



**5 senses**

**ARTIST SURVEY**

**REPORT FOR**

**SENSES OF THE SEA**

**A Culture of 5, Hull's Alive!  
Production**

**ABSTRACT**

A survey was completed by the artists who took part in "Senses of the Sea" to gather feedback on how they felt about taking part in a City of Culture performance. The survey was completed by 30 artists who performed, approximately a quarter of the performers were unable to complete the survey due to their varying disabilities, others were helped by members of staff to complete their evaluations.

**Adam Tyas**

# Artist Survey Report

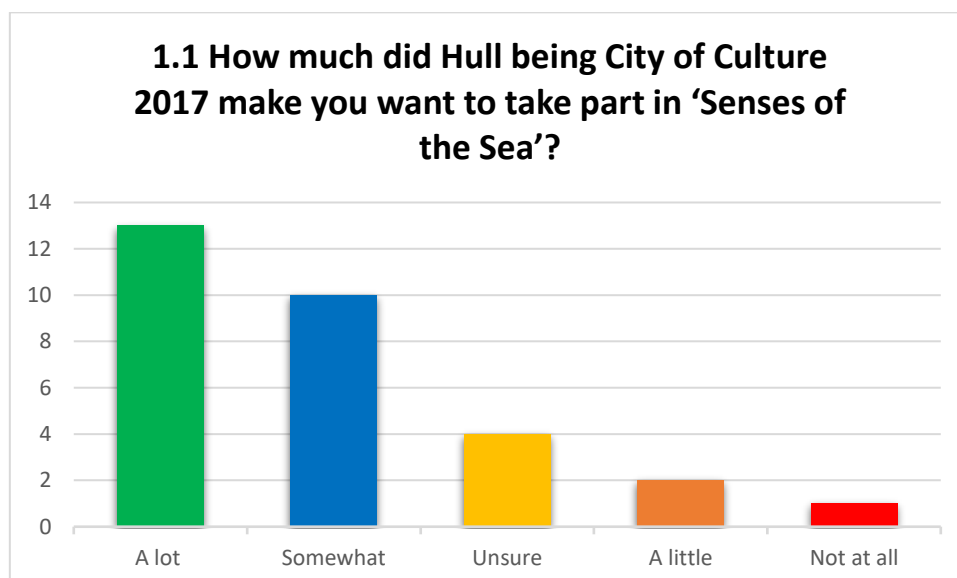
## Introduction

A survey was completed by the artists who took part in 'Senses of the Sea' to gather feedback on how they felt about taking part in a City of Culture performance. The survey was completed by 30 of the artists who performed. Due to the performers varying disabilities approximately a quarter of the performers were unable to complete a survey, others were helped by members of staff to complete theirs. The survey was design so that it was easy to understand and accessible by all the artists.

The participants where aged between 20 and 54 with the median age being 34 which made the topic to the Triple Trawler Tragedy and the Headscarf Revolution a fresh one for many of the artists. 67% of the participants were female and 33% male. 21 of the 30 participants were employed, the artist's disabilities would account for those in the survey who are unable to work and possibly those who felt their day to day activities were limited.

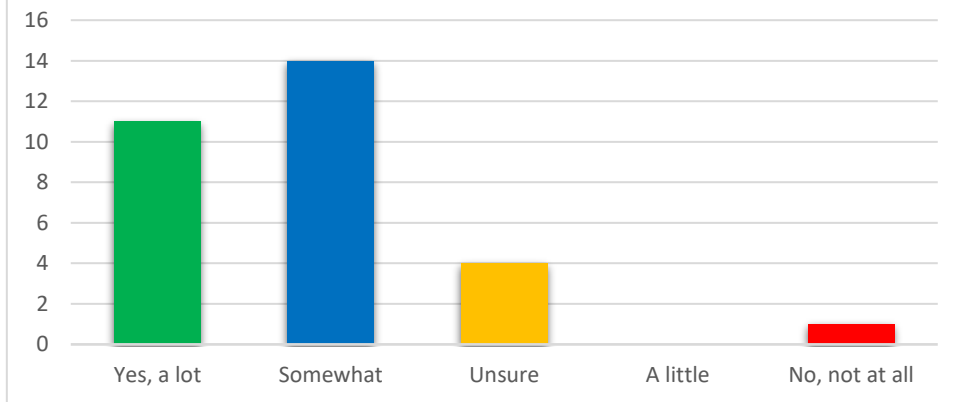
## Influence and Legacy

The following graph shows how influential Hull being the UK city of Culture has been in inspiring people to become active participants. Over two thirds of the participants have said how Hull claiming this title has encouraged them in taking part in its productions.



