



#WalkCreate Gathering 18 & 19 MAY

www.walkcreate.org

Funded by:



Arts and
Humanities
Research Council

Day 1

**Museum of London Archaeology (MOLA), Mortimer Wheeler House, London
Wednesday 18 May: 9.30am-5.30pm**

Focusing on creative walking experiences Day 1 is aimed at professionals and volunteers who deliver walks as well as arts, culture and heritage workers who are interested in engaging wider and more diverse publics in their activity through walking work. Accessibility is a priority for us, so attendees can also experience indoor artworks designed for those who may not be able to walk. Tickets can be booked for the morning and the afternoon, if you'd like to attend the full day then please book both separately.

Venue Access Information:

The meeting room at Mortimer Wheeler House is a large space with chairs and tables. It is on the ground floor of the building with level access from the street. A small, quiet, rest room is available for delegates use on the ground floor near to the meeting room. Fully accessible toilets are available.

9.30 - 10.00 - Registration + refreshments

10.00 - 10.30 - Introductions, project overview & key findings: #WalkCreate Team

Access Information:

Participants can be seated or stand if they prefer. We will use projected slides on a screen in the meeting room space as a presentation aid. Speakers will be presenting live in the room.

10.45 - 12.00 - *The Walkbook* workshops (outdoors)

In the morning sessions the #WalkCreate team will introduce the project and highlight some key findings from our two strands, 'Walking Publics' and 'Walking Arts'. This will be followed by some outdoor creative walking taster workshops led by the research team.

Research team biographies:

Dee Heddon, Principal Investigator on Walking Publics / Walking Arts (WP/WA), is a Professor of Theatre Studies at the University of Glasgow and has a longstanding personal and professional interest in walking and arts.

Maggie O'Neill Co-Investigator on WP/WA, is Professor of Sociology at UCC and her research focuses on creative, participatory, mobile and arts based biographical methods, working with communities to create change.

Clare Qualmann, Co-Investigator on WP/WA, is Associate Professor at UEL and an artist/researcher whose work focuses on participatory, site specific, and experimental modes of contemporary creative practice, often using walking.

Morag Rose, Co-Investigator on WP/WA, is a walking artist-activist-academic, founder of psychogeographical collective The LRM (The Loiterers Resistance Movement) and a human geography lecturer at the University of Liverpool.

Harry Wilson, Research Associate on WP/WA, is an artist-academic based in Dundee whose research focusses on live art and performance, photography, and new media through creative practice-research.

Access Information:

Short walks of no more than 1.5 kilometres total distance on level terrain with surfaces including paving slabs, asphalt paths and short grass. Some dropped kerbs at road crossing points. Where there are grassy areas there will be alternative routes over hard surfacing very close by. Benches and regular opportunities to rest.

12.15 - 13.00 - Lunch

13.00 - 14.30

Walkshop 1: Sheffield Environmental Movement and Jenson Grant

Join Maxwell Ayamba (Sheffield Environmental Movement) and Jenson Grant (artist) for an exploration of air pollution indicators in the local area looking in detail at the lichen in Shoreditch Park. They will introduce their project combining Citizen Science and participatory arts methods, and will use OPAL air survey field guides to support a group investigation.

Biographies:

Maxwell Ayamba is a journalist, academic and founder of the Sheffield Environmental Movement (SEM). SEM's ethos is to work with Black Asian, Minority Ethnic and Refugees (BAMER) communities and environmental organisations to ensure everyone has a clean healthy environment and access to open green spaces such as parks that promote a good quality of life.

Jenson Grant is a digital media artist based in Sheffield. His work combines academic research, drama, and digital artforms to connect with communities. He has worked extensively with artists, organisations and communities across South Yorkshire

including, residents in social housing, people with mental health issues, BME communities and homeless young people.

