



THE GLO PLATFORM

STRATEGIC

VISION MAP

APRIL 2022 - APRIL 2024

Generate movement.

Raise consciousness.

Repair communities.

Create change.



Land Acknowledgment

glo's work in Atlanta organizes and creates on Native Land of the Lower Muskogee Creek and Cherokee Nation, homeland of the Lower Muskogee Creek and Cherokee People. We recognize their existence and continued connection to ancestors of land, waters, and culture, and pay our respect to the wisdom of that energy.

9/0

WHO WE ARE

glo Platform

Luciana Arias, Moving Artist

PhaeMonae Brooks, Moving Artist

Vinisha Browne, Moving Artist

Ashley Ianna Daye, Associate Artist

Christina Hiroko Kelly, Moving Artist Advisor

Mary Jane Pennington, Head of Lab Studies and Associate Artist

lauri stallings, Social Practice Choreographer, Founder

Mechelle Tunstall, Praxis Associate and Moving Artist

Kristi-Ann Lungren-Walker, Teaching Artist

Board

Matthew DiVenere

Malcolm Low

Marquinn Mason

Marie Nygren

Roy Sockwell

Mechelle Tunstall

Sarah Bobrow-Williams

Advisory Board

Tijana Lehtikoski

Annie Moye

Kebbi Williams

Richard Carvlin, General Manager

Planning consultants

Joan Reilly + DeVos Institute

Lee Nowell + Purpose Possible

glo logo + topography

www.theyoungneversleep.com

glo digital support + website

The Ultramind

OUR STRATEGIC VISION through April 2024

We are building a resilient platform for artists to lead, for intersectionality-centered community, and those who believe in the role that artists play in creation of spaces that honor the people.

Since 2009, the glo Platform has invested nearly \$2 million dollars in more than 170 multiracial, multigenerational and multidisciplinary artists, 73 innovative community-attuned art projects, 200 diverse neighborhoods in Atlanta and rural Georgia, and 1 creative community hub while engaging over 350,000 Georgians. Over the course of the next two years, we plan to create and expand our reach and to engage many more folks.

Below is the strategic map for our future - outlining the mission, values, goals, and strategies that will best facilitate meaningful pursuit of art, community, and freedom. This plan is a living document created with the intention to be as nimble and adaptive as our platform is to our work that navigates from the sidewalk to the stage. While adapting to new information and opportunities along the way, the vision framework below will be guided by annual reviews, and the shifting ground under our feet.



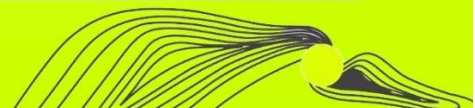
SPOTLIGHT

CREATE CHANGE



**"GLO IS AN INVITATION TO SEE THE
WORLD AND HUMANITY NEW. ACCEPT
THE INVITATION AND BE CHANGED"**

GLO STAKEHOLDER IN VISIONING PROCESS



GLO PLATFORM

About

glo platform empowers people and enriches communities through engagement, art, and direct action. Choreography is the soul of our work, mapping across barriers, lifting society from below. We are believers in a world in which artists and intersectionality-centered communities work together to unleash the power of civic imagination to save Earth.

Mission

We use creative practices to raise consciousness, repair communities, create change, and bring forth social impact through direct action in our community.

Vision

We envision a world in which every *body* dances; every *body* plays a central role for engaging deeply with notions of transformation and identity.

Value Proposition

We make sustained investments in growing collaboratively-devised works of multiracial, multigenerational, and multidisciplinary artists and neighbors committed to pursuing deep thinking, social courage, moral imagination, and joy, for long-term healing of the great wounds in our bodies.

Theories of Re-Worlding the South

When artists explore the poetics of intimacy through interaction with communities within their social context, we renew our sense of inner life, outer life, and life all together. Using choreography as a self-contained tool box to meditate and reflect wider dynamics of invisibility, negation, and stigma at the urban-rural-nature interstices fosters many first steps towards a fully integrated account of Southern embodiment. *Care* is offered as the founding structure of human beings. We are stewards of celebratory forces, light, and joy.

An Intersectionality-Centered Platform

Glo champions the moves, cultures, voices, imaginations, knowledge, and leadership in a world in which all people—across race, ethnicity, class, age, gender, sexuality, religion, nationality, disability status, and migration status—are free to be their whole selves.

VALUES

Embody Creativity

We recognize that we are body/mind, and value it in creativity as a rich and generative resource that helps turn beautiful strangers into a community of loving, resilient neighbors.

