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Tales of Transformational Encounter in Digital Arts Practice: Co-forming Connective Togetherness through Techno-Sensual Acts of Love.

Alice Tuppen-Corps De Montfort University and Gaia Del Negro Canterbury Christ Church University

(LHBN) of ESREA 'Togetherness and its Discontents'
Conference, Turin, Italy, March 2018

Third Space Transformations: New Poetics of Performative Encounter.

(Ph.D. Working Title: Alice Tuppen-Corps)

I seek to understand how the performativity of digital technologies can be used to generate a new form of emphatic relational space between people?

In doing so my objectives are to:

- 1) work with people and digital technologies**
- 2) develop a system for enhancing emphatic relational space between people**
- 3) use creative and artistic practice methods to translate into a performative space**
- 4) capture end - user experience in order to evaluate the worth of this process**

Digital Arts Practice: Project Process and Overview

Transformational Encounters: Touch, Traction, Transform (TETTT). 4 Phases.

Phase 1:

- Open Call for Participants.
- 21 Participants Selected.
- 21 Day Co-forming Dialogue. Words, Videos, Sounds, Photographs, Objects using Evernote Software

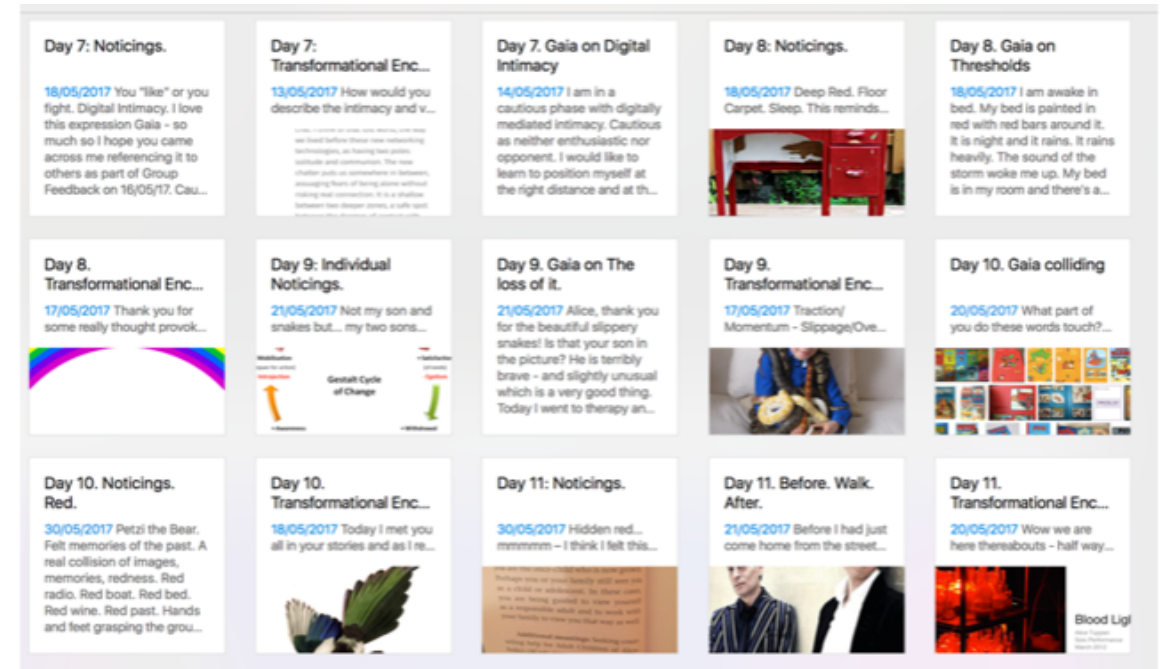
Structure of Engagement:

1. Artist 'Prompt'.
2. Participant 'Response'
3. Artist 'Noticing'
4. Artist 'Reframing'



The next days prompt is formed from Participant Responses and the Artists original Artistic Intention:

7 Touch 7 Traction 7 Transformation Prompts.



Transformational Encounters: Touch, Traction, Transform (TETTT). Phase 2.