Access Information:

Short walk of no more than 1.5 kilometres total distance on level terrain with surfaces including paving slabs, asphalt paths and short grass. Some dropped kerbs at road crossing points. Where there are grassy areas there will be alternative routes over hard surfacing very close by. Benches and regular opportunities to rest.

Walkshop 2: Areej Kaoud with Arts Canteen

Experience Areej Kaoud's #WalkCreate commission *Intimate Distance* a sound walk and series of play performances that explore nearness, closeness and togetherness in times of social distancing. Passing batons, balls, words and images from person to person, this playful walk draws on Kaoud's want to re-negotiate contact and interaction post pandemic restrictions.

Biography:

Areej Kaoud is a Palestinian visual artist raised in Gaza, Palestine and Sharjah, UAE. Her practice draws on her interest in disastrous scenarios and creating narratives. Kaoud's practice incorporates text, sound, performance and installation to comment on emergency provisions and their enactment.

Access Information:

A short walk of no more than 1 kilometre total distance on level terrain with surfaces including paving slabs, asphalt paths and short grass. Vocal exercises are accessible to all. Game performances on grass include ball throwing and passing the baton, these can be experienced from park paths/hard surfaces. Where there are grassy areas, the ground can be unlevel, but there will be alternative routes over hard surfacing very close by. Benches available whilst walking and listening to the sound piece. Regular opportunities to rest available in the park.

Walkshop 3: Louise Ann Wilson, *Walks to Remember: 'With Memory I was There'* (indoors)

Join artist Louise Ann Wilson to create a memory-map of a walk to remember. Your walk to remember could be a springtime or winter walk... a walk in a garden, on a mountain or in a city... a walk to your favourite place or a place you never thought you'd reach!... Your map might include stopping places, viewing places, picnic places, lying-down places or crying, laughing or recovery places...

Biography:

Dr **Louise Ann Wilson** is a scenographer-researcher who creates site-specific walking-performances that give-voice to 'missing' or marginal life-events. Her work has addressed terminal illness and bereavement, in/fertility and childlessness-by-circumstance, (im)mobility and memory, and the impact of change – personal and topographical. She is the author of the *book Sites of Transformation* (2022). <https://www.louiseannwilson.com> @lawilsonco

Access Information:

A drawing activity that can be carried out seated inside.

**Walkshop 4: Laura Fisher, *Going Out / Going In & Going In / Going Out*
(outdoors/indoors audio walks)**

GOING OUT | GOING IN by Laura Fisher with music by Sonia Killmann, is an audio performance for headphones and a solo journey through an urban landscape. The listener is invited to slow down, observe the streets and buildings around them and be guided by their curiosity on a journey through the city. **GOING OUT | GOING IN** contemplates the built environments we inhabit and the ways they move us.

Access Information:

An audio walk experienced using phones or ipods and headphones. **Going Out/** is experienced walking outside at your own pace. The surrounding neighbourhood is flat, with level asphalt paths and paved areas. There is a park 100 metres away from the venue with grassy areas and hard surfaced paths, as well as benches to rest on. Duration 40 minutes.

GOING IN | GOING OUT by Laura Fisher with music by Sonia Killmann is an audio performance which invites listeners to participate from inside MOLA and be gently guided through relaxation and movement. Listeners are invited to take a moment to pause, to connect with their bodies and memories and to move with others in a shared moment in time. **GOING IN | GOING OUT** contemplates the body as a site for memory and bodies as a shared site for choreography across time and place.

Access Information:

An audio walk experienced using phones or ipods and headphones. **Going In/** is to be listened to inside, seated or with small movements. Duration 35 minutes.

