QUEER CREATIVE HEALTH 3

MAPPING OURSELVES

BY MEG-JOHN BARKER
FOR QUEERCIRCLE

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MAPPING OUR...

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WEB LINKS FOR THIS ZINE

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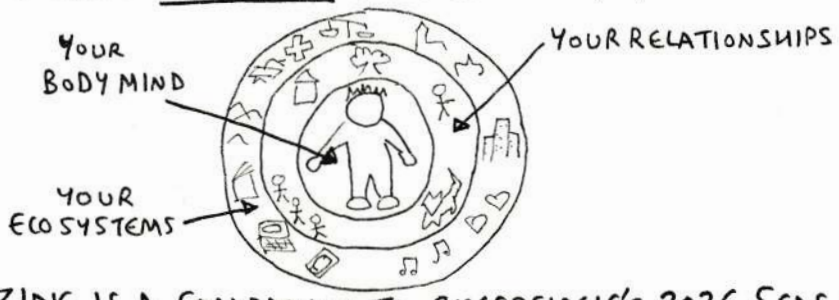
FIND OUT MORE (42)

INTRODUCTION

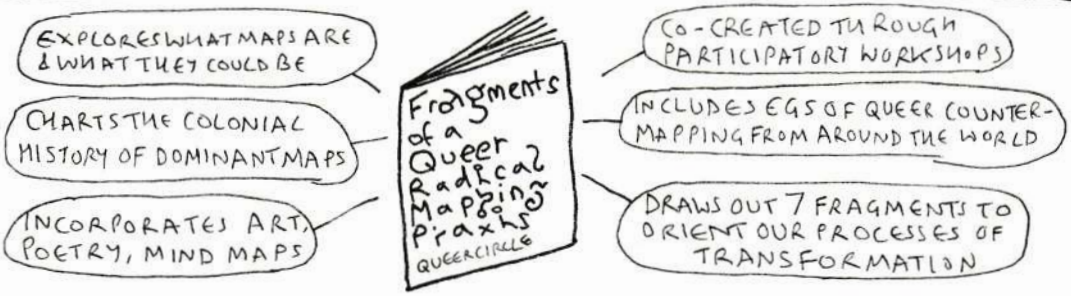
WELCOME TO THE 3RD QUEER CREATIVE HEALTH ZINE!

THIS ZINE BUILDS ON QCH1 & QCH2 WHICH INTRODUCED:

- THE IDEAS OF QUEER, CREATIVITY, HEALTH & RESEARCH AND
- MANY QCH PRACTICES FOR EXPLORING ...



THIS ZINE IS A COMPANION TO QUEERCIRCLE'S 2026 SEASON ON COUNTERMAPPING & RIVER ÚJHADBOR'S ACCOMPANYING REPORT



THIS ZINE OFFERS LOTS OF QUEER MAPPING **PRACTICES** THAT YOU MIGHT LIKE TO TRY- ALONE OR WITH FRIENDS

IT AIMS TO MAKE PRACTICES FROM QUEERCIRCLE WORKSHOPS (& BEYOND) ACCESSIBLE WHETHER OR NOT YOU CAN ATTEND IN PERSON YOU MIGHT WANT A PRINTED VERSION OR NOTEBOOK HANDY, WITH POST-ITS & PAPER TO TRY OUT SOME OF THE PRACTICES

QUEERCIRCLE

FRAGMENTS REPORT

DESIRE LINES



DESIRE LINES ARE "UNOFFICIAL PATHS FORMED BY PEOPLE (& OTHER BEINGS) TAKING SHORT CUTS, GOING OFF THE BEATEN TRACK, FOLLOWING THEIR OWN WHIMS & INTERESTS... RELEASED FROM THE STRAIGHT JACKETS OF STRAIGHT LINES, RATIONAL GRIDS & A TO B" - PHIL COHEN

- HOW MIGHT YOU ENGAGE WITH THE ZINE IN THIS WAY?
- COULD YOU MAP YOUR PROCESS OF ENCOUNTERING THE IDEAS & PRACTICES HERE? (EG POST ITS ON A WALL, MIND MAPS, MIRO APP)
- COULD YOU LINGER, MEANDER? TAKE DETOURS, SCENIC ROUTES?

"THE EARTH IS TREMBLING, SYSTEMS OF THOUGHT HAVE BEEN DEMOLISHED & THERE ARE NO MORE STRAIGHT PATHS."
MIGHT WE...

~ MOVE AT A PACE NOT DECIDED BY THE THINGS WE'RE IN OPPOSITION TO? ~
~ LOSE TIME IN SEARCHING? ~
~ REALLY STAY WITH OUR FEELINGS? ~
~ BE IN DEEP CONTACT WITH THE WORLD? ~
~ ENCOUNTER SYSTEMS OF DOMINATION? ~
~ WANDER? ~ WONDER? ~

PHIL COHEN
LIVINGMAPS.ORG

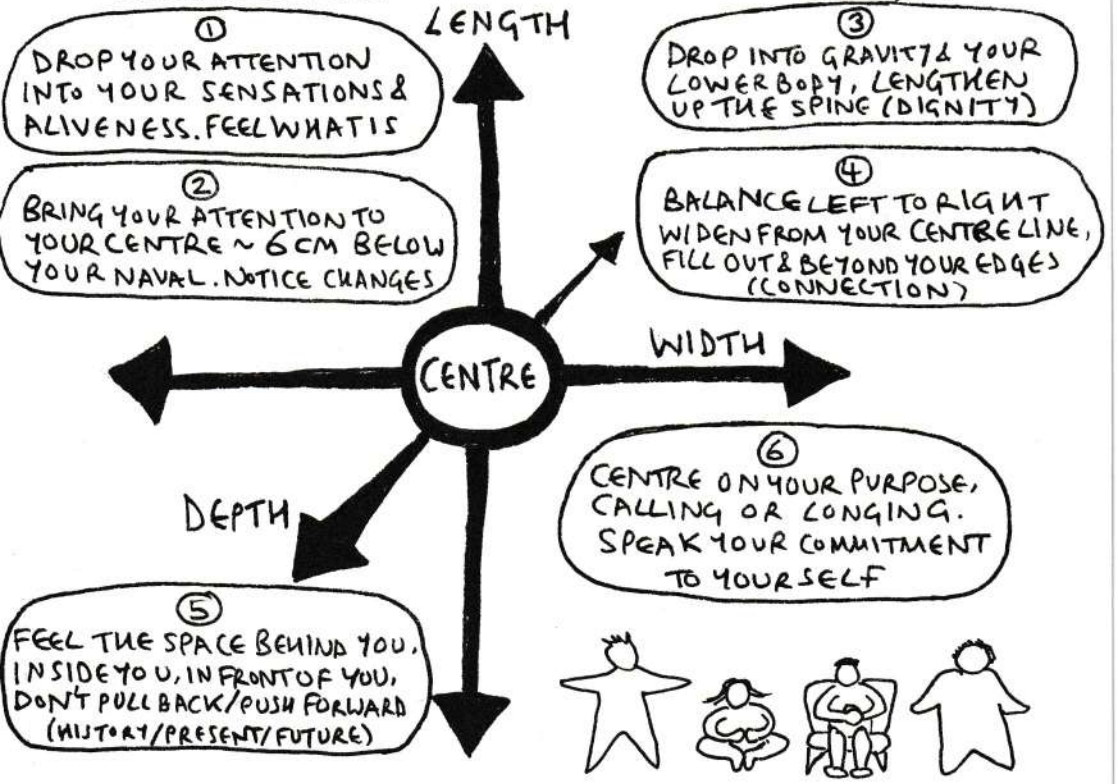
JACOB V JOYCE WEBSITE
JACOB V JOYCE VIDEO

LINKS SIGNPOST WHERE YOU CAN FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ALL THE ARTISTS, ACTIVISTS, PRACTITIONERS & MORE WHOSE WISDOMS, SKILLS & EXPERIENCES GATHER TOGETHER IN THE PAGES OF THIS ZINE

ORIENTING COMPASS

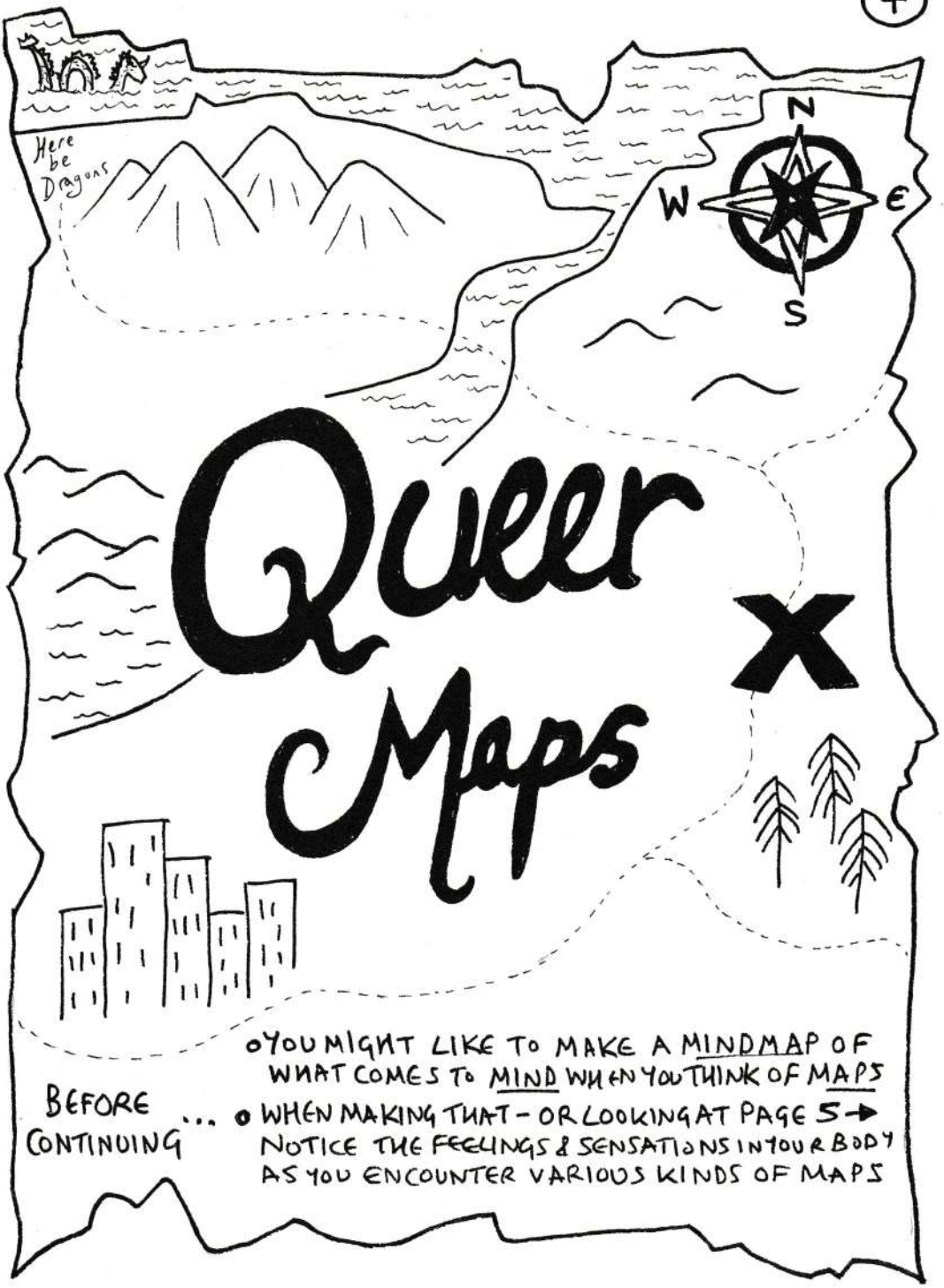
AS ALWAYS, WE INVITE YOU TO GO SLOWLY & TENDERLY WITH YOURSELVES. THESE EXPLORATIONS CAN BE A LOT.

