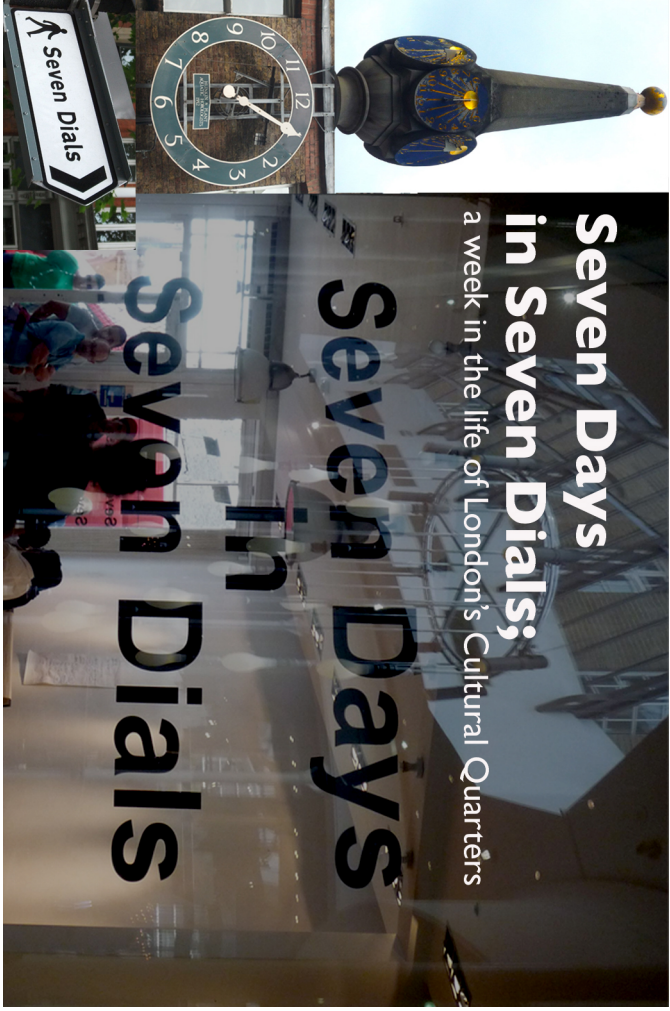
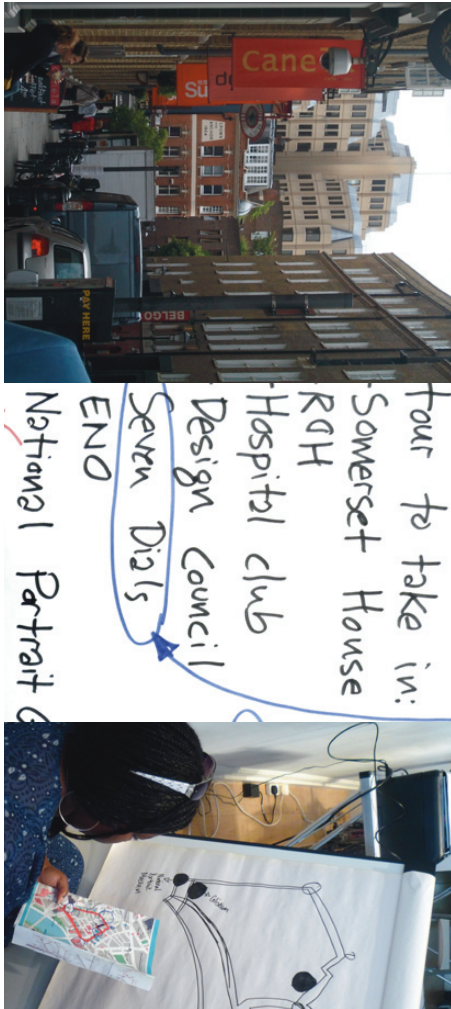




A Walk Round the Cultural Quarter

Participants created an alternative walking tour available as a Bookleteer download and print publication. It takes in Somerset House, Royal Opera House, Design Council, the Hospital Club, English National Opera and the National Portrait Gallery.
Book available from: <http://diffusion.org.uk/> and <http://culturequarterprogramme.co.uk/blog>





CULTURE
QUARTER
PROGRAMME

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∞ proboscis

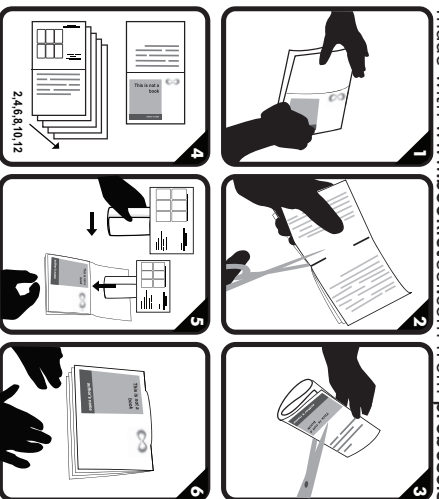
made with www.bookleteer.com from proboscis

A Week in the Life of London's Cultural Quarters

Seven Days in Seven Dials

For seven days, forty people explored the colourful, village of Seven Dials. Based in a shop in Short's Gardens, armed with psychogeography techniques, technology and a quest for adventure, they looked up, down and sideways. Here's what they found.

2010-07-29



Over thirty young people were involved from placements in the following institutions: Create KX in Kings Cross; Exhibition Road Cultural Group and the Victoria and Albert Museum in South Kensington; organisations from the West End Culture Quarter (including The Hospital Club, The Design Council, National Portrait Gallery, English National Opera, Royal Opera House and Somerset House) and arts organisation Proboscis.

