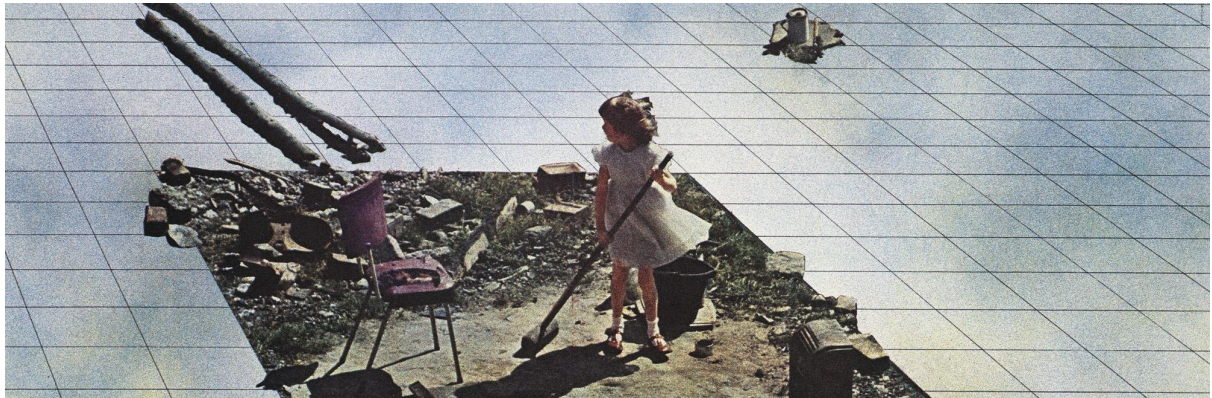


✿ DÉRIVE *DRIFT* 🚤🚤🚤 Memory Palace Edition 🏰 ✿





Depending on what you are after, choose an area, a more or less populous city, a more or less lively street. Build a house. Furnish it. Make the most of its decoration and surroundings. Choose the season and the time. Gather together the right people, the best records and drinks. Lighting and conversation must of course be appropriate, along with the weather and your memories. If your calculations are correct, you should find the outcome satisfying.

Situationist International, *Potlatch* #1 vol 22, June 1954

Dérive "a mode of experimental behavior linked to the conditions of urban society; a technique of rapid passage through varied ambiances" "an emotional (dis)orientation".

Guy Debord, *Theory of the Dérive*, *Les Lèvres Nues* #9, November 1956

While [psychogeographic approaches](#) have typically examined the terrains of [the cities we move through](#), in response to COVID-19 life we cordially invite you (and the trusted others you are isolated with!) to creatively explore more **intimate terrains** with us - your spaces of care, escape, solitude, refuge, and more - and how the words we think with and shape our worlds through may be associated with the histories that surround, enrich or oppress us. This short & creative (15 min) activity will help us build our [project's glossary](#) in 4D, not 2D.

 **To begin the activity, grab these materials...** 

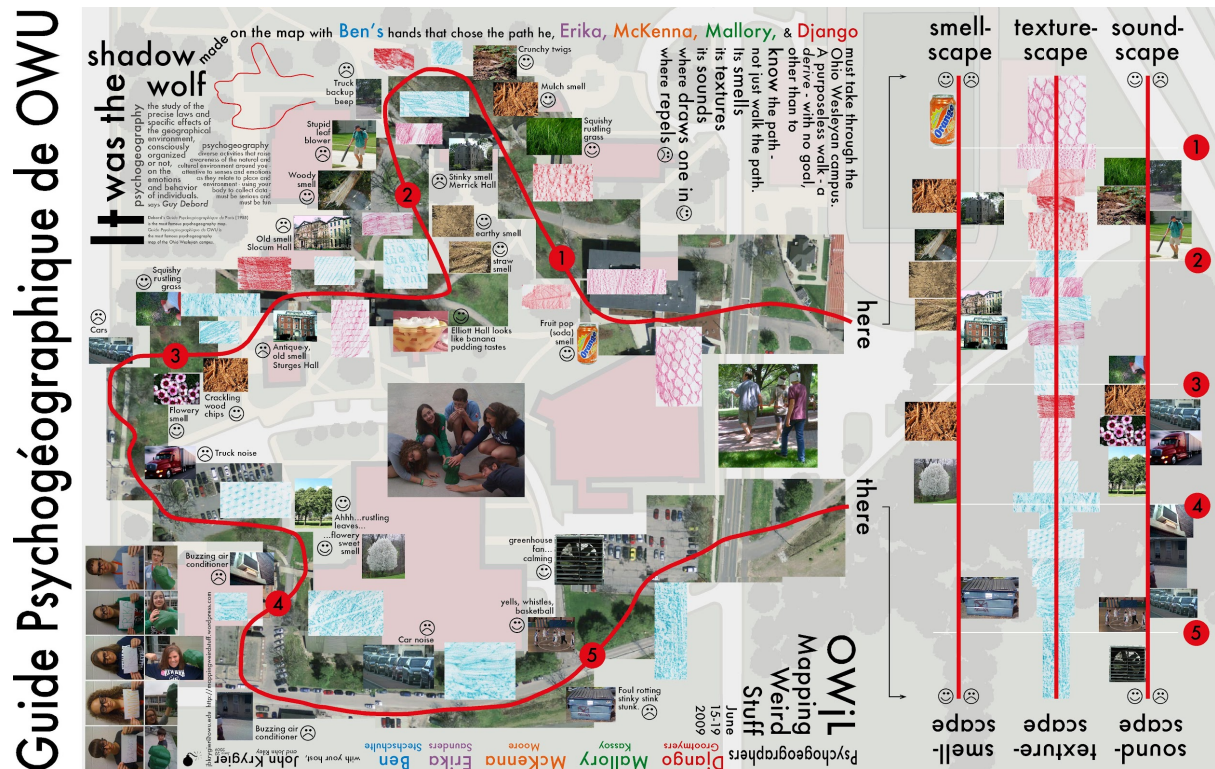
- ❖ 2 pages of plain paper
- ❖ Marker pens (choose your favourite colours!)
- ❖ A camera (any kind will do)
- ❖ A chosen companion, if you like, and your imaginations :)

