

... with  
experience  
materials

... not only  
the post  
the  
wicker  
certain  
process

labor I could experiment with new plants and material,  
COLLECTING plants, materials → what do I mean by  
-but? what are the  
implications?

{ *Documentation methods* }

*Knowledge Making in Fashion and Textiles*  
...  
2023

My body in the summer environment. Heat, burning sun, mosquitoes, leaves that scratch, allergies. Pain, body also changes as I move around, all the new marks and spots now colors. Tan. A more free movement than in cold winter, but with many other conditions. The soil full of grasses, leaves. if changes, a changing landscape.

# WHY DOCUMENTING MATTERS

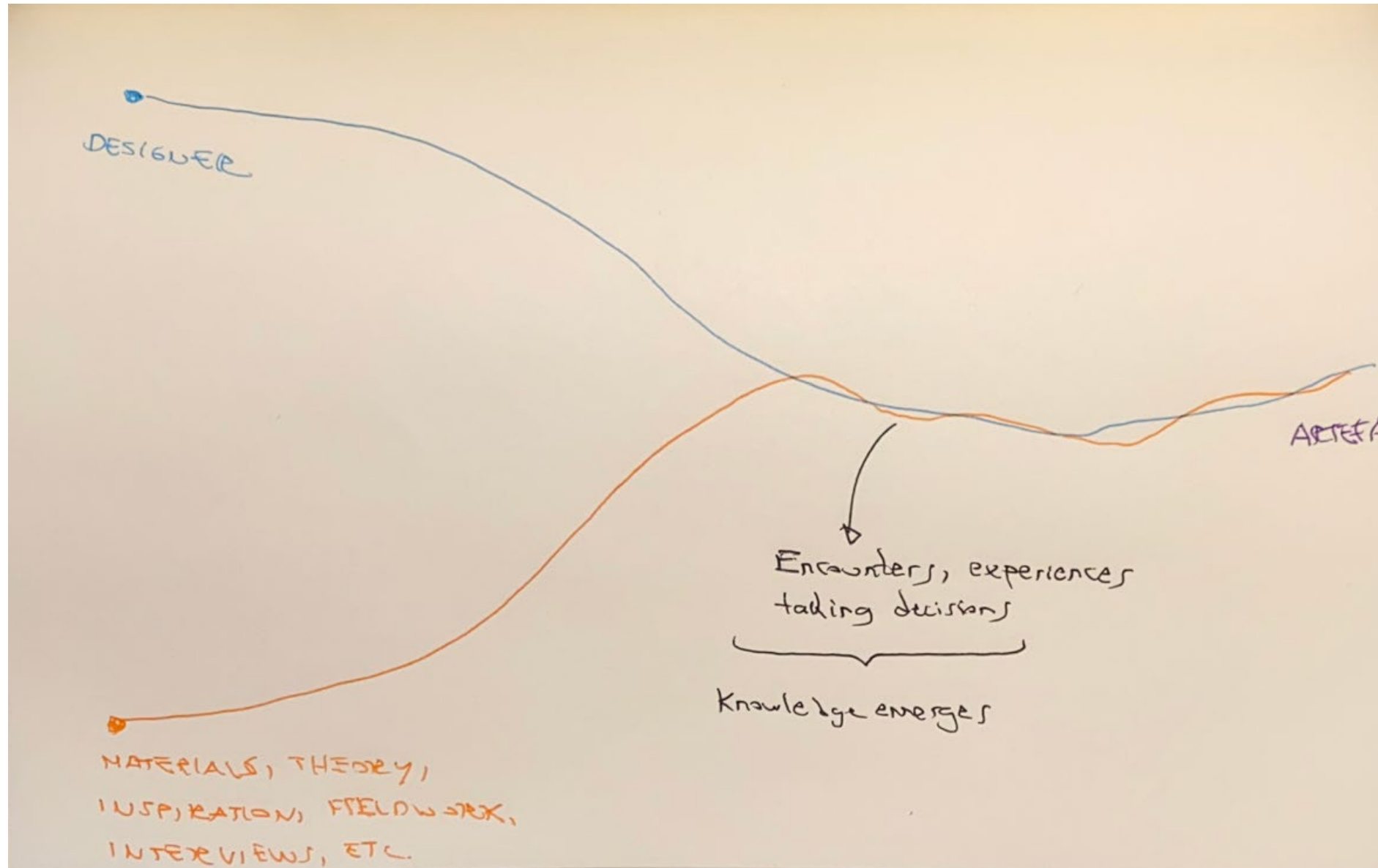
## **Role of documentation in creative practices**

1. Capturing experiences and reflections.
2. Awareness of practitioner's own process and decisions.
3. Possibility of looking back, make reflections and take new decisions.
4. Possibility of communicating and sharing experiences.

