

Uncanny Landscapes

For many years, I have been interested in the Japanese concept of genfukei 「原風景」 which might be translated as 'original landscape'. I think of it as the landscape that has shaped us as individuals -that we carry in our heads and that may influence the way we structure our thoughts. This workshop will question the familiar and known landscape we operate in. Consisting of three parts, The first section will involve using drawing practice within the venue space itself. We will then use the drawings created as a way of opening up a discussion about what the uncanny in landscape might mean. I want to use this drawing exercise to look at what a sense of the original and familiar in landscape might be and how we might attempt to visually represent it.

The second part of the session will involve exploratory and recording work of the neighbourhood surrounding the venue, using photography and sketching to engage with the uncanny aspects of this space. Finally, we will 'curate' a small exhibition of the work that has been produced during the workshop.

10:30-10:45 introduction, me, everyone's names, genfukei
10:45-11:15 genfukei drawing (start with photography books if necessary)
11:15-11:30 discussion of the uncanny
11:30-11:45 what would make your genfukei uncanny? alter the drawing
11:45-12:00 pin up and discuss
12:00-13:00 walk and record and then propose something to make it uncanny
13:00-13:30 pin up and discuss

Attended by:

Caron Lipman c.w.limpman@qmul.ac.uk

Researcher at Queen Mary in geography? PhD on haunted houses, now researching how people relate to or deal with past inhabitants in the houses they live in etc.

Rupert Griffiths rupertg@fragmentedcity.net

PhD student/researcher at Royal Holloway geography

Childhood pyromaniac! interesting photographer, interesting thinker

James Thurgill james_thurgill@hotmail.com

PhD student/research at Royal Holloway geography

Nina Williams nina.williams@bristol.ac.uk

PhD student in geography at Bristol. Interested in activities that take people out of their comfort zones to confront space in new ways



Rupert, 'play farm' where parents were not at home so boy who lived there and friends got up to all sorts of mischief – fire in the river, rockets, etc.



Caron has just added a loft room to her house with office giving a view!! Grew up in city (Manchester perhaps?) always loved children's book illustrations of a road or vista disappearing around the corner



Nina lived in something like 40 houses growing up. Has some specific memories but not really a gen fukei!



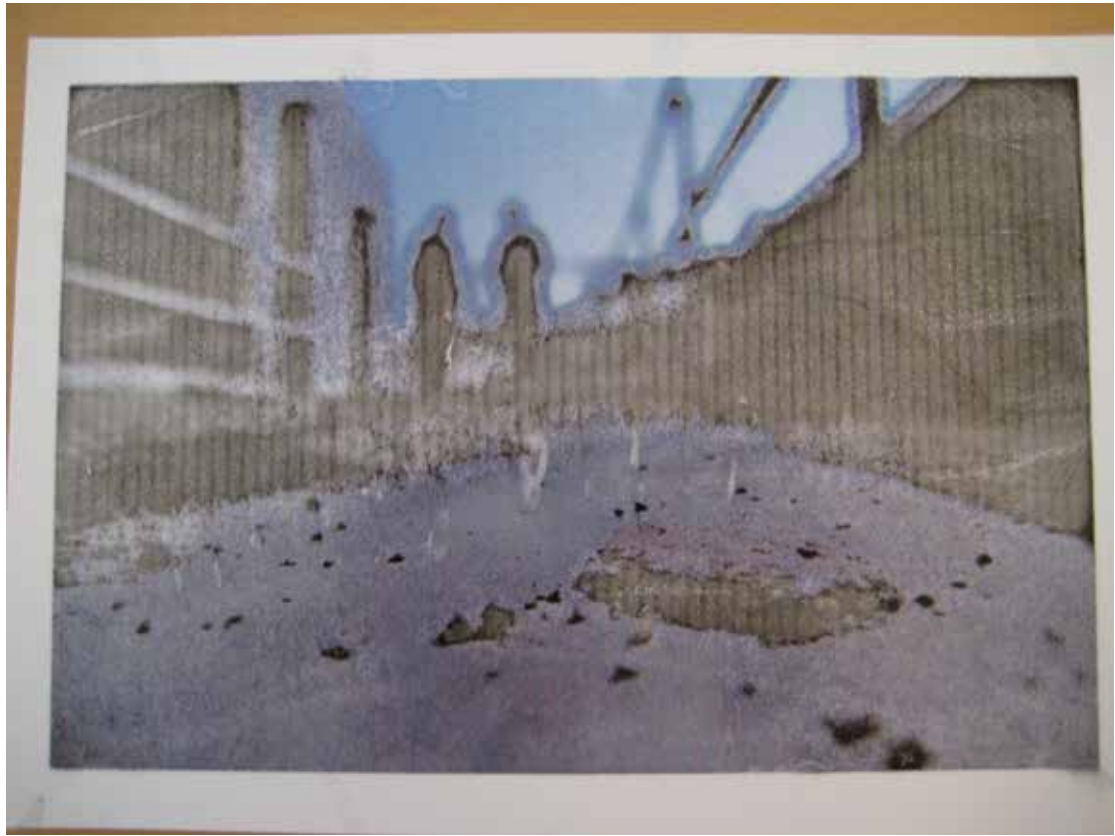
James: Norfolk artificial lake/pond, slow spot in a river divided from a sort of artificial waterfall to lower flow where older kids fished, across the river was dangerous, full of huge pike, no go zone, rope swing danger of getting caught in the weeds at the bottom