What's more encouraging, as shown by graph 1.2 is that being in this performance has seemed to have given confidence and interest to a similar number of individuals to take part in more performances about Hull and her history.

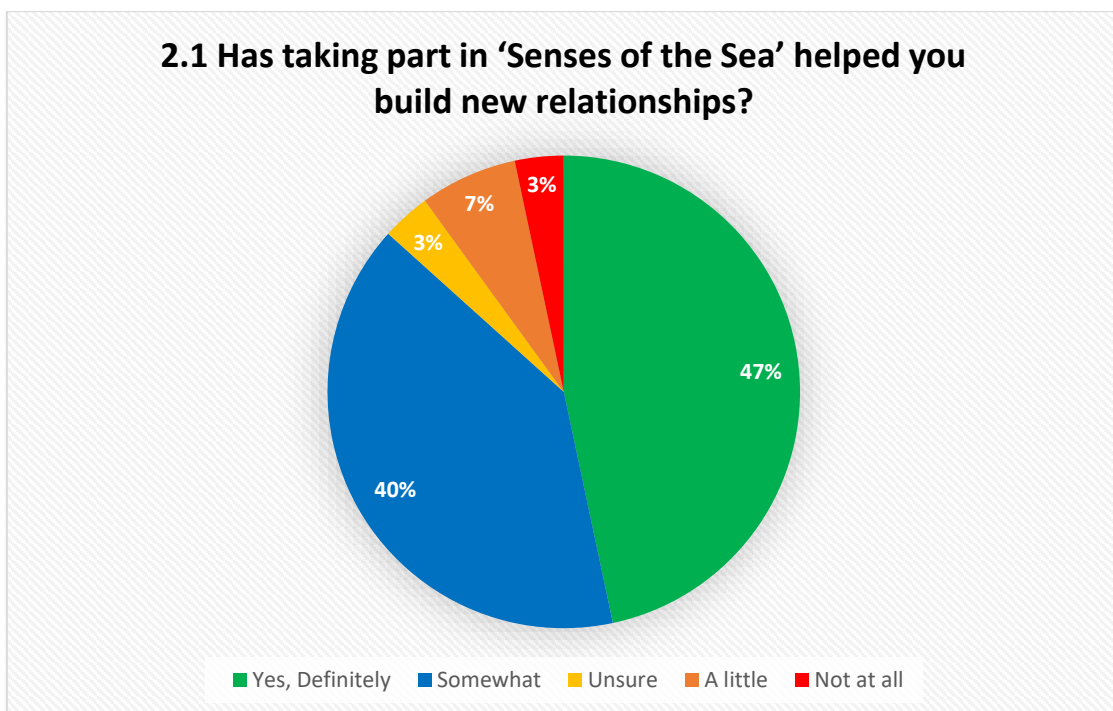
**1.2 Has taking part in 'Senses of the Sea' made you want to do other shows about history and local people's past?**