Be Intersectionality Centered

We emphasize how the interplay of race, gender, and class reinforces prejudice and privilege to grapple with all these interlocking systems. We call each other and lift our gaze to the interconnectedness between each ecosystem.

Create Change

We believe in transformation as the basis for seeds, energies, perception, seeing clearly, and creating new portals for vision manifestations.

Value Place

We value meeting people where they are at, place for delicate things, and honoring living archives embedded in space.

Embody Our Own Histories

We hold in high-esteem self-determined histories as an essential basis for building long-term community power.

Deep Listening

We know that asking permission and moments of reception to those around you, we are able to listen with purpose, and help one another to empty hearts for transformation.

Practice Abundance

We practice living in the present moment. We express gratitude; gratitude for what we have is an antidote to scarcity, providing a springboard for abundance.

Dance In Love

We turn to the study of language, and especially movement, which we present as having special powers to disclose “Being,” or origin; dance as a radical and essential act of protest to create the kinds of beloved communities we all deserve to live in.

Definitions

Soma

The living organism in its wholeness.

Choreography

Choreo **def.** choir, or troupe; *Graefin* **def.** to write. We draft movements. It's about moving the people. Like politics, it is always a matter of agency, and how one might go about imagining a form of agency that is collective but not unconscious. Above all, choreography is about negotiation.

Social Practice Choreographer

Draws heavily on intersectionality practices, including conscious raising, expanding participation, inclusion strategies, and naming the political in the personal with focus on ethics, communication, and new art forms.

Mapping

A powerful tool that holds stories. Historically, maps were created by professional cartographers, many of whom played a role in places of power. In our world, artists and communities create the maps.

Relational Zones

Zoologists terms used to measure living things occupying space together.

System

Generative framework of individual ideas, vibrations, and variables that are explored amidst community in order to re/generate other systems.

Moving Artist

Circulates principles and collective consciousness through movement language enacted of the whole body.

Beautiful Stranger

Everyone you meet; a relational system offered to people we don't know.

Activation

A live-art construction in a space being shared by various parts of a community.

glo People

Beings no matter their age, gender, size, athletic or performance experience level who move with glo.

Collaboration

The process of asking questions through a continued dialogue.

Dream Space

When we allow ourselves to cultivate a vision and dreams; to see a path, and make space for it.

Pat Downs

The palms of the hands layed, in a percussive sense, to warm and care for the body.

WHAT WE DO

OUR FREE AND PUBLIC PROJECTS

THE TRAVELING SHOW is a long-term socially engaged art project with rural towns in the Deep South by intersectionality-centered artists working alongside communities. The project is a way to create an invitation through welcoming gestures that then encourages people to imagine more good could happen, while examining real and tough issues. Comprised of a catalog of civic actions- *People Parades*, *Listening Parlors*, *Neon Studies*, and the immersive live art in the round, “Free Bird Being”- the project revives influential sites of the rural South, including Main Streets, Historic schools, churches, libraries, gardens, and community centers.



SEARCH ENGINE invests in the possibilities of what sowing in semi-enclosed structures and gallery spaces could provide in an unstable future. Taking its title from the name of real-time information systems that carry out searches, we sow and grow grass over time, referencing architecture including Etowah Mounds and a land clearing in Atlanta.



17TH STREET PRAIRIE is an ongoing project that reimagines a vacant 2.5 acre city lot into a thriving biophilic haven, creating the illusion of being on a prairie in the middle of the city. The micro prairie utilizes native Southern flowers, mostly pollinators, as an Invitation for community sowing, and live art interventions by local musicians, college students, and glo artists.



I CAME TO EXPLORE THE SUN, OF SOMETHING MORE PERMANENT, THE MOVES ARE MAPS is one part of a larger research piece concerning the river carrying the universal language of our species to open up new temporalities and space, and together, think about how nature can teach us how to look at life as streams of being versus separate entities.



WHAT WE DO

OUR FREE AND PUBLIC PROGRAMS

LAB STUDIES

Year-round education initiative that uses culture as a strategy aimed at advancing holistic learning in our community while making connections through cross-disciplinary socially engaged art.

Pedagogy of Hope

Bi-annual initiative of movement-music curriculum that responds to several frameworks for culturally sustaining pedagogy, including respecting youth as holistic human beings as well as developing critical consciousness and addressing intersectionality, dynamics of power, and solidarity with artists.

