

RIPE

at Old Northam Road 2018 - 2021



Led by 'a space' arts (AS) in partnership with Solent University (SU) and Winchester School of Art (WSA), University of Southampton (UoS), the RIPE graduate scheme is an ambitious programme of exhibitions, events and residencies at the Alfred Arcade, the Hidden Wardrobe and the Alfred Arms on Old Northam Road (ONR).

Since 2018, there have been four major RIPE exhibitions - Ripe Bananas, Ripe Mangoes, Ripe Tomatoes and Ripe Peaches - showcasing work by recent graduates from Solent University and Winchester School of Art, University of Southampton.

A series of supporting workshops, events and exhibitions have enabled the participating graduates to engage in artistic exchange and experimentation; forming networks and friendships that have helped them to maintain a fruitful visual arts practice.

'a space' developed and delivered these projects in partnership with SU and WSA, UoS, building stronger links with the universities and working with them to achieve higher employability rates amongst their graduates.

 [ripe_southampton/aspacearts](https://www.instagram.com/ripe_southampton/aspacearts)

 ripesouthampton.org.uk/aspacearts.org.uk

56 

Graduates have been supported by the RIPE programme

34 

Additional artists, musicians and freelance photographers supported by RIPE

21 

Graduates commissioned or employed by 'a space' arts

32 

Exhibitions held

18 

RIPE events held

2,591 

Visitors to exhibitions at the Alfred Arcade

164,187 

Reached on social media

4 

Buildings leased on Old Northam Road

15 

Free studios spaces for artists

Funded thanks to the generous support of:



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

**SOLENT
UNIVERSITY**
SOUTHAMPTON

Southampton
UNIVERSITY OF



RIPE is a project delivered by 'a space' arts

RIPE 2021 Season Overview



Led by 'a space' arts (AS) in partnership with Solent University (SU) and Winchester School of Art (WSA), University of Southampton, the RIPE graduate scheme is an ambitious programme of exhibitions, events and residencies at the Alfred Arcade, the Hidden Wardrobe and the Alfred Arms on Old Northam Road (ONR).

In 2021, the programme returned to ONR after a year of virtual exhibitions and online communication during the pandemic. Despite some challenges and postponements due to coronavirus cases, the season was a great success and 55% of this years RIPE budget went directly to artists providing well needed financial support as well as the opportunity to meet and engage with the programme in person.

This year, to coincide with the three main exhibitions at the Alfred Arcade and a satellite programme of exhibitions at the Hidden Wardrobe, AS hosted a series of events across the summer, titled RIPE Live. Each event celebrated the launch of two new exhibitions and all three of the buildings were open to the public. The Alfred Arms was used as a venue for live music, accompanied by projected visuals and a paid-for bar, which enabled us to raise extra funds for the programme.

Another exciting development in 2021 was the growth of the ZEST collective. Having established themselves as an independent artist collective last year, ZEST have since delivered a very successful first project, Signs of the Times, funded by Arts Council England via a project grant. All ZEST artists are graduates of the RIPE programme, and have been offered continued support from AS through studio provision at the Alfred Arms. In return, the collective have offered membership to all future RIPE artists, providing a pathway for graduate artists after the first year of support from AS (via the RIPE programme) comes to an end.

AS also reached out to other collectives and community groups in 2021, offering the Hidden Wardrobe as a site for workshops and exhibitions, building links and partnerships with two new groups, Northam and St Mary's Art Collective (a local youth-led community group) and Mouthing Off Magazine (a national online student magazine).

 [ripe_southampton/aspacearts](https://www.instagram.com/ripe_southampton/aspacearts)

 ripesouthampton.org.uk/aspacearts.org.uk

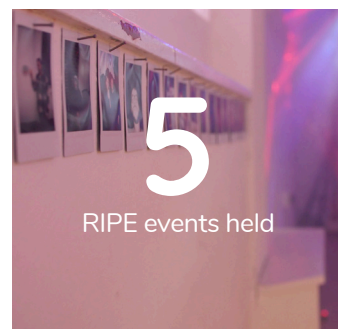


graduates supported
by the RIPE programme

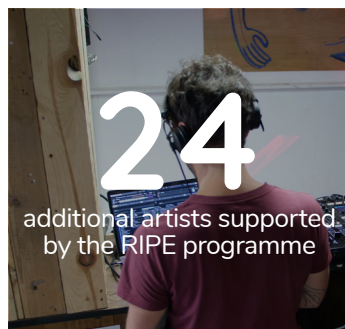
- 12 new graduates
- 6 previous RIPE graduates
- 18 members of the ZEST Collective



exhibitions at RIPE venues
on Old Northam Road



RIPE events held

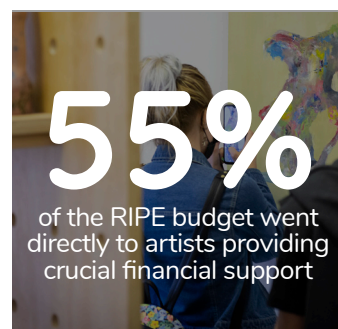


additional artists supported
by the RIPE programme

- 16 artists from external collectives & community groups
- 2 photographers
- 6 musicians



visitors IRL at RIPE
exhibitions and events



of the RIPE budget went
directly to artists providing
crucial financial support

Funded thanks to the generous support of:



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

**UNIVERSITY OF
Southampton**

**SOLENT
UNIVERSITY
SOUTHAMPTON**



RIPE is a project delivered by 'a space' arts