 **And now, time to embark on the dérive...** 

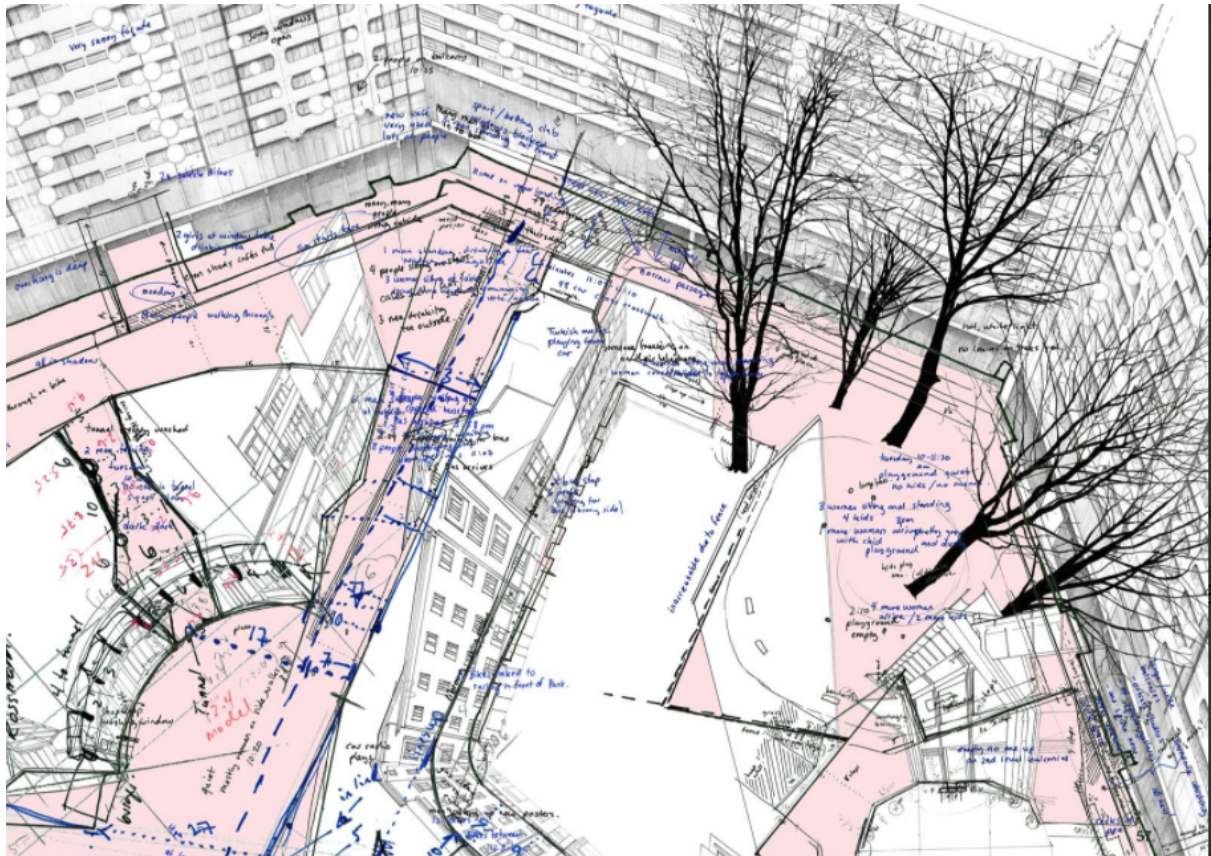
- 1) First, choose whether you'd like to explore a) your flat, or b) your local outdoor space. We're going to invite the following two terms from our glossary, **"adaptation"** and **"uncertainty"**, along with a **third term** of your choosing from [this list](#) (note that you can also add a new term you think is suitable!), on an adventure through this terrain.
- 2) Now, let's have our first [flâneur](#)-esque *dérive* or tour through your chosen space. Take the time to really **look** at it, and consider questions you might not ask it on an average day, such as: "What kind of space were you before I knew you?" and "How might I explore your terrain in ways that are unexpected, creative and/or playful?" Pay close attention to your reactions - things that jump out; aspects of the built environment that you enjoy and/or choose to ignore; gut feelings; atmospheres.
- 3) Now that you've had a thoughtful walk through the space and its many places, it's time to consider the [memory palaces](#) that you may have associated with it. Separate **Page 1** into 3 sections, and place each term at the top of these sections. Now invite each of your 3 terms on to join you on a [word tour](#) of the space. Reflect on how the term relates to the objects that you have chosen to keep in your home-space (or that someone else has chosen **for** you), or the structures and beings in your local park. Consider how these memory labyrinths may also have been constructed, and maintained, in correlation with your sensory experiences, e.g. sights, rhythms, smells, sounds, taste, and physical relations with other entities. Write down or sketch your thoughts as you drift through the space in the company of each of your 3 terms.
- 4) Using the data you have gathered, use the [second side](#) of **Page 1** to make a [3x3 grid](#). At the top of the grid, write each term. In the left-hand column, describe the term as you would typically see it defined in your space/context/time. In the middle column, write what's missing from this 'accepted' definition - what Michel Foucault called "absences in the discourse" - e.g. stones left unturned, stories left unheard, or how the word is enacted in other languages and cultures. In the right-hand column, share a few excerpts or quotes that stick out from the *dérive* you and the term have shared - e.g. unexpected or intriguing things that emerged from your own memory palace.
- 5) Now for the fun part! On **Page 2**, choose 1 of the terms, and design a Mind Palace Map for that term, according to the space you explored together. Keep in mind this is meant to be playful, personal and evocative - not practical! You can visualise the space, and your memory palaces that embody it, however you like. The wilder, the better. You might choose to do this by cutting and pasting clippings from magazines that help you associate things, for example, or by placing a series of happy, sad, confused, etc. faces next to each of the images on your map, to point out exactly what the process of experiencing and thinking with those sensations felt like. The

