

Intervention 1

Mood, Moment and Movement in City

Observation + Social Understanding + Finding Impetus

Living in the outskirts of the city allowed me to be an implicit observer in transit. My experiences of travelling and sketching in public transport generated an inclination to closely study human conduct, and questioning the structures of our society and communal responsibilities. In the past decade, I have captured varied momentarily encounters through sketching, drawings, and photography that synthesizes into oil paintings, mixed media drawings, video, simple link mechanism, photography, and object intervention.

However, what happens in a transit?

Is it just our body that is transiting?

Transition is alternatively perceived as a Gap or a threshold in my practice...where multiple incidents are overlapping in the continuum of everyday life and builds a vast reservoir of normally unnoticed, trivial, and repetitive actions.

This reservoir, then becomes a point of departure to further investigate the behaviour, intentions, and politics involved with local spaces and people.

In this process, walk became an integral exercise and metaphorical connotation to refer the transient, inescapable act. Here, the motion is triggering a set of varied psychological, emotional, participatory actions. Walking with a purpose or without always has an known or unknown intention , and my interest is to involve in this through my artistic expressions.

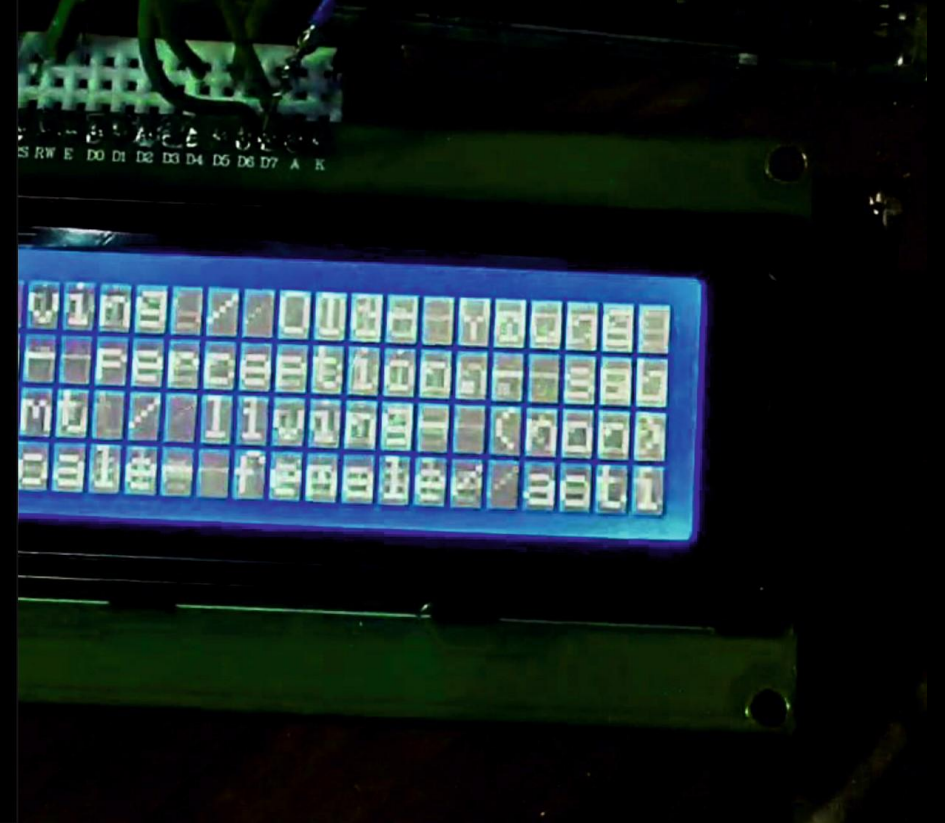
MIND THE GAP

What is Gap?
What lies in Gap?
What constructs Gap?

What is realized through
G a p ?
Is Gap a kind of
D e m a r c a t i o n ?

How Gaps are navigated?

What if there is NO-GAP?



Simply used as a utilitarian safety warning and stock phrase it draws my interest towards the repetitively used audiovisual directives that become colloquial. Here, I see Gap as a vast entity that relates in both personal as well as socio political context. It is a realization for consciously created demarcations in Caste / Class / Gender / Space and creates certain distance and imbalance. By leaning into the vicinity of Gap, I try to explore its variability in temporal and psychical dimensions.

