

Bark, Gum, Garbage bins (citizen shadows series) (2018) by Linda Knight

The pernicious nature of colonisation enacts ongoing effects on communities and environments that have experienced life in its many contact zones, including the invasion of lands, extractive-related damage to land and water ecologies, and socio-interventionist policies. Creating artistic commentary about the scale of these effects can be important for developing a decolonial practice that is committed, critical and generative. Through an experimental cartographic approach called inefficient mapping and via drawing and critical stitching practices, Linda Knight explores how experimental cartographies help to create counter-narratives of colonisation across its many contact zones.

Rather than a human wandering about in spaces and taking notice of things to draw, *inefficient mapping* provokes thinking differently about the ethics of the encounter and of being human, of the coloniser who has fenced off, stolen, fought for, hunted on, farmed, listened to, birthed on, hacked up, planted into these spaces and keeps that central during the process of wayfinding.

In the citizen shadows series, Knight conducted a citizen census of the urban citizenry in Brisbane, Australia via thirty small, in-situ mappings recorded over the duration of a month. The shadow; ubiquitous to each citizen, whether solid, liquid, or gas, was the common factor Knight mapped to conduct the census. The citizen shadows series experiments with the speculative possibilities of establishing a more-than-human civics, and how this might be actualised.

An Associate Professor at RMIT University, Australia, Linda is an award-winning, internationally recognised artist and scholar. Linda is the Founder and Director of Mapping Future Imaginaries, an international group of artists, creatives, scholars, and industry specialists exploring ideas about our future lives and the world.

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