

2000 PEOPLE ARE LOCKED UP

350 HAVE BEEN DETAINED FOR OVER A DECADE

26,000 REPORTED USES OF RESTRICTIVE PRACTICES OVER ONE YEAR

ALL HAVE LEARNING DISABILITIES AND/OR AUTISM

WHY ARE THEY STUCK IN HOSPITAL?

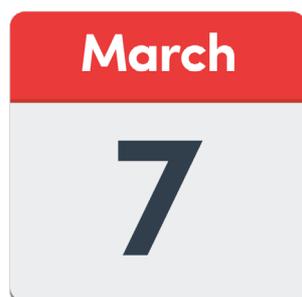
Foka Wolf

*Why Are We Stuck in Hospital?*

Matthew's Story

*Hospital to Home*

A guide to the exhibitions



Tuesday 7th March  
2023



Friday 31st March  
2023

# Foka Wolf

## *Why Are We Stuck in Hospital?*



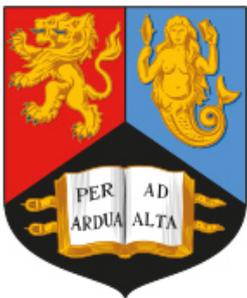
This art is by Foka Wolf.  
It uses the idea of an impossible maze with no beginning or end.



Some of Foka Wolf's art is here in the Ikon Gallery.  
Some of it is on billboards around Birmingham.



This art tells us about people with learning disabilities and autistic people who are in long-stay hospitals.  
Lots of people don't know that there are people stuck in long-stay hospitals.



Foka Wolf's work is part of the *Why Are We Stuck in Hospital?* research project by the School of Social Policy at the University of Birmingham



and Changing Our Lives who work with disabled people to fight for their rights.



More than 2000 people with learning disabilities and autistic people in England live in long-stay hospitals. Some people have been there for years. Many of them do not know when they will leave.



As well as this exhibition, there is a new guide for professionals that will come out on **14th March**. This guide is based on research done with people with learning disabilities, autistic people, families and staff.



From the **7th to the 19th March**, Jack Arts will be showing 4 billboards about this project.



You can find them at:

- Floodgate Street (B5 5SR)
- Bradford Street (B12 0QY)
- York Road (B14 7RZ)
- Bristol Road (B29 6BJ)



Use this QR code to find out more.

# Matthew's Story

## *Hospital to Home*



Matthew is autistic.  
His story is a real-life example of some of the things that Foka Wolf's art tells us in *Why Are We Stuck in Hospital?*



When Matthew was younger he did not get the support he needed for his autism and some problems he was having. He started to do a lot of small crimes.



When he was 17, Matthew was sectioned.  
He was sent to a locked hospital miles away from home.



Matthew spent 16 years in different locked hospitals without his family and without his freedom.  
This would not have happened if he had got the right support at the right time.



Matthew now lives in his own home with support from support workers and his family.



Matthew's story tells us how important good support is. It is also a sad reminder of the things that make it difficult for people to leave hospital. It reminds us that leaving people stuck in hospital is unfair and doesn't need to happen.



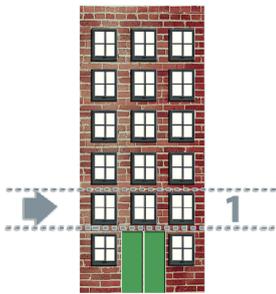
Changing Our Lives helped Matthew to tell his story. Changing Our Lives helps disabled people who are trapped in hospital to get out and make a life at home.



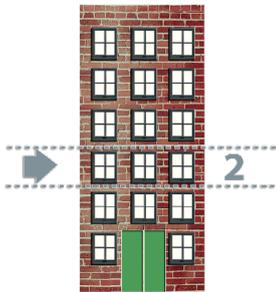
Matthew's book was published in 2022. It includes photos by Katie Seymour, a photographer who works for Changing Our Lives.



Use this QR code to find out more.



Foka Wolf's artwork *Why Are We Stuck in Hospital?* is in the Events Room.  
This is on the First Floor.



Matthew's story *Hospital to Home* is in the Resource Room.  
This is on the Second Floor and through the galleries.

FUNDED BY

**NIHR** | National Institute for  
Health and Care Research

*Why Are We Stuck in Hospital?* is funded by the [National Institute for Health and Care Research HS&DR programme](#).