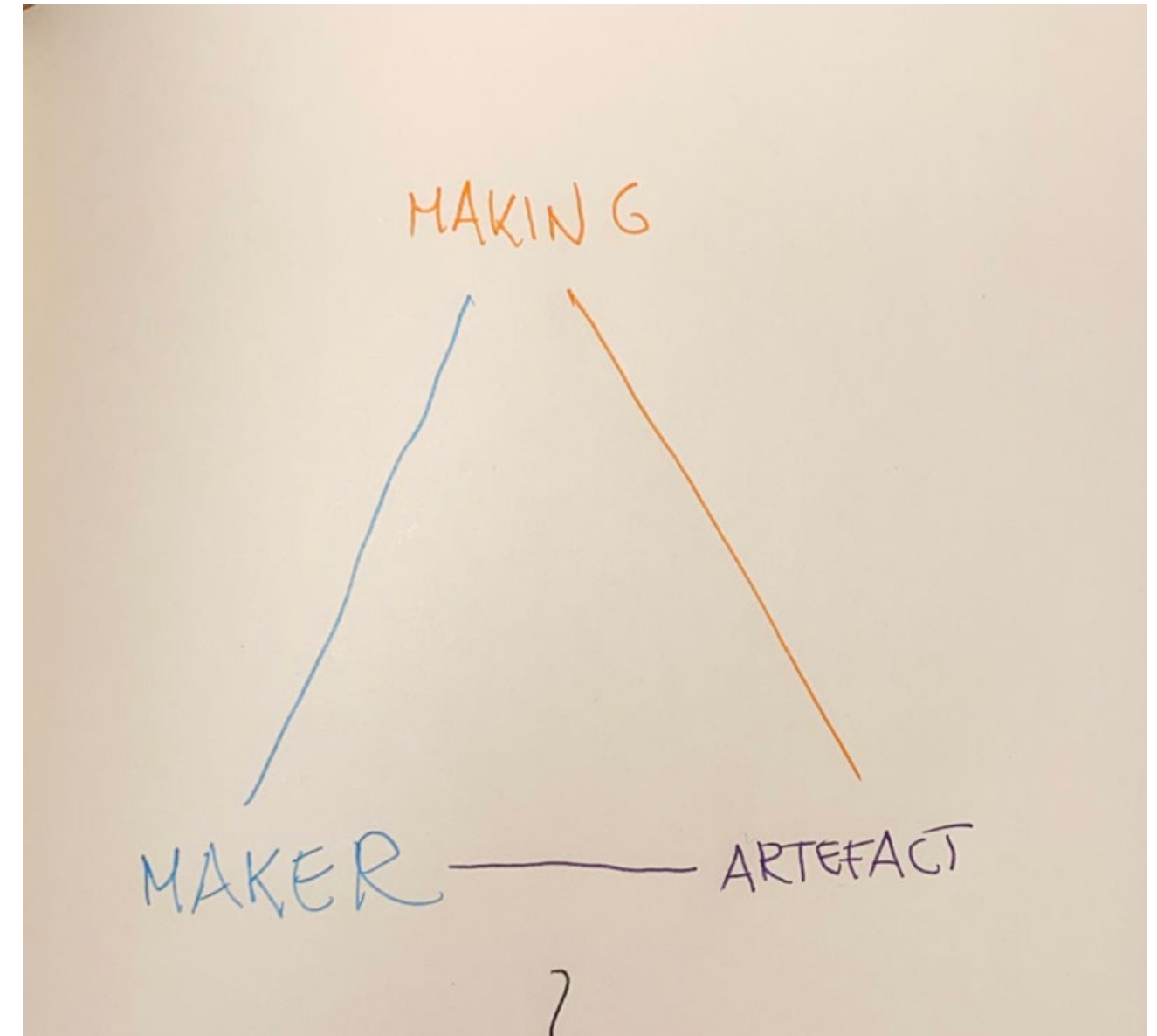
**Reflective practitioner:** reflection in practice (decisions during the creative journey) / reflection on practice (analyzing and contextualizing process).

**Documentation brings access to the journey of practice and facilitates reflection**

# PRACTITIONER'S WAYS OF KNOWING



Correspondence: Ingold, 2013



Maker-making-artefact triangle: Mäkelä & Routarinne, 2006

# PREPARING FOR DOCUMENTATION

## **Having awareness of your own process:**

Steps or phases of creation: A-B-C-D... (they are not necessarily linear nor 100% percent clear)

## **Deciding documentation methods:**

When and how I will document? Which methods are better suited for me? Which methods are suitable for the process or for certain phase of the process?