Biography:

Laura Fisher (she/they) is a dance artist, producer, and choreographic performance maker based in Glasgow, Scotland. They work across live art, dance, design and club performance. Laura's artistic practice considers space as an artistic and political

collaborator: who occupies it? who can access it? who is visible? how you/we experience moving through it? <https://www.laurafisherperformance.com/>

15.00 - 16.30

Workshop 5: Elspeth Penfold and CITIZAN/MOLA

Join Lawrence Northall from CiTIZAN and Elspeth Penfold to open portals to local heritage through the lens of Quechua an indigenous Andean culture. Using techniques explored in the Walk Create commission Intertidal, this workshop invites you to take part in an archaeological survey, a timeless wandering through magical realism. We will use the ancient art of Andean knots "quipus" to weave together local heritage and poetry using thread and word.

Biography:

Elspeth Penfold is a Bolivian/Argentinian artist who has lived and worked in the UK since the 1970s. Her multi-disciplinary practice incorporates spinning and weaving, painting and drawing, walking and writing. She has been working on a Walk Create commission with MOLA and MENCAP in Whitstable, Kent.

Access Information:

Short walk of no more than 1.5 kilometres total distance on level terrain with surfaces including paving slabs, asphalt paths and short grass. Some dropped kerbs at road crossing points. Where there are grassy areas there will be alternative routes over hard surfacing very close by. Benches and regular opportunities to rest.

Workshop 6: Guen Murrone and Open Clasp/West End Women and Girls

Join writer/director Guen Murrone in a walk exploring street safety with a focus on women's experiences in urban space. You will use sensory walking engagement exercises and walking-storytelling to generate narratives of place, writing as a group and individually, using Hackney Women's safety map as an inspirational starting point.

Biography:

Guen Murrone is an award winning Italian/Irish writer and director who has been working with Open Clasp theatre on a Walk Create commission, alongside facilitators Kiran Khan and Sarah Lamb at West End Women and Girls (Newcastle). Murrone's work deals with the politics and policing of space, accessibility and representation.

Access Information:

Short walk of no more than 1.5 kilometres total distance on level terrain with surfaces including paving slabs, asphalt paths and short grass. Some dropped kerbs at road

crossing points. Where there are grassy areas there will be alternative routes over hard surfacing very close by. Benches and regular opportunities to rest.

Walkshop 7: Louise Ann Wilson (indoors)

See Information above for Walkshop 3.

Walkshop 8: Laura Fisher (outdoors/indoors audio walks)

See information above for Walkshop 4

**16.45 - 17.30 - Refreshments & discussion: dialogue, exchange, connections,
feedback**

Day 2

University of East London (UEL) and online

Thursday 19 May: 10.00am-5pm

Day 2 is a hybrid event and will focus on sharing the project research findings and the outcomes from four artist commissions. This day is aimed at walking, health and community organisations, and artists and researchers interested in, or working across, walking, culture, and participatory arts. Tickets can be booked for the full day at UEL or remotely online.

Venue Access Information:

The meeting room at UEL USS is a large space on the 3rd floor with lift access. Seating and standing space available. A quiet, rest space classroom will be available for use on the same floor.

10 - 10.30 - Registration + refreshments

10.30- 11.15 - Project Presentation 1: Public experiences of walking & creativity in COVID19

In this presentation the #WalkCreate team will share findings from the Walking Publics strand of the research project, exploring peoples' experiences of walking and creative walking during the pandemic.

Access Information:

We will use projected slides on a screen in the meeting room space as a presentation aid. Speakers will be presenting live in the room, with streaming to remote viewers. Seating and standing space available.

11.15 - 12.00 - Project Presentation 2: Artists' use of walking during COVID19

In this presentation the #WalkCreate team will share what the outcomes of the Walking Arts strand of the project that explores how artists have used walking in their work during COVID-19.

Access Information:

We will use projected slides on a screen in the meeting room space as a presentation aid. Speakers will be presenting live in the room, with streaming to remote viewers. Seating and standing space available.

12.00 - 12.15 - Artists' Gallery Slideshow

Access Information:

Projected slides on a screen in the meeting space, Seating and standing space available.

12.15 - 12.45 - Discussion/Exchange

12.45 - 14.00 - Lunch + *The Walkbook* Excursions

Access Information:

Optional short walk of no more than 1k on the flat in an urban environment with surfaces including asphalt and paving.