People movement shops

Featuring coming together and experiencing dance and choreographic thinking through our everyday activities, and other streams of consciousness. For human beings no matter their age, gender, size, athletic or performance experience level. Local kombucha is served.

WeBop

Early-childhood jazz education program in collaboration with Jazz at Lincoln Center, Atlanta Symphony, and Gallery 992 for little ones from ages eight months to seven years and caregivers. Children's natural way of being, and multi-sensory natures are explored through interactive movement-music accompaniment.



TANZ FARM: CONTEMPORARY ANTHOLOGY

Circulates a distinguished group of local, national and international artists to present workshops, performance installations, and conversations on subjects of their choosing.



WHAT WE DO

OUR FREE AND PUBLIC INITIATIVES

MAPPING

Live actions in compact social places devised to find ways for bringing together people who might not otherwise see each other worthy of interaction.



PEOPLE PARADES

Public choreographies inviting people to come together in a public place to sit, skip, stand, kneel, prance, waltz, spin, be still, shuffle, make footwork, be still, and walk hand in hand in spiraling patterns.



MOVEMENT CHOIRS

Generative and soulful incubators that allow us to build and sustain a real and complex blueprint as American South female social practice and moving artists.



NEON STUDIES

Ongoing series of text-based work in neon that opens up a space to persuade viewers of particular inequities, but it also invites the viewer's own projections. What happens when we bridge distances between us and people we don't know? What does it mean to be armed with compassion and understanding? Sites are alive long before we get to them. Each place means so many different things to so many people, and what's important for us is the chance to contribute to its continued discourse. The work's messages are adapted from glo's visualizations of Southern people demographics in America.



LISTENING PARLORS

Offer a new curriculum through the gift of listening for teams to better facilitate mutuality with communities, and during work on a big task.



SPOTLIGHT

RAISE CONSCIOUSNESS



"GLO ABSORBS THE MOTION, ENERGY AND RHYTHMS OF NATURE. IT IS THEN RELEASED THROUGH FLAWLESS MOVEMENTS. SOMETIMES RIDING ON THE ESSENCE OF NATURE. SOMETIMES RIDING BELOW THE ESSENCE OF NATURE. SOMETIMES BESIDES THE ESSENCE OF NATURE. BUT ALWAYS IN PERFECT HARMONY AND SYNCHRONICITY WITH THE RHYTHMS OF THE UNIVERSE."

---GLO STAKEHOLDER IN VISIONING PROCESS



GOALS

glo is dedicated to building a platform that moves with presence and intention, and this strategic vision provides us a solid framework for processing and decision making through at least 2024. During this period, we aim to deepen and shape an intersectionality-centered movement of artists and Southern folk whose experiences with glo engage in their own thinking, emotions, commitments, visions, and actions, to manifest their own creativity towards positive change through the work in their body. The priorities below reflect the best thinking of glo, while furthering our role as a locally relevant and regionally recognized platform for artist-led creative community transformation.

Sow & Prepare Somatic Knowledge

We honor the creativity and knowledge that already exists within our platform and communities where we work and focus our attention on the center as well as on the margin for creating long-term, transformative change, strengthened by our sense of self and our solidarity.

***Generate small consistent waves:** as key strategies for advancing lasting change, invest more deeply in guiding, inspiring, resourcing, convening, and leveraging the people power of glo artists and community members.

***Stay in Good Trouble:** Understanding the only way is through and shaping our own narratives, we spark brave, new conversations through emergent strategy responses focused on intersectionality-centered and site-based art and platform practices.

Nurture & Sustain Collaboration & Accountability

We are most powerful when offering a spaciousness for the spectrum of experiences, knowledge, and networks that collaborators bring. Radical collaboration is most authentic when all participants strive for mutual respect, reciprocity, and commitment to purpose.

***Find our way back home:** To deepen glo's platform integrity, identify a single neighborhood, rather than our current three-four, to house glo art initiatives and artists in one physical location, then return home to The Goat Farm Art Center and our new permanent home, the first of its kind *Social Movement Bank*.

Assemble & Generate Networks

We are energized by the people with whom we work hard, and cultivate opportunities that allow them to connect, examine, inspire, and move to change the world for the better.

***Weaving in the Board:** Build the board that we need to best attain current and future platform goals by leveraging their capacities of talent and reach.

***Strengthen the ecosystem:** Recognizing that the only way to ultimately construct the world we want is through intentional cooperation, we seek deeper partnerships with value-aligned peer organizations, onboard a full-time platform steward, in addition to growing our community of diverse major donors.