Situationist maps below have joined us to provide you with some extra inspiration. On the second side of Page 2, write out a few reflections from this process. Think about the following questions: How is your understanding of the space you have roamed through associated with your own rituals, creative practices, histories and ecologies? How are the terms you have walked alongside associated with these?

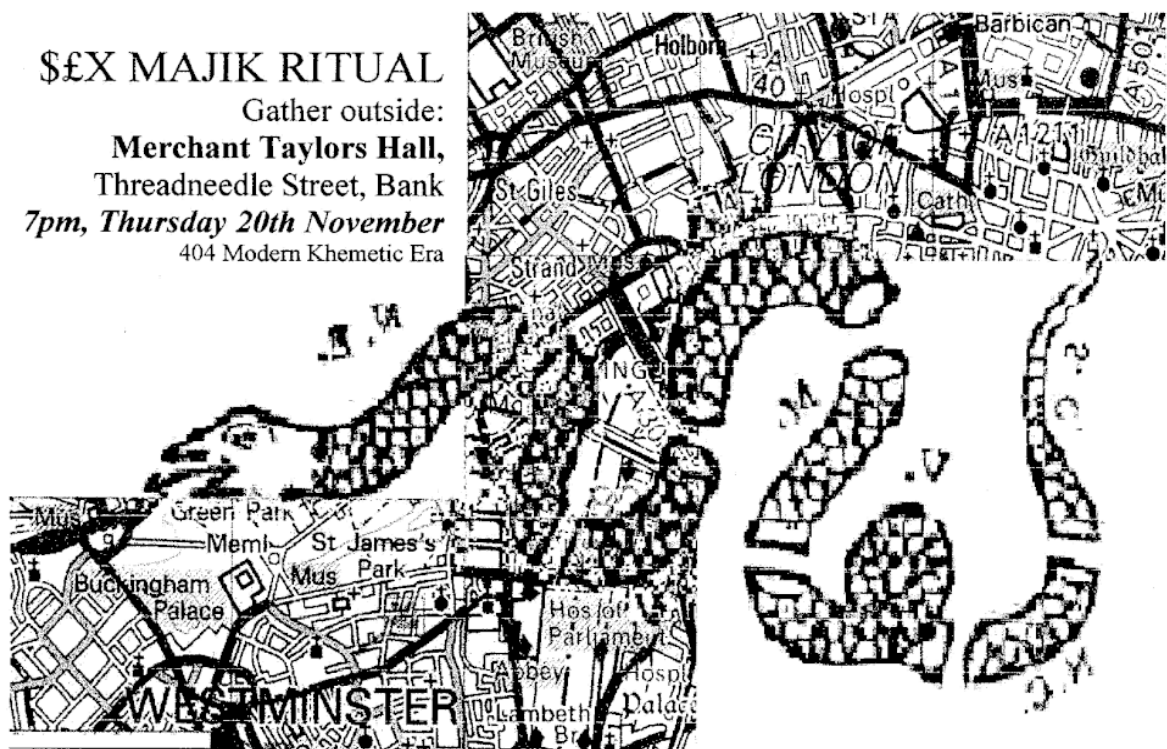
- 6) Thanks for adventuring with us! Please take **photos** of Pages 1 & 2, and email these to Kat (k.braybrooke@sussex.ac.uk) along with a bit of feedback on how the activity worked for you and yours. The map is now yours, to enjoy and build on. 🏠🔥