IF YOU FIND YOURSELF FEELING DISORIENTED OR LOST, OVERWHELMED OR ACTIVATED, THIS COMPASS PRACTICE FROM STACI HAINES CAN HELP GROUND YOU AGAIN



RETURN TO THIS - OR OTHER GROUNDING / SOMATIC PRACTICES AS OFTEN AS YOU WANT/NEED/CAN

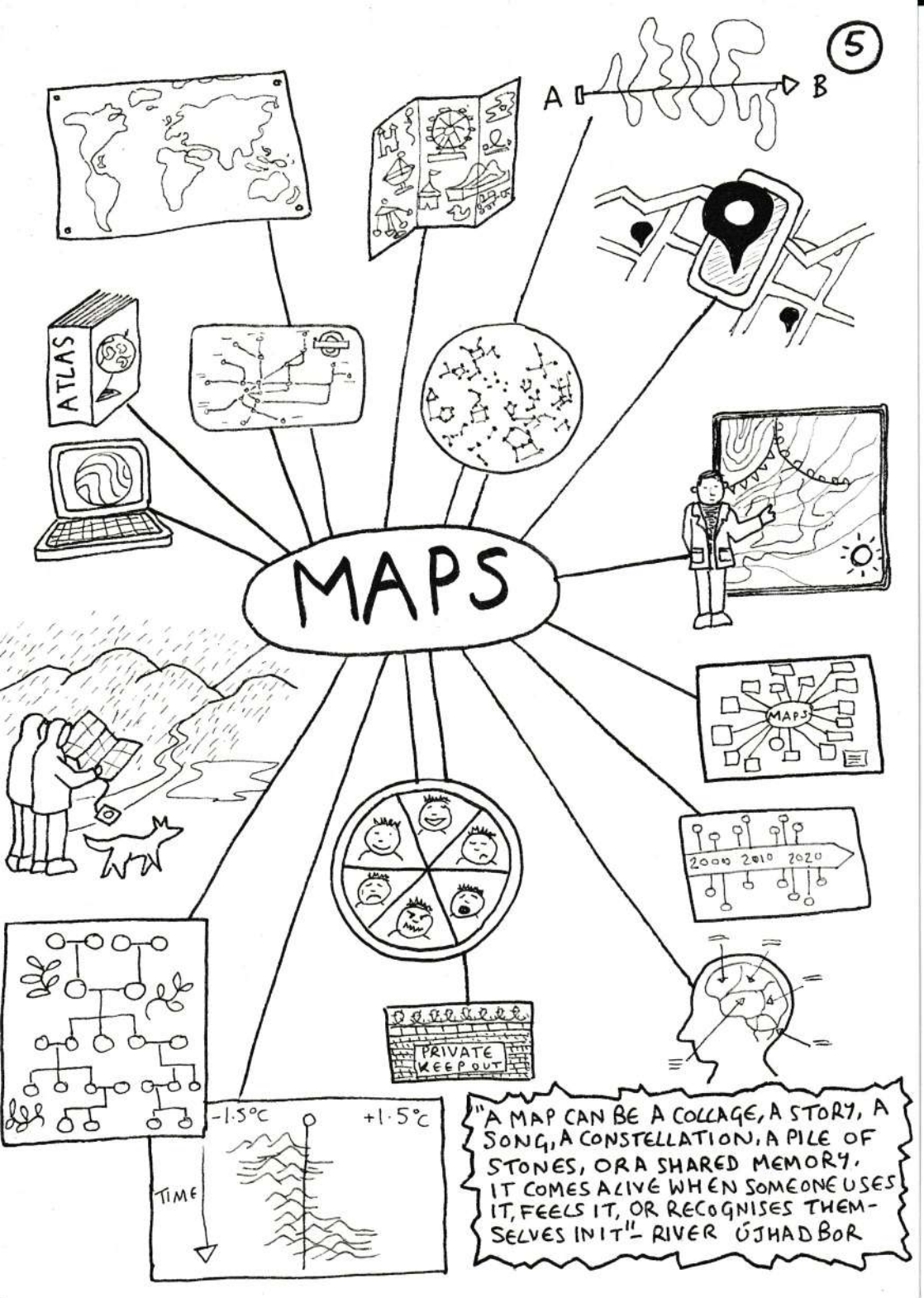
- STACI HAINES YOUTUBE
- HEALING JUSTICE LONDON
- SOMATIC PRACTICE DESCRIPTION
- TRUESELF TV
- SOMATIC IFS WORKBOOK
- DECOLONIZING THE BODY



Queer Maps

BEFORE CONTINUING ...

- YOU MIGHT LIKE TO MAKE A MINDMAP OF WHAT COMES TO MIND WHEN YOU THINK OF MAPS
- WHEN MAKING THAT - OR LOOKING AT PAGE 5 → NOTICE THE FEELINGS & SENSATIONS IN YOUR BODY AS YOU ENCOUNTER VARIOUS KINDS OF MAPS



"A MAP CAN BE A COLLAGE, A STORY, A SONG, A CONSTELLATION, A PILE OF STONES, OR A SHARED MEMORY. IT COMES ALIVE WHEN SOMEONE USES IT, FEELS IT, OR RECOGNISES THEMSELVES IN IT" – RIVER ÚJHADBOR

QUEERING MAPS

TAKING IN THE PREVIOUS PAGE YOU MAY HAVE FELT = INCLUDED &/OR EXCLUDED / WARMTH &/OR COOLNESS / EXPANSION &/OR CONTRACTION

WHY MIGHT WE WANT/NEED TO QUEER/QUESTION MAPS?

TRADITIONAL FORMS OF MAPS & MAPPING ARE ROOTED IN...

- LONG DISTANCE NAVIGATION ENABLING RESOURCE EXTRACTION, ENSLAVEMENT & EXPLOITATION
- CREATING & MAINTAINING BORDERS — ILLEGAL / DETENTION
- DEPICTING LAND AS EMPTY TERRITORIES FOR SETTLEMENT DESPITE BEING HOME TO MANY
- PROJECTS OF GENTRIFICATION & DISPLACEMENT
- DIGITAL MONITORING OF PEOPLE'S WHEREABOUTS
- TURNING LAND INTO PROPERTY & PEOPLE INTO SUBJECTS
- ENCLOSURE OF LAND BY WEALTHY 'LANDOWNERS' — MASS TRESPASS

"MAPS ARE TECHNOLOGIES OF POWER THAT MAKE SOME THINGS VISIBLE WHILE HIDING OTHERS / TOOLS OF CONTROL PLACATING US & PERSUADING US VIOLENT OPPRESSION & EXPLOITATION ARE JUST THE WAY THINGS ARE"

— RIVER UJHADBOR —

EVERY MAP EMBODIES CHOICES OVER WHAT TO INCLUDE, WHAT TO LEAVE OUT, WHAT TO NAME, WHAT TO CENTRE... MAPS DON'T JUST DESCRIBE THE WORLD, THEY SHAPE HOW WE UNDERSTAND IT, WHO BELONGS WHERE, WHAT COUNTS AS IMPORTANT"

EXAMPLES

FLATTENING THE GLOBE

- WHERE IS CENTRED?
- HOW LARGE/DISTANT ARE PLACES DEPICTED
- WHICH WAY UP?!

THE SCALE OF THE MAP

KEY

SAME KINDS OF LINES USED TO DEPICT NATURAL BORDERS & HUMAN-MADE BORDERS

EXAMPLES

PROJECTION

USE OF COLOUR

GREEN = NOT BUILT UP

GREEN = WILD

BLUE = WATER

BLUE = NOT SAFE TO WALK

WHAT'S FOREGROUNDED & BACKGROUNDED

SNAPSHOT OR SHOWING CHANGE OVER TIME?

BEFORE

AFTER

IMPACT OF ENCLOSURE ON COMMUNITY

QUEER QUESTIONS TO ASK ABOUT MAPS

FROM RADICAL CARTOGRAPHY

WHAT ASSUMPTIONS UNDERLIE THIS MAP?





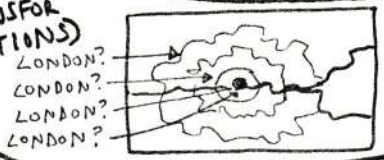
DOES IT EMBRACE UNCERTAINTY? (SHOWING THE CURRENT LIMITS OF WHAT'S KNOWN OR EVEN KNOWABLE)



IS IT CLEAR IT'S SPEAKING FROM A PARTICULAR PERSPECTIVE? (IN TIME/PLACE/CULTURE)



DOES IT SHOW A WORLD OF OVERLAPS? (DIFFERENT VIEWS FOR DIFFERENT QUESTIONS)



COUNTER MAPPING

USED BY INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES TO RECLAIM LAND, HISTORIES, CULTURES

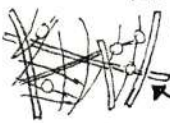
SOMETIMES WE USE EXISTING MAPS TO BE LEGIBLE

EXAMPLES

- INUIT LAND USE & OCCUPANCY PROJECT
- NATIVE LAND DIGITAL
- THE DECOLONIAL ATLAS
- RUPTURED ATLAS
- THE ANTI-EVICTION MAPPING PROJECT

SOMETIMES WE CREATE OUR OWN MAPS, WHICH WORK FOR OUR WAYS OF BEING

EXAMPLES

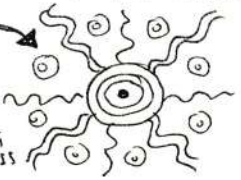


MARSHALL ISLAND STICK CHART TO NAVIGATE WATER

A SONGLINE OR DREAMLINE TRACK - INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIAN ORAL MAPPING



BUDDHIST/HINDU MANDALA - MAPPING INNER CONSCIOUSNESS & OUTER REALITY



"SO MANY OF THE CRITICAL THINGS ARE IN FLOW - AIR AS IT TRAVELS OVER LANDS, WATER AS IT RISES FROM, & RETURNS TO, SOIL, NUTRIENTS AS THEY'RE TRANSPORTED THROUGH THE SOIL... THE LANDSCAPE IS ALWAYS ACTIVE... TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE, RACIAL & SOCIAL INJUSTICE, WE HAVE TO DEVELOP A NEW METHODOLOGY WHICH CAN REPRESENT THESE MORE FLUID CONFIGURATIONS" - SONIA E BARRETT

- FRAGMENTS REPORT
- RADICAL CARTOGRAPHY
- THISWAY UP
- MAP MEN
- SONIA E BARRETT INTERVIEW

MAPPING QUEERS

MAPS CAN BE USED FOR

REGULATION
ERASURE
CRIMINALISING
SURVEILLANCE
POLICING
PROFIT
COMMODIFYING
COOPTION
EXTRACTION
FLATTENING
OUR CONTEXT
BUILDING
INEQUALITY
INTO
OUR ENVIRONMENTS
INSTITUTIONS
INFRASTRUCTURES



DOLLY SEN'S 'DEAR CCTV CAMERA' INVITES IT TO LOOK AT ITSELF

COULD YOU MAKE A VID/ POEM/ZINE TO THOSE WHO MAP YOUR QUEER ON/OFFLINE LIVES?

* "SUBVERSION MIGHT INTERRUPT SYSTEMS THAT RELENTLESSLY CHART OUR MOVEMENTS"
* "WE MIGHT REMAIN ILLEGIBLE & OPAQUE, NOT ALLOWING OURSELVES TO BE MAPPED"
* "MAPPING MIGHT BE RECLAIMED AS A COLLECTIVE PRACTICE FOR QUEER WELLBEING PLEASURE LIBERATION"

QUEERCIRCLE IS IN AN ONGOING PROCESS OF MAPPING OUR NETWORKS AND THE WISDOMS & SKILLS WITHIN THEM

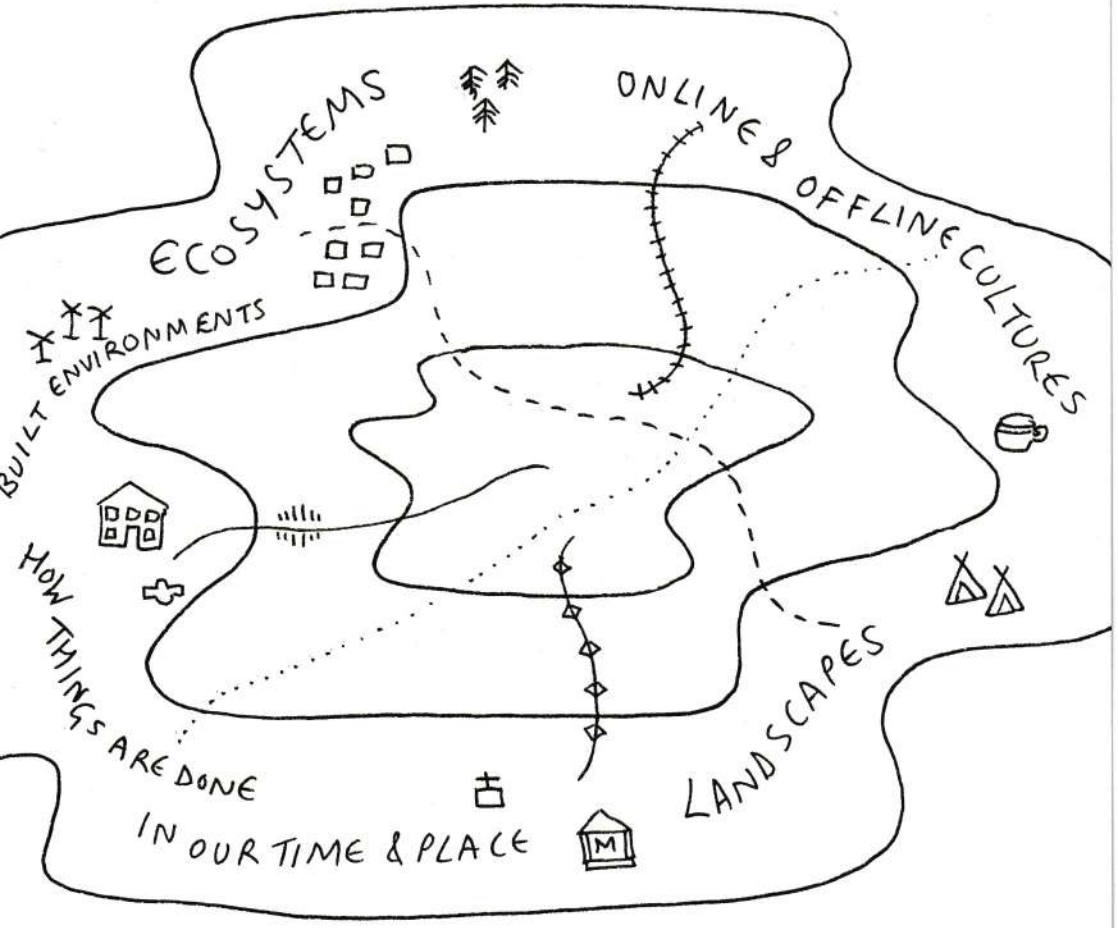
THE REST OF THIS ZINE INVITES YOU INTO PRACTICES FOR MAPPING YOUR QUEER LANDSCAPES, CONNECTIONS & SELVES