During the week the group explored the area gathering local stories and histories and connections, finding links between the location and their workplaces. They generated a mass of films, audio recordings, photographs and written word, which they edited and curated to make an exhibition, short film, audio tour of the West End Culture Quarter and three short books.

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For one week ten artists used a snapshot of life in Seven Dials as a starting point to create a snapshot of life in Seven Dials. The artists used a snapshot of life in Seven Dials as a starting point to create a snapshot of life in Seven Dials.

Seven Days in Seven Dials: A week in the life of London's Cultural Quarters

The stranger who finds himself in 'The Dials' for the first time, and stands - at the entrance of seven obscure passages, uncertain which to take, will see enough around him to keep his curiosity and attention awake for no inconsiderable time. From the irregular square into which he has plunged, the streets and courts dart in all directions.
Charles Dickens, *Sketches from Boz*.

This book accompanies *Seven Days in Seven Dials*, a temporary exhibition put together by participants from London's Culture Quarter Programme working closely with professional podcasters, photographers, artists and the team behind the Empty Shops Network's touring project. *Seven Days in Seven Dials* explores a distinct village in Covent Garden, Seven Dials, home to 6500 residents and hundreds of shops and cafes.



The Partners

artistsandmakers.com is Revolutionary Arts online arts magazine, providing news, reviews and events listings for events across the UK. It is also home to the **Empty Shops Network**, promoting creative reuse of the nation's empty shops. Helping to create a DIY Movement, the **Empty Shops Network** shares resources like the **Empty Shops Toolkit** to help artists and entrepreneurs to reclaim their high streets and turn private spaces into public places.

The Culture Quarter Programme is a pilot project which offers unemployed young people aged between 18 and 24 the chance to gain six months paid work at a high profile arts and cultural organisation based in Central London. The aim is to give young people who are struggling to break into the arts the opportunity to get a foot on the ladder. It also aims to give those who might never have thought about an arts job the chance to gain some real experience in this exciting and growing industry. The Programme encourages its participants to act as 'arts ambassadors', increasing access and participation in the arts by sharing their experiences back to their peers and local communities. The **Seven Days in Seven Dials** project is an exciting and innovative way of achieving this.



Seven Days in Seven Dials was devised and managed by Dan Thompson from artistsandmakers.com and Dan Williams from Culture Quarter Programme. Project manager for artistsandmakers.com is Natasha Middleton.

Art, films, photography and podcasts by Steve Bomford, Michael Radcliffe, Richard Vobes, arts organisation Proboscis and its placements Shalene Barnett and Karine Dorset with thirty staff from the Culture Quarter Programme.

Book designed by Proboscis, photographs by the artists and project participants.

Seven Days in Seven Dials was supported by:

The Revolutionary Arts Group
Culture Quarter Programme
Shaftesbury PLC
West End Culture Quarter

culturequarterprogramme.co.uk
artistsandmakers.com
sevendials.co.uk





The Participants

- Create KX**
Natalie Hallows
- Design Council**
Salih Ahmed
- English National Opera**
Ben Carruthers
- The Hospital Club**
James Smith
- National Portrait Gallery**
Andre Bernal
Dennis Jacob
Mohammed Medaghri-Alaoui
Maryama Bakkar
- Somerset House**
Dan Stanley
Tesfaldet Kidane
Tom Irwin

- Royal Opera House**
Amelia Martin
Bradley Bent
George Styllis
Kyle Singh
Lucy Tarver-Jones
Max Griffiths
Melicia Evanson
Miguel Oyarzun
Pierre Smith-Stewart
Tabres Landi
Yinka Adelokun
- V&A Museum**
Akim Peters
Annie Mackin
Besa Qamili
Emma Lees
Fuad Ali
Gideon Kitcher
Malachy Donnelly
Malini Balluck
Valdis Janmejis

The Artists

Steve Bomford is a black and white photographer and founder of Portsmouth based NeB Media. He is a complete social media addict, start the conversation at www.twitter.com/stevebomford www.nebweb.co.uk

Proboscis are an independent artist led, arts organisation whose innovative work ranges through projects in regeneration, artistic commissions and collaborative academic research. www.proboscis.org.uk

Mike Radcliffe makes paintings, writes poetry, designs T-shirts and loves social media and fast film-making. He is artist-in-residence in the belltower at St Matthew's, Westminster.

Dan Thompson is an artist, writer and photographer with a love of forgotten places, and exploring towns and cities across the UK. He's an expert in using empty spaces for exhibitions. www.danthompson.co.uk

Richard Vobes is an entertainer, former actor, film maker and professional internet broadcaster responsible for the *Vobes Show* (broadcast from A Beach Hut in Worthing), *The Naked Englishman*, and *Empty Shops Radio*.

Seven Days in Seven Dials

Participants worked with a photographer to create a photography exhibition capturing the character and flavour of life in Seven Dials as seen through their eyes. Download the catalogue from; <http://diffusion.org.uk/> and <http://culturequarterprogramme.co.uk/blog>





Seven Streets in Seven Dials film

A short film exploring each unique street of Seven Dials. Scripted, directed and presented by participants working with a professional filmmaker and editor. See the film on: <http://www.emptyshopsradio.com/> and <http://culturequarterprogramme.co.uk/blog>



Audio Tour

Participants created their own audio tour, to download as one podcast or as chapters, including local history and drop-in interviews with participants and the people they encountered in Covent Garden.

Hear the podcasts on: <http://www.emptyshopsradio.com/> and <http://culturequarterprogramme.co.uk/blog>