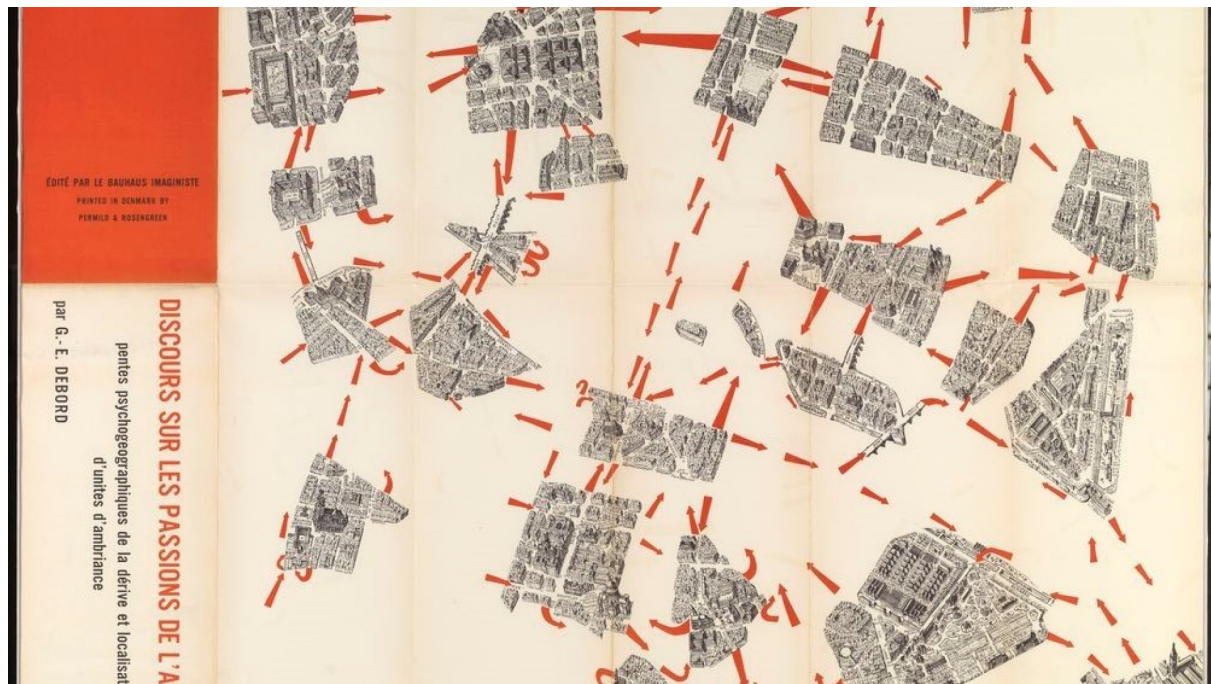
Source: 'Guide Psychogéographique de OWU', makingmaps.net, 2009. [[High res img](#)]



Source: Larissa Fasler, 'Kotti, Berlin', Uncube Magazine, 2010. [\[Zoomed-in img\]](#)



Source: 'Sex Majik', evoL PsychogeogrAphix collective, 2004. [\[High res img\]](#)



Source: 'Guide psychogéographique de Paris', Guy Debord, 1952. [[High res img](#)]