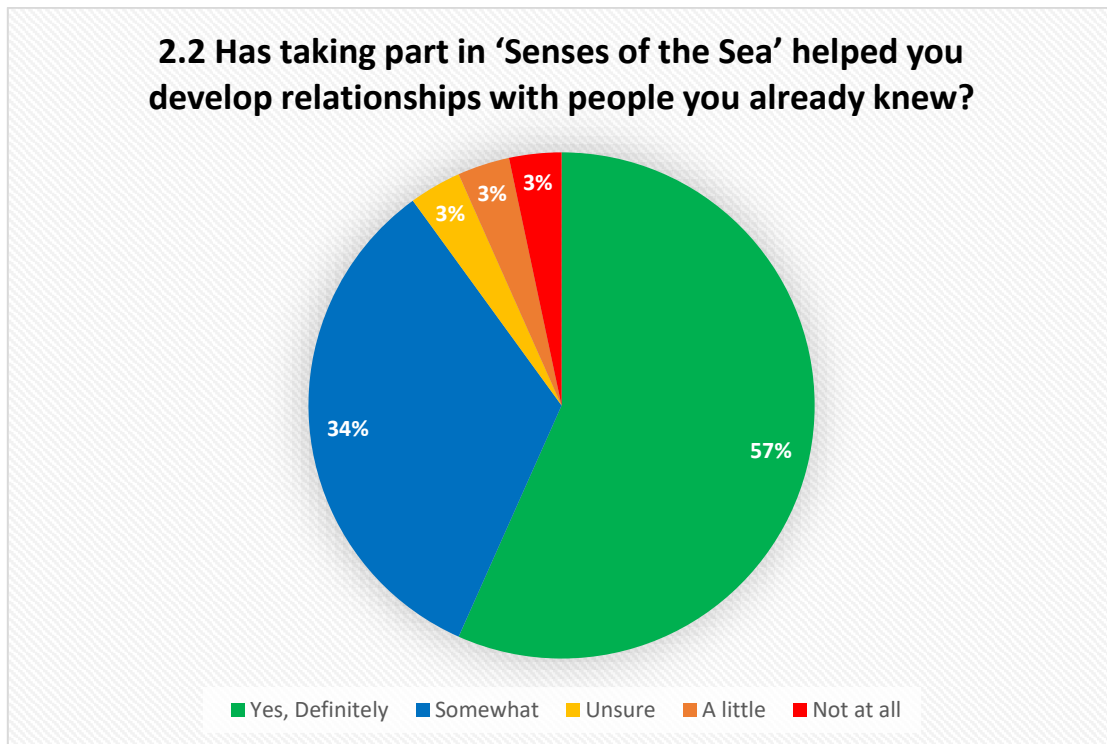
**Relationship Development**

Creation, planning, research and writing all involved calling on outside agencies for collaboration and assistance. Graph 2.1 seems to reflect how using local groups, engaging with the fishing community and performing with local acts has allowed new relationships to develop. 87% of participants have noted how fresh relationships have grown showing how well the performance has been in pulling together our own organisation with others. It is hoped that these relationships can be called on to assist in subsequent performances and to help improve the quality of the service we deliver.

**2.1 Has taking part in 'Senses of the Sea' helped you build new relationships?**

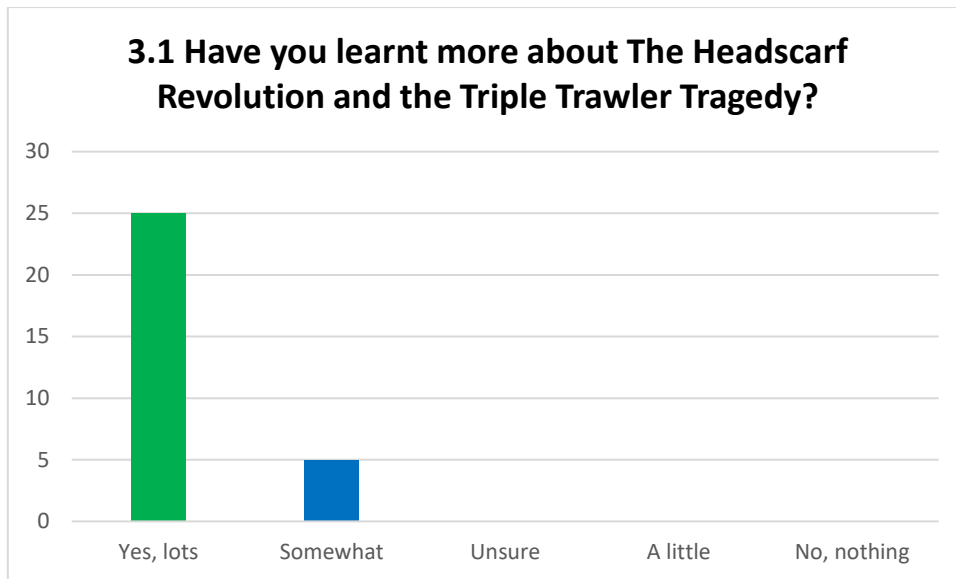


Existing relationships have also been strengthened. Many of the outside agencies used before and during the performance were utilised for the first time so we can assume that the relationships which have developed are those with employees within the charity. Constructing the performance and rehearsing it involved many employees working extra hours and working collaboratively which created an at times stressful but stronger sense of community within the charity.

