



★ **TURF PROJECTS GALLERY, WORKSPACE & STUDIOS, WHITGIFT CENTRE**

Founded in 2013 by Croydon locals, Turf Projects is the first entirely artist-run contemporary art space in Croydon, South London. A registered charity, Turf has supported the work of over 300 artists to date through a programme of free public exhibitions, workshops and events. Turf also run vocational skills workshops for artists, MOSS (a collective of learning disabled adult artists), Art Press (a young peoples collective of Croydon locals aged 14-21), a support & residency programme for Croydon School of Art students, family workshops, projects with local schools & more. Established by creatives with a personal connection to the borough, Turf currently exists across two ex-retail units.

● **TURF PROJECTS STUDIOS, KEELEY ROAD**

■ **Fungus Press Pond Poster Structure**

◆ **Fungus Press Community Garden Poster Structure**

* **Fungus Press Reeves Corner Poster Structure**

* **Fungus Press Walled Garden Poster Structure**

○ **EXCHANGE SQUARE**

Featured Turf's first exhibition 'Putt Putt' in October 2013

▶ **RUSKIN SQUARE**

Area designed by MUF featured Turf's exhibition 'Putt Putt #2', 2014. Ruskin Square was the starting point for Vincent Lacovara's 'Seven Hills of Croydon' a walking tour of Croydon's multi-level car parks.

FUNGUS PRESS is an ever evolving artist poster project, which started in 2014

As concerns grow regarding the privatisation of public spaces across London, and elsewhere, Fungus Press invites artists, designers & writers to respond to Croydon's public spaces through a series of newly commissioned billboard artworks. The text-based posters aim to discuss and celebrate the importance and potential of Croydon's public spaces, offering alternative ways to navigate the area; both geographically and temporally. They speak of Croydon's untold past and its yet to be written future; reasserting the essential role that green spaces play throughout civic life: from articulating our sense of place, to encouraging democratic engagement.

The Reeves Corner structure was designed by George Chinnery. The Park Hill Walled Garden noticeboard was designed and made by artist & woodcarver Esme Toler.

MANDISA APENA // **made known and navigated through** // 4 June - 1 August 2019

'A shared consciousness sits in the roots of trees, spreads, grows...'

Our stunted relationship with the natural earth means we are misplacing signs critical to our survival. In this current climate meltdown, humans can not afford to ignore the bountiful information stored within nature that's being shared with us.

'made known and navigated through' is a journey through our local woods and beyond, with the aim of gathering knowledge and documenting these encounters. It's also an attempt to publicise a private record of relearning how to direct oneself in the absence of commonplace signage.

Through the process of psychogeography, and the practice of Guy Debord's "dérive" (drift; unplanned journeys through a certain terrain, exploring by way of emotion and instinct), I explored the 'public' landscape of the woods, that often felt very private and distant. I imagined what kind of knowledge we could collectively glean from communing with our natural environment, especially in London. Consequently, I co-led a workshop with poets Tice Cin and Zahrah Sheikh. We used the human body and mind as a conduit for the voice of nature, embedding ourselves in a local woods (Coombe Woods) and using the framework of dreams to 'let nature speak' via our subconscious. We can retune with natural spaces through engaging quietly with them - taking directionless walks and rebranching, limb to limb. We can walk without aim or direction, a transgression and rebellion of everyday politics.

This is part of an on-going project about modern communication. I'd love to hear your thoughts, and stories of communication with/in nature. Email: mandisaapena@hotmail.com

ARTIST BIO: mandisa apena is a cancer sun and part time vegan from South London. They are interested in contemporary art, ecology, dreams and post-apocalyptic cannibalism. They are a Barbican Young Poet alumni, member of London Queer Writers, host of occasional queer poetry night poetry: 'hot 4 u' and author of self-published poetry book 'and twice as bitter'.

For more information about current & forthcoming artist commissions and related events visit: www.turf-projects.com // email: chris@turf-projects.com // instagram: [@f_ng_s](https://www.instagram.com/@f_ng_s)

