USING WELLCOME IMAGES

# CELLS AND THE CITY

"Our bodies are permeable: the city enters our bodies through our skin, our lungs and our ears. I wanted to question this idea of fixed borders, of enclosing spaces – which is central to map making – by merging the boundaries of the body and the city," says Daksha Patel, an artist and PhD researcher at Northumbria University. Her works for the 'Diffusion' project look at the ways in which people construct cities and are in turn affected by the cities they inhabit.

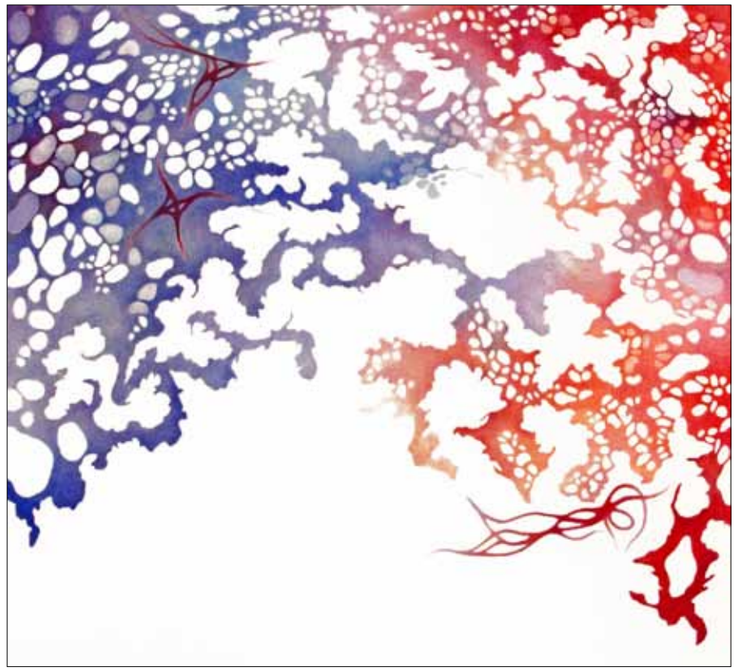
Commissioned to produce a new series of drawings for the lightboxes at Manchester Piccadilly station, Patel turned to Wellcome Images for inspiration. "I used this collection as a starting-point for the series of drawings, in which I map environmental data upon structures of the internal body."

Following a period of research at the Human Geography department at Manchester Metropolitan University, she worked with Geographical Information Systems to map data about Manchester's growth, air quality and noise levels onto biological structures.

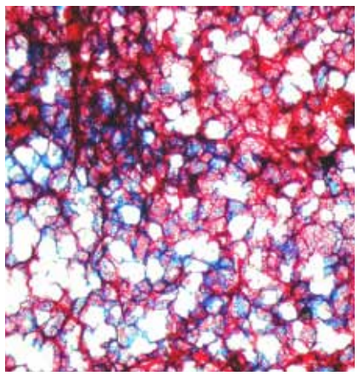
The drawings were commissioned by the Hamilton Project and are being shown at Manchester Piccadilly's Metrolink platform, until 30 December. The project was supported by the National Lottery through Arts Council England and is an associate event for this year's Shisha-initiated Asia Triennial Manchester (ATM11).

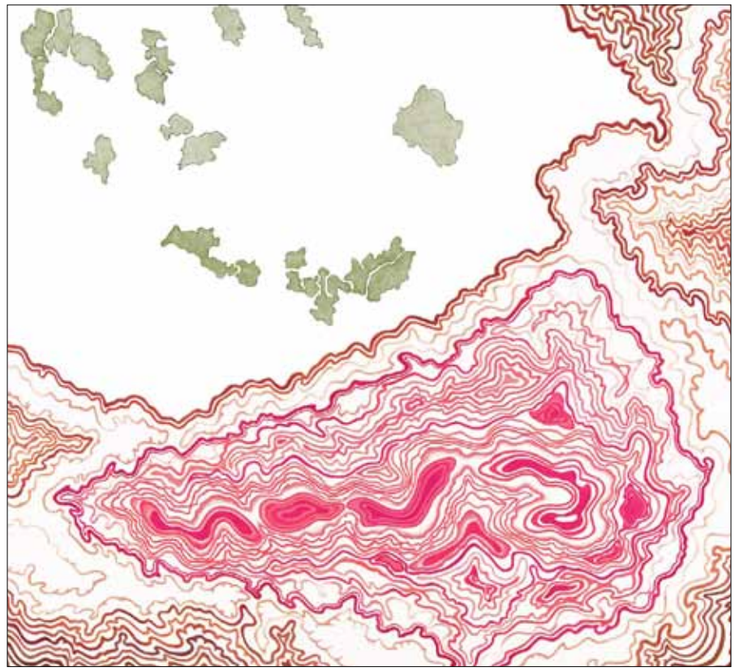
**www.dakshapatel.co.uk**
**www.asiatriennialmanchester.com**
**www.thehamiltonproject.co.uk**

