

# THE UNCOMMERCIAL TRAVELLER

One of the great socio-realists of his time, Charles Dickens captured the joys and tragedies of city life in his little-known non-fiction work, *The Uncommercial Traveller*. The book features people and places which inspired many of his future works, and gives the reader a glimpse into the personal thoughts and opinions of a man fascinated by cities and those living in them. Dickens was particularly interested in the parts of a city which remain hidden from public view, and he could often be found wandering the back streets on late-night insomniac walks.

Using this approach of seeking out forgotten places and uncovering hidden stories, participants in Punchdrunk and Arcola Theatre's *The Uncommercial Traveller* project explored the city and worked in teams to devise, write and record these short audio pieces over a five day period. Working with directors Owen Calvert-Lyons (Arcola Theatre), Raquel Meseguer (Punchdrunk) and artist James Webb, 16 local theatre practitioners developed creative and reflective audio-guided tours of locations in the city of Cape Town – journeys which allow audiences to see the city in a new light.

Known in the UK for their innovative approaches to theatre and community engagement, Punchdrunk and Arcola Theatre have worked closely with the British Council to reconceive *The Uncommercial Traveller* as an international project. To date, the project has travelled to Karachi, Melbourne, Penang, Singapore and Portsmouth.

Directed by: **Owen Calvert-Lyons and Raquel Meseguer**

Sound design: **James Webb**

Cape Town audio tours devised by: **Kim Kerfoot, Genna Gardini, Brink**

**Scholtz, Ongezwa Mbele, Mdu Kweyama, Owen Manemela, Rosa**

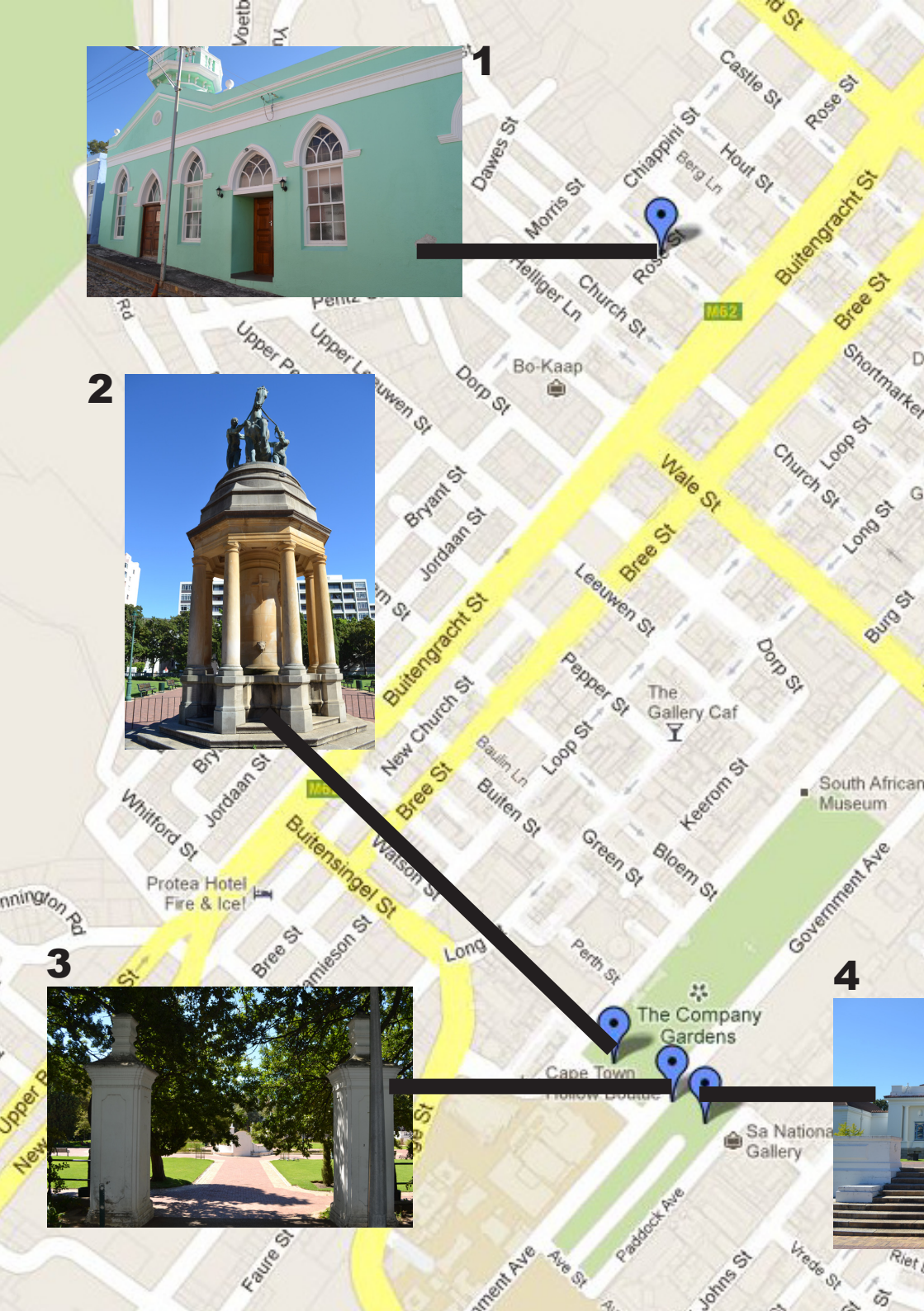
**Postlewhaite, Shannon Hughes, Krystle Marrier d' Unienville, Busisiwa**