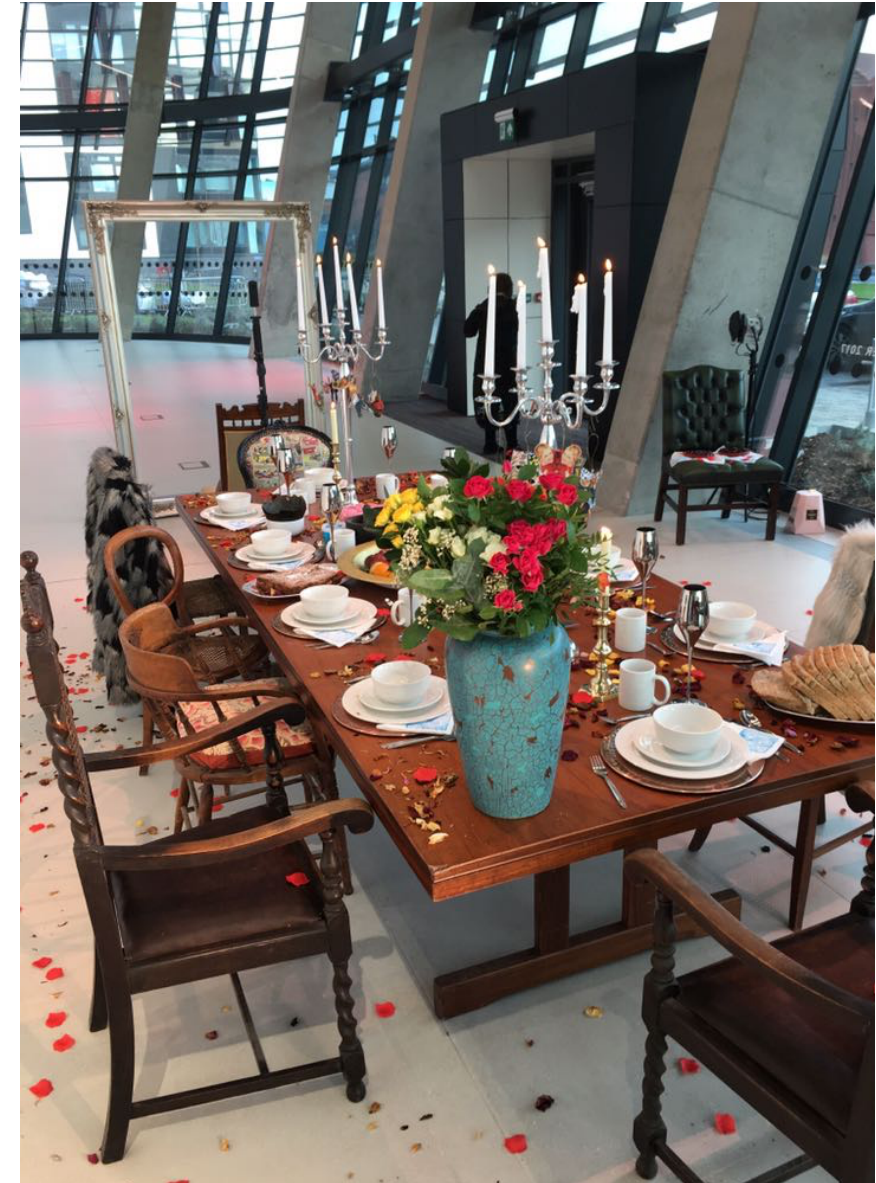
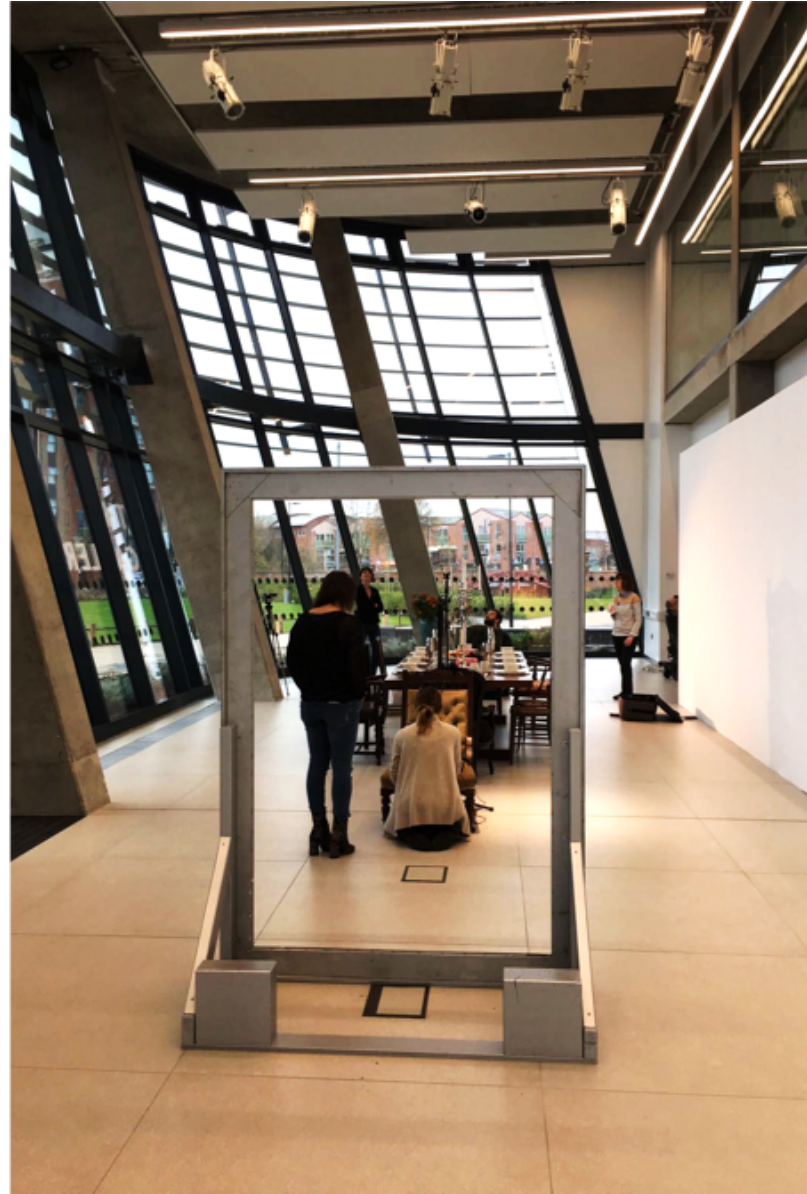
- Honing Participants down to 10.
- Artist and Participant spend a day together
- Filming and engaging in a Transformational Encounter and Dialogue specific to them

