

# Affective mapping

A creative process to map a landscape, an artists' walk through it and the encounters and feelings experienced.

## 1. Materials

- A printed map of the area.
- Good quality tracing paper, around 60gsm.
- Masking tape
- Fine/medium tip marker – black and red
- Watercolour paper
- Watercolour paints/gouache/ink or other medium for abstract mark-making

## 2. Paint

Reflect on the location you visited – what does it mean to you? How did you feel there? Was it pleasant or uncomfortable? Do you notice mild feelings and thoughts or strong?

What colours and colour blends might reflect those thoughts and feelings?

Spend time playing with colours and shapes on the paper – experiment with wet on dry, wet on wet; allow colours to blend on the paper, try different marks and forms. See what colours, mixes and marks capture the experience of the artists' walk.

## 3. Trace

While the watercolours are drying, tape a printed map to the table or flat, smooth surface.

Tape a sheet of tracing paper over the top, and trace elements of the map using a fine/medium marker. Include and exclude elements as you wish.

Remove the first sheet of tracing paper and tape another sheet of tracing paper over the map. Using a different colour marker, trace the route that you walked.

## 4. Combine

Once the watercolour sheets have fully dried, begin to lay the traced maps on top.

Try different combinations, if you traced a larger map of the area, try two water colour sheets together under the tracing.

Once you are happy with the watercolours and traced map, lay the tracing of the walking route over the top of the map.

Continue to experiment with new maps, colour mixes and walking routes.

Once you are happy with the final pieces, place the layered sheets into a frame or mount.