

**Glasgow School of Art – School of Fine Art
Reading Landscape Research Group**

**Symposium – Practicing Landscape: Land, Histories and Transformation
19 & 20 March 2020**

Call for symposium papers

Practicing Landscape: Land, Histories and Transformation is a symposium organised by the Reading Landscape Research Group, formed by artist-academics from the School of Fine Art at Glasgow School of Art. The symposium will take place on 19 and 20 March 2020. It is the closing event that informs an exhibition of work, under the same title, by Reading Landscape Research Group members. Both the exhibition and symposium will be held at The Lighthouse, Glasgow. The format of the Symposium will include two invited Keynote speakers – one on each day of the event – followed by thematic sessions chaired by a respondent.

How do contemporary art and other interdisciplinary practices engage with (and expand) the themes of Land, Histories and Transformation? How can such practices work with contested histories, identities and remoteness in specific locations? What do land and other material practices reveal in terms of transformation, heritage and sustainability? Which practical, creative and critical theoretical frameworks are currently being utilised to interrogate the politics of Land, Histories and Transformation? How can a reflexive curatorial process activate these themes?

We are now seeking presentations which contribute to the Symposium and that further the discussion of **four key themes** of interest:

- **People and Place** (including alternative voices and experiences of landscape including embodiment and auto-ethnographic practices);
- **Histories** (including land ownership, commons, cultural perspectives, border territories, heritage and preservation);
- **Wild spaces** (including peripheral territories, deserts, forests or ideas of remoteness);
- **Contentious Landscapes** (including sustainability, interventions, conservation and ecology).

While the exhibition has at its heart contemporary art practice and practice-led research in diverse visual disciplines, the Symposium also welcomes proposals from a diverse range of disciplines – such as archaeology, architecture, design, ecology, geography, literature, music, virtual reality etc – and contributions that respond to the themes in inter-disciplinary ways. Proposed presentations may take a range of approaches – through practice, theory, or a combination of both – but must be deliverable within 20 minutes.

If you would like to submit a presentation for consideration for one of the thematic sessions, please send your Abstract or Proposal, as a Word file comprising no more than 500 words and including your name, title of your presentation, and the selected key theme, to:
readinglandscape@gmail.com

If you are proposing to make a presentation based on practice-led research you should include with your proposal (above) 5 jpegs of relevant work (max), or two 1-minute video /sound clips.

Symposium Call for Papers

Please note: we will not be considering proposals that simply take the form of an artist talk: only those proposed contributions that address the research that informs practice.

The deadline for receipt of proposals is: Thursday 16 January 2020, 9.00 am.

Individuals who have their papers and presentations accepted will be notified by: **Friday 7 February 2020.**

Symposium fees will be waived for selected speakers unfortunately, however, travel and accommodation costs cannot be covered. For all other delegates the Symposium Costs are as follows: £70 waged /£20 unwaged. Places to attend the Symposium will be available to book via Eventbrite. Please register your interest in attending at readinglandscape@gmail.com and we will send registration details early in the New Year.

Itinerary for the Symposium

Day 1 (afternoon)	1.30-2.00	Registration
	2.00-2.15	Welcome and Opening Remarks /
	2.15-3.00	Introduction Keynote 1
	3.00-3.30	<i>Response and Questions</i>
	3.30-3.45	Tea
	3.45-4.45	Session 1: 3 x 20 minute presentations
	4.45-5.15	Plenary <i>led by respondent</i>
	5.30-6.30	Exhibition Reception
Day 2 (morning)	9.00	Presenters upload presentations
	9.15	Coffee
	9.45-10.00	Opening Remarks / Introduction to Keynote
	10.00-10.45	Keynote 2
	10.45-11.15	<i>Response and Questions</i>
	11.15-11.30	Coffee
	11.30-12.30	Session 2: 3 x 20 minute presentations
	12.30-1.00	Plenary <i>led by respondent</i>
Day 2 (afternoon)	1.00-2.00	Lunch
	2.00-3.00	Session 3: 3 x 20 minute presentations
	3.00-3.30	Plenary <i>led by respondent</i>
	3.30-3.45	Tea
	3.45-4.45	Session 4: 3 x 20 minute presentations
	4.45-5.15	Plenary <i>led by respondent</i>
	5.15-5.30	Closing remarks