EMBEDDED — DOLLY SEN

ENTANGLED — *FRAGMENTS* REPORT

EMBODIED — JACOBY JOYCE O VIDEO O — QCH1 — QCH2

MAPPING OUR EMBEDDED QUEERSELVES



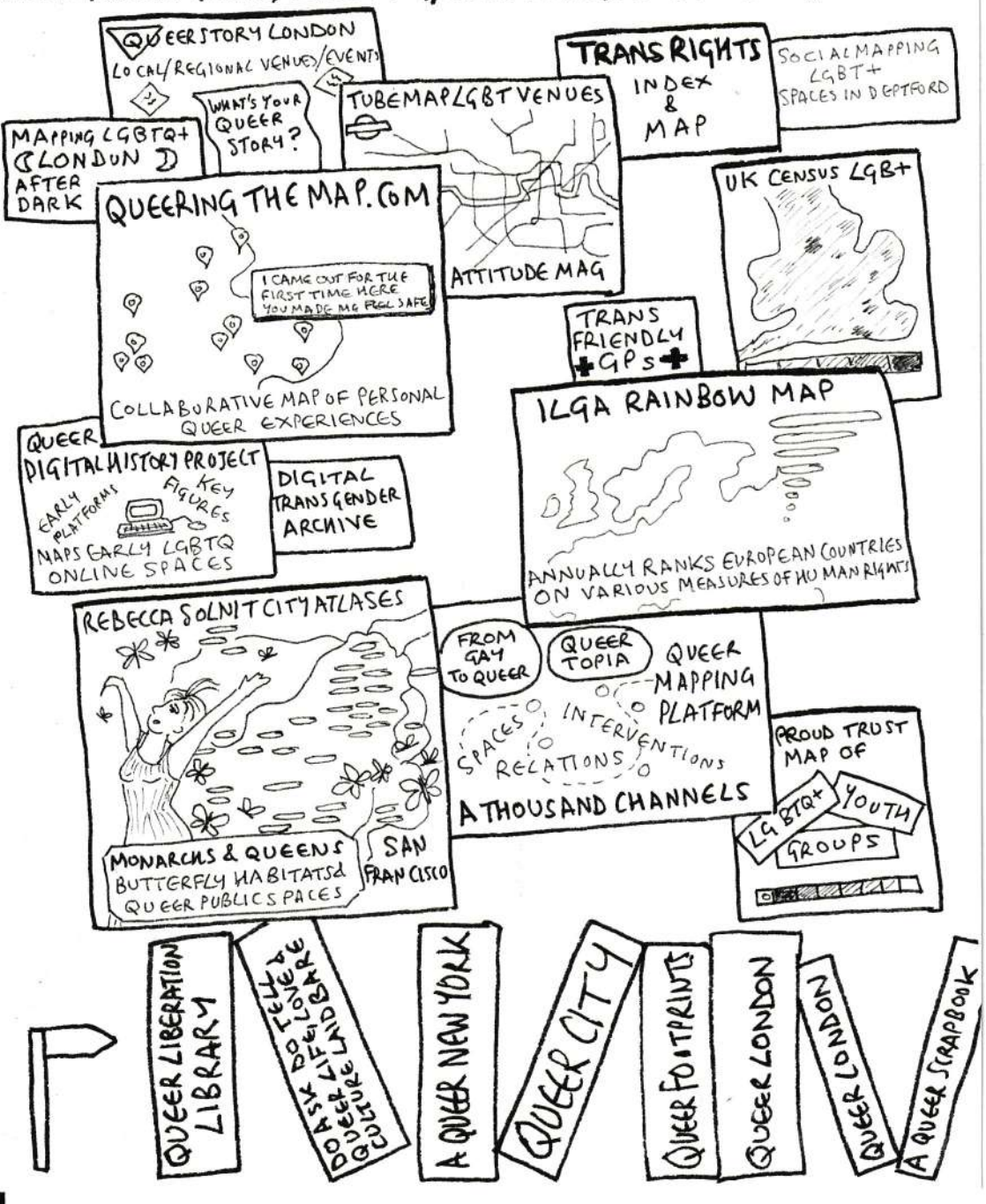
YOU COULD RETURN TO THE ORIENTING ✵ COMPASS NOW BEFORE CONTINUING ON (P.3)...

"THE MAPS WE USE EVERY DAY HELP US NAVIGATE STREETS, BUT THEY RARELY HELP US NAVIGATE BELONGING, GRIEF, DESIRE, SURVIVAL"
RIVER UJHADBOR

MAPPING QUEER SPACES

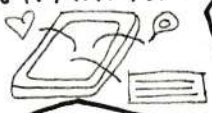
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THERE ARE MANY PROJECTS MAPPING QUEER SPACES IN VARIOUS WAYS ...USING EXISTING MAPS, DEVELOPING/DISMANTLING THEM, CREATING NEW MAPS...



HOW MIGHT YOU MAP YOUR OWN QUEER SPACES? (11)

ADD YOUR QUEER PLACES & PATHS TO A MAP APP



CURATE A LOCAL QUEER MEMORY BOX - ON OR OFFLINE

ADD YOUR QUEER MEMORY / STORY / POEM TO A PROJECT E.G.

- QUEERING THE MAP
- QUEER STORY
- A THOUSAND CHANNELS

MAKE A MAP OF YOUR CITY / TOWN / LOCAL AREA

STARS — MEANINGFUL POINTS: A QUEER BOOKSTORE, A COMMUNITY CENTRE, A LOVER'S HOUSE, THE PARK YOU FEEL SAFE IN, THE PLACE YOU SAW A QUEER BAND, OR MARCHED IN PRIDE

- TEMPORARY QUEER SPACES
- REGULAR QUEER SPACES
- SPACES YOU QUEERED BY BEING THERE

DESIRE LINES — THE CONNECTIONS / ROUTES THAT YOU TAKE / TOOK BETWEEN STARS

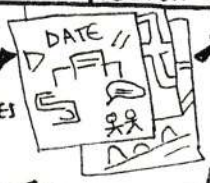
CONSTELLATIONS — THE NETWORKS & WEBS OF CONNECTION FORMED BY THE STARS & LINES

"CONSTELLATIONS ARE ATTACHED TO MYTHS - EVOKING AN IMAGE THAT'S NOT EXCLUSIVELY TERRITORIAL - ABOUT CLAIMING PROPERTY. WHEN OUR TERRITORIES DISAPPOINT US, OR ARE TAKEN AWAY I WANT US TO SEE THAT WE SURVIVE & THRIVE REGARDLESS"

JACK JEN GIESKING

2D DRAWING / COLLAGE

AS A GROUP YOU COULD DRAW YOUR MAPS OVER A STREET GRID ON TRANSPARENCIES



THEN MAP THEM ON TOP OF EACH OTHER

3D WITH OBJECTS / SCULPTURES

ULF TREGER

TEAR UP MAPS TO DEMOLISH ANYTHING THAT YOU CAN'T TOLERATE

THE DEMOLITION PROJECT

SAY WHY

SAY WHY

FOUND POEMS

BRAIDING

SURED OFFICIAL MAPS & MAKE THEM INTO SOMETHING MEANINGFUL

MAPLECTIVE

COLLAGE

PAPIER MACHÉ

BADGES

"DECENTRING OURSELVES WE CAN ATTEND TO EVERYTHING THAT FLOWS IN THE LANDSCAPE CUT UP & REMAKE MAPS TO MAKE POSSIBLE PATHWAYS VISIBLE - SONIA E BARRETT

JACK JEN GIESKING & ULF TREGER ON QUEER MAPS

SONIA E BARRETT & PHIL COHEN ON DREAD MAPS

MAPPING QUEER DESIRES

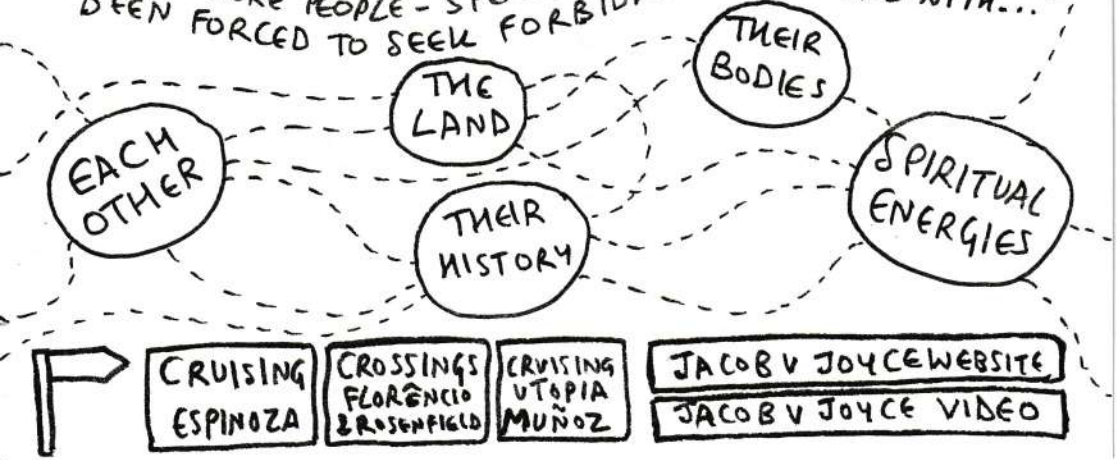
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CRUISING OTHERWISE

JACOB V JOYCE

"CRUISING GROUNDS WERE HISTORICALLY PLACES PEOPLE TRIED TO AVOID BEING MAPPED"... WE COULD REDEFINE THEM AS..."ANY SPACE WHERE PEOPLE - SPECIFICALLY QUEER PEOPLE - HAVE BEEN FORCED TO SEEK FORBIDDEN CONNECTIONS WITH..."



WITHOUT TAKING YOUR HAND OFF THE PAGE, WRITE FOR 5/10/15 MINUTES ON ONE (OR MORE) OF THE FOLLOWING PROMPTS ABOUT CRUISING AS SEEKING CONNECTION

INSPIRED BY DUNYA KALANTERY

WHERE WOULD YOU LIKE TO CRUISE?

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO CRUISE FOR?

WHAT WOULD YOU HIDE/SHOW

HOW MIGHT YOU FLAG WHAT YOU'RE INTO?

WHAT CONNECTIONS WOULD YOU SEEK?

HOW WOULD YOU STAY SAFE ENOUGH?

WHAT SIGNS, CAMOUFLAGE, OR WEARABLE CODES CAN YOU IMAGINE?

HOW MIGHT THESE TRANSFORM HOW YOU MOVE, OR ARE READ?

OR YOU COULD DRAW, MOVE YOUR BODY, TAKE TURNS SHARING... YOU COULD CONSIDER THE SAME PROMPTS FOR ONLINE SPACES

DIGITAL INTERSECTIONS & PATHS ABOUND TOO AS WE HIT THE 'LIKE' BUTTON, MAKE FLIRTY REMARKS IN THE COMMENTS, GO OFF ON RANTS IN POSTS, OR SLIDE INTO SOMEONE'S DMS

MANY QUEERS HAVE REPURPOSED DATING/CRUISING PLATFORMS TO SUPPORT OTHER KINDS OF SOLIDARITY,

DIGITAL PLATFORMS ARE NOW WHERE WE DWELL- WHILE BEING HEAVILY MONITORED

ALL I KNOW FOR SURE IS THAT WE FIND WAYS TO FIND ONE ANOTHER, AGAIN & AGAIN



JACK JEN GIESEKING

QUEERCIRCLE QUEERSCAPES

QUEERCIRCLE TOUCHGRASS

DECLAN WIFFEN QUEER NATURE

TNBI CYCLING ZINE

MAPPING QUEER SENSES

TRADITIONAL MAPS - & THE QUEER MAPS EXPLORED SO FAR - TEND TO BE VISUAL. MAPS FOCUSED ON OTHER SENSES HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO INCLUDE THOSE EXCLUDED BY MOST MAPS & TO QUEER MAPS & MAP QUEERS IN VARIOUS WAYS.

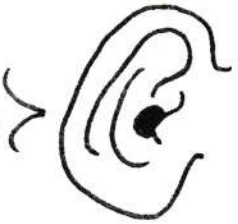




COUNTER SILENCE

RECORDING THE SOUNDS OF QUEER PLACES IN MANCHESTER CREATING SOUND MAPS SOUND WALKS SOUNDSCAPE COMPOSITIONS

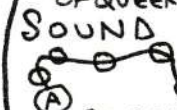
MARKUS HETHEIER



QUEER UP NORTH

AUDIO RECORDINGS OF QUEER MEMORIES

SOUND WALKS



FOR REAL/VIRTUAL WALKS

LGBTQ+ CAMBRIDGE

SMELL MAPS & WALKS

OFFER NEW PERSPECTIVES ON PLACE AWARENESS OF CONTEXT UNDERSTANDS OUR NOSES BEING MORE LIKE OTHER ANIMALS



KATE McLEAN

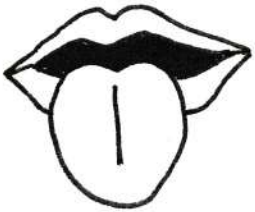


SENSES & MEDICINE

SMELL IS ESSENTIAL FOR MEANING-MAKING IN BUILDINGS LIKE HOSPITALS & OTHER CARE SETTINGS

HOSPITAL SENSES

AND WHAT ABOUT...



TASTE?



TOUCH?



BODILY SENSES?

