# Reimagining Reality wins Sustainable Project of the Year

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Archild interacting with one of the Reimagining Reality exhibits and shining a light onto a shape on the wall. Interactive science exhibition took home the Heritage Fund-sponsored category at the Museums + Heritage Awards.

The Museums + Heritage Awards took place with a live ceremony in London last night (Wednesday 11 May).

Heritage Fund Chief Executive, Eilish McGuinness, announced <u>Reimagining Reality</u>, <u>created by Discovering42</u>, as the winner of the Sustainable Project of the Year award.

She said: "It has never been more important for us all to think and act sustainably, for the planet, for heritage and for people.

"Discovering 42's project creatively reimagined everyday items – from old doors and washing machine motors – to inform and empower visitors about the problems of waste and how it contributes to climate change."

2022 marks the third year the Heritage Fund has supported the Sustainable Project of the Year category. The award celebrates an outstanding environmentally sustainable project or exhibition staged by a heritage or cultural organisation in the UK.

Two adults and archild interact with one of the exhibits Visitors to Reimagining Reality. Credit: Discovering 42

## Sustainable Project of the Year winner

Events company Discovering42's immersive science exhibition, Reimagining Reality, in based in Bodmin, Cornwall. It uses interactive artworks created from unwanted materials to inspire interest in science and sustainability, and to raise the issue of how waste contributes to climate change.

It's been an amazing journey of learning and experimentation.

Discovering 42, creators of Reimagining Reality

In their acceptance speech, a spokesperson from Discovering42 said: "We only opened in October, so we weren't expecting to be here. We are just really impressed that we've had people that believe in us. It was a completely crazy idea. But we were lucky to get crowd funded and then Arts Council funding as well. It's been an amazing journey of learning and experimentation, and we're looking forward to going forward with that."

Aneadult and two children interact with one of the exhibits at Reimagining Reality

#### Focusing on sustainability

Reimagining Reality features 20 exhibits produced by local artists using waste materials such as old doors and bodyboards. The exhibits include a bike-powered record player that uses an old washing machine motor and a rainforest mirror room made from donated mirrors.

The Heritage Fund was particularly impressed by how sustainability was the focal point of every stage of the project.

Drew Bennellick, Heritage Fund Head of Land and Nature Policy

Drew Bennellick, Head of Land and Nature Policy at the Heritage Fund, said: "We're glad to see Reimagining Reality announced as the winner. The Heritage Fund was particularly impressed by how sustainability was the focal point of every stage of the project, from sourcing otherwise unwanted waste materials and using electric vehicles to transport them, to sparking the imagination of visitors to start conversations on climate issues."

Wright & Wright Architects were also highly commended in the Sustainable Project of the Year category for their work at Museum of the Home.

## **Museums + Heritage Awards**

Last year's winner of the Sustainable Project of the Year category was Penzance's <u>Jubilee Pool</u>, while in 2020, it was the Museum of Oxford's <u>Queering Spires: a history of LGBTIQA+ spaces</u> exhibition that scooped the award.

The annual Museums+ Heritage Awards recognise the very best in museums, galleries, cultural and heritage visitor attractions. Read more about the rest of 2022's winners on the Museums + Heritage website.

#### Find out more

Discover more <u>environmentally sustainable projects we've funded</u> and find out how <u>we're tackling climate</u> change.

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Three children interact with the hovering ball exhibit and balance balls on different air streams

Reimagining Reality's hovering ball exhibit is made from a cable drum and car vents. Visitors can change the direction of the air and hover more than one ball at a time. Credit: Discovering 42

#### Case study: Discovering42 – Reimagining Reality

People wimming and playing in the Jubilee Pool Opening of the geothermal pool

## **Case study: Penzance Jubilee Pool**

Museum of Oxford whereing Spires exhibiton. Display post it notes with comments and memories from visitors.

Case study: Queering Spires - a history of LGBTIQA+ spaces in Oxford