

The Ephemeral Library Society

Wednesdays from 5pm - 7pm
The Commons, 4th Floor, 401 Richmond St West
January 10, 17, 24 & February 7, 14

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This exhibit of personal archival materials was formed by participants during the final session of the Ephemeral Library Society, a six-week gathering series that explored themes relevant to performance art and archives. We hope you will enjoy spending time with the materials presented here, in the aftermath from our ephemeral community.

Marisa Kelly

***How Sassy Changed My Life: A Love Letter to the Greatest Teen Magazine of All Time*, by Kara Jesella and Marisa Meltzer**

Magazines being a safe haven for finding oneself is a particular cultural moment I am afraid is lost in the digital age. I find this nostalgic, and a love letter to ephemera, zines and magazines. Plus one of the authors and I share a name.

Esther Splett
Jilted-X Zine

Elliot Creager

***Metamagical Themas: Questing for the Essence of Mind and Pattern* by Douglas Hofstadter**

Heather Rule

Bonny Stern Spicy Tomato Penne Recipe Card

This dish was an important childhood staple that I have prepared hundreds of times for myself and my sister. I chose it because of how food embodies ephemerality and though this meal can be made today by following the instructions on the card it will never be the same as when we were kids. Side note: I once met Bonny Stern and told her how much this recipe means to me and my sister and she completely dismissed me. Never meet your heroes.

Claudia Edwards

Bronze shoes, 1/2. 2014

Modeled after a pair of my own shoes, each positive was handcrafted from wax before casting. A sculpture major in art school at the time, growing weary of the material waste, toxicity, and surplus value intrinsic to traditional mediums, I found solace in Beuys' notion of "social sculpture." A nod to his own leaden foot,* the shoes mark one of the last "sculptures" I made, serving as a literal stepping stone to performance-based work. I have worn the shoes in numerous performances since, repurposing them each time. They also make great bookends.

* *How to Explain Pictures to a Dead Hare*. Beuys, Joseph. 1965.

Johanna Householder

Dirt bundle wrapped in blue fabric, 2002

This material memento is from Cheli Nighttraveller's HalfbreedLand, Admission: Dirt Cheap! (2002), a performance presented in the 4th 7a*11d International Festival of Performance Art at Art System, Toronto. [Video recording of the performance is available at www.7a-11d.ca]

Cheli's statement: *What land can a halfbreed person lay claim to? When claiming one's culture feels at times like thievery, perhaps it is time to develop new skills for acquiring cultural value. The halfbreed, in her role of cultural scavenger is more than happy to make others' useless dirt her own.*

Christopher Peterson

Smooth rock; religious icon; personal collection

Leena Raudvee

Finding Balance, 2023

This card is an artifact from my performance for LEGS 2023. I walk with a walker or walking sticks to maintain balance. My performance was a meditation on the need to find balance, personally and globally. The stone is from the opening ritual for LEGS led by Pam Patterson.

Mikiki

Handwritten text on plastic bag, created by Anthea Black and Mikiki for a performance by Mikiki during the 2023 festival, *One Brief History of Drag: Reacting to 25 Years of Performances by Mikiki.*

Jordan King

8mm camcorder footage shot in New York, personal archive

Irene Xie

Audio recording of railway station, traveling from Beijing Fengtai to Tiananmen West; the recording was played one final time into an envelope, then erased.

Rita Camacho Lomeli

Cage, Zen & Chance, 2021 - ongoing

I created a bolted book with the manila envelopes I used to activate the performance reading-group I did for the 12th Annual ReVIEWING Black Mountain College conference that featured John Cage's ideas and practices. My contribution to FADO's vitrine is one page of the book, envelope 3/64, and its contents, a photocopy of Cage's essay Experimental Doctrine.

Isaak Fong

Journal / sketchbook; Star Magazine Vol.1 2023