TAKE A SENSE WANDER

PICK A SENSE (OR ASPECT OF A SENSE)

- WORDS
- BIRDS
- IMAGES
- COLOUR
- ZOOM IN/OUT
- VOICES
- NATURE
- RHYTHMS
- HOW YOUR BODY FEELS
- SMELLS
- FLAVOURS
- TEXTURES

PICK A PLACE

- A FAVOURITE WALK
- A RIVER - A HILL - A PARK
- A (QUEER) PART OF A CITY
- A BUILDING - YOUR HOME
- A MEMORY WALK THROUGH A PLACE YOU KNOW WELL
- A VIRTUAL WALK FOLLOWING AN APP OR VID OF A WALK

TAKE A WANDER FOCUSING ON THAT SENSE

RECORD THE EXPERIENCE IN SOME WAY

- PHOTOS
- AUDIO RECORDING
- VIDEO
- COLLECTED ITEMS
- NOTE TAKING
- MINI-ZINE
- POEM
- COLLAGE

TRY AGAIN WITH A DIFFERENT SENSE/PLACE

ALONE - OR WITH FRIENDS - CREATE A SENSE MAP BASED ON A PLACE (OR HOW YOU IMAGINE AN ANIMAL MIGHT EXPERIENCE IT)

EXAMPLE SENSE MAPS

- MOVING YOUR BODY OR MAKING NOISES
- ARRANGING TACTILE OBJECTS LIKE LEAVES, STONES, TRASH
- DRAWING A MAP NOTING SENSORY EXPERIENCES
- COLLECTING ITEMS WITH PARTICULAR SCENTS
- CREATING A PLAYLIST
- MAKING A MEAL BASED ON THE FOOD FROM DIFFERENT STALLS, CAFES, OR FORAGED FOOD
- RECORDING EXPERIENCES OR MEMORIES EVOKED
- RECORDING SOUNDSCAPES, BIRDSONG, ETC.
- MAPPING A BIRD/MAMMAL/INSECT EYE-VIEW

SMELFIE KIT

SOUND MAPS

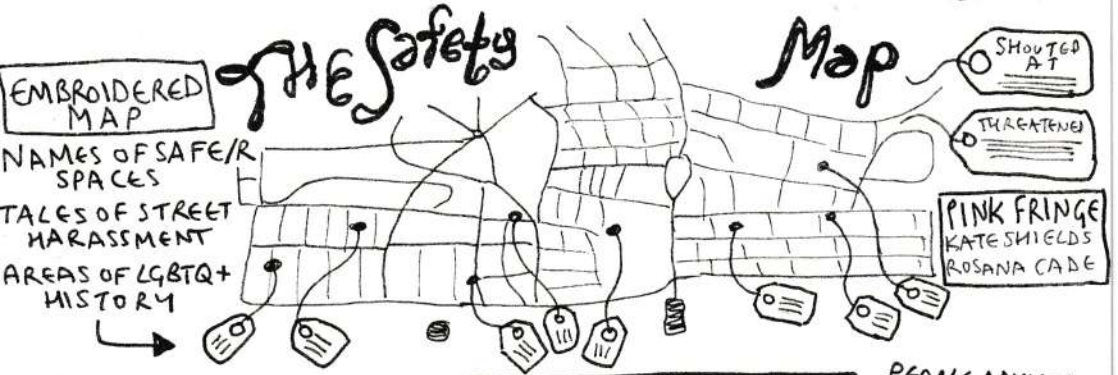
ARE WE THAT MAP?

BIRDS OF A FEATHER ZINE

MAPPING QUEER FEELINGS

16

"DIGITAL MAPS CAN TELL US WHERE A CAFÉ IS, BUT NOT WHETHER WE WILL FEEL WELCOME THERE... EXPERIENCES OF PLACE... LIKE GOOSEBUMPS, ATMOSPHERES, SUDDEN SHIFTS IN MOOD"
-RIVER ÜJHADBOR-



TWO BRIGHTON EXAMPLES

'GAY CAPITAL'
LGBTQ+ PRIDE
TRANS PRIDE
NUDIST BEACH
POPULAR DESTINATION FOR LGBTQ+ PEOPLE & BUSINESSES
KEMPTOWN 'BRIGHTON'S GAY VILLAGE'
AFFLUENT CITY WITH SOME OF THE MOST DEPRIVED AREAS NATIONALLY
PEOPLE ADVISED TO LIVE THERE DURING TRANSITION

STORYBOARDING



TRANS & NON-BINARY EXPERIENCES OF URBAN SPACES — CREATIVE MAPPING STUDY

MENTAL MAPPING



TOWN PLANNERS & ARCHITECTS COULD "ENGAGE MORE SUBSTANTIALLY WITH TRANS PEOPLE'S EXPERIENCES & VOICES, UNDERSTANDING HOW THEIR PRACTICE ARTICULATES DIFFERENT FORMS OF SOCIAL DIFFERENCE & (COULD) INCREASE LIVEABILITY FOR THOSE GROUPS"

MATT C SMITH

MAKE A STORYBOARD OF HOW YOU FEEL IN SPACES

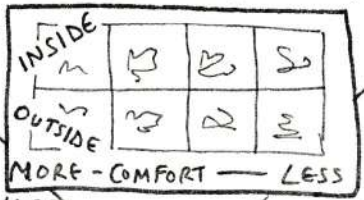
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- AT HOME/WORK/LEISURE/STREETS...
- TIMES YOU FEEL PARTICULARLY COMFORTABLE/UNCOMFORTABLE
- WHETHER THE SOURCE OF THE FEELINGS IS YOU &/OR OTHERS &/OR ENVIRONMENT
- WHETHER FEELINGS CHANGE DUE TO TIME OF DAY/WEEK/MONTH/YEAR



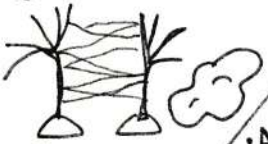


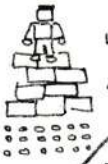
E.G.



SCULPT YOUR BODY/IES INTO IMAGES OF PLACES THAT NOURISH YOU & THAT DRAIN YOU (OR USE OBJECTS TO SCULPT)







USE COLOURS/PATTERNS/LINES/EMOTICONS TO REPRESENT FEELINGS IN SPACE

E.G.

- ARE THERE SPACES OF COMFORT/DISCOMFORT?
- WHICH SPACES ARE IMPORTANT FOR YOU?
- HOW DO YOU FEEL WHEN MOVING AROUND?
- DO YOU CHANGE WHERE YOU GO AT DIFFERENT TIMES?

EXISTING MAPS

MAKING MAPS

3D MODELLING CLAY

SOUND MAPS

VIDEO

ETC.

"USE MAPPING AS A TOOL TO TUNE IN, LISTEN, & RECORD SENSORY EXPERIENCES OF HOW PLACES FEEL"

"WHAT DOES IT FEEL LIKE TO BE HERE?"

"WHAT DO YOU FEEL IN THIS PLACE?"

"HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO FEEL?"

"HOW CAN YOU IMAGINE IT DIFFERENTLY?"

"WHAT DOES THIS PLACE MEAN TO YOU?"

"WHAT EMOTIONAL ASSOCIATIONS DO YOU HAVE WITH IT?"

- WHERE YOU LIVE
- WHERE YOU WORK
- WHERE YOU TRAVEL



MAKE YOUR OWN MAP OF YOUR TOWN/NEIGHBOURHOOD

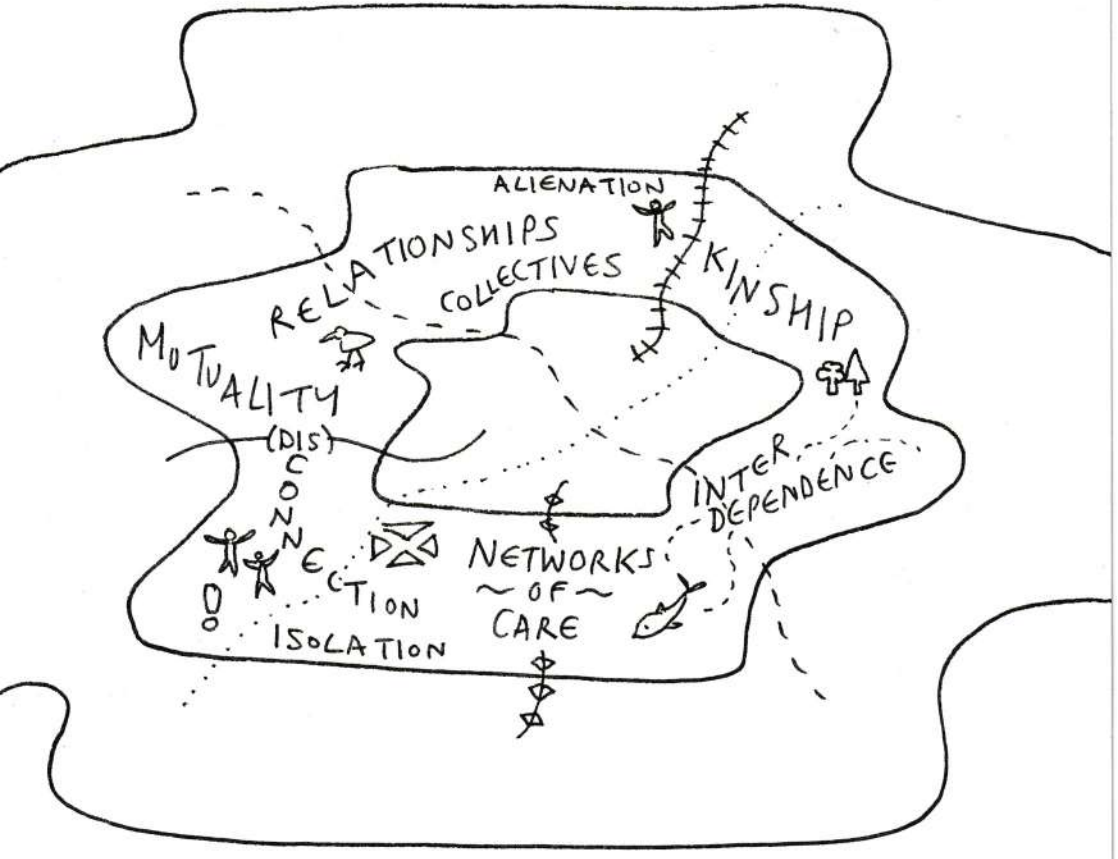
"THE TEST OF QUEER/TRANS THEORY ACTIVISM IS SURELY TO MAKE IT EASIER TO BREATHE, EASIER TO WALK DOWN THE STREET WITHOUT HARASSMENT, EASIER TO FIND A LIVEABLE LIFE, A LIFE YOU CAN AFFIRM WITH PLEASURE & JOY, WHERE OUR SENSE OF A LIVEABLE FUTURE IS STRONGER THAN OUR SENSE OF SUFFERING" JUDITH BUTLER — QUOTED BY ROSANA CADE

MATT C SMITH CREATIVE MAPPING

RIVER ÚJHADBOR VIDEO

KIMBALL BOMSTED PARTICIPATORY MAPS

MAPPING OUR ENTANGLED QUEER SELVES



YOU COULD RETURN TO THE ORIENTING COMPASS NOW BEFORE CONTINUING ON (P.3)...

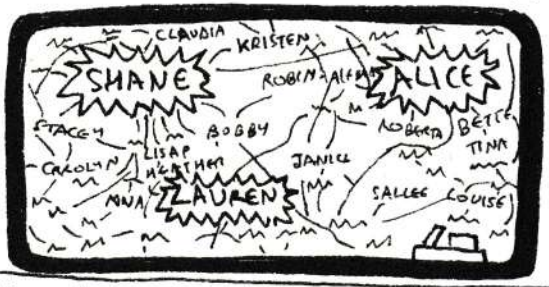
"A MAP ISN'T ONLY A FINISHED DIAGRAM OF STREETS OR BORDERS, IT'S SOMETHING THAT HAPPENS BETWEEN PEOPLE"

RIVER JIHADBOR

MAPPING QUEER RELATIONSHIPS

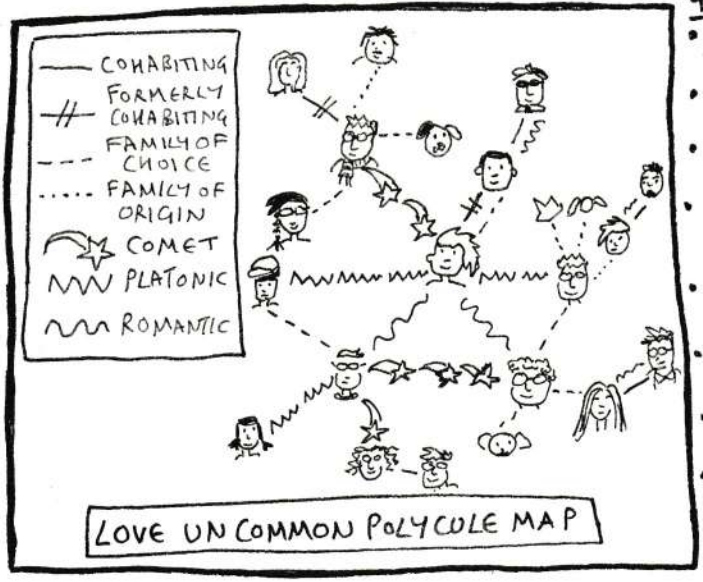
IN 2001 DIVA MAGAZINE PUBLISHED A BOOK OF QUEER SHORT STORIES INCLUDING THE SHAG TREE BY ELLA KAYE. IN THIS STORY ONE CHARACTER MAKES A GIANT DIAGRAM OF 'WHO'S HAD WHOM' IN THEIR QUEER COMMUNITY, ALMOST LEADING TO MULTIPLE RELATIONSHIP CRISES

IN 2004, ICONIC QUEER TV SHOW THE L WORD BEGAN WITH A SIMILAR STORYLINE. ALICE PIESZECKI CREATES THE CHART TO MAP HOW THEY'RE ALL LINKED BY SEXUAL ENCOUNTERS & ROMANTIC RELATIONSHIPS



THE POINT IS WE'RE ALL CONNECTED, SEE? THROUGH LOVE, THROUGH LONELINESS, THROUGH ONE TINY, LAMENTABLE LAPSE IN JUDGEMENT. ALL OF US, IN OUR ISOLATION, WE REACH OUT FROM THE DARKNESS, FROM THE ALIENATION OF MODERN LIFE, TO FORM THESE CONNECTIONS

IN THEIR ONLINE COURSE, SOPHIA GRAHAM & ALEX IANTAFFI INVITE US TO MAP OUR RELATIONSHIP CONSTELLATIONS, ATTENDING TO WHO WE DEPICT, WHERE WE PUT THEM, AND WHY, AS WELL AS WHICH KINDS OF RELATIONSHIPS