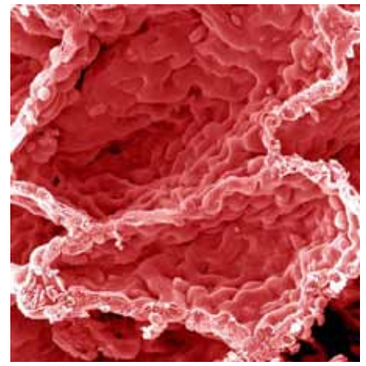
To be considered for the Wellcome Image Awards 2012, you must contribute your biomedical images by 16 January 2012. For more details see page 2.



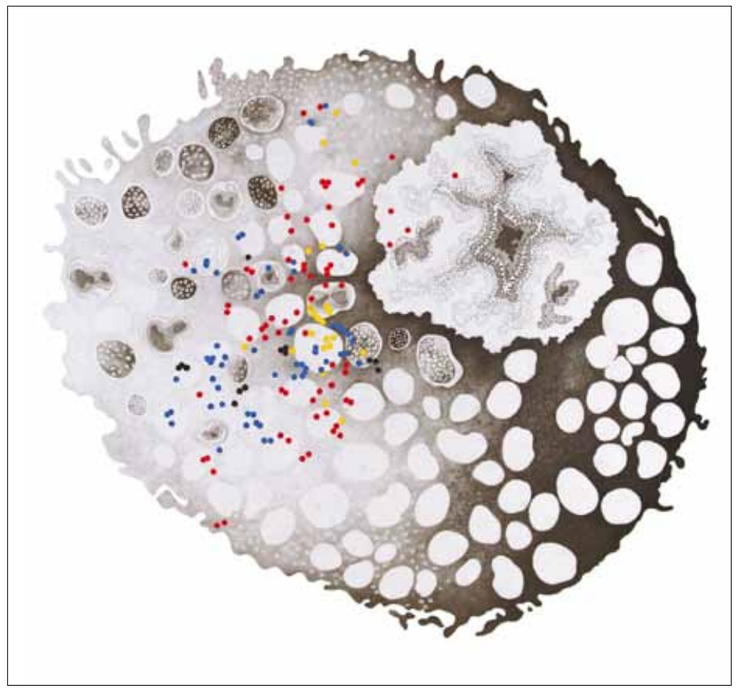
'Diffusion 1.4': Lung tissue (below, by Spike Walker) and Manchester orbital motorways (above).

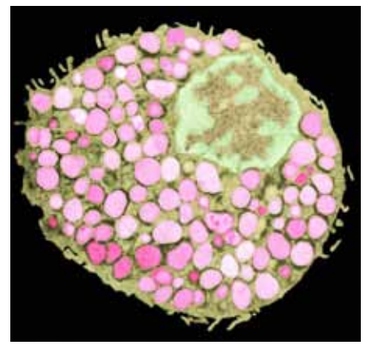






'Diffusion 1.1': Alveolar spaces in the lungs (above, by David Gregory and Debbie Marshall) and a contour map of Manchester (left, in red) with a chloropleth map showing >3 car ownership (green).





'Diffusion 1.2': A mast cell with histamine granules (above, from the University of Edinburgh) and a dot map of Manchester showing sites of air pollution emissions (left).