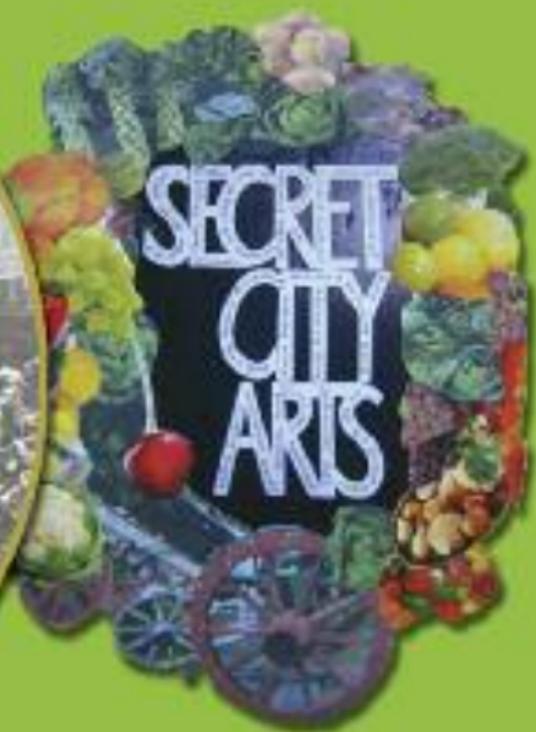


Art on Your Shopping List



**A creative community project at the
Bull Ring Markets, Birmingham**

Shopping List















Art on Your Shopping List

Secret City Arts

Art on Your Shopping List takes inspiration from Birmingham's historic Bull Ring Markets. Writer Mandy Ross, theatre

artist Pyn Stockman, and visual artist Sam Green worked with groups at St Luke's Community Centre and St Thomas Children's Centre, Attwood Green.



We went on a field trip to the

Bull Ring Markets where we recorded sounds, took photographs and wrote about what we saw. Then we used this material to make all sorts of art: audio work, poetry, songs, textiles, collage, photography and performance – all recorded in this booklet.



Artwork from the project is exhibited at the National Trust Back to Backs, Hurst St, Birmingham B5 4TE.



You can see more of Secret City Arts' creative, original, inclusive community arts projects at www.secretcityarts.com

this? Five shillings?' It was fun. Your heart was in your mouth thinking he'd drop it – but he never did!

There was a china stall and he used to shout, 'Come on!' and he'd throw the china up in the air and catch

it. He'd say, 'Can anyone give me 10 shillings for



Historic Bull Ring Market

to the tune of *An English Country Garden*

King Henry the Second, 1166,

To an English village, Birmingham

Granted a charter to hold a market,

The Bull Ring Market, Birmingham.

Weekly, every Thursday,

Bring your goods on market day,

Cabbages and onions,

turnips and corn

And beasts in the Beast Market

down at Dale End,

At the Bull Ring Market, Birmingham.

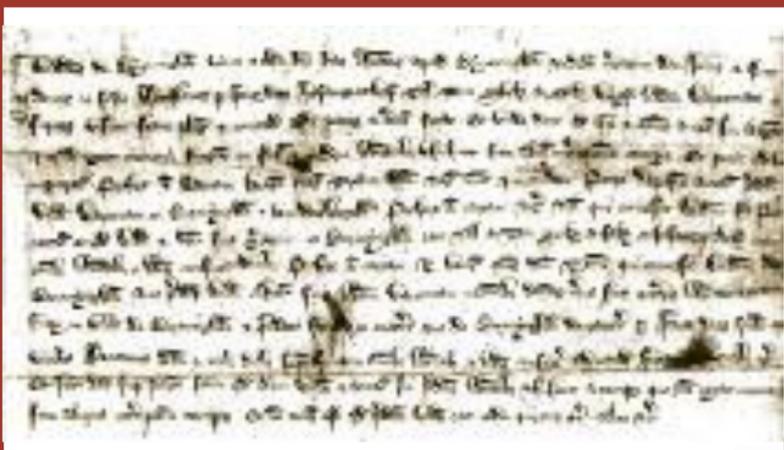
Hear the full song at www.secretcityarts.com



There used to be a man with chains wrapped around him – an escapist. The atmosphere was lovely.

Market Charter 1166

Henry King of England and Duke of Normandy and Aquitaine. Know Ye that I have given and granted to Peter Fitzwilliam (de Birmingham) in fee and inheritance and to his heirs that he may have market on Thursday at his Castle of Burmingheam with thol and theam and soc and sac and infangenethef. freely and quietly and honourably on the day aforesaid.



Market charter renewed 1285

The crowds and the entertainment in the market!



There was a blacksmiths, and the pub in the old market used to open up at 6 — and do a very good business.

there and get 50 pence, which was a lot in those days.



Where Spical Street is now was a slope going up, where the barrow boys were. They used to wheel the stuff up

A collage of fresh seafood including fish, lobsters, and oysters. The background is a vibrant display of various seafood items, including several large fish, a lobster, and oysters on the half shell.