This is not set on stone. Experiment with ways of documenting within your own creative process.

# EXAMPLE OF STEPS OF CREATIVE PROCESS

## MA thesis Geographies of memory and nostalgia, 2020

### 1. INTERVIEWS

#### TOPICS

Characters  
*family members*

Places  
*journeys across the country*

OUTLINE OF  
STORYWORLD

#### QUESTIONS

Memory triggers  
*a conversation that transforms  
into a story*

Emotional / sensory  
*moods and atmospheres*

NAVIGATING  
TOGETHER THE  
WORLD OF  
THEIR STORIES

### 2. WRITING FICTION

#### FIRST PERSON

My mother as narrator  
*Tying stories together under a  
single perspective*

#### EPISODIC STRUCTURE

Individual narratives  
*Stories about specific  
characters or journeys*

#### IMMERSING MYSELF

The subjective narrator  
*Creating the atmosphere and tone  
in the text*  
*Descriptions of sensorial elements  
and feelings*

BUILDING A  
WORLD WITH  
WORDS

### 3. RESULTING STORIES

#### ABOUT CHARACTERS (8)

"The meditation of my father" - *Álvaro*  
 "The Golden Hour" - *Luz Helena*  
 "The Flowers of my Mother" - *Lilia*  
 "The Residents of my Room" - *Luz Helena*  
 "The Hands of my Grandma" - *Mercedes*  
 "Tamales from Tolima" - *Mercedes*  
 "The man from Ambalema" - *Benjamín*  
 "Benjamin's Garden" - *Benjamín*

#### ABOUT PLACES / JOURNEYS (10)

"A Watermelon in Orinoco" - *July, 1977*  
 "Brown Sugar Men" - *March, 1981*  
 "Mojarra in Taganga" - *January, 1975*  
 "Rock Crabs" - *January, 1961*  
 "The Hands of my Grandma" - *Mercedes*  
 "Stranded in the Night" - *November, 1961*  
 "The Mud Market" - *December, 1962*  
 "The Mist Forest" - *February, 1977*  
 "*The five short tales of my grandpa*" - *1921*

### 4. TRANSFORMING STORIES INTO IMAGERY

#### DISSECTING STORIES

Characters  
*Keywords and brief description of  
their traits*  
*Picking fragments from the stories  
with sensorial and emotional  
content*

#### Journeys / Places

*Defining elements of the world:  
objects, people, spaces*  
*Picking fragments from the stories  
with sensorial and emotional  
content*

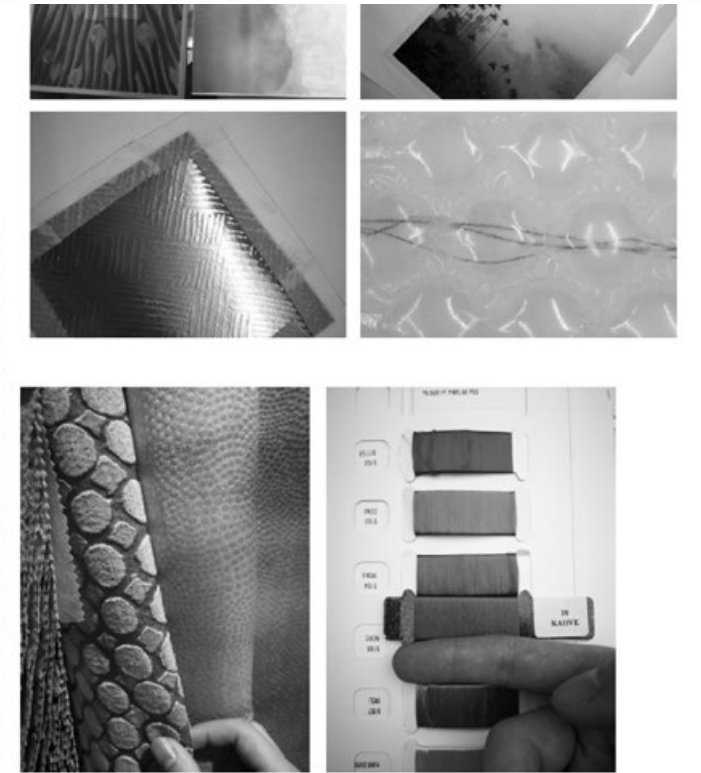