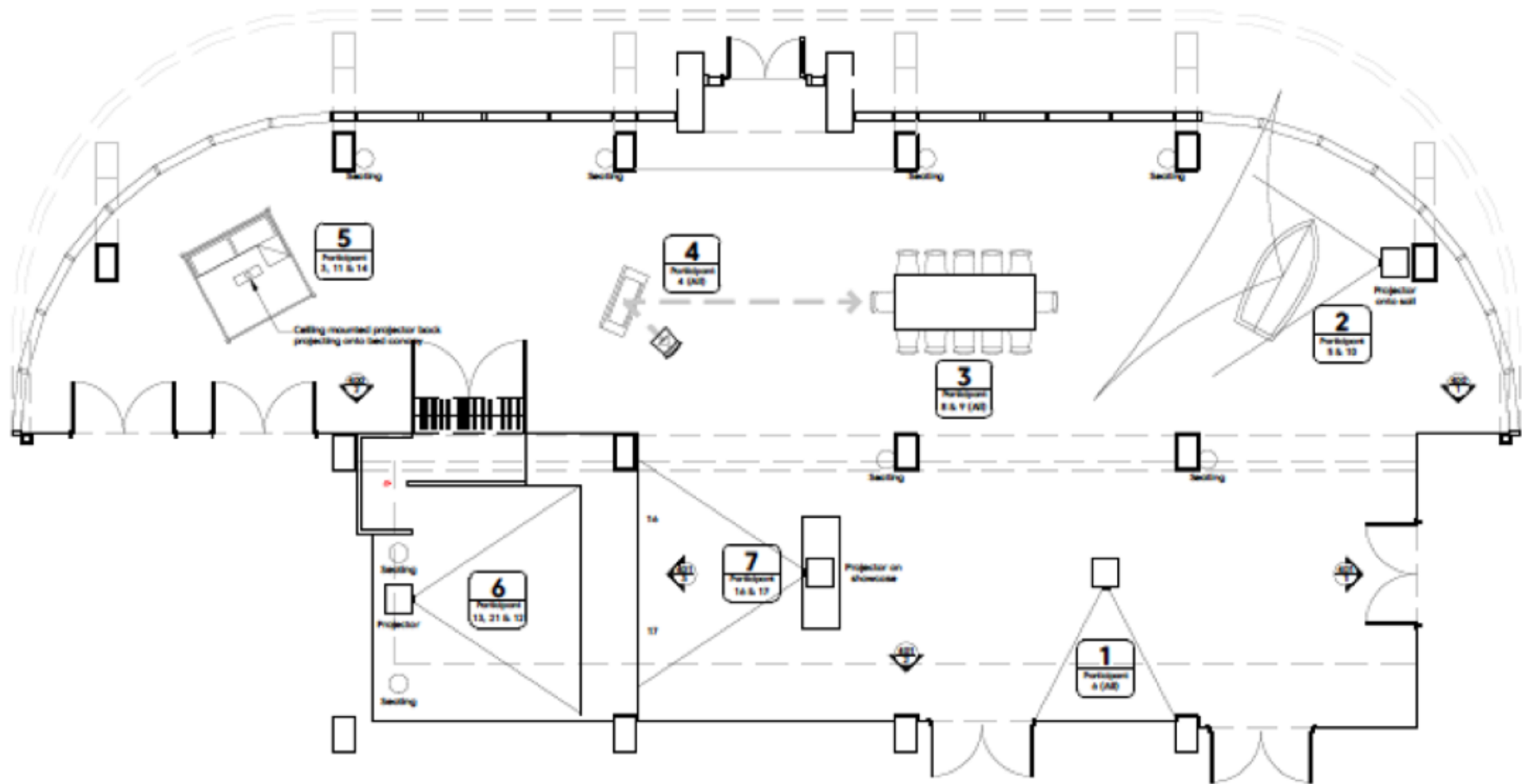


Transformational Encounters: Touch, Traction, Transform (TETTT). Phase 3.
All 10 Participants meet, cook, feast fashion items and film in The Gallery.



Transformational Encounters: Touch, Traction, Transform (TETTT). The Gallery Exhibition. Phase 4.







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27 April to 12 May 2018

The Gallery, Mill Lane, De Montfort
University, Leicester, LE1 9BH, United
Kingdom

<http://thegallery.dmu.ac.uk/>

You are cordially invited to the Private
View:

From 6pm to 9pm on Friday 27 April
and/or Saturday 28 April 2pm 2018

Normal Gallery Hours (12 noon to
5pm) or by appointment



Co-forming Connective Togetherness – Phase 1 Process

Phase 1: Evernote. Artists Prompt: Day 2. Transformational Encounters. Touch as the, 'the mother of the senses', architect Juhani Pallasmaa (2012:11). Nesting.



Wikipedia defines:

'A nest is a structure built by certain animals to hold eggs offspring, and, occasionally, the animal itself.'

'A nesting function in computer programming is a function which is defined within another function, the *enclosing function*.'

In his book 'The Eyes of the Skin' Finnish Architect Prof. Juhani Pallasmaa writes that 'Touch is the sensory mode that integrates our experience of the world with that of ourselves.' (2012:11)

How do you nest?

What is your experience of nesting?

What nests have you built, destroyed, abandoned, redesigned?

Participants Response: Day 2. Gaia on nesting

How do I nest?

I nest by choosing objects that have personal association, affective value, memory, imaginative resonance, objects of desire that make my home alive.

I grow plants.

I make tea which I get far away and bring home like birds.

I appropriate family objects for my nest: great-grandmother's wardrobe, a cousin's mirror, mother's knitted shawl.

Mostly I read books in bed.

I open my nest to friends and cook us meals.