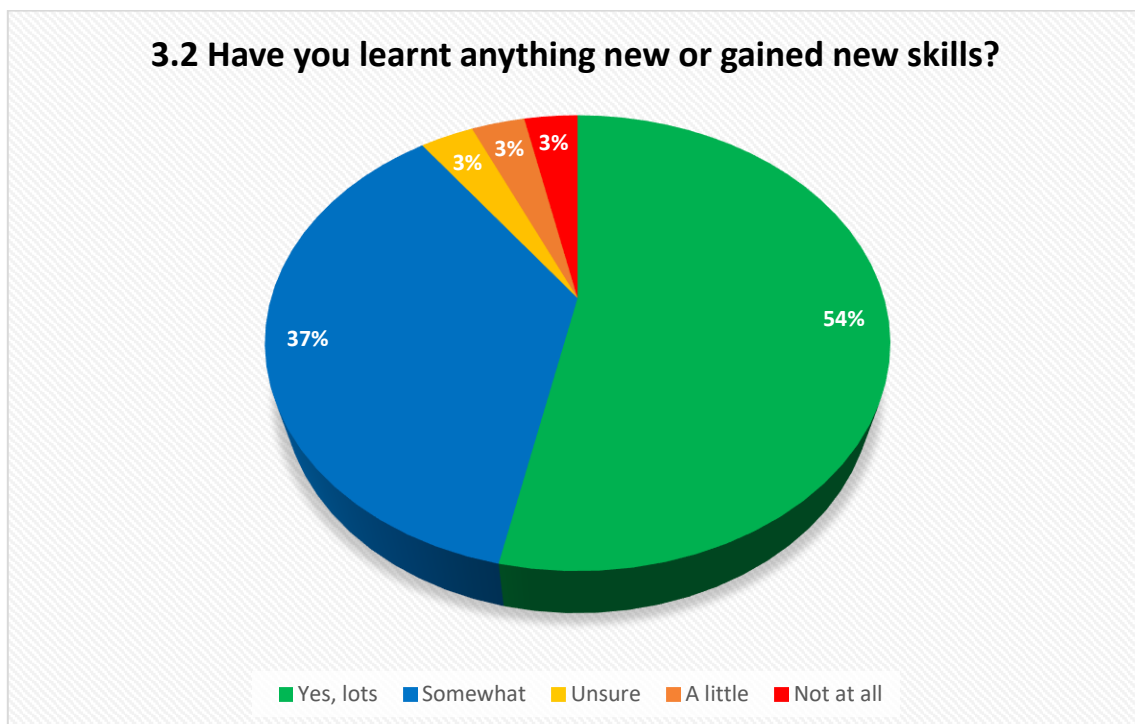


### **Learning**

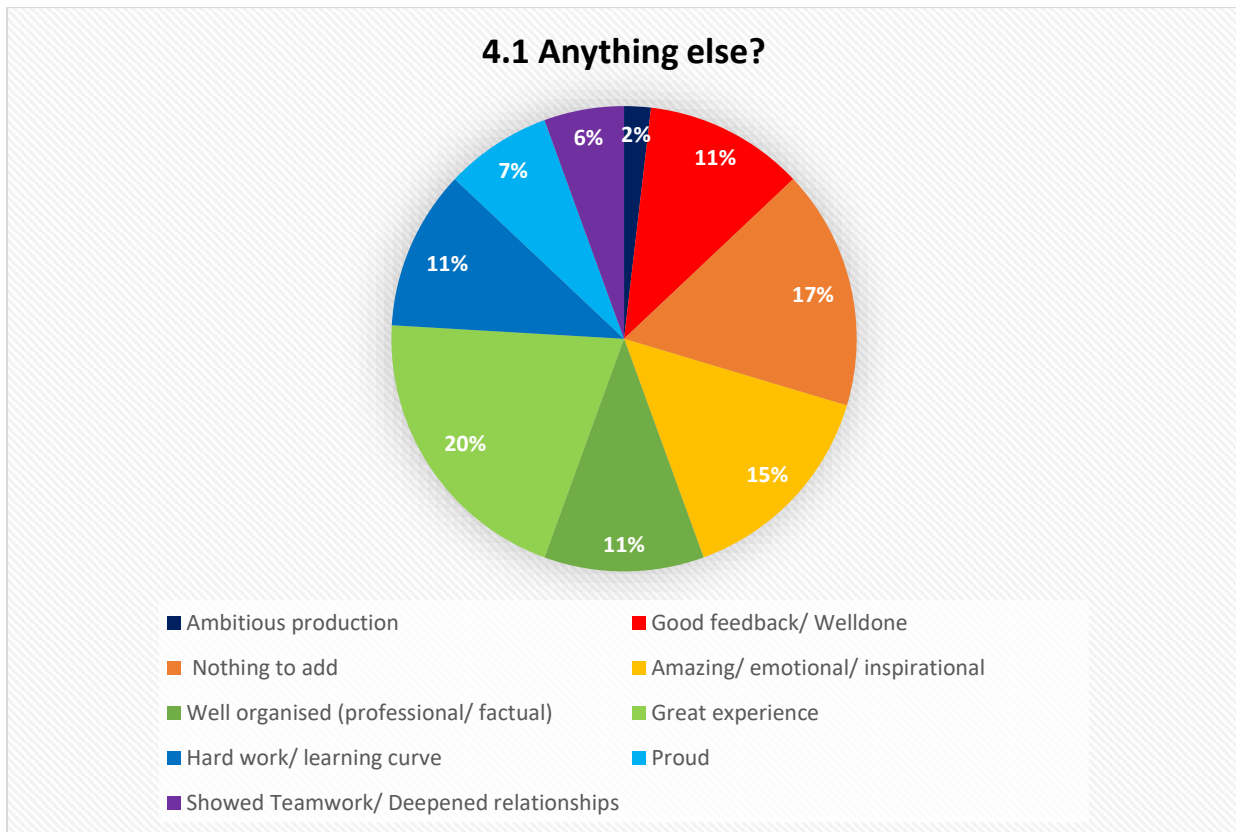
When we asked the participants about their overall learning and development throughout the process of the show local history showed strongly as a main learning outcome. As graph 3.1 shows, all participants said how they had learnt more about the Triple Trawler Tragedy and the Head Scarf Revolution. However, some participants noted how involvement in the show had even increased their knowledge of wider themes such as fashion, class and feminism.