VISION MILESTONES

The two major drivers of glo’s work overlap synergy and increased impact. First, we are creators and cultural activators who build our skills, knowledge, and connections to one another as a generative platform. Second, our work is locally grounded in neighborhoods and among community members, over sustained time periods, in order to generate ideas and build creative leadership in the context of the unique geography of Georgia.



New artistic programs & artists/staffing

Art works

2019
Inaugural Artist-in-Residence, High Museum of Art

2020
17th Street Prairie
Care Initiative

2021
March on Variations! Iterative project
Expanded Tanz Farm Residency Opportunities

2022
In-school Movement Workshops Re-Convening
Identify Anchor Residencies
Expanded 17th Street Prairie
Launched Free Bird Being

2023
The Traveling Show Relaunch
Jazz at Lincoln Center collaboration | WeBop Youth Initiative
I AM, A Sacred Space Multi-Disciplinary Live Art Work
Tanz Farm VII

2024
Glo Returns Home, The Social Movement Bank Opens

Capacity Building

2019
Praxis Curator

2020
New Board Member
New Board Member

2021
New Board Member
Moving Artist

2022
Part-time Stewardship Manager
Moving Artist
Moving Artist

New Board Member
Public Fete’ Gala
Major Donor
Praxis Associate

FT Stewardship Manager

AT HOME ON

THE GOAT FARM ARTS CENTER

How can a place inform an idea? How did the Goat Farm Arts Center's rather isolated, autonomous, raw environment during the last 10 years influence the Atlanta community's



decision making
and
the evolution of
ideas upon
which glo
is based?

*the angle
where the
earth
and roots
and each
moment
all meet.*

Ideas of
ancestral
connections like
gathering roots,

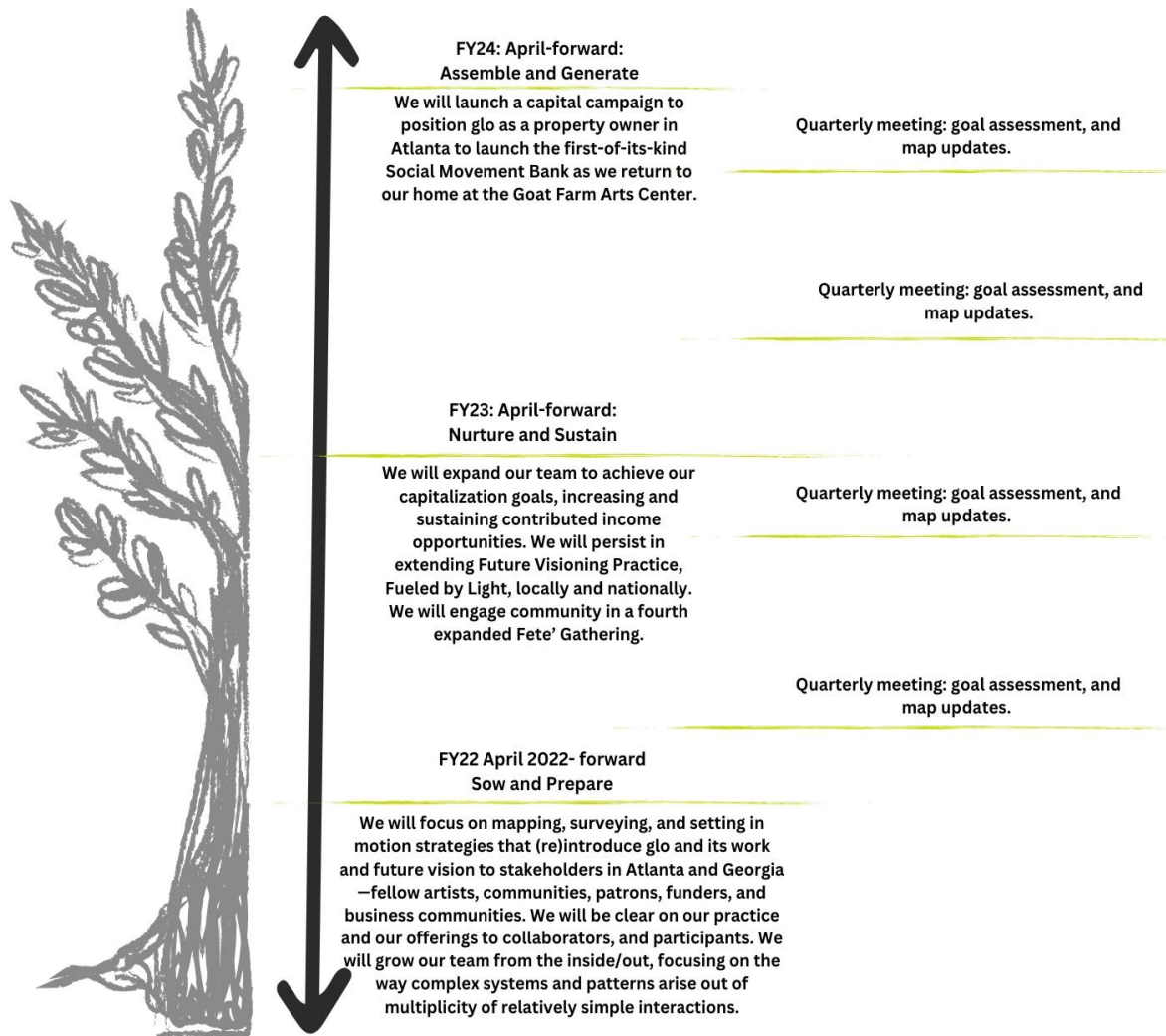
to hold up a mirror between the map of the earth and the map of our minds. At a certain angle of that mirror, the routes converge and we “find our way back home.” Goat Farm roots map glo’s way back home from wherever we are in the labyrinth of our journeys.