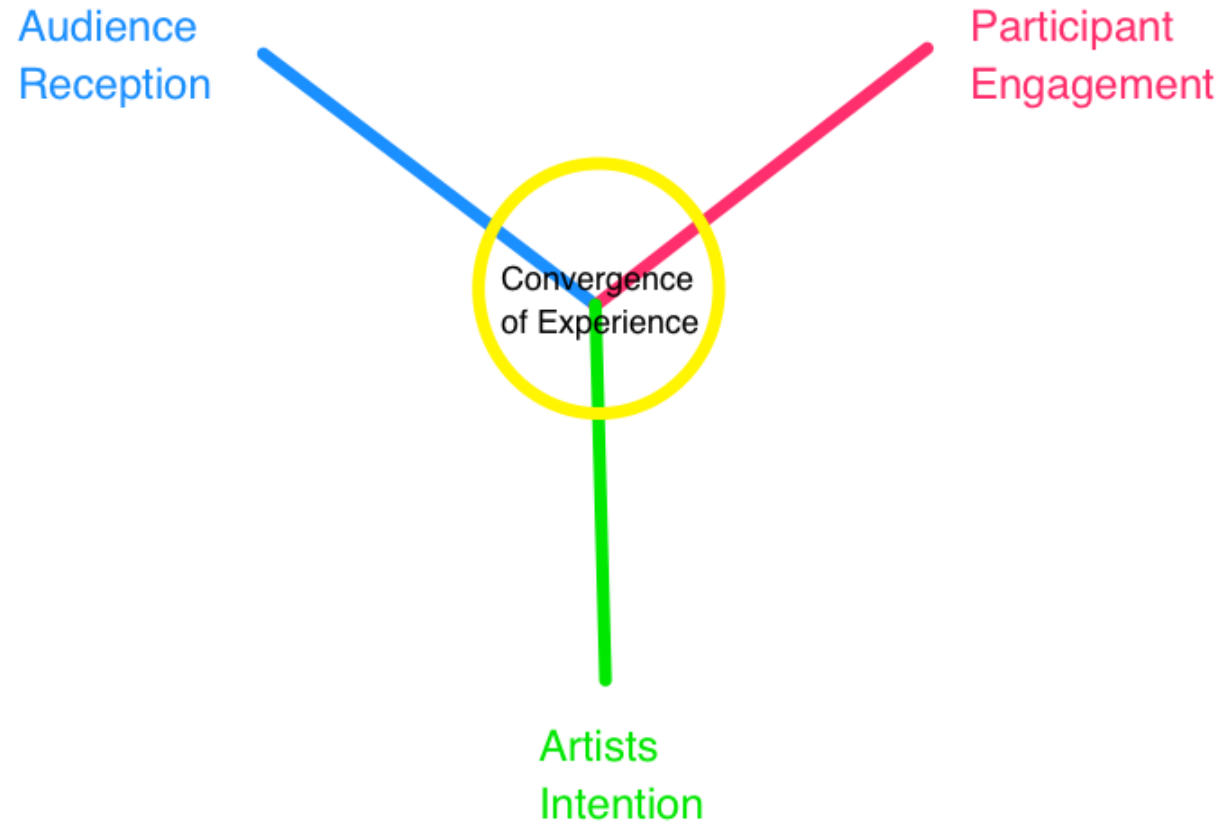
Nesting is relaxation and clearing.

I cannot but build nests wherever I live. My current nest in Milano I redesigned while I lived in the UK, which gave me the right distance to imagine myself in it - inheriting a nest by transforming it. Today I brood my egg here and it feels safe enough to prepare a new flight.



Growing plants found on in the street.

