Researching *Nanoq* required locating all the taxidermied bears in the United Kingdom. The artists found them in private homes, museum warehouses, and commercial establishments. These settings reflect the myriad of ways polar bears have been exploited: as postcard imagery, product labelling, and as totemic identity.
The first exhibition of *Nanoq* was at Spike Island, a contemporary art space in Bristol, United Kingdom. The preparation and transportation of ten polar bears from their respective collections to the exhibition was revealed through video tape, which was accompanied by a large-scale map denoting where all the bears were found. Snæbjörnsdóttir and Wilson also authored *Nanoq: Flat Out and Bluesome: a Cultural Life of Polar Bears*, which explores how polar bears have evolved from trophies to icons of climate change.