**Mpotye, Lwando Tyokolo, Tarryn Saunders, Florance Vermeulen, Nhlanhla**

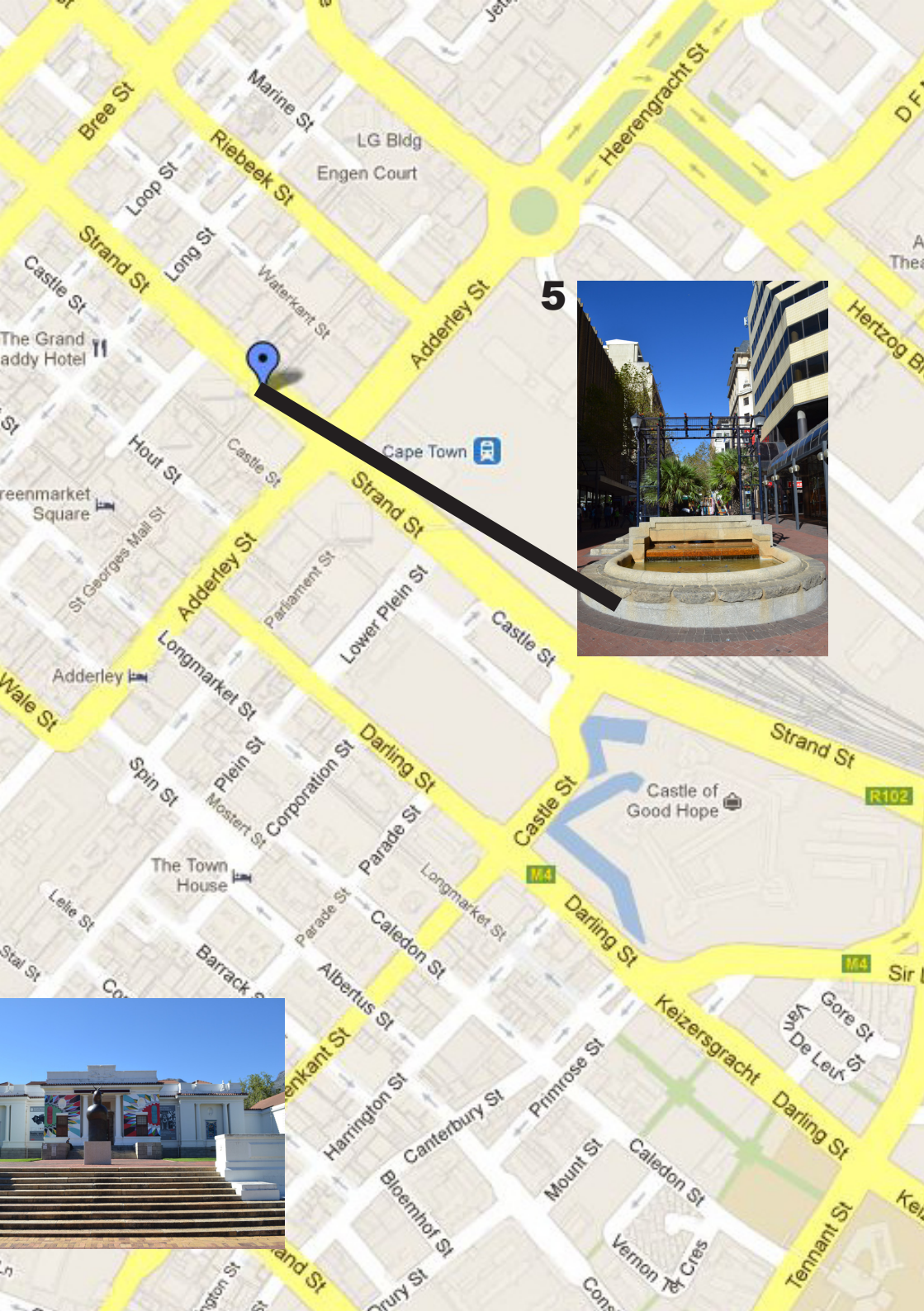
**Qhomo, Thulani Maguda and Asanda Rilityana**

*The Uncommercial Traveller: Cape Town* is available for download from <https://soundcloud.com/calvert-lyons/sets/uct-capetown>

MP3 players with pre-loaded tours are available from the Infecting the City Festival Centre, 6 Spin Street, 08:30 - 13:00 from 13-16 March 2013.







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## Track 1 | The Potjie

Shannon Hughes  
Ongezwa Mbele  
Thulani Maguda  
Busisiwa Mpotye

## Track 2 | Memory Sickness

Genna Gardini  
Owen Manemela  
Asanda Rilityana

## Track 3 | Listen. Here.

Kim Kerfoot  
Rosa Postlewhaite  
Nhlanhla Qhomo

## Track 4 | Consider This

Mdu Kweyama  
Tarryn Saunders  
Brink Scholtz

## Track 5 | The Mission

Krystle Marrier d' Unienville  
Lwando Tyokolo  
Florance Vermeulen