Fish Market trip.

Silver herrings and orange lobsters, blue lobsters turn orange when they're cooked.

A red crab, a real crab, a huge crab, sitting in ice. It is dead. Oh! That crab is moving.

It's alive! Oh! Langoustines and anchovies, pink prawns with black eyes and crispy tails, cods roe, cockles and surf clams, whelks in their shells, mussels boiled in their shells.

Do you like the smell? The inland smell of the sea.

Steaks, slabs, scales, shells, shining silver sea bass, sea bream, silver salmon, silver sprats, silver mackerel like a mackerel sky, and live eels!

Dark, writhing in clear, cold water. Reanne asks the woman if she'll take out an eel.

Bare hands or gloves? She reaches in, chooses an eel, lifts it with two hands.

It moves side to side like a snake, round and up and down, we're face to face with its small face, baby face, fish face.



'Great Colmore Street used to be straight through from Five Ways to the abattoir in Bromsgrove Street. The cattle wagons came down there to the market. The cattle were crammed in and they used to break out. They'd run all round Great Colmore Street. There were sheep running round, cows running round, men were chasing them. It was really funny. The caretaker used to say, I should have been a cowboy'
- G



*Any bowl! Any bowl! Any bowl a pound!
Try before you buy! Superb value today.
Who'd like some eggs?*

All that steak for a tenner, love!

Two trays for 15, darling!

£1 a bowl, juicy limes!

Have a taste, bab.

Cheer up son! Not the end of the world.

Baguette! Baguette! Baguette!

Hurry up or they'll all be gone!

It's not a jumble sale, girls.

Anyone else?

God bless you, mate.

Job done.



Get your greens at the market

*Green boxes, green plastic grass
and a green net skirt,
green football pyjamas, green African dresses,
green limes, green apples and Chinese pears
green sweets and a green hot water bottle,
green chillies, green peas,
green cabbages in a green string sack,
green cucumber, green spring onion,
green peppers, green artichokes,
jolly green broccoli, green coconuts with
jelly inside,
green okra, bhindi, green ladies' fingers
(but her fingers aren't green)
and petrol-green-sheen starlings pecking
under the stall.*



boats that used to go to the Windward Isles to bring them back. You could go out with them if you wanted to.



It was 1959. I used to work in the market office doing queries... The bananas came in boxes, and there used to

be snakes and spiders with them! We had I think seven banana

**FRESH
TODAY
DARLING**

*The Bull Ring here
at Birmingham...*

to the tune of The Lincolnshire Poacher

The Bull Ring here at Birmingham on every market day.

*Good morning! Lovely morning! And what would
you like? they say.*

*A pound a bowl! God bless you mate! Only a tenner
today, bab!*

*... We come and buy on market day at
Bull Ring, Birmingham.*

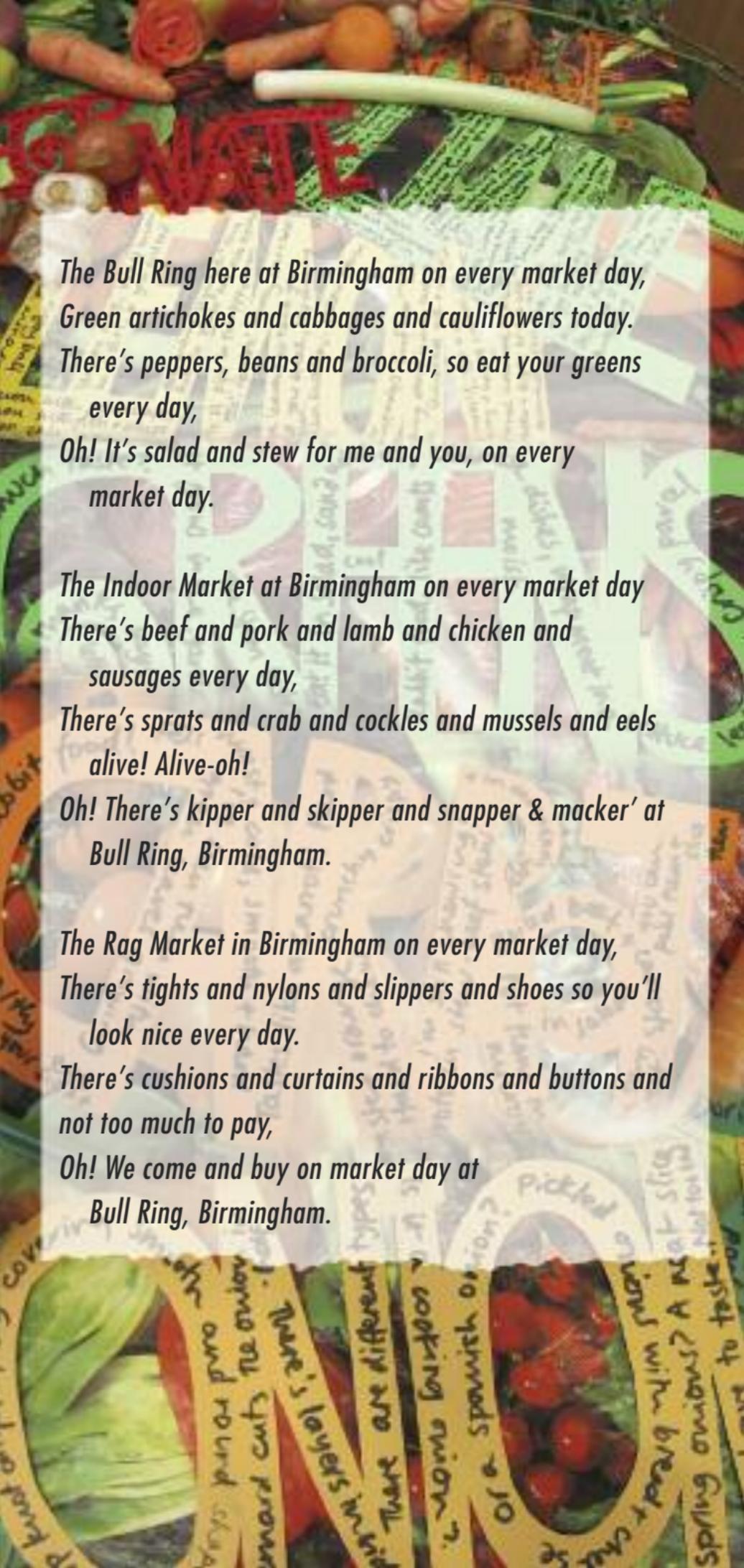
The Bull Ring here at Birmingham on every market day.

