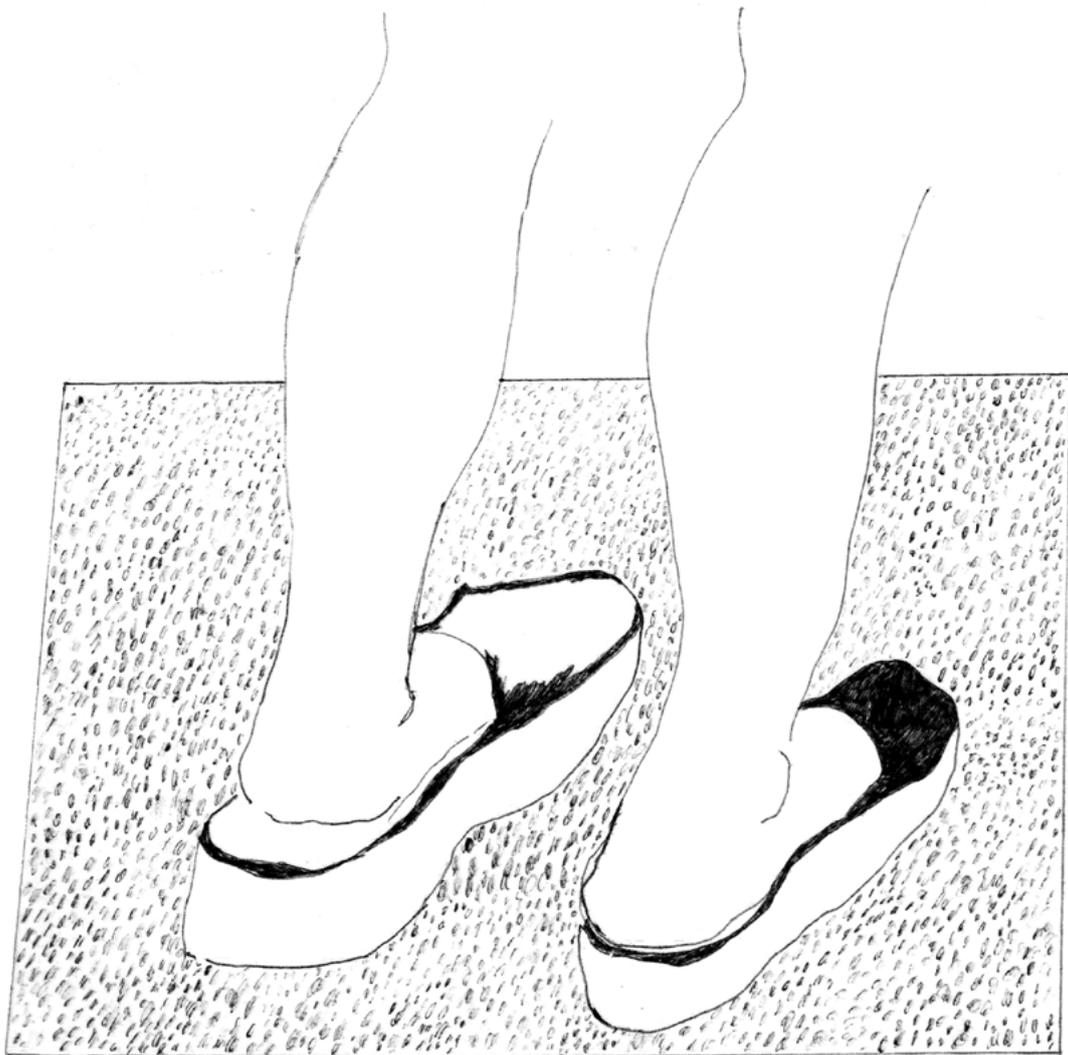


# Corridor CHAIN/MAIL

**Issue 3: Greater Manchester/Lancashire/Cumbria**



The following text (and preceding image) is the result of an ongoing conversation. Staged between video calls and Google Docs, *temporary occupancy* became the conduit to make sense of the participants' positions within the various regions they occupy. What follows is a metalogue of sorts — a text collaged together from responses, the responses themselves refigured to varying degrees — to provide a departure point for further thought and interaction.

