



REFUGIA IS A LONG TERM WALKING ART PROJECT EXPLORING THE INTERSECTION BETWEEN THEORY AND PRACTICE. REFUGIA PART 3 WILL COMPRISE A POP-UP EXHIBITION, WALKS AND TALKS INSPIRED BY RESEARCH AND EVENTS UNDERTAKEN DURING PARTS 1 AND 2.

FIVE YEARS

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REFUGIA

Participating Artists: Esi Eshun, Catherine Harrington, Nathania Hartley, Ilga Leimanis & Andra Kalnins, Esther Planas

“Refugia are isolated locations in which multiple, interdependent species flourish in the midst of a general hostile environment. Acting as sites of resurgence following ecological devastation, they enable eventual biological and cultural rejuvenation to occur, once plants, animals, humans and other species have dispersed from their places of refuge.

Influential anthropologist, Anna Tsing, considers one of the key markers of the so-called Anthropocene epoch to lie in the destruction wrought to these once abundant refugia. And as philosopher Donna Haraway writes: “The earth is full of refugees, human, non-human, without refuge”. As a result, the aim for future epochs must be to cultivate with each other - in every imaginable way - places and times in which to replenish refuges and create liveable worlds.

Acknowledging that this is a situation that requires mourning as well as acts of creative recuperation, the Refugia project invites us to consider how the practice of walking might contribute to such means of recreation and renewal.

Encompassing a series of walks taking place in dispersed locations over several months, it will enable us to seek out, encounter, circumnavigate, re-tread or contribute to potential sites of communion with other human and more-than-human assemblies, allowing us, in the process, to become collective agents of change.” Esi Eshun