For it is here, we can get a sense of our full conception, and how our founder’s process of choreography and making sculpture is akin to thinking as form.

glo is temporarily vacated from our home at the time of this strategic process. This map intends to be a constant guide through to the moment we find our way back home to The Goat Farm Art Center and our new permanent home, the first of its kind *Social Movement Bank*.

Purposive Implementation Timeline

While we will usher in strategies and actions across all three priorities immediately, we will map our work over time to create space for steady exploration without burning out.



SPOTLIGHT

REPAIR COMMUNITIES



**"GLO FILLS ME. THERE IS A VISION OF
MAKING A MORE BELOVED WORLD."**

---GLO STAKEHOLDER IN VISIONING PROCESS



FINANCIAL VISION

Since our inception, The glo Platform has operated consistently in the black, utilizing what resources we were granted and earned while increasing our budget incrementally over time. As part of our strategic visioning process, we engaged Joan Reilly of DeVos Institute to work closely with board and artistic leadership to translate our strategic vision into a rigorous financial model. Together, we constructed a realistic and detailed map for a financially healthy future.

Alongside our planning process and with an eye towards long-term stability, we pursued two key financial strategies: 1) building a broader engagement of available foundation resources focused on social practice, and 2) securing pivotal multi-year grants aligned with the plan's timespan to provide a critical flightpath while we grow and diversify our overall fundraising capacity.

We are now focused on raising 35% each year for the next two years while also realizing the essential programmatic and capacity building goals of our strategic vision map.



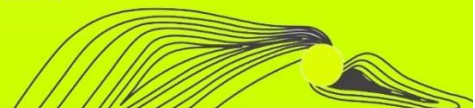
SPOTLIGHT

SOCIAL SCULPTURE



"WHAT DRAWS ME TO GLO IS THE WAY THEY ENGAGE COMMUNITY. YOU CAN BE AN ART LOVER OR PASSERBY, AND END UP TOTALLY IMMERSSED IN EXTRAORDINARY COLLECTIVE EXPERIENCE."

GLO STAKEHOLDER IN VISIONING PROCESS



VISIONING PROCESS

As part of our visioning process, The glo artists and board sought input from a vast array of stakeholders and methods as below.

9 Founder, Moving Artist Advisor Visioning Sessions:

Christina Hiroko Kelly, lauri stallings

3 Artist, Board, Community Think-Ins:

Vinisha Browne, Christina Hiroko Kelly, Marie Nygren, Mary Jane Pennington, Esin Saglam, lauri stallings, Sarah Bobrow-Williams

2 Board Strategic Sessions:

Candice, Marquinn, Malcolm, Mechelle, Sarah, Marie, Roy, and Matthew.

