

Tuesday, 10 October 2017

## Pre-conference Workshop 1: Deep Mapping with Artists' Books

Melinda Spooner, Melinda Spooner Projects / NSCAD University  
Kathleen Scherf, Thompson Rivers University, Canada

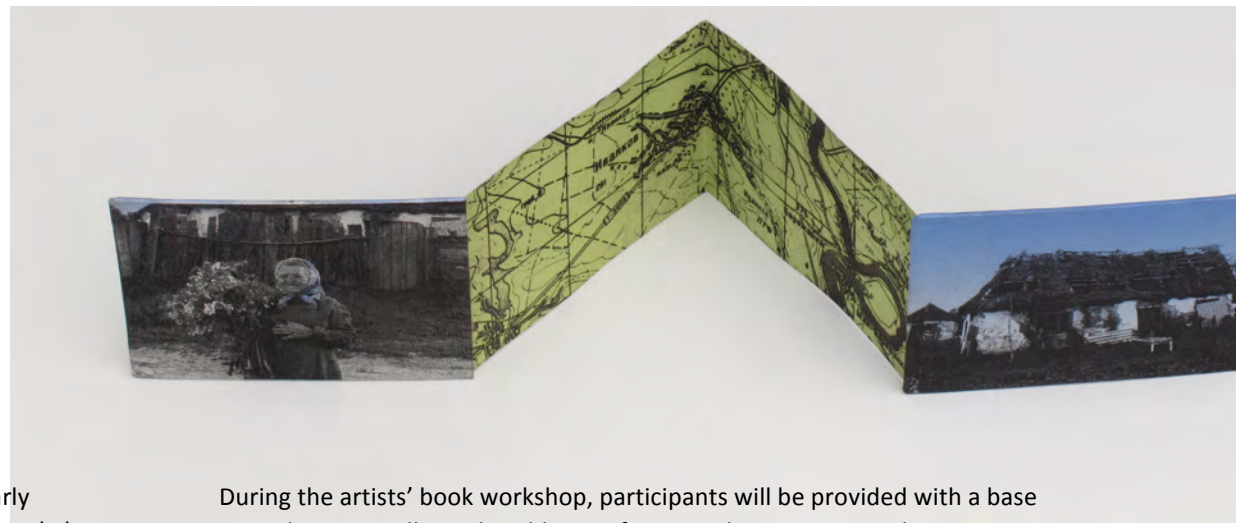
Deep mapping has been pursued as an interdisciplinary area since the early 2000s. Pushing the boundaries of what is understood to be a map, it attempts to provide a sense of place in a way that traditional 2D Cartesian maps cannot do, and do not attempt to do. Deep maps are able to provide both map-makers and map-users not only optic devices (the important visual aspects provided by traditional maps), but also haptic devices (the “feel” of a place that multimedia can convey) to supply a more complete and diverse sense of the location being explored, recorded, communicated, and reproduced.

Deep maps, according to Clifford McLucas (2000),

will not seek the authority and objectivity of conventional cartography. They will be politicized, passionate, and partisan. They will involve negotiation and contestation over who and what is represented and how. They will give rise to debate about the documentation and portrayal of people and places.

In this way, a sumptuous array of information and perspectives (cultural, biological, historical, personal, geographical, marginal, archival, architectural, memorial, archeological, political, official, unofficial, spectral traces, etc.) can be included in the expression of place via video, art text, still photo, and web links. In this new creative space, a union of geography and humanities truly occurs.

In this full-day workshop, deep mapper **Kathleen Scherf** and artist **Melinda Spooner** will collaborate with participants to deep map an area of Ponta Delgada; each participant will make a deep map using found objects and drawing to represent a map of their experience in Ponta Delgada. These maps will be put into books designed and made by participants.



During the artists' book workshop, participants will be provided with a base paper to draw on, collage, do rubbings of surrounding textures in the environment, and paste-up in the form of a fold-out map with covers they construct themselves from colorful book cloth. This work aims to be an expression of a sense of place in the form of a tactile drawing/collage and prototype for a finished artist's book in the future. Participants will use scissors, bone folders, a repositionable glue stick, colored pencils, or grease markers (for rubbings) and are encouraged to bring these items or any other materials they want to use in their deep map expression of Ponta Delgada.

The books will be available to take home as documents and mementos of the participants' local experience.

**Start time: 9:00 am**

**Meeting place: Museu Carlos Machado – Núcleo de Santa Bárbara, Ponta Delgada**

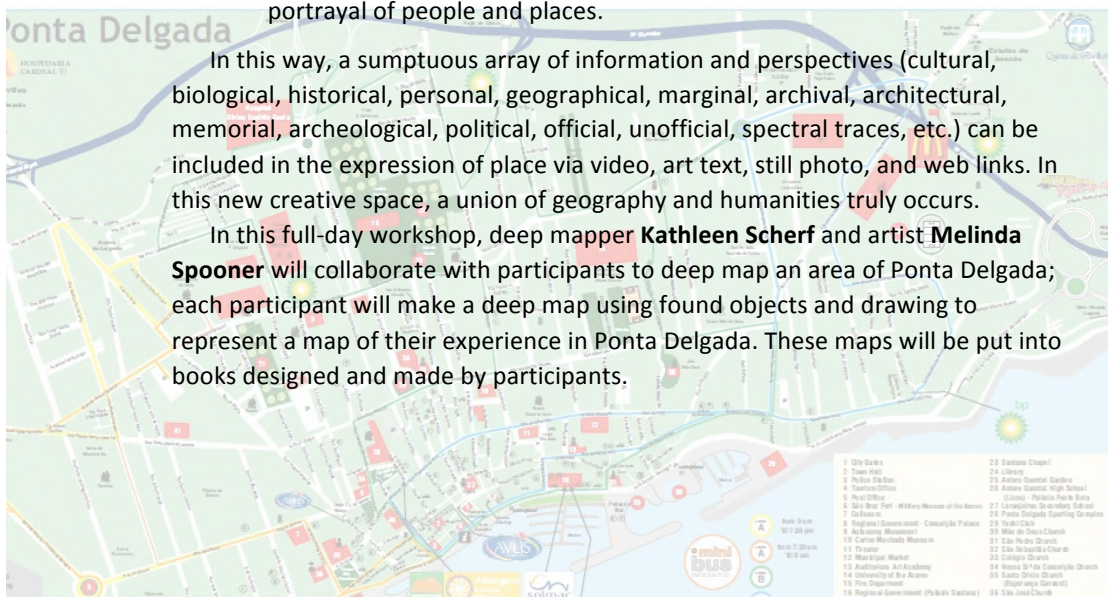
(see map on <http://museucarlosmachado.azores.gov.pt/ajuda/localizacao.aspx>)

Duration: All day (9h00 – 17h00 with a lunch break)

Space at a local restaurant will be reserved for participants. Participants will pay for their own lunches.

Maximum number of participants: 20 (registration required) - €20

**Thank you to Museu Carlos Machado  
for supporting this pre-conference!**



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### Timeline

9h00 start – Presentations from local co-ordinators in Ponta Delgada; from Kathleen on alternative and cultural mapping; and from Melinda on artistic cultural mapping, artist's books, and an overview of the workshop

10h30 – 12h30 – The walk (guided)

12h30 – 13h30 – Launch of the workshop, materials handed out, work set up

13h30 – 14h30 – Lunch at local restaurant (paid individually by participants)

14h30 – 17h00 – Continue working on artist books, finish up, and cleanup

### References

Scherf, Kathleen. "Beyond the brochure: An unmapped journey into deep mapping." In N. Duxbury, W. F. Garrett-Petts, and D. MacLennan (Eds.), *Cultural Mapping as Cultural Inquiry*. New York: Routledge, 2015. Published within the Routledge Advances in Research Methods series.

Kalynka, Darlene. "Reading the Homestead," *Book Arts arts du livre Canada*. Toronto: Canadian Bookbinders and Book Artists Guild, 2016, Volume 7 number 1 p.p. 30-31.

McLucas, C. *Deep maps: for the Three Landscapes Project* [Dorian Llewelyn, Clifford McLucas, Michael Shanks, 2000]. Available: <http://cliffordmclucas.info/deep-mapping.html>

*Monumental Ideas in Miniature Books II*, international travelling exhibition (with catalogue), coordinated by Hui-Chu Ying, Akron, Ohio. University of Akron, 2011.

### Bios of coordinators

**Melinda Spooner** is a socially engaged artist-researcher and instructor at NSCAD University, Halifax, NS, Canada. She is interested in a holistic approach to the exploration of local histories, natural habitats and cultural heritage. Her work aims to connect people to a sense of place and ecology through a participatory framework centered on ideas of sustainability and community building.

**Kathleen Scherf** holds a PhD from the University of British Columbia. She after a long spell in university administration, she is now Professor of Communication at Thompson Rivers University in British Columbia, cross-appointed in Journalism, Communication, and New Media and Tourism Management. She has published deep maps of Sun Peaks, British Columbia, and of the cultural impact of the Kamloops Art Gallery. Both maps were made as course assignments. Currently, she is working with master's thesis students in the School of Tourism at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona to map the El Raval neighbourhood in Barcelona.



**Images:** Darlene Kalynka, *Travelling in Ukraine*, artist's book, 2013