

## WALKING LIBRARIES | 2016 to —

This evolving materials library explores the language of site-specific phenomena in conjunction with geological and spatial narratives. Objects, handmade tools, and textile artifacts are used to prompt further crafting initiatives related to the environment and atmospheric conditions. Initiated in 2016 as a movement arts project with a social practice component, Walking Libraries has expanded into a visual lab archive that addresses the nature of plots and terrain in this era of climate breakdown/crisis.

“Walking is often viewed as an act of resistance, at least in terms of the individual feeling empowered to shed societal expectations, identify tendencies to subjugate nature, and assess the status quo.

The development of Walking Libraries as an archiving concept and movement practice has been a way for me to confront my own layers of mental stasis, and in turn, process environmental shifts in ways that stimulate adaptation and resiliency. Since its inception in 2016, photographic documentation of site specific phenomena and materials has been central to the project’s evolution. These simple methods were also intended as prompts for others to initiate their own investigations.

Walking or drifting is a soft form of mapping and plotting for me. By walking and openly witnessing, a vocabulary emerges in conjunction with observation. Future actions feel less daunting and assimilation feels empowering. No two personal libraries are alike. Each zone has intrinsic narratives to reveal, with symbolic resonance as an expression of mysterious preservation.

The act of slowing down or simply getting lost on foot runs counter to the fast paced filaments of contemporary life. Instead, the individual might forge new pathways and systems for regenerative, restorative and unexpected action.” – Abigail Doan, environmental artist | writer

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