn Exhibition Space and because of this experience they are now keen to come back again. Being given the opportunity to have their views heard in an enjoyable and informal way really helped them to see that they are welcome and valued as visitors to the exhibition space. All the young people who performed have committed to return in March for another performance event.

The project staff now have a better understanding of the needs of a group of visitors that many museums find difficult to involve. As well as some tangible ideas to improve the exhibition space for younger visitors, the project now has a pool of willing advisors to consult at future stages of the project's development.

'The young people's comments about the exhibition space will be taken on board for a new exhibition happening in the space next August. Some of the young people may even be involved in creating this exhibition.'

Martha Burns Findlay, Project Co-ordinator