14.00 - 14.15 - Introduction to Artist Commissions

During these two panel sessions the #WalkCreate commissioned artists will share outcomes and reflections from their participatory walking artworks made in response to our research project challenges.

14.15 - 15.15 - #WalkCreate Artist Talks 1 & 2: Kate Green & Laura Bradshaw & Steven Anderson

Kate Green's *Finding a Way* is a collaboration with the members of Leominster Meeting Centre, Herefordshire, to develop a 'non-linear heritage trail' around the town, with, and for, people who live with dementia. The aim of the work has been to celebrate, rather than interpret as a failing, changes that occur in cognitive orientational and navigational skills when living with dementia.

Laura Bradshaw and **Steven Anderson** have been working with The Prince and Princess of Wales Hospice in Glasgow to create an audio walk. Laura and Steven have been researching the principles of holistic care through the environment of the hospice. The project has seen them exploring and responding to the hospice gardens at PPWH in order to create a sensory audio walk as an act of care for patients, their families, staff and visitors.

Artist Biographies:

Kate Green is passionate about introducing new audiences to creative walking as a way to better understand our complex relationship with the rural landscape. Previous works include *Watershed Line* (2021) which saw Kate circumnavigate the seventy-square-mile Welsh watershed claimed by Birmingham in 1892, suggesting microcosmic parallels with our current global crisis.

Laura Bradshaw is a mother-artist working within performance, movement and dance under the name Scrimshaw Projects. Laura makes performance works for theatre and dance spaces, galleries, healthcare contexts and outdoor spaces. She develops creative movement processes which invite a connection to the living, present body in relationship with other and environment.

Steven Anderson often makes site specific collaborative art projects that bring together visual art and performance approaches within gallery and healthcare contexts. Through practices of painting, live performance and tutoring, his work seeks to find ways of supporting idiosyncratic, autonomous creative processes.

Access Information:

Speakers will be presenting remotely and will appear on screen in the room. Seating and standing space available.

15.15 - 16.15 - #WalkCreate Talks 3 & 4: Henna Asikainen and Shonagh Short

Henna Asikainen's project is a collaboration with people who have experienced forced displacement and are seeking asylum in Newcastle, and has aimed to challenge exclusionary cultural practices that impress a sense of homelessness and not belonging. Using thematic walks, the groups have explored the city together, ranging from public sculptures to urban plant life, with a special focus on trees that are migrants themselves. All of the walks have ended with a communal meal in a different location in the city.

Shonagh Short's project *To the Moon and Back* looks at the walk to and from school as a journey of care, both in practical terms - caring for children, keeping them safe day after day - but also as a space of transition, an unburdening of responsibilities, a shift in identity. Shonagh's project is inspired by the 2021 space race between white, male billionaires and the realisation that the daily walking of a diverse school community in a low income area clocked up more miles per day than the journey to space.

Artist Biographies:

Dr Henna Asikainen is a Finnish artist based in Newcastle upon Tyne, UK. Her practice explores humans' complex relationship with nature and its intersections with social justice, climate justice, migration and notions of belonging. Her work is often made with the participation of people who have a lived experience of displacement.

Shonagh Short is a socially engaged artist based in Bolton, Greater Manchester. She has been making site specific work with marginalised communities since 2014. She has been artist in residence on the Limehurst estate in Oldham since 2016. She has recently completed commissions for FACT Liverpool, Manchester International Festival, Pink Collar Gallery and Quiet Down There Brighton.

Access Information:

Speakers will be presenting remotely and will appear on screen in the room. Seating and standing space available.

16.15 - 17.00 - Refreshments & discussion: dialogue, exchange, connections, feedback

A chance to discuss and capture your experiences of the event.

Access Information:

We will be moving around the meeting room space inviting participants to share their feedback verbally and in writing.