



Mapping Meaning

A photodynamic gardening workshop with Trudi Lynn Smith.

Above Image: "with compost", Trudi Lynn Smith, anothotype, 2021

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

Workshop Dates: June 13-14, 2023

Final Event: June 15, 2023

Location: Hudson Valley, New York (Bard College Farm and Studio Kipp in Rhinebeck)

Respond by April 30:

<https://forms.gle/SbypwmckzPChMFT6>

Mapping Meaning invites artists, activists, scientists, community members, and scholars from all disciplines and backgrounds to participate in a unique summer workshop, "Photodynamic Gardening" with Trudi Lynn Smith.

This two-day workshop will experiment with plant-based photography, a dynamic image-making process engaging everyday ecologies. Conventional analog and digital photographic processes are based on ambitions for permanence and grounded in toxic and environmentally damaging relationships between both people and places. In contrast, we'll focus on fugitive photography practices, known as anothotypes and phytotypes that were first popularized in the 19th century before becoming supplanted by more permanent chemical processes. Cultivating a practice with impermanence and uncertainty, we'll make images in relationship with plants, places, the sun and weather. Our hope is to embrace an ethic grounded in relational practices of photography that explicitly aim to reclaim photography into a lively relationship between humans, images, and plants.

In this workshop we will:

- Introduce participants to ways of restoring existing gardens or community garden plots into dynamic places rooted in ecological image-making processes. Through our time together, participants will gain an understanding of plant selection, garden design, ethical foraging, gleaning, and harvesting.
- Explore and learn what plants are suitable for everyday image making.
- Collaborate with local ecologies in the Hudson Valley, such as the Bard College Farm, where we will gather materials for our own creative practice and experiments with emulsion-making.
- Create emulsions with plant materials, and create both group and individual emulsion pours onto various sizes of paper. Then we'll gather material/bits/beings on contemplative and reflective walks. These will form the basis of our images that we'll set up for exposure in the sun.

With summer solstice on the horizon, this will be a celebration of the sun, weather and image making that will culminate with sharing a temporary installation of work and closing party on June 15th for those able to attend. Participants will leave with sun printed images and several additional poured emulsions for future images.

This workshop is developed by Trudi Lynn Smith, in collaboration with *Mapping Meaning*, the Bard College Farm, the Center for Experimental Humanities, and the Center for Environmental Sciences and Humanities at Bard College, Annandale.

* Please note: For those returning to Mapping Meaning, Toni Wynn will be orienting us towards the space of Norrie State Park, and guiding us through the closing session of this year's Mapping Meaning meeting. Toni is a writer, poet, and editor whose work lives in museums, anthologies, works of book-art, and scholarly articles, and is a trained conflict manager who supports social justice and the best in us all.

About Trudi Lynn Smith

Trudi is an artist, anthropologist, educator and clinical counsellor. Trudi works collaboratively with human and more than human communities at the intersection of experimental art, ethnography, and political ecology. They received an MA in Environmental Studies and a PhD in Visual Art and Anthropology from the University of Victoria and is currently an Adjunct Assistant Professor in the School of Environmental Studies at University of Victoria. Learn more here:

<https://www.trudilynnsmith.com/>

About Mapping Meaning

Mapping Meaning is an interdisciplinary project that brings together artists, scientists and scholars to explore new modes of acting in the face of social and ecological emergency. For over a decade this multi-generational collective has been gathering together around experimental knowledge practices via workshops, exhibitions, and transdisciplinary research. Learn more about the project here: <http://www.mappingmeaning.org/>

Please note that space is limited to approximately 12 participants.

Please indicate your interest in participating no later than April 30, 2023.

Workshop Fee: \$125 due upon notification (this fee includes two lunches, one dinner, and reception at closing event, as well as all workshop supplies.) We are happy to work on a sliding scale for those for whom cost is prohibitive.

