



Thomas Evans – *The Theatre of the Wobbling Worlds* – 2014

On Reading and Walking and Thinking...

Thomas Evans, David Rule, Emmanuelle Waeckerlé

**The Saison Poetry library, Southbank Centre, London
13th January - 1st March 2015**

An exhibition bringing together three international artists who respond to the world through the written word, performative drawing, sculpture and the printed page.

Thomas Evans' *The Theatre of the Wobbling Worlds* is a theatre for a single performer composed of numerous pivoted stages laid out in a loose grid. Each wobbling stage presents an idea of the world, inviting participants into a humorous homage to the idea of the 'theatre of the world.' David Rule's *Adventures* and *Untitled* series of short texts and prompts suggest opportunities for reveries along the South Bank. Emmanuelle Waeckerlé's *Praeludere* uses a verbal score as a catalyst for action (walking, writing, singing and drawing) and as a map to explore and record the South Bank.

This project, curated by Chris McCabe (Saison Poetry Library) and Emmanuelle Waeckerlé (bookRoom), follows up on the findings of *BOOKLIVE!* symposium (2012) and ensuing publication *The Book is alive!* (2013), two bookRoom research initiatives on the impact of digital technologies on the making, sharing and experiencing of print-based work.

bookRoom is a research group based at UCA Farnham engaged with research, critical production, and dissemination of page and screen based works. www.thebookroom.net



David Rule – Adventures – 2015



Emmanuelle Waeckerle –PRAELUDERE (ballades from the 20th century) – 2013/15



The Theatre of the Wobbling Worlds (2014) - Thomas Evans (UK/US)
Installation – single screen video (3')

A theatre for a single performer composed of numerous pivoted stages laid out in a loose grid. Each stage presents a proposition of the world—most are variations on the phrase “the world as...” —which is developed in an embroidered image attached to the stage. Each of the stages wobbles, so that the performer must continually negotiate the lurch from one ‘world’ to another or attempt to maintain balance on just one ‘world’.

A fond and humorous homage to both the Renaissance “theatre of the world” and the German philosophical tradition of world systems, the Theatre of the Wobbling Worlds is the third in a series of “Pedestrian Thought Theatres”—theatres in which ideas are laid out as walks for a single performer. The first of these theatres is the subject of the book *Furniture without Rest* (2012).





Thomas Evans – The Theatre of the Wobbling Worlds – 2014



David Rule – Adventures – 2015



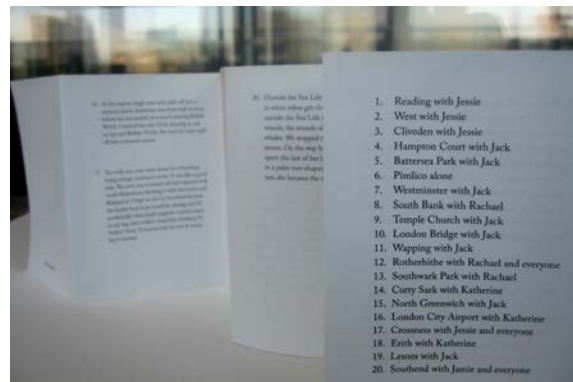
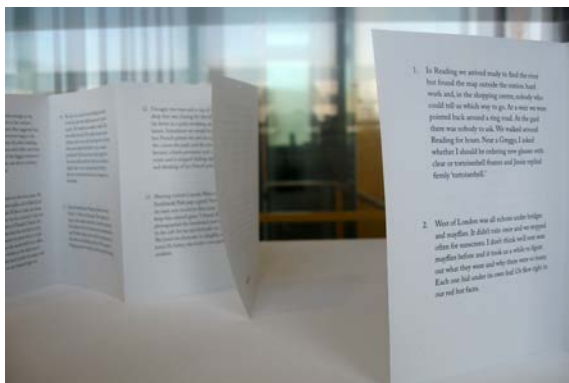
Adventures (2015) – Untitled (2015) - David Rule (UK)

Three A4 three-fold pamphlets – 1 multi-fold pamphlet

A series of short texts and prompts inviting reveries and speculations in response to the South Bank and its surroundings.

The texts in *Adventures* navigate the River Thames and surroundings, gesturing with typographic elements to landmarks and memories. Each pamphlet transcribes something of a journey with a five-year-old companion, new to the city, learning its history and making friends with its buildings. There's an eagerness to share, an enthusiasm for discovery and for secrets, and fragments of imagination and storytelling.

In *Untitled* the same river is travelled from Reading to Southend through a series of numbered vignettes, each with a different companion, each location now a site marked by a small anecdote.



David Rule – Untitled – 2015



David Rule – Untitled – 2015



Emmanuelle Waeckerle –PRAELUDERE (ballades from the 20th century) – 2013/15

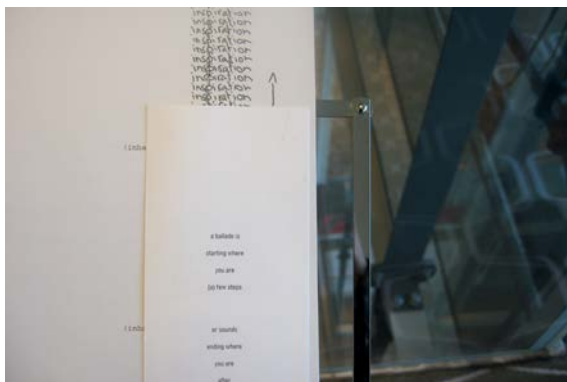


PRAELUDERE (ballades from the 20th century) (2013/15) Emmanuelle Waeckerlé (UK/FR) on the page works – drawings - two single screen videos (3'47 - 4'05)