Only one person felt as if they hadn't gained any new skills, however those who had felt that their confidence had increased, performance technique had improved and research skills had advanced. Participants also said how they had obtained event management, set design and script writing skills.

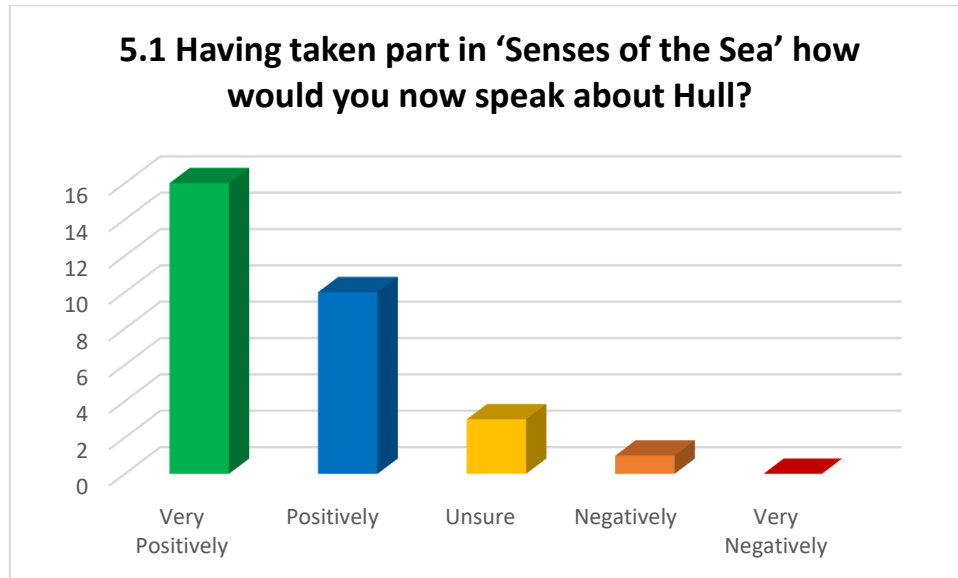


## Anything Else?



When the performers were asked if they would like to say anything else about how it was to take part in 'Senses of the Sea' there was a wide variety of responses. This ranged from individuals praising others efforts and stating how proud they were to be a part of the project to saying how much they personally enjoyed the experience and that it was well written and directed.

## Opinion of Hull



Generally, those who have taken part in the 'Senses of the Sea' performance would speak about Hull in a positive way. We can see that the experiences that the participants have had are positive ones and the skills and knowledge which has been gained are vast and varied.

## Conclusion

It is clear from the information gathered that 'Senses of the Sea' has been a hugely beneficial performance for its artists. The opportunities the City of Culture title has created in this instance has inspired people to embrace the festivities and get involved with its performances whilst learning about Hull's heritage. The experience taken on by the artists has generally been a positive one with many wanting to take part in future performances. This combination of cultural involvement, personal development, historical learning and relationship progression has made taking part in 'Senses of the Sea' a beneficial event for those involved encouraging growth within themselves and their community.