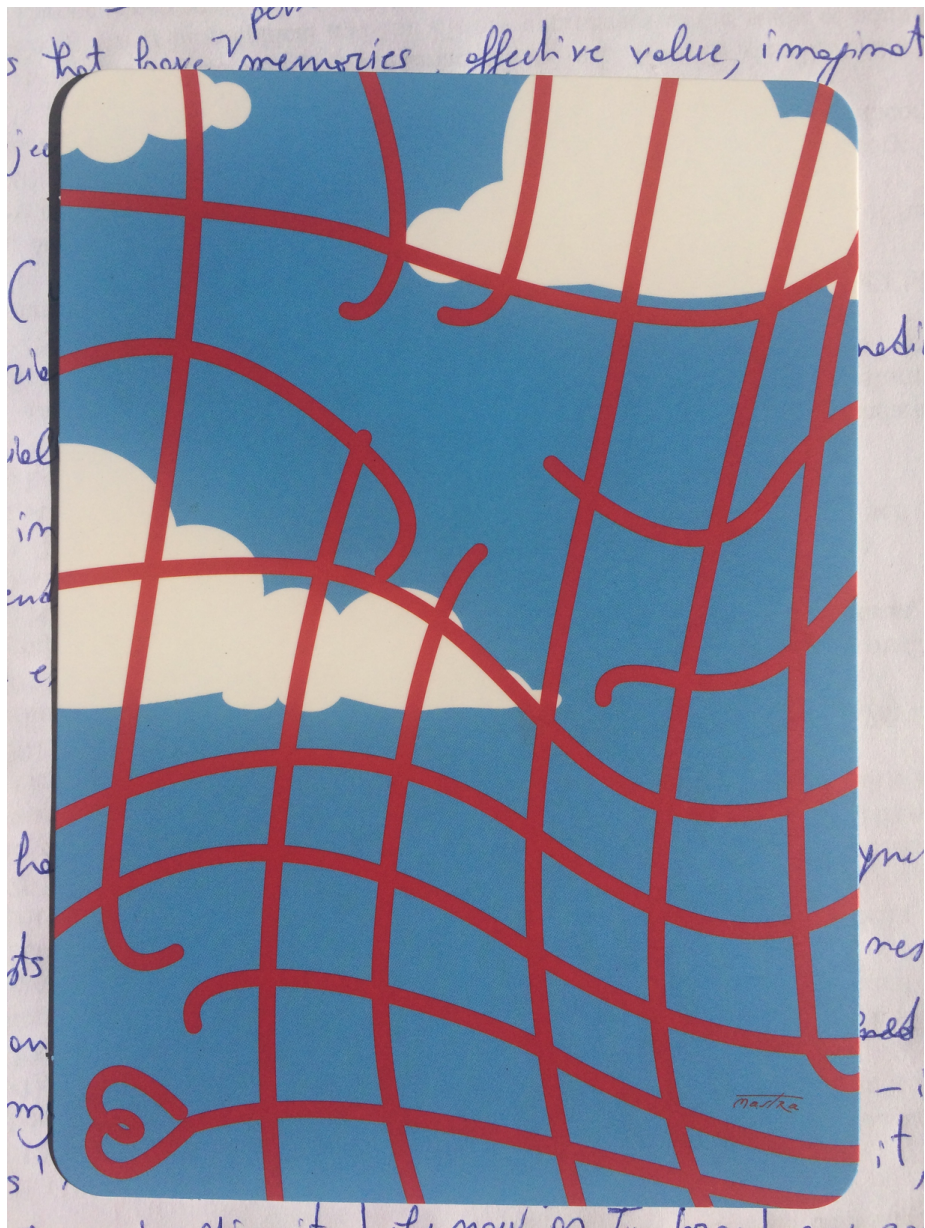
Techno-Sensual Acts of Love. What does this 'third space' look like?



What does 'third space' feel like?