2 Moving Artist Values Sessions:

Luciana Arias, Vinisha Browne, Mary Jane Pennington, Moni Que, Lauren Stott

3 Founder, Praxis curator, Moving Artist, Moving Advisor selected Glossary sessions:

Vinisha Browne, Christina Hiroko Kelly, Mary Jane Pennington, lauri stallings, Candice Thompson, Mechelle Tunstall

One-To-One “Spotlight” Conversations with Community Stakeholders:

Luciana Arias, Pearl Cleage, Deeds Davis, Ashley Ianna Daye, Dr. Lou Fuerstman, Matthew Garbett, Tijana Lehtikoski, Annie Moye, Scott Peacock, Mary Jane Pennington, Lisa Perrymond, Jerry Thomas, Andrea Young

7 Board, Advisory Board, Founder, LAB Lead, Moving Artist Lead, Guild Read-Through:

Art Becofsky, Richard Carvlin, Malcolm Low, Marie Nygren, Mary Jane Pennington, Klaus Sorenson, lauri stallings, Candice Thompson, Mechelle Tunstall, Sarah Bobrow-Williams

3 Community Fete’ In-Person Gatherings:

Aktzi, Vernisa Allen, Luciana Arias, Thom Baker, Dana Balliet, John Blum, Kristion Jewell Brooks, PhaeMonae Brooks, Vinisha Browne, Zeke Burnett Jr., Henry Bush, Richard Carvlin, Iman Clark, Pearl Cleage, Louis Corrigan, *Lavona Currie, Lucie Currie, Martha Currie, Deeds Davis, Gemmie Dayrit, Anne Dennington, Cathy Glass, Trinity Glass, Mr. Glass, Jewell, John Gibson, Smith Hanes, Anna Heranval, Alice Heranval, Gilles Heranval, Wanda Hughes, Tijana Lehtikoski, Joanne Lerner, Brittney Loffert, Dr. Lu, Master Lu, Skyler Lu, Zoe’ Lu, Kristi-Ann Lungren-Walker, Marquinn Mason, Pearl McCan, Ru Moodley, Cara Morton, Christopher Moses, Marie Nygren, Steve Nygren, Alex Ocasta, Mary Jane Pennington, Gillian Renault, Esin Saglam, Priscilla Smith, Jo Sockwell, Roy Sockwell, Klaus Sorensen, Susan Sorensen, lauri stallings, Steven Sullivan, Jerry Thomas, Candice Thompson, Eron Tunstall, Mechelle Tunstall, Andrea Young, Vin

*deceased

4 Online Research Notes:

Laundromat Project Accountability Report, Project Row Houses at 25, Bowen University Department of Communication & Performing Arts, Think Tank Score, Creative Time

SPOTLIGHT

DANCE IN LOVE



"GLO KEEPS
PACE AND
RHYTHMS IN A
REAL MOMENT
TO MOMENT
PRESENCE-
MOVING
MATERIALS LIKE
WARMTH,
BREATH,
LIGHT."

---GLO
STAKEHOLDER IN
VISIONING PROCESS



SELECTED READINGS

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Gabrielle Bendiner-Viani (2018) Working with People, www.working-with-people.org

Haraway, Donna (2016) Staying with the Trouble: Making Kin in the Chthulucene, Durham University Press

Helicon Collaborative / Alexis Frasz & Holly Sidford (2017) Mapping the Landscape of Socially Engaged Artistic Practice

Jackson, S (2014) Rethinking Repair, MIT Press

Lacy, Suzanne (2010) Spaces between, The University of Minnesota Press

LaBelle, Brandon (2018) Sonic Agency, Sound and Emergent Forms of Resistance, Goldsmiths Press

Lemon, Ralph (2016) On Value, Triple Canopy

Mattern, Shannon (2018) Maintenance and Care, Places Journal

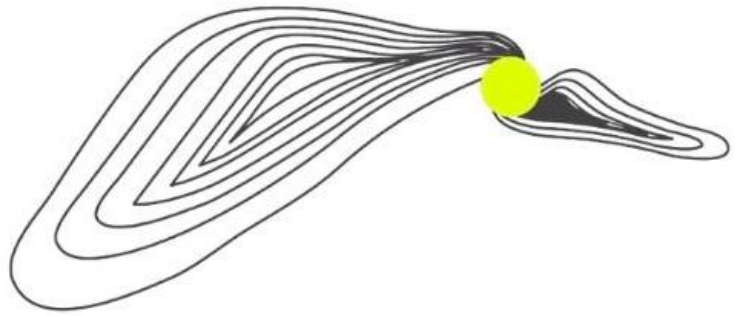
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Simone, A Pieterse (2018) Inhabiting Dissonant Times, Cambridge Press

Tudge, Colin (2006) The Secret Life of Trees, Penguin Books



glo

www.gloplatform.org

1200 Foster Street, Atlanta, Georgia 30318

info@gloatl.org

[@glo_Platform](#)