*Temporary Occupancy* — two words hovering at the top of the Google Doc.  
The response is a procedure we have come to terms with.  
Lasting for a limited period of time; not permanent;

It's the action or fact of occupying a place  
usually describing an ongoing condition of precarity.

in this instance a working title;  
a (working) procedure to think through.  
It suggests a place, a time, a situation we have taken on.

Proposing it as a shared starting point  
Beginning with what feels urgent.  
Working spatially; thinking rhythmically.

Overlapping, a physical unfolding of collaborative thought.  
The emergence of a plural.

***Listening faster than you can speak.***

INHABITING ~ WITNESSING ~ PRACTICING

This is the temporary embodiment of another's thinking —  
*a pastiche, a method, a process.*

A dynamic building of collective practice,  
enacting a form of thinking together.  
(drawn from the corners of the regions)

Writing together with intention.

***Paying attention to the proximity at which we can observe things.***

What conceptual lines of enquiry might emerge when  
we try to make sense of something together?

This is part artistic gesture, part reflection, part networking opportunity,

made real through your reading.

Abstract social forms manifested by the people populating them.  
Giving texture to what we know / how we feel.

The region as an assemblage, *a metaphor for interconnectedness going beyond the physical;  
beyond the boundary.*

[ how do we even set boundaries? ]

Not always fixed / a constantly contested—socio-cultural—site.  
Imagining flexible boundaries of presence and absence.

*An essential means of working together without boundaries.*

### ***Intruding on someone's space.***

how do they move,  
*how do they move you?*

A progressive terrain of working together to generate some sort of agency.

An attempt to hold open a space for new interrelations, connections and collaborative processes of enquiry.

Taking up space within something or someone else.  
Making space for someone else.

### ***Now, how might you we speak?***

The voice from a region; having enough voices coming from those regions.

Exploring questions of how and where we develop in  
unforeseeable ways, shaping, exceeding boundaries of regionalism.

in situ — in actu

How can others enter into these places being built?  
To re-centre, to assemble, to arrange here.

Landscapes; the space actions happen within; play out within.  
Its presence intrudes and matters even when it's overlooked.

Never empty; always emptied — *now purposefully.*

Get comfortable being empty.

/repeating routes from muscle memory/

When you are ready to leave,  
open your eyes.

**Creating movements; building on something.**

Cohabiting spaces of thinking and modes of writing

Temporary infrastructures; drifting with our elements, objects, ideas.  
Not guided by representations but the very idea of moving along.

In the haze of the plateau  
these half formed concepts merge,  
the once clear image of sands, bodies and boundaries,  
lies unoccupied once more and  
the terrain is unfamiliar and pock marked  
with rocks and other forms that elude definition.

Creating new edges; with temporary centres.

/ not flattened as the changes meld together / but augmented and reformed /  
adrift in a new place already forming over the old /

Where are we situated and where are we going from there?

allowing ourselves and others to feel part of different spaces in place and time.

How often do we stand in these overlapping places / that change by the hour or  
the decade or the pull of the moon or the whim of a far removed entity /  
how often do they forget to change back?  
how many times has this pattern played out?

**We must pay attention to their thoughts,**

Collectively making sense of our states of being, alone together.

We progress,  
traversing different zones and sites.  
How were these set up?  
How might we create more spaces to move through?  
And what might move through them?

straddling boundaries between ideas and forms;

The transcript memorialises words that should be ephemeral as  
Technology evacuates the physical distance between us.

(excited exclamations dictated  
in successive volume)

/ rocking backwards and forwards over a pivotal moment of existence /

***No escape from temporary occupancy, how do we turn that  
into a strength rather than a site of ongoing precarity?***

to imagine future possibilities.

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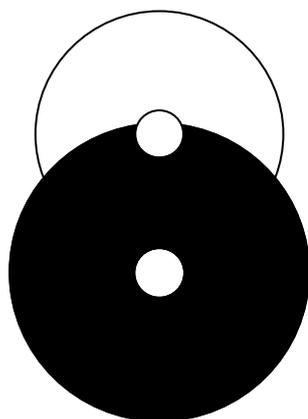
‘two feet in their shoes planted’,  
Bryony Dawson, 2020

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