Gap is also about the insecurity of the future, and inability to experience the past. It is continuously changing and moving with an uncertainty that is yet full of possibilities. Sometimes Gap is a necessity for seeking balance and another time, it may cause disbalance. Changing as delicately as the dingy lanes of a busy market and the bodily control in this chaotic situation, it is also about Mental Gaps with a consciously maintained difference while sharing thoughts.

Delving further into the everyday act of walking, seen as and through movement & pause is explored in the works below. Here, Door Mat became an object of intervention, always placed at the threshold of spaces and serving the purpose to make one conscious about their entrance into a distinct space, this marking itself creates a gap.

These traditionally used choir mats (almost out of fashion these days) were engraved with an excerpt, inviting the viewer to walk and read over these mats. Displayed along with walking legs paintings, the act of walking and seeing become one. Eventually observing an ever moving mechanised leg raising a query upon where do we intend to reach?



Mind the Gap

Display View at Serendipity Art Festival 2019

Laser Engraving and paint on Coir Mats, photography, oil on canvas, drawing on board and linc mechanism from measuring tape



One of the Doormat with engraved text "Mind The Gap" was placed at the main entrance apart from the cluster of other mats. Would you step on it or would you not?



The text is erased over a period of time. Like the mundane utility objects are forgotten.





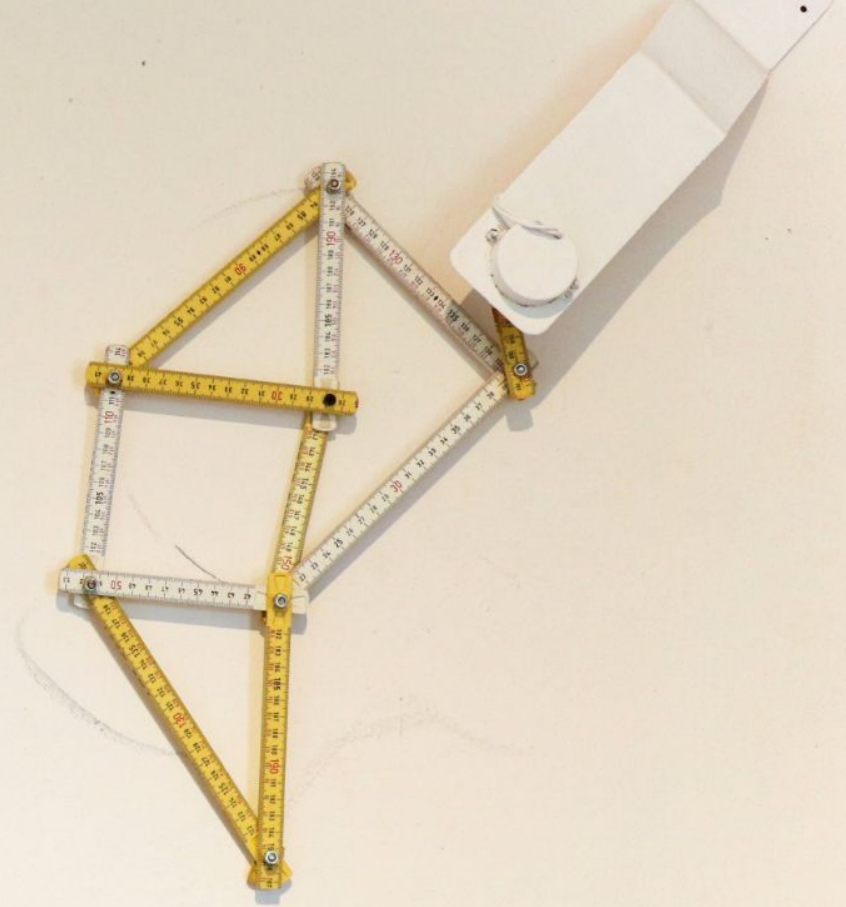
Mind the Gap
Oil on Canvas, Drawing on Board
set of 16, 9" x 16" each

THE ORDINARY PRACTITIONERS OF THE CITY
LIVE DOWN BELOW, BELOW THE THRESHOLD AT WHICH VISIBILITY BEGINS.

