

Eye-opener: The phenomenologies of landscape drawing

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What can the practice of *plein air* painting and drawing bring to our understandings of spatiality and visuality, landscape and materiality? This presentation will reflect upon a year-long visual arts-based collaboration between myself and a fine artist (Catrin Webster). I will focus especially upon the lived practice of landscape drawing, and thus upon the skills and habits of visual and spatial apprehension which the incorporation of painterly practice affords. I will also discuss the specific materialities of different painterly mediums and processes – for instance, the surface matter of the canvas, the sheen/smudge of charcoal, and the wash/dry of watercolours. More widely, addressing the practice of landscape drawing at the intersection of cultural geography, spatial theory and fine art enables critical reflection on a number of longstanding conceptual issues for both geographers and visual artists. In this context, I want to conclude my presentation by discussing more widely aspects relationality, distance and objecthood, and by speaking of landscape in terms of worldly rendition.