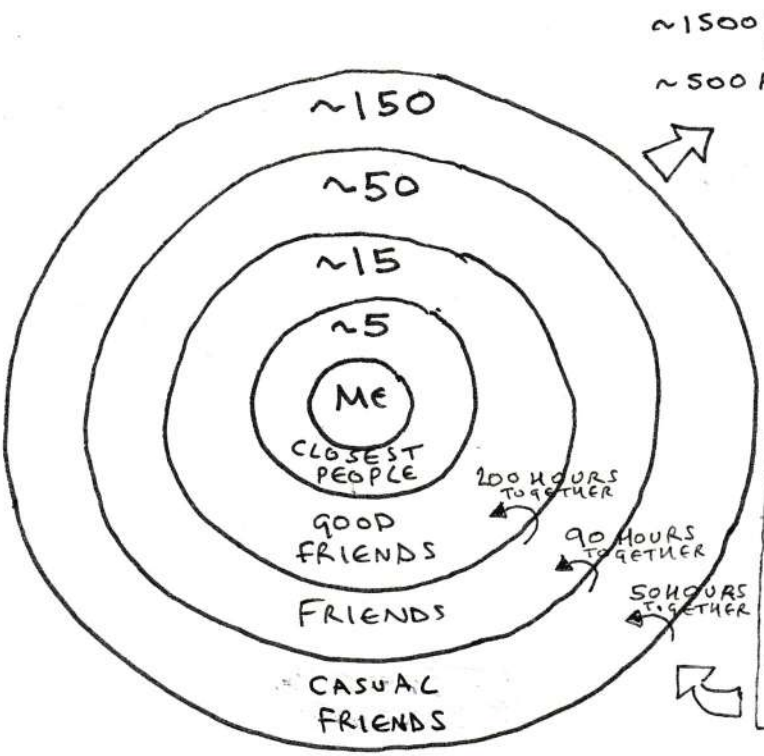


LOVE UN COMMON POLYCULE MAP

YOU CAN:

- USE MIND-MAPPING APPS TO MAP ONLINE
- USE POST-IT NOTES, STUCK ON A WALL
- DRAW PEOPLE/ANIMALS OR USE PHOTOS/NAMES
- USE DIFFERENT LINES/ COLOURS FOR DIFFERENT CONNECTIONS
- MOVE EVERYONE AROUND OVER TIME
- HIGHLIGHT RELATIONSHIPS YOU WANT TO WORK ON
- MAP SPACE FOR NEW CONNECTIONS
- DRAW CONSTELLATIONS OF THE KINDS OF RELATIONSHIPS YOU'D LIKE TO HAVE

AN ALTERNATIVE APPROACH TO MAPPING RELATIONSHIP ECOSYSTEMS DRAWS ON DUNBAR'S NUMBER: THE SUGGESTED NUMBER OF PEOPLE WE HAVE CAPACITY TO MAINTAIN VARYING LEVELS OF CLOSENESS WITH



- HOW DOES YOUR RELATIONSHIP CONSTELLATION LOOK DIFFERENT IF YOU MAP IT THIS WAY?
- ON WHAT BASIS DO YOU DECIDE WHO GOES AT EACH LEVEL?
  EG. EMOTIONAL INTIMACY, PHYSICAL INTIMACY, PROXIMITY, TIME SPENT TOGETHER, LONGEVITY, EASE, TYPE OF RELATIONSHIP, SIMILARITY, SHARED INTERESTS/VALUES, SOMETHING ELSE...
- COULD YOU MAP THE WAYS YOU CONNECT ON TOP OF THIS, OR THE PREVIOUS DIAGRAM? E.G. HOW OFTEN, ONLINE/CALLS/IN PERSON, 1-2-1/WITH OTHERS, SYNCHRONOUS/ASYNCHRONOUS, INTERACTING &/OR PARALLEL PLAY, MUTUAL SHARING, GIVING/RECEIVING CARE SEE QCH2

IF YOU WANT TO EXPLORE RELATIONSHIP MAPPING MORE, CHECK OUT...

- MAPPING YOUR RELATIONSHIP ECOSYSTEM
- MAKE YOUR OWN RELATIONSHIP USER GUIDE
- HOW TO UNDERSTAND YOUR RELATIONSHIPS
- REWRITING THE RULES

MAPPING QUEER CONNECTIONS

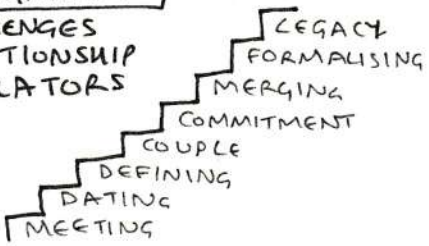
IN QCH1 WE EXPLORED THE CHALLENGES THAT CAN SHOW UP IN QUEER RELATIONSHIPS DUE TO CULTURAL & PERSONAL TRAUMA QCH2 P.18

RELATIONSHIP ANARCHISTS QUEER RELATIONSHIPS BY...

- ☆ CHALLENGING NORMATIVE HIERARCHIES (LIKE PRIORITISING ROM/SEX PARTNERS)
- ☆ REJECTING PRESCRIBED RULES
- ☆ EMPHASISING MUTUALITY, CARE, SOLIDARITY
- ☆ QUESTIONING ENTITLEMENT/OBLIGATION/TRANSACTION/COERCION

AMY GAHRAN

CHALLENGES RELATIONSHIP ESCALATORS E.G.

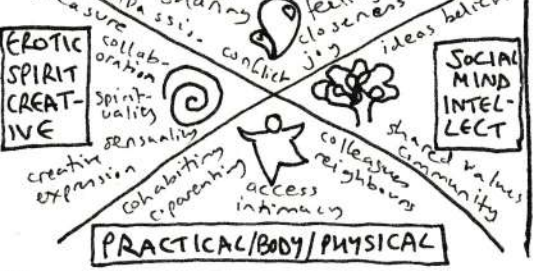


U-HAULING MEANS THAT QUEERS TEND TO MOVE IN TOGETHER QUICKLY IN ORDER TO MAKE A SPACE FOR THEMSELVES, BUT SUCH PATTERNS OFTEN LEAD TO BREAK-UP.
JACK JEN GIESEKING

SOMATIC PRACTITIONERS, LIKE MEL CASSIDY SUGGEST SLOW BUILDING OF TRUST AND ATTENDING TO RELATIONAL FIT

RELATIONAL ECOLOGY MAPPING - MEL CASSIDY

DEPENDING ON THE FIT BETWEEN US DIFFERENT RELATIONSHIPS CAN MEET US IN DIFFERENT PLACES ON THESE QUADRANTS OF RELATIONSHIP LANDSCAPE



WITHIN EACH QUADRANT WE CAN SLOWLY DEEPEN THROUGH THESE LAYERS (IT'S FINE TO STAY AT ANY LAYER, OR MOVE BACK THROUGH THEM)

- **AWARENESS** - curiosity, getting to know them & how we feel around them, exploration without expectation
- **SAFETY** - trust, feeling safe enough to be ourselves around them, boundaries respected
- **INTIMACY** - feeling attuned, playful, nurturing, nourishing, collaboration
- **RELATIONSHIP** - with a capital R anchored in embodied/resilient experience of connection, capacity to repair ruptures between you

"MOVING AT THE SPEED OF TRUST" - adrienne maree brown

RADICAL RELATING | ATLAS OF THE HEART | RELATIONSHIPS STRUGGLES ZINE | DEVELOP YOUR RELATIONSHIP SKILLS

MAPS LIKE THE RELATIONSHIPSMORGASBORD, CONNECTION CAROUSEL & RELATIONAL ECOLOGY MAP HELP US COLLABORATE TO CO-CREATE CONNECTIONS.

INSPIRED BY THESE, WE INVITE YOU TO A QUEERCIRCLE

(QUEER) CONNECTIONS AFTERNOON TEA!

QUESTIONS TO ASK OF ALL CONNECTIONS

FEEL FREE TO ADAPT

SURFACE

EMOTIONAL CLOSENESS

MUTUAL SUPPORT

RECIPROCAL CARE

ROMANCE

SOCIAL-ISING

PLAY

TOUCH

COLLAB-ORATION

FRIEND SHIP

TIME TOGETHER

CO-HABITING

CO-CARE GIVING

SOLITUDE

WHICH, WHAT KIND, & HOW MUCH DO WE WANT TOGETHER?

(DEFAULTING TO THE LESSER, FLEXIBLE TO CHANGE OVER TIME)

COMMUNICATION & CONFLICT STYLES

POWERS

EXPECTATIONS

HOPES/FEARS

EMOTIONAL REPRESSING/REACTING

WANTS, NEEDS

BOUNDARIES, LIMITS

VULNERABILITIES

RELATIONAL CHALLENGES

STUCK TRIGGERS

PATTERNS PROPENSITIES

RESOURCES

WHAT IS OUR FIT/MISFIT ON THESE, & IMPLICATIONS FOR THE KIND OF RELATIONSHIP/LEVEL OF CONNECTION THAT WILL WORK?

IF IT DOESN'T WORK FOR EVERYONE, IT DOESN'T WORK FOR ANYONE

CULTURAL TRAUMA

HISTORICAL TRAUMA

MATERIAL SITUATION

IMPACT OF SYSTEMS

POSITION ON AXES OF OPPRESSION

VALUES

BODY MIND

LIMITS & CAPACITIES

DISABILITY

NEURO-DIVERSITY

SPIRITUALITY

PERSONAL TRAUMA

DEVELOPMENTAL

INTERGENERATIONAL

SPECIFIC EXPERIENCES

ETC.

WHAT'S OUR AWARENESS OF THESE & THE IMPACT THEY HAVE ON OUR RELATING - WHAT ACCOMODATIONS/SUPPORT CAN WE PUT IN PLACE?

DEPTH

WHAT DISTANCE/CONTAINER ENABLES THE RELATIONSHIP TO REMAIN

WARM

OPEN

MAPPING QUEER KINSHIPS

HIL MALATINO NAMES THE 'SIDE AFFECTS' OF TRANS OPPRESSION-DISASSOCIATION, BURNOUT, DEPRESSION THESE COME FROM A LACK OF IN-PERSON, REAL-TIME CONTEXTS TO SUPPORT YOUR REALITY

JACK JENGIESKING

WE SEEK TO STRENGTHEN QUEER WELLBEING BY TRACING & TRANSFORMING THE FORCES THAT MAKE US SICK, EXHAUSTED & EXCLUDED WHILE CULTIVATNG NETWORKS OF CARE, JOY & AUTONOMY

RIVER ÚJHADBOR

MANY QUEERS EXPERIENCE (MULTIPLE) ESTRANGEMENTS

FROM OURSELVES WHEN WE REALISE OUR QUEERNESS/ NEURODIVERGENCE LATER IN LIFE & HAVE TO RETHINK/ RELEARN EVERYTHING

FROM FAMILY OF ORIGIN WHO DON'T ACCEPT/RESPECT US

FROM PARTNERS/COMMUNITIES WHEN BREAKUPS, RUPTURES & RIFTS MEAN WE HAD TO MOVE AWAY FROM THEM

FROM OUR CULTURAL HERITAGE/SPIRITUALITY IF WE DON'T SEE OURSELVES THERE OR DON'T HAVE ACCESS TO IT

FROM UNWELCOMING PLACES WE HAD TO MOVE AWAY FROM

MAKE IMAGES/ MODELS OF ISLANDS WHERE PEOPLE LIKE YOU COULD BELONG

MAP HOW CLOSE YOU ALLOW PEOPLE TO GET/ HOW MUCH DISTANCE YOU NEED

DANIEL REGAN EXPLORES THEMES OF LONGING TO BELONG. YOU MIGHT LIKE TO TRY SOME OF THESE - INSPIRED BY DANIEL'S WORK

USE COLLAGE / ART TO RECLAIM WORDS OF UNBELONGING YOU HEARD AS A CHILD

WRITE POEMS USING ISLANDS/ ARCHIPELIGOS TO EXPLORE BELONGING

PLAY WITH OLD PHOTOS TO CAPTURE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT THEM NOW

RENE MATIĆ EXPLORES SIMILAR THEMES - YOU MIGHT TRY GOING BACK IN VARIOUS WAYS & DOCUMENTING THOSE EXPERIENCES

JOELLE TAYLOR WRITES POEMS ABOUT RETURNING & BELONGING

THE PARALLEL EFFECT PODCAST IMAGINES ALTERNATIVE WORLDS WHERE DIFFERENT KINSHIPS ARE POSSIBLE

24

WHAT KINDS OF KINSHIP ARE IMPORTANT TO YOU?



WHAT KINSHIPS MIGHT YOU CULTIVATE?

WITH CLIMATE CHANGE & THE PANDEMIC WE NEED A NEW KIND OF CARTOGRAPHY - ONE THAT EXPLORES THE INTERCONNECTEDNESS OF PLACES RATHER THAN THE SEPARATION OF SPACE - SONIA E BARRETT

STAYING WITH THE TROUBLE REQUIRES MAKING ODDKINS - THAT IS WE REQUIRE EACH OTHER IN UNEXPECTED COLLABORATIONS & COMBINATIONS IN HOT COMPOST PILES - DONNA HARAWAY

CULTIVATING CARE NETWORKS QCH2

RADICAL INTIMACY

MAD KIN

UNITED QUEERDOM

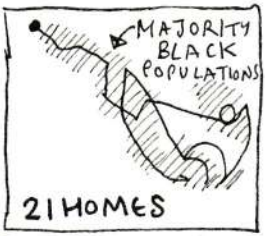
LGS MIGRANTS

QC DIASPORA GROUPS

NEURO-MANCERS

MAPPING QUEER LIFE COURSES





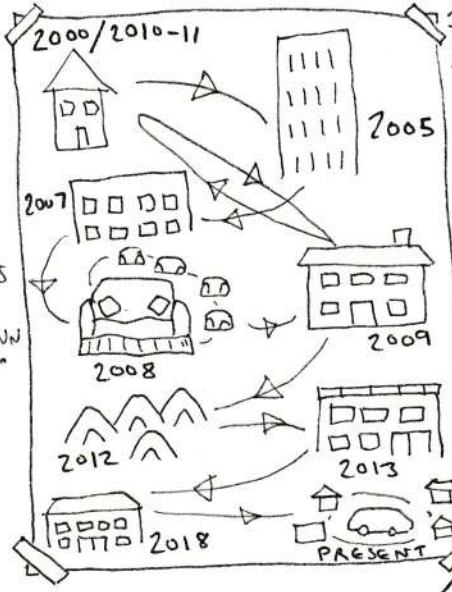
IN THE LATE 1960S PIONEERING RADICAL CARTOGRAPHER, GWENDOLYN WARREN MAPPED THE UNENDING CYCLE OF EVICTION, DISLOCATION, & CHANGING HOMES & SCHOOLS THAT MARKED HER - & MANY OTHER BLACK PEOPLES' - CHILDHOODS, GROWING UP IN US CITIES. MAPS CAN MAKE POWERFUL ARGUMENTS ABOUT HOW INDIVIDUAL LIVES ARE CAUGHT IN LARGER STRUCTURES & DYNAMICS

LIFE MAPPING INVOLVES MAPPING SIGNIFICANT MOMENTS IN LIFE IN RELATION TO ANY THEME OVER A TIME PERIOD - PAST/PRESENT/IMAGINED FUTURE

EG. YOU COULD TRY MAPPING - & SHARING - ABOUT HOME & HOW THAT RELATES TO QUEERNESS & OTHER INTERSECTIONS OVER TIME

GENTRIFICATION MAY HAVE MADE IT LESS/MORE POSSIBLE FOR YOU TO LIVE SOMEWHERE

POTENTIALS TO LIVE IN CERTAIN PLACES MAY HAVE BEEN OPENED UP OR CLOSED DOWN ...