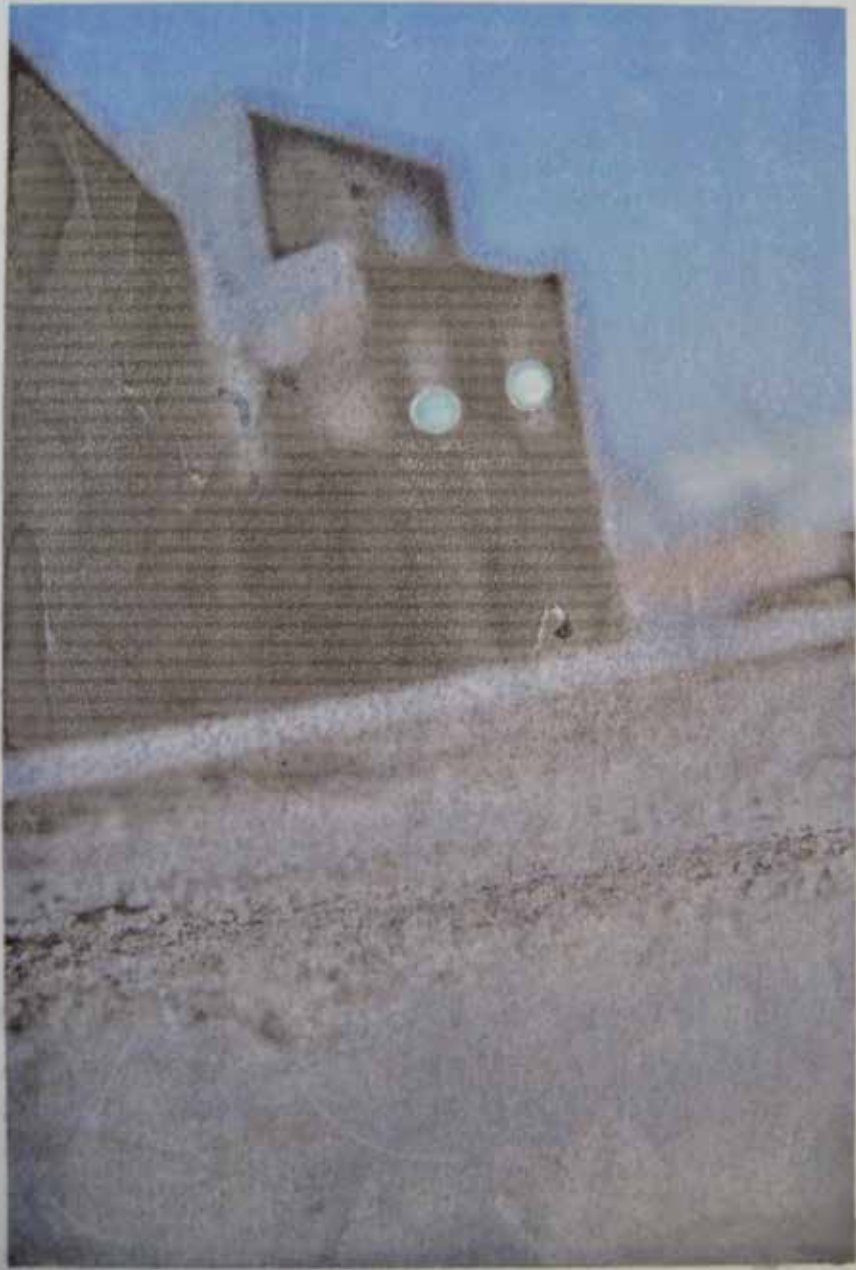


good old slateford







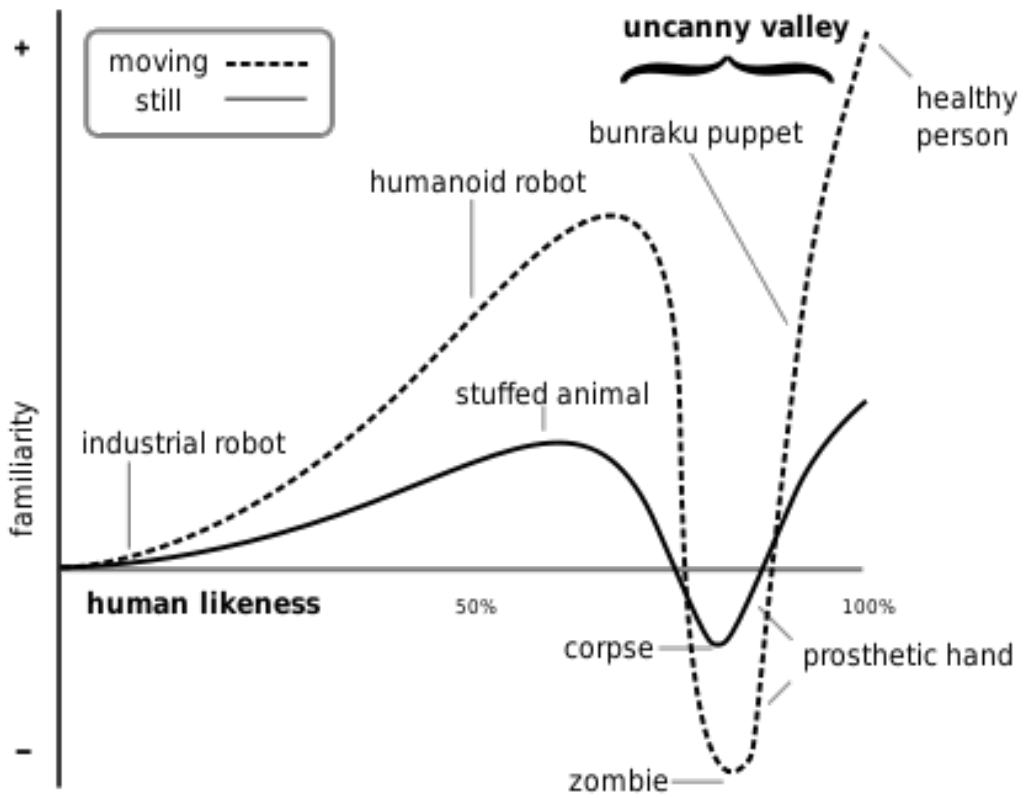












https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uncanny_valley