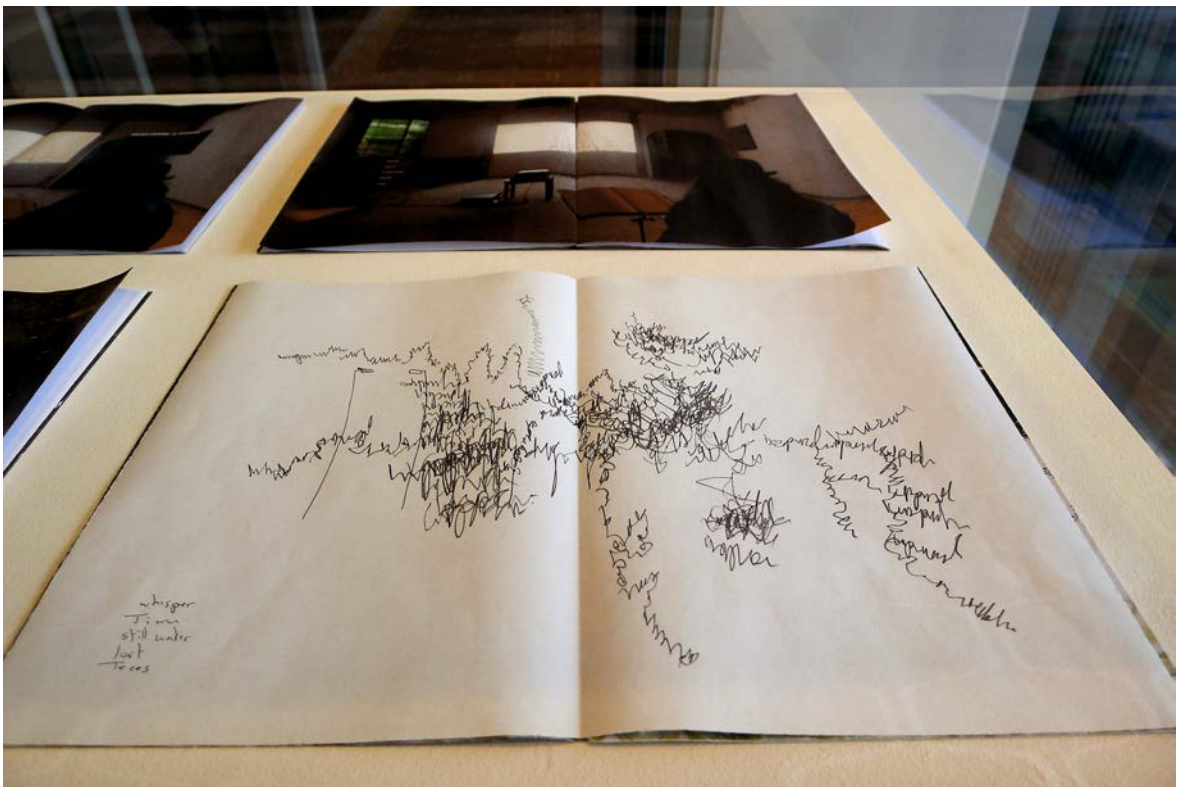
PRAELUDERE (ballades from the 20th century) is a textual score containing three ballades that can be read, performed or walked, alone or not, inside or outside. Writing and walking are understood here as simultaneous acts of marking and reading (space) and a ballad as being somewhere in between a walk and a song.

I perform **PRAELUDERE** with others but also alone using the score as a map for 'walking still', my way of experiencing a place, going back to the same spot a few times, absorbing more each time and gradually feeling more absorbed.

What remains are a few sounds, images, words, drawings; traces translating some of the experience of being there, become new pages for eyes and mind to roam.



www.ewaeckerle.com/projectbox/PRAELUDERmain



Emmanuelle Waeckerle –PRAELUDERE (ballades from the 20th century) – 2013/15



Emmanuelle Waeckerle –PRAELUDERE (ballades from the 20th century) – 2013/15

Artists statements

Thomas Evans has shown his theatres in London, New York, Los Angeles and Providence. A book on the first of these theatres, titled Furniture without Rest, was published in 2012. From 2002 to 2006 he edited the mail-out publication Tolling Elves, printing one writer and one artist monthly. Thomas lives in New York and works for ARTBOOK | D.A.P.

David Rule works with image and text, often to extend anecdotes and personal encounters, shifting freely between the observational and the speculative. In 2010 David founded 'covered in toner' with writer Jamie Sutcliffe as a platform for the publication and distribution of artists' books and zines. Since 2012 David has been an editor of the Brautigan Free Press, promoting new writing online and in print. David lectures in Photography at the University for the Creative Arts.

www.davidrule.co.uk

Emmanuelle Waeckerle is a Reader in Photography and Relational Practices at UCA Farnham, and director of bookRoom. Her interest lies in publishing as a critical and collaborative practice.

Her work explores language and related issues of place and identity, such as personal cultural borders, limitations of translation, and poetics of survival and resistance. Through her continuing commitment to both education and practice-based research she develops collaborative projects both at local and international levels, in academic and non-academic contexts.

www.ewaeckerle.com

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