THEY WALK AN ELEMENTARY FORM OF THIS EXPERIENCE,
THEY ARE WALKERS; WANDERSMANNER

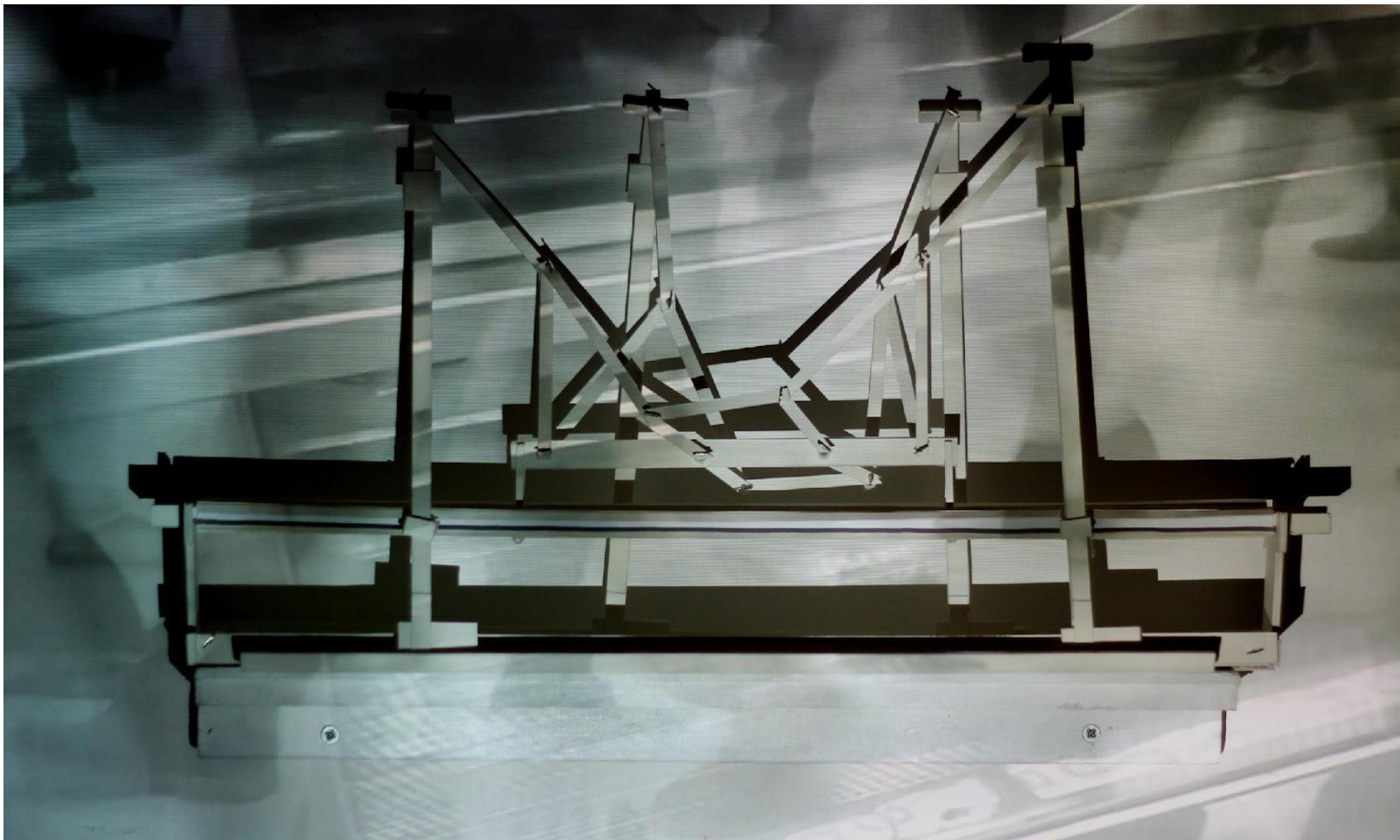
WHOSE BODIES FOLLOWS THE THICK & THINS OF AN URBAN TEXT.
THEY WRITE WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO READ IT.

- Excerpt from *Walking in the City*, an Essay by Michael De Certeau



Mind the Gap
Photography, and Walking Leg - Link Mechanism made from Found Measuring Tape

Video



When did this walk begin? When will it ever end?
Video Installation on Paper Sculpture
12" x 24"



[Video](#)

The paper sculpture on display is a prototype for a four legged animal walking mechanism juxtaposed with a video projection of crowd rowwalking, colliding, dissolving into each other and sometimes walking together. Overlaid with escalator walking and mechanical sound of its movement; the idea is to track the relation between the biological mechanism that we are following unconsciously in our body and the mechanism that we have created for easier walk but do we pay enough attention while performing this act?