We've lots of juicy oranges and pomegranates today.

*We've peaches, pears and strawberries, and lemons so
sour you'll say EEEEWW!*

*... We come and buy on market day at
Bull Ring, Birmingham.*





*The Bull Ring here at Birmingham on every market day,
Green artichokes and cabbages and cauliflowers today.
There's peppers, beans and broccoli, so eat your greens
every day,
Oh! It's salad and stew for me and you, on every
market day.*

*The Indoor Market at Birmingham on every market day
There's beef and pork and lamb and chicken and
sausages every day,
There's sprats and crab and cockles and mussels and eels
alive! Alive-oh!
Oh! There's kipper and skipper and snapper & macker' at
Bull Ring, Birmingham.*

*The Rag Market in Birmingham on every market day,
There's tights and nylons and slippers and shoes so you'll
look nice every day.
There's cushions and curtains and ribbons and buttons and
not too much to pay,
Oh! We come and buy on market day at
Bull Ring, Birmingham.*

and shiny purple aubergines, pink shrimps, black puddings and orange pumpkins

*Under the Rotunda in 1964
They built the brand new
Bull Ring, Birmingham.
Modern and concrete,
underneath the traffic.
Built again in the new millennium.
Weekly, nearly every day,
Fresh and lively, market day,
Just as it's been for hundreds of years,
Now the goods and the people from
all around the world
At the Bull Ring Market, Birmingham.*

Hear the full song at
www.secretcityarts.com

Down at the market, what colours can you see? Red apples, strawberries,



raspberries! green apples, pears and parsley, orange

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Project participants

Monday Group: Carol, Rose, Rosa, Gwen, Gwennie, Cath, Pat, Maureen S, Maureen C, Pauline, Mary, Dolly, Father Ray, Ron, Brenda, Helen

Thursday Group: David, Bernard, Norman, Michael, Richard, Karen, Doris, Kate, Diane, Sarbjit, Lester, Tia

Students from Birmingham

Metropolitan College: Blue Jay, Gary B, Shawna, Nicole, Megan, Christopher, Gary N, Reanne

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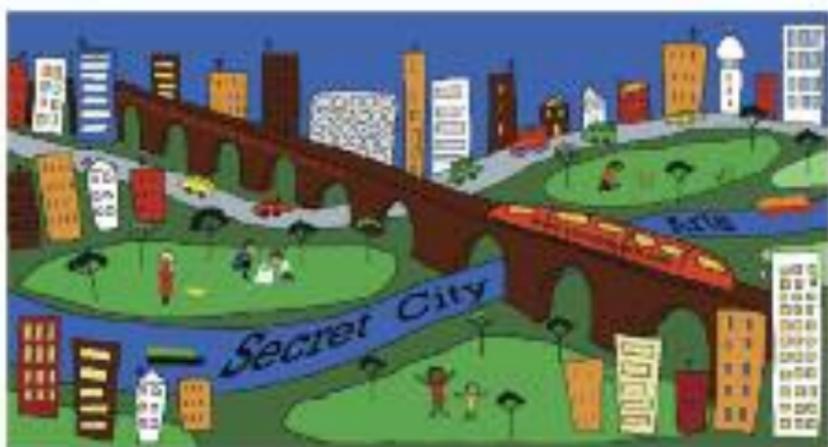
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Birmingham City Council



National Trust