Artist Noticings: Day
11, Image: Pina Bausch



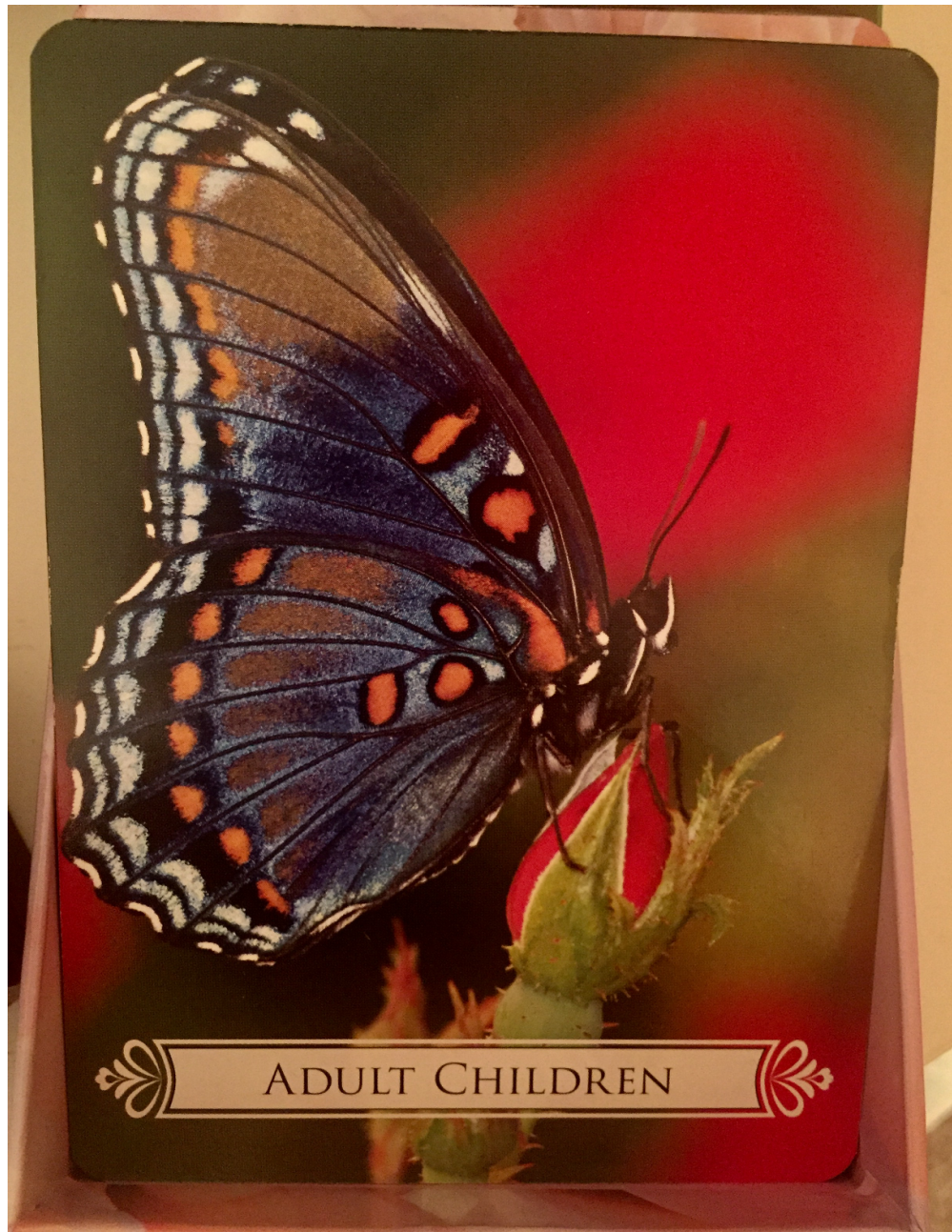
Fabbri and Munari's (2010) *Metaphors of knowledge* cards gave me this image of nest:

**A lightly held
knitting
with a clearing
hole
to breath.**



My mother's shawl.





ADULT CHILDREN



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photo archives



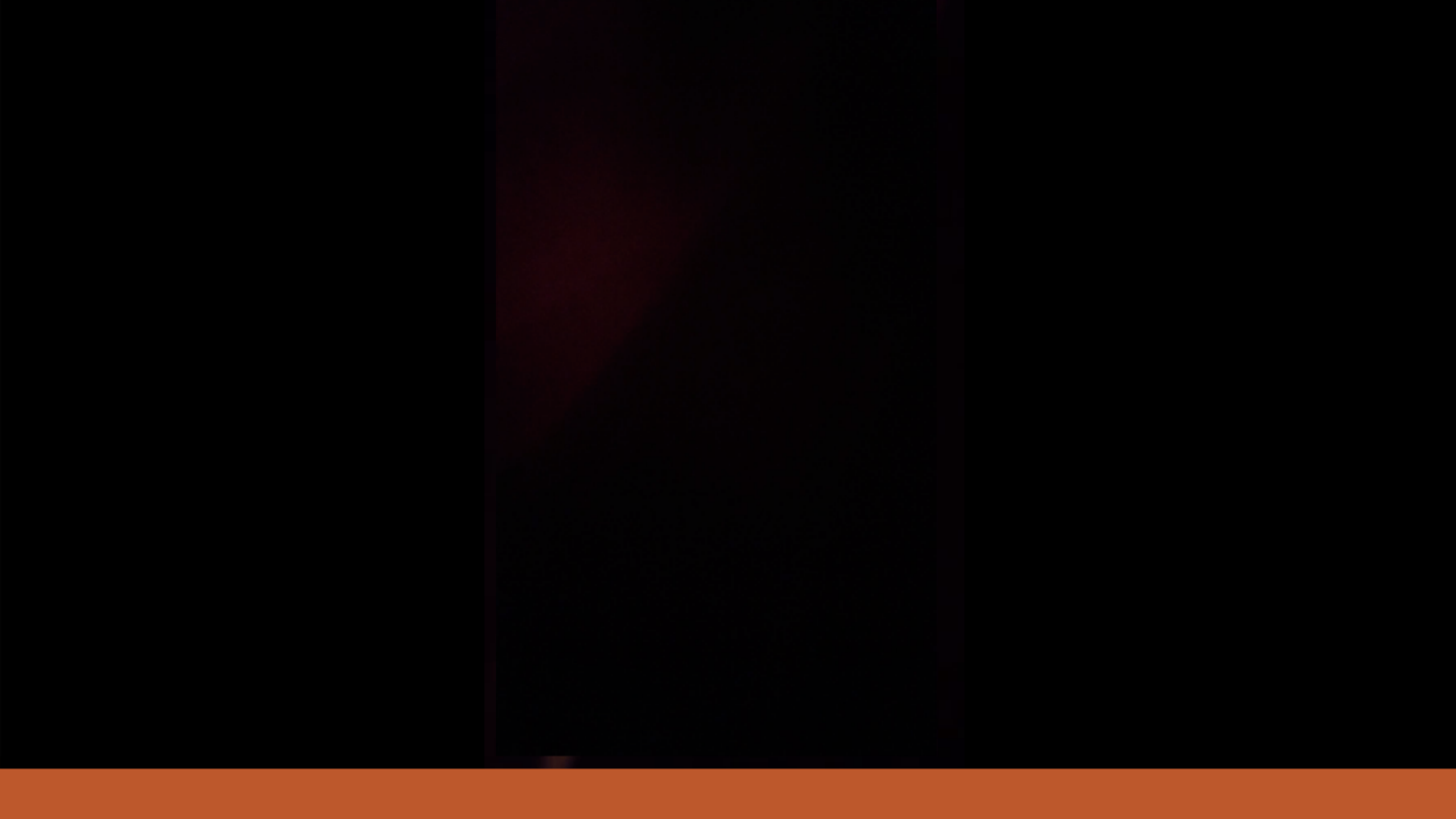
Transformational Encounters



Day 20

Unfinished conversations

Curiouser and curiouser said Alice...



Artist Prompt: Day 21: Transformational Encounters. What's in your back pack?

We have by now played with and identified our touch, traction and transformational directions... This has been an AMAZING process and so mutually moving - I feel very privileged to be working with you all.



So today I invite you to pack your bag for your journey. What have you learnt on your journey so far... (in life and in the last 21days...)... what is coming with you?

'Wherever I lay my hat, that's my home' Alice Tuppen-Corps, December 2016.

Today - once you have packed your bag of 'intimate resources/objects' - if you wanted to share these with one other person other than yourself who would this 'famous' person from history or the present day be? Why would you choose them? What would you want to tell or share with them about you or your 'intimate resources/objects'? What might you want from them? When you reach your destination where would that be, where would you nest down for the day, night, week, experience together...?

Participant Response: Day 21. Backpacking



I would invite Virginia Woolf to have a look at my altar of intimate resources coming out from my green backpack (a wonderful Ferrino backpack that accompanied me in India, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, and Indonesia).

Virginia is a dear friend. I am sure she knows that. She knows a lot of things this Virginia, in fact she is not so 'virginal' at all. She is a woman who meets the world from the inside out and writes about it. Our dialogue would be something around these lines.

Scene: Cambridge gardens, 5pm on a Tuesday afternoon in September 2017. The two characters are sitting on the grass and taking tea from a blue porcelain teapot. Objects are spread in front of them on a blue shawl.

Artist Noticings: Day 21

My Altar of Intimate Resources.

My feet feature a lot.

My holey orange womb blanket.

My other (m) others long long card...

My m-other reborn on a book.

Virginia Woolf is a Woman. She meets the world from the 'inside out'.

And so Grand(m)other Woolf meets Little Red Riding Hood.

“It is only by putting it into words that I make it whole; this wholeness means that it has lost its power to hurt me; a great delight to put the severed parts together.”

“You need to find your own land, your own words. And not take those too seriously either.”





*...behind the cotton wool is hidden a pattern; that we - I mean all human beings - are connected with this; that the whole world is a work of art; that we are parts of the work of art. Hamlet or a Beethoven quartet is the truth about this vast mass that we call the world. But there is no Shakespeare, there is no Beethoven; certainly and emphatically there is no God; we are the words; we are the music; we are the thing itself. (Woolf, 1985, p. 72 *)...*