RELATIONSHIP BREAKUPS MAY HAVE MEANT HAVING TO LEAVE SOMEWHERE - OR DEEPENING TIES - DEPENDING ON HOW IT WAS HELD IN THE COMMUNITY

...

BY THE NUMBER OF OTHER QUEERS THERE, THE ACCESSIBILITY OF QUEER SPACES, THE EXISTANCE OF QUEER FRIENDLY CARE, HOUSING, WORK, SUPPORT ETC.





IN 2026 THE FIRST QUEER CREATIVE HEALTH ZINE FEATURED IN WELLCOME'S COMING OF AGE EXHIBITION



EXHIBITION HIGHLIGHTS





FULL EXHIBITION TEXT

OUR ZINE FOLLOWED- & QUEERIED- 'THE GAME OF LIFE': A BOARD GAME WHERE WINNING REQUIRED FINDING YOUR PERFECT MATCH (A PINK/BLUE PEG), GETTING MARRIED, REPRODUCING, CLIMBING THE CAREER & HOUSING LADDERS, MAKING MONEY, BUYING STATUS SYMBOLS

ALONE OR WITH FRIENDS IMAGINE/DESIGN A QUEER GAME OF LIFE OR SIMILAR BOARD GAME (OR VIDEO GAME, OR CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE BOOK)



ALSO IN THE EXHIBITION

FLO BROOKS

HARRY JOSEPHINE GILES

AGING VITALITIES

QUEEN MARY UNIVERSITY COUNTER/MAPPING BOARD GAME

QUEER CIRCLE GROUPS

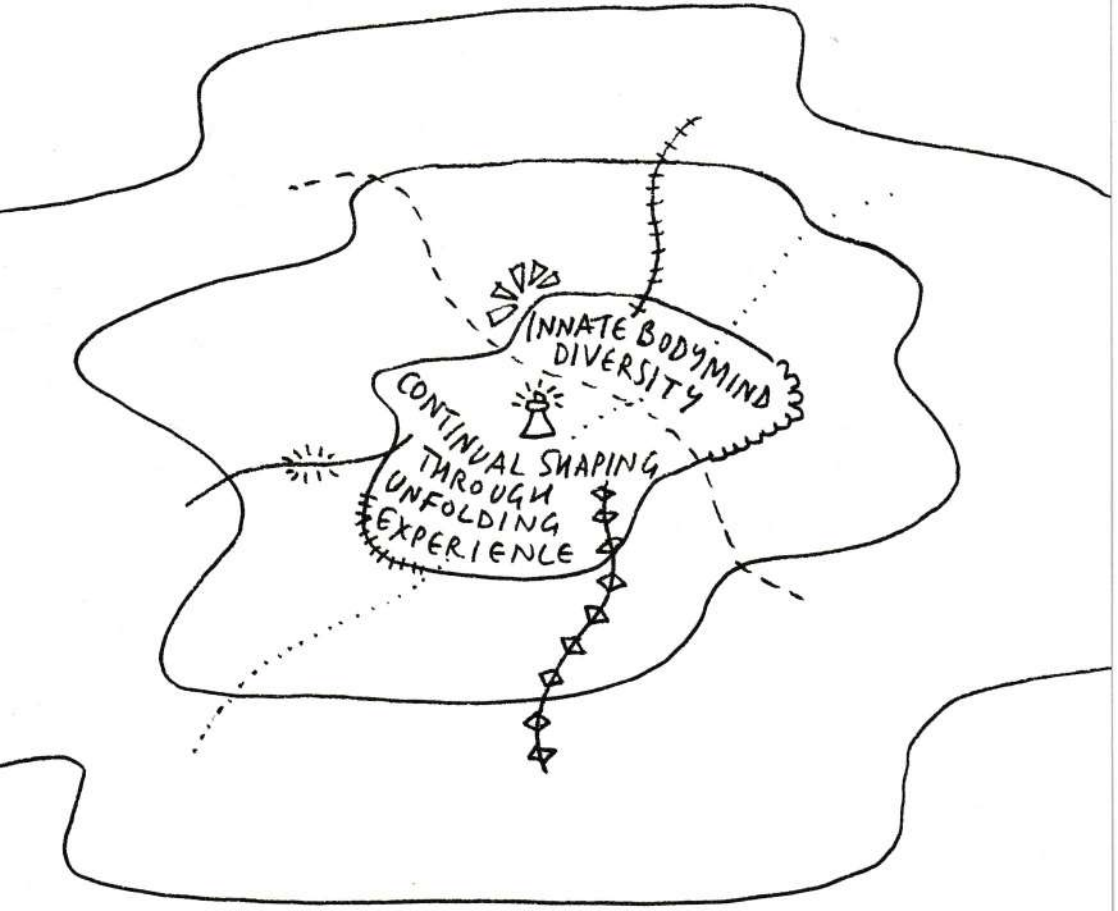
AMNIOTIC ARCHIVES

QUEER YOUTH ART COLLECTIVE

QUEER DIARIES COMING OF AGE

QUEER DEATH CAFE

MAPPING OUR EMBODIED QUEER SELVES



YOU COULD RETURN TO THE ORIENTING ✡ COMPASS NOW BEFORE CONTINUING ON (P.3)...

WHAT IS EXPERIENCED BY THE MIND/BODY IS SIMULTANEOUSLY EXPERIENCED BY THE LAND/TERRITORY - THE LINK IS INDIVISIBLE
THE BODY IS ALIVE, HISTORICAL, CONSTRUCTED BY MULTIPLE OPPRESSIONS
CUERPO TERRITORIO - ELIZABETH SWEET & SARA ORTIZ ESCALANTE

MAPPING QUEER BODIES

2.8

*IN A PLANNING-RESEARCH CONTEXT

ELIZABETH L SWEET & SARA ORTIZ ESCALANTE PIONEERED **BODY MAPPING*** TO EXPLORE EMBODIED & EMOTIONAL EXPERIENCE IN PLACE - ENABLING MARGINALISED FOLK & SURVIVORS TO ARTICULATE THROUGH SYMBOLS, DRAWING & STORYTELLING

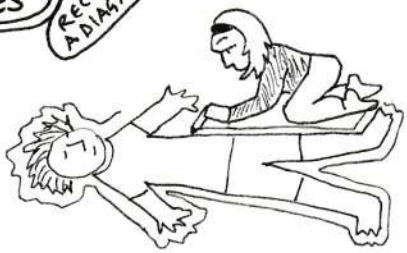
POSSIBLE THEMES

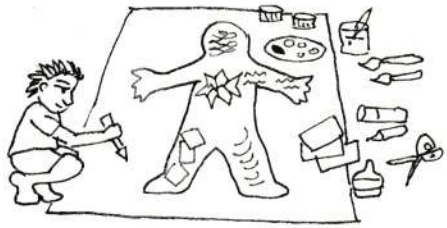
- A PARTICULAR EMOTION
- HAVING A SPECIFIC EXPERIENCE
- NAVIGATING A CERTAIN PLACE
- RECEIVING A DIAGNOSIS
- GOING THROUGH SOMETHING
- BECOMING AN IDENTITY

① TRACING

AFTER CHOOSING A FOCUS...

TRACE YOUR OUTLINE ON A LARGE SHEET OF PAPER TO CREATE A LIFE-SIZE BODY MAP (OR DRAW ONE ON A SMALLER SHEET, OR PAINT DIRECTLY ONTO YOUR ACTUAL BODY WITH BODY PAINT)





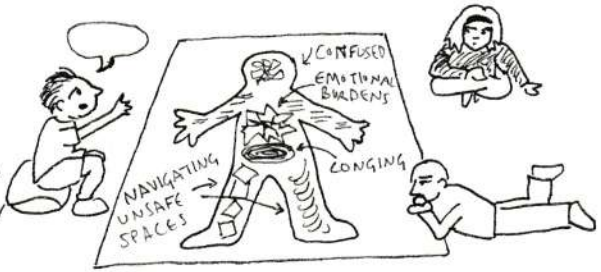
② VISUAL MAPPING

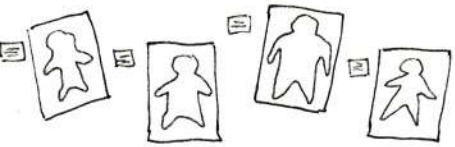
USE PAINTS, MARKERS, SYMBOLS & WORDS TO MAP YOUR INTERNAL EXPERIENCE ONTO THE BODY

③ STORYTELLING

TALK WITH FRIENDS (OR TO A RECORDER OR JOURNAL) ABOUT THE MEANING OF YOUR BODY MAP

(YOU COULD MAKE MAPS OF THE SAME THEME/PLACE OVER TIME, OR MAP DIFFERENT THEMES, PLACES OR EXPERIENCES)





④ COMMUNITY DIALOGUE

YOU COULD COLLATE YOUR MAPS IN AN EXHIBITION, ZINE, OR WEBSITE TO SHARE/HEAL/FORMULATE COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGIES

BODY MAPPING GUIDANCE

BODY MAPPING FOR DIFFICULT EXPERIENCES

SOMATIC BODY MAPPING

ANOTHER MEANING OF BODY MAPPING IS A KIND OF MEDITATION PRACTICE WHERE YOU SLOWLY SCAN YOUR BODY, CONSCIOUSLY CHECKING IN FROM HEAD TO TOE

LGBTQ BODY SCAN

BODY SCAN MEDITATION

LGBTQ MINDFULNESS TECHNIQUES

BODY SCAN FOR DYSPHORIA

POTENTIALS: FOSTERING DEEP SELF-LOVE & COMPASSION



EASING DYSPHORIA

PRACTICING SELF-CONSENT

GROUNDING

AFFIRMING RECLAIMING THE QUEER BODY

LIE/SIT COMFORTABLY
CLOSE EYES/SOFTEN GAZE
TAKE 3 SLOW BREATHS
"I AM HERE
I AM SAFE ENOUGH
I CAN NOTICE WITHOUT
NEEDING TO
CHANGE ANYTHING"

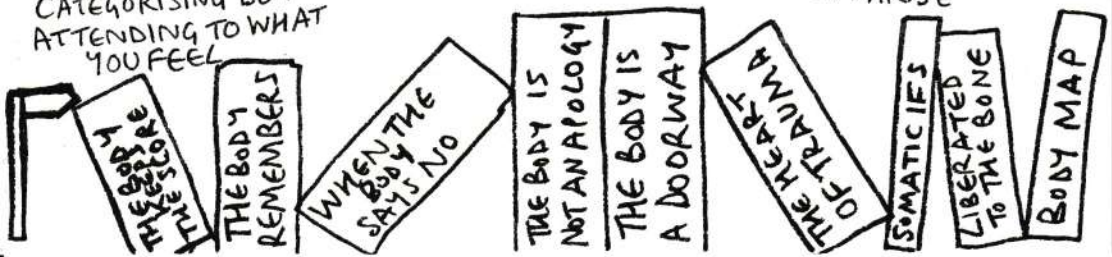
BRING ATTENTION TO HANDS
NOTICE THEIR CONTACT
WITH WHAT THEY REST ON
NOTICE TEMPERATURE
TEXTURE, WEIGHT, SENSATION
"MAY MY HANDS BE AT EASE"

REPEAT FOR:
FEET BELLY/BREATH
WHOLE BODY
"MAY THEY BE AT EASE"

NOTICE YOU HAVE A BODY
YOU ARE HERE
YOU ARE ALIVE
TAKE 3 SLOW BREATHS
NOTICE ANY CHANGES
OPEN EYES
WHEN READY

CONSCIOUS SEXUALITY & QUEER INTIMACY PRACTITIONERS USE BETTY MARTIN'S WAKING UP THE HANDS TO DEVELOP SELF CONSENT

1. SIT QUIETLY WITH EYES CLOSED HOLDING AN OBJECT
2. BRING ALL YOUR ATTENTION TO YOUR HANDS, NOT QUICKLY CATEGORISING BUT ATTENDING TO WHAT YOU FEEL
3. EXPLORE THE SURFACE OF THE OBJECT (TEMPERATURE, TEXTURE, WEIGHT, SHAPE)
4. EXPLORE YOUR HAND USING THE OBJECT TO SLOWLY TRACE & TOUCH YOUR HAND & FINGERS, AWARE OF THE SENSATIONS
5. NOTICE THE FEELINGS THAT ARISE



MAPPING QUEER SELVES

30

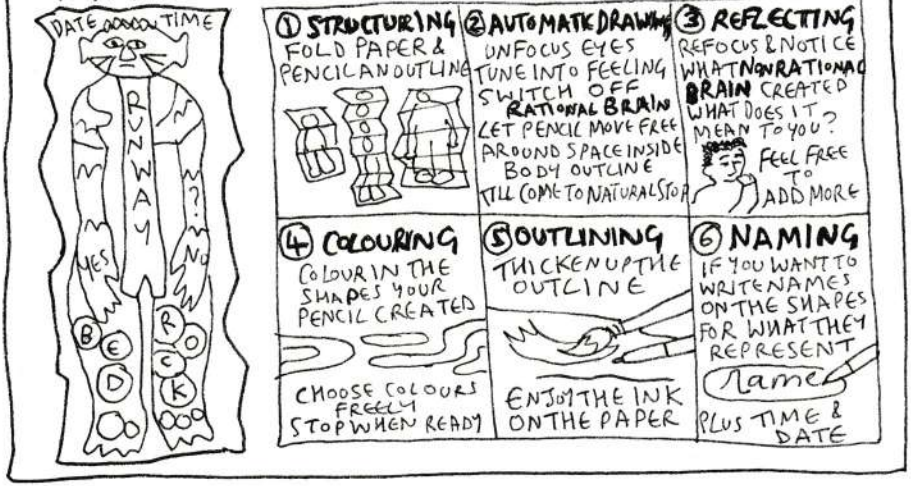
IN QCH2 WE EXPLORED HOW YOU MIGHT MAP YOUR COMPLEX, SHIFTING SEXUALITY & GENDER OVER TIME KENYA STERLING & SEGA H RANA QUEERCIRCLE WORKSHOP ON REMAPPING MASCULINITY REFLECTING ON INHERITED & LEARNT MASCULINITIES, & REIMAGINED MASCULINITIES WHICH MIGHT BE MORE IN LINE WITH OUR DESIRED QUEER FUTURES.



BEYOND GENDER/SEXUALITY/ND - WE CAN MAP OUR INNER LANDSCAPES, E.G.:

MAP OF THE INNER SELF

RACHEL SALE

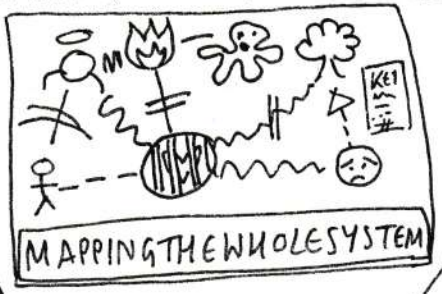


AS WELL AS HETERONORMATIVITY, CISNORMATIVITY, AMATONORMATIVITY & NEURONORMATIVITY, DOMINANT CULTURE INSISTS THAT WE ARE SINGULAR, FIXED, RATIONAL INDIVIDUALS WITH ONE CONSISTENT SELF WHICH SHOULD REMAIN STABLE OVER TIME

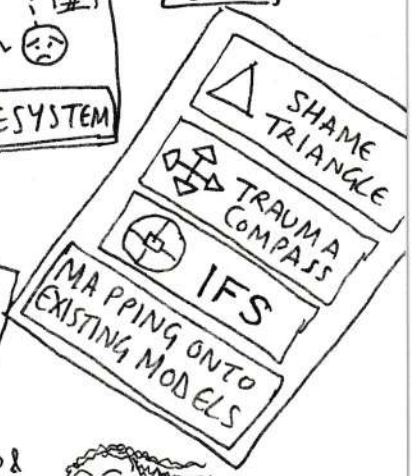
PLURAL SELF APPROACHES LIKE INTERNAL FAMILY SYSTEMS & SELF PARENTING OFFER WAYS TO MAP OUR SELVES (PLURAL)

E.G. INNER CHILDREN, CRITICS, LOVING PARENTS, MASKING PARTS











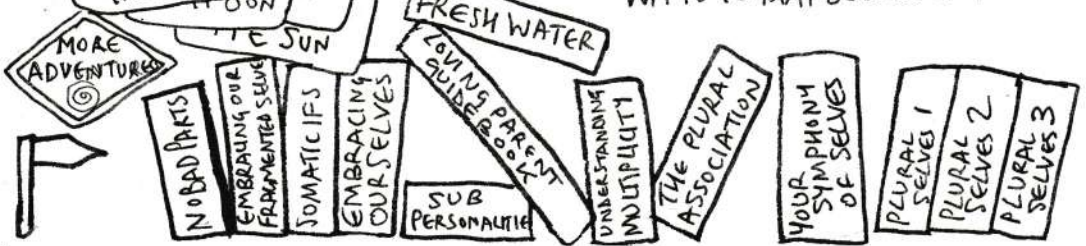
SOME FIND TAROT CARDS OR SIMILAR MODELS HELP THEM TO MAP THEMSELVES OVER TIME







SOME FIND TATTOOS, PIERCINGS, JEWELLRY & CLOTHING USEFUL WAYS TO MAP SELVES ON THEIR BODY



MESSY MAPS

UNDERSTANDING THE PLURALITY OF EACH OF US (THE MULTITUDES WE CONTAIN & THE WAYS THESE FLOW, OR BECOME STUCK, AT THE EMBODIED LEVEL) ALONGSIDE THE DENSE INTERWOVEN WEBS OF CONNECTION WE'RE ENTANGLED IN, & THE VASTLY COMPLEX WORLD WE'RE EMBEDDED IN, PERHAPS OUR MAP COMES TO LOOK MORE LIKE THIS...



SUCH MESSY MAPS EMERGED AT THE QUEER SPIRIT FESTIVAL, WHEN EACH PARTICIPANT WAS INVITED TO TAKE A DIFFERENT COLOURED BALL OF WOOL & PASS IT ROUND ALL THE PEOPLE THEY WERE CONNECTED WITH: CURRENT FRIENDS & LOVERS, EX PARTNERS OR COLLABORATORS, BURGEONING SPARKS OF NEW RELATIONSHIP ENERGY: A REAL WORLD VERSION OF 'THE CHART' (P. 19)

MESSY MAPS EMERGED IN THE QUEER CIRCLE COUNTER MAPPING PROJECT AT MOMENTS OF "CONVERGENCE OF IDEAS, INTENSITIES, AND PRACTICES BECOMING MORE THAN THEIR SUM"

MESSY MAPS EMERGE WHENEVER QUEERS - & OTHER MARGINALISED/TRAUMATISED FOLK - CHALLENGE SYSTEMS OF OPPRESSION & NORMATIVITY - WHENEVER WE EXIST



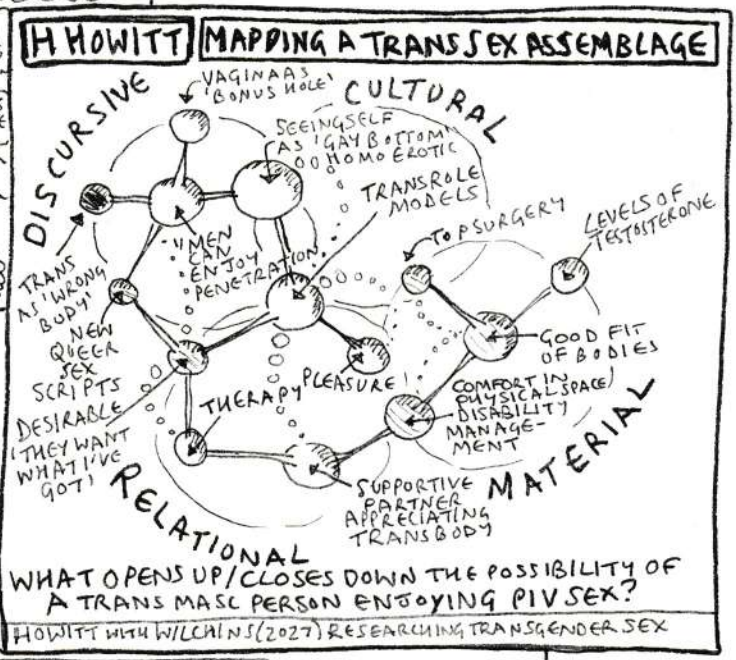
SARA AHMED

A MESS AS A QUEER MAP QUEER MAPS ARE CREATED BY USE. PERHAPS THESE MESSY LINES ARE ALSO DESIRE LINES THAT TELL US WHERE WE HAVE BEEN, WHAT/WHO WE FOUND, BY GOING THAT WAY, BY NOT FOLLOWING THE OFFICIAL PATHS WE ARE TOLD WOULD HAVE OPENED DOORS OR EASED OUR PROGRESSION.
A TANGLE CAN BE WHAT/WHO WE FIND, HOW WE FIND, & ALSO THEN, HOW WE FIND YOU

MAPPING THE MESS?

WHILE WE COULD NEVER MAP THE WHOLE QUEER MESS, & IT WOULD LIKELY HAVE SHIFTED & CHANGED AGAIN BY THE TIME WE ATTEMPTED TO, IT CAN BE HELPFUL TO MAP SOME OF THE ASSEMBLAGE OF WHAT'S GOING ON IN OUR EXPERIENCES - TO DEEPEN UNDERSTANDING & COMPASSION





ASSEMBLAGES CAN ILLUSTRATE TEMPORAL LANDSCAPES QUESTIONING THE HEGEMONICALLY SEALED ORDER OF TIME NOT THE LINEAR PROGRESSIVE COLONIAL/MODERNITY MODEL OF HISTORY BUT TIME AS LAYERED, LOOPING, UNFINISHED. FRAGMENTS OF PAST & PRESENT CATCH & REFRACT ONE ANOTHER LIKE LIGHT THROUGH A PRISM, SCATTERING INTO THE MANY-COLOURED POSSIBILITIES OF LIBERATORY FUTURES

RIVER JJHADBOR WITH LOLA OLUFEMI

ON THE CULTURE, SEX, RELATIONSHIPS PODCAST JUSTIN HANCOCK APPLIES THESE IDEAS TO SEX & RELATIONSHIPS, & IS CREATING A ZINE TO EXPLAIN THESE IDEAS ACCESSIBLY

GETTING IT WRONG

"EVERY SINGLE MAP EVER MADE IS - BY DEFINITION - WRONG. FOR A MAP TO CONTAIN NO DISTORTION AT ALL IT WOULD HAVE TO BE 3D & AT A SCALE OF 1-TO-1, WHICH IS OF VERY LIMITED USE" MARK COOPER-JONES & JAY FOREMAN

OUR DESCRIPTIONS, STORIES & BELIEFS ABOUT THE WORLD ARE ONLY REPRESENTATIONS (MAPS) NOT ACTUAL REALITY (TERRITORY)

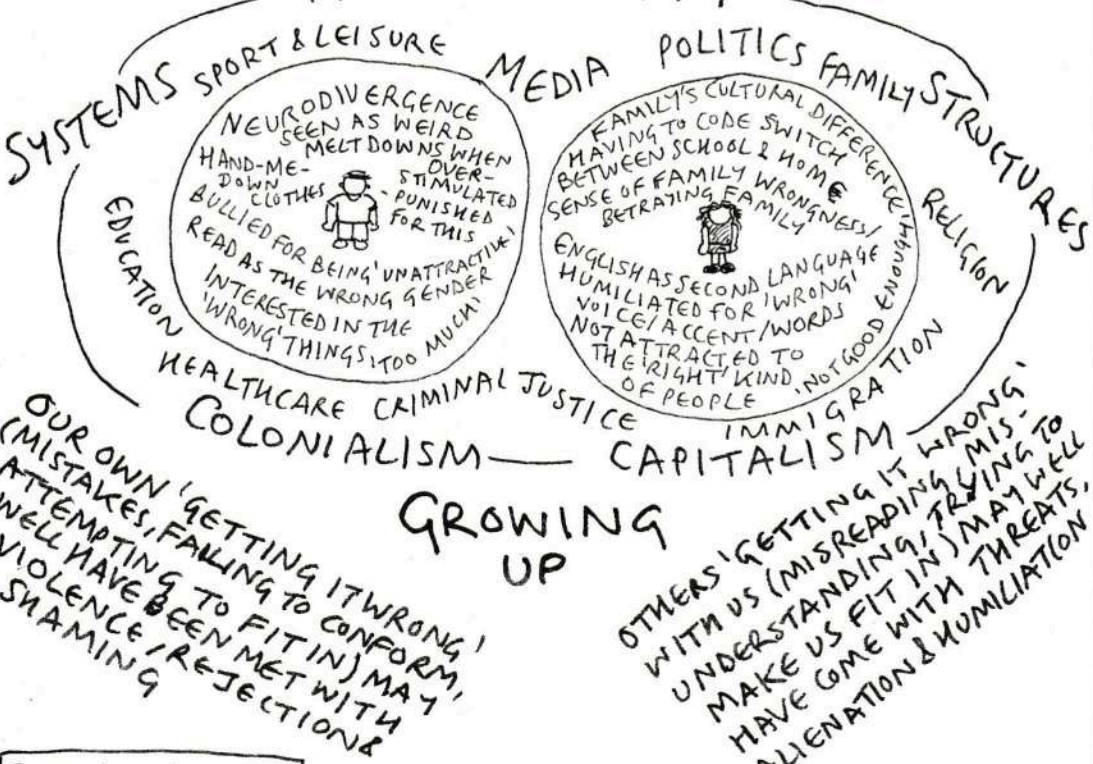
THE MAP IS NOT THE TERRITORY

ALFRED KORZYBSKI

SYLVIA WYNTER

WE MUSN'T MISTAKE A CULTURALLY SPECIFIC CONCEPT OF 'MAN' FOR UNIVERSAL HUMAN REALITY TO DO SO NATURALIZES INEQUALITY, COLONIALITY & ANTI-BLACKNESS

QUEERS & OTHER MARGINALISED/TRAUMATISED FOLK OFTEN HAVE AN UNDERSTANDABLY HEIGHTENED SENSITIVITY TO 'GETTING IT WRONG'



OUR OWN 'GETTING IT WRONG' (MISTAKES, FAILING TO CONFORM, ATTEMPTING TO FIT IN) MAY WELL HAVE BEEN MET WITH VIOLENCE, REJECTION & SHAMING

OTHERS 'GETTING IT WRONG' WITH US (MISREADING, MIS-UNDERSTANDING, TRYING TO MAKE US FIT IN) MAY WELL HAVE COME WITH THREATS, ALIENATION & HUMILIATION

CONSTELLATIONS ARE ONE WAY OF MAPPING THE VARIOUS SYSTEMS - PAST & PRESENT, INTERNAL & EXTERNAL - THAT SHAPE OUR LIFE & EXPERIENCES. SOMATIC SYSTEMIC CONSTELLATIONS CAN PROVIDE INSIGHT INTO OUR INDIVIDUAL & COLLECTIVE PATTERNS & SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE CHANGE

HOW MIGHT WE NAVIGATE THIS TENDER TERRITORY NOW?
WHEN WE HOLD SUCH TRAUMA AROUND 'GETTING IT WRONG'
& KNOW THE DEEP PAIN THAT 'GETTING IT WRONG' CAN TRIGGER?
HOW CAN WE RISK THE REALNESS & VULNERABILITY REQUIRED FOR
INTIMACY & CONNECTION, HEALING & LIBERATION?

THE MAP

THE TERRITORY

HISTORICAL TRAUMA
INTERGENERATIONAL TRAUMA
MEMORIES
PATTERNS
COGNITIVE CAPACITY
BURN OUT
CONDITIONING
INSOMNIA
CULTURAL BIASES
MASKING
PASSING
ACTIVATION



THE FACE WE SEE
THE VOICE WE HEAR

THE TERRITORY

COLLECTIVE TRAUMA
DEVELOPMENTAL TRAUMA
EXPERIENCES
MESSAGES RECEIVED
SURVIVAL STRATEGIES
FATIGUE
OVERSTRETCHED
LONG VIRUS
MENOPAUSE
CLOSETING
CODE SWITCHING

(HOW) CAN WE ATTEND TO THE TERRITORY?
(HOW) CAN WE GET BEYOND THE BINARIES?

YOU'RE WRONG (THEREFORE BAD)
- WITHDRAW IN FEAR
- ATTACK IN ANGER

I'M WRONG (THEREFORE BAD)
- DEFEND/PRETEND
- FEIGN IGNORANCE
- COLLAPSE IN SHAME

COLLECTIVE WORK & PERSONAL WELLBEING GO TOGETHER. WE NEED TO QUESTION EXPECTATIONS OF DOING WELL, BEING WELL & CONNECTING WELL
MIJKE VAN DER DRIFT

HOW DO PEOPLE CREATE SPACES OF SOLIDARITY & CARE THAT CULTIVATE THE POTENTIAL FOR CHANGE DURING PERCEIVED IMPASSE?
ELENI STECOPOULOS

SOME THINGS FEEL TOO BIG TO BE FELT ALONE BECAUSE THEY ARE. A LOT OF OUR DISTRESS IS BIGGER THAN ONE BODY OR ONE GENERATION WE NEED THE ALCHEMY OF WITNESS, CEREMONY, ANCESTORS TO FEEL
PRENTIS HEMPHILL

I HOPE WE CHOOSE LOVE

DREAMING IN THE FAULT ZONE
GENDER TRAUMA
WHAT IT TAKES TO HEAL
RIGHT STORY WRONG STORY
AGAINST PURITY
THE POLITICS OF TRAUMA
EMPIRE OF NORMALITY
EMERGENT STRATEGY SERIES
NAVIGATING CONSENT

"WE COMMIT TO OUR HEALING BECAUSE WHAT WE ARE DREAMING OF RESTS ON IT. IT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO ONE ANOTHER TO DO OUR INTERNAL WORK, NOT SO WE FEEL GOOD ALONE BUT TO STAY AN ACTIVE PART OF THE WHOLE & TO REFUSE TO PASS DOWN TO THE NEXT GENERATION WHAT PAIN WE'VE ACCRUED"

PRENTIS HEMPHILL

Off the Map



YOU COULD RETURN TO THE ORIENTING COMPASS ✵ NOW (P.3)
BEFORE CONTINUING ON INTO UNCHARTED TERRITORIES...

RE/DISORIENTING

MAYBE WE NEED TO LEAVE OUR OLD, FIXED, ORDERED INDIVIDUAL & COLLECTIVE MAPS BEHIND - WITH THEIR SINGULAR, STATIC CHARTS OF HOW THINGS ARE, HOW THEY CAME TO BE THIS WAY, & WHERE WE'RE GOING

"CAN WE HOLD THE PARADOX THAT WE'RE IN URGENT NEED OF REORIENTATION & THAT REQUIRES BEING UP FOR BEING HIGHLY DISORIENTED: LOST & UNCERTAIN ALONG THE WAY & - SOMEWHAT - FOREVER?"

MEG-JOHN BARKER DRAWING ON AHMED & BOAZ

WHEN WE MOVE AWAY FROM COLONIAL NARRATIVES OF HOW TO RELATE TO OURSELVES/OTHERS/THE WORLD WE OFTEN GET STUCK IN INDIVIDUALISTIC NARRATIVES. WE NEED TO REWILD!

E.G.

COLONIAL — YOU MUST / YOU SHOULD / YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO / SUPERIOR / IMPOSING

INDIVIDUALISTIC — I WILL / I ASSUME / I'M RIGHT

REWILDED — I'M CURIOUS / COULD WE...? / INTERDEPENDENT

MEL CASSIDY

1. RELATIONAL MAPPING NOT OBJECTIVE MAPS
2. CONTINUE TO ASK 'WHY MAP AT ALL?'
3. MAPS AS PARTIAL, TRANSPARENCY ABOUT WHERE THEY'RE COMING FROM
4. REACHING BEYOND THE VISIBLE THROUGH AFFECT/INTUITIONS & EMBODIED KNOWLEDGE
5. WELCOMING INSURRECTION & EMBRACING THE UNKNOWN
6. REFUSING LEGIBILITY AS THE ULTIMATE GOAL
7. HOLDING TENSIONS E.G.
   - PROCESS VS GOAL ORIENTATION
   - MEANINGFUL EXPRESSION VS PUBLIC LEGIBILITY
   - VISIBILITY VS SAFETY
   - USING COLONIAL TOOLS VS RESISTING COLONIAL LOGICS

FRAGMENTS REPORT

NOT KNOWING

REORIENTING MAPS AROUND THE VALUES OF...

- UNCERTAINTY
- SUBJECTIVITY — OUR POSITION / THIS IS
- MULTIPLICITY — OPEN TO OTHERS
- WILLIAM RANKIN

CAN WE HOLD THAT OUR MAPS MAY BE DIFFERENT TO ONE ANOTHER'S? — FROM THE KIND OF RELATIONSHIP WE HAVE & HOW CLOSE IT FEELS TO HOW WE CONCEPTUALISE OUR COMMUNITY & HOW FREE/SAFE WE FEEL IN IT & UNDERSTAND OURSELVES TO HOW WE NAME OUR EXPERIENCES

MIGHT WE EXPERIMENT MAKING IMAGINARY MAPS?

E.G.

THE FEMINIST/ANARCHIST MAPS OF SPECULATIVE FICTION AUTHOR



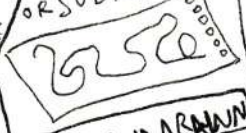
URSULA LEGUIN

MAPPING YOUR VISION FOR A QUEER CARE HOME



XYZ PROJECTS

EXPLORE OR SUBMIT TO



THE HAND DRAWN MAP ASSOCIATION

GETTING LOST

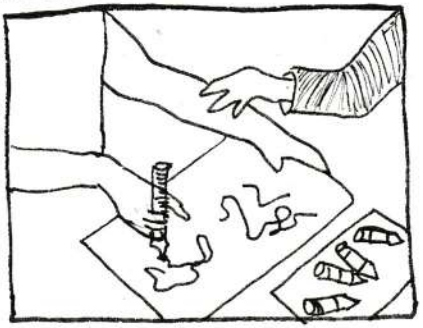
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"STOP READING & GO & DO THE THING WE'VE BEEN DOING FOR MILLIONS OF YEARS. & HAVE AN ABSOLUTELY LOVELY TIME WHILE YOU'RE DOING IT... GET LOST"

UNMAPPING - KIMBALL BUMSTEAD

THE MAP MEN

IN PAIRS CLOSE YOUR EYES. TAKE TURNS TO DRAW 'MAPS' OF PERSONALLY SIGNIFICANT PLACES ONTO EACH OTHERS' HANDS & ARMS USING TOUCH. WHILE ONE OF YOU MAPS, THE OTHER DOCUMENTS WHAT THEY FEEL AGAINST THEIR SKIN MAKING MARKS ON PAPER - A HUMAN ETCH-A-SKETCH. WHEN BOTH DONE ON THE SAME PIECE OF PAPER - EMBELLISH THE DRAWING WITH DETAILS, COLOURS, OR WORDS THAT CAME UP WHILE MAPPING





USE THE MAP TO GET LOST - GO OUT INTO THE NEIGHBOURHOOD & RE/DISCOVER IT USING THE LINES IN THE DRAWING, SEEKING THINGS THAT LOOK SIMILAR TO THE MAP. REFLECT ON THE PLACE YOU FIND YOURSELF IN:

- WHAT DO YOU SEE? • HOW DO YOU FEEL?
- DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THIS PLACE?
- HAVE YOU HAD ANY PERSONAL EXPERIENCES HERE?
- WHAT DO YOU IMAGINE WAS HERE BEFORE?
- WHAT DO YOU HOPE MIGHT BE HERE IN FUTURE?

GETTING LOST WAS NOT A MATTER OF GEOGRAPHY AS MUCH AS IDENTITY - A PASSIONATE DESIRE TO BECOME NO-ONE & ANYONE, TO SHAKE OFF THE SHACKLES THAT REMIND YOU WHO YOU ARE, WHO OTHERS THINK YOU ARE

A FIELD GUIDE TO GETTING LOST
REBECCA SOLNIT

LEAVE THE DOOR OPEN FOR THE UNKNOWN, THE DOORS IN THE DARK. THAT'S WHERE THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS COME FROM, WHERE YOU, YOURSELF CAME FROM, WHERE YOU WILL GO...

TO BE LOST IS TO BE FULLY PRESENT & TO BE FULLY PRESENT IS TO BE CAPABLE OF BEING IN UNCERTAINTY & MYSTERY... ONE DOESN'T GET LOST BUT LOSES ONESELF

GETTING LOST CAN BRING US CLOSE TO LOSS AS WE ENCOUNTER WHAT HAS GONE & WHAT MAY NEVER BE. CAN WE HOLD THE LOVE & SADNESS?



LONG LOST OAKLAND

"NO MATTER HOW BAD THINGS GET, THEY ARE ALWAYS CHANGING. I WANT TO GROUND THE VIEWER IN THE PLACE WHERE THEY STAND & SPARK THE IMAGINATION OF THOSE WHO WILL STRUGGLE FOR A DIFFERENT FUTURE"

TL SIMONS IN HOW TO DO NOTHING

COMING HOME

GOING OFF THE MAP & GETTING LOST CAN BE DISORIENTING, SOMETIMES OVERWHELMING, EXPERIENCES AS WE SEE/FEEL THE TERRITORIES BEHIND/BEYOND OUR MAPS, THESE WILDS BEYOND OUR FENCES, & GO TO THE PLACES THAT SCARE US

THESE CAN BE UNDERWORLD JOURNEYS CONNECTING US WITH PAINFUL PASTS & CONFUSING TERRAINS. SOMATIC PRACTICES CAN GROUND US, PROVIDE SANCTUARIES, READY US FOR THE NEXT JOURNEY.



DUNYA KALENTRY

DESCRIBED MAPPING WITH ROCKS & STRING AS EMOTIONAL GROUNDING AMID INSTABILITY - A SMALL ACT OF FINDING FOOT-HOLDS IN AN UNSTABLE WORLD

RUTH ALLEN-WEATHERING

"RESTING IN PLACE IS SOMETHING ROCKS DO VERY WELL - WHEN SHAKEN & DISTURBED IT'S IN THEIR NATURE TO RETURN TO REPOSE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE"

"WE ALL HAVE A HOME IN AN EMBODIED STATE OF BELONGING & CONNECTION. WE MAY HAVE BEEN LOST FOR YEARS, OR ONLY VISITED BRIEFLY, BUT WE CAN ALL LEARN THE WAY HOME" DANIEL MORRISON

"RELEASE THE SHAME YOU FEEL WHEN RESTING - IT DOESN'T BELONG TO YOU" TRICIA HERSEY

IMAGINE / ILLUSTRATE YOUR PLACES TO REST

EXAMPLES FROM DANIEL MORRISON



"REST IS RESISTANCE"

AS WITH ALL QUEER MAPS, YOU CAN REVISIT THIS ZINE OVER TIME, RETURNING TO WHAT RESONATES, TRYING DIFFERENT PRACTICES, FINDING NEW DESIRE LINES THROUGH IT

REACHING THE END - FOR NOW - WE INVITE YOU TO TRY ONE OF THESE WAYS OF COMING HOME...

IF IT FEELS SAFER OUTSIDE YOUR BODY - ORIENT TO YOUR SURROUNDINGS E.G.

IF IT FEELS SAFER INSIDE YOUR BODY - ORIENT WITHIN E.G.



"WHAT IF MAPS WERE INVITATIONS ..?
TO SING TOGETHER, TO IMPROVISE,
TO COME HOME TO OURSELVES & EACH OTHER"

RIVER UJHADBOR

FIND OUT MORE

YOU CAN FIND THE FULL WEBLINKS FOR THIS ZINE HERE

COMPANION REPORT: RIVER OJHADBOR- FRAGMENTS OF A QUEER RADICAL MAPPING PRAXIS

FURTHER EXPLORATIONS: NEW DIRECTIONS IN RADICAL CARTOGRAPHY

LIVING MAPS NETWORK

COUNTER CARTOGRAPHIES LINKS

MUST-READ MAP BOOKS

WHERE YOU ARE BOOK

YOU CAN FIND OUT MORE ABOUT QUEERCIRCLE'S EVENTS, WORKSHOPS, PROJECTS & PARTNER GROUPS AT...

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THANK-YOU FOR READING