

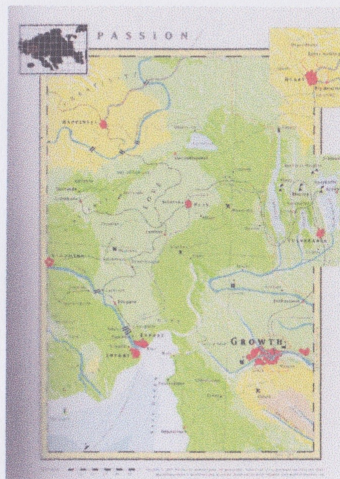
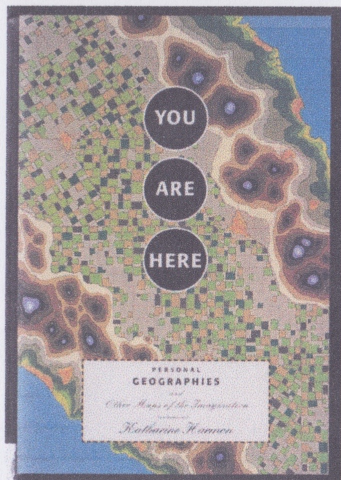
SEVEN WORKSHOP 6 - Mapping Personal Geographies

YOU ARE HERE

Humans have an urge to map, a mapping instinct - maps up to 8000 years old have been found carved into rock..Max Ernst stared at a stained wall to make out forms of imagined countries in the water stains...there are of course mapping conventions – but creative 'mapping' is beyond taking a point from A to B – it's about using a map as a vehicle for/terrain of the imagination – the contour lines of experience. Maps use a coded visual language.

Maps can be micro or macro: eg genetic maps – mapping DNA - to attempts to map the universe..maps ultimately testify to our belief in the value of exploration – whether the compass is pointed inward or out.

When the mind comes to rest we find ourselves back where we started where HERE intersects NOW.



Refs: You Are Here - Personal Geographies and Other Maps of the Imagination by Katherine Harmon Princeton Architectural Press



Drawing Exercises: **mapping**

WHERE ARE YOU? ideas.....

1. stick down a fragment of a map on the middle of an empty double page spread - continue its lines out from the edges in pencil - whichever way you like – loosen up, meander...ie they can connect up/span out/widen/loop around/dead ends etc etc it is a fantasy – doesn't have to make sense.
2. Take a piece of a map and block in negative spaces with colour/pattern.
3. Take a piece of city map & re-name the roads/rivers/parks etc with poetic ideas of place The Road to...Nowhere?? or a map of mood might include: happiness avenue, creativity crescent, growth, appreciation, impatience, expectation etc. You could cut out evocative words from magazines to make it more random.
4. Fold cut weave - try manipulating a map to create a new structure.
5. Look for a shape within the map using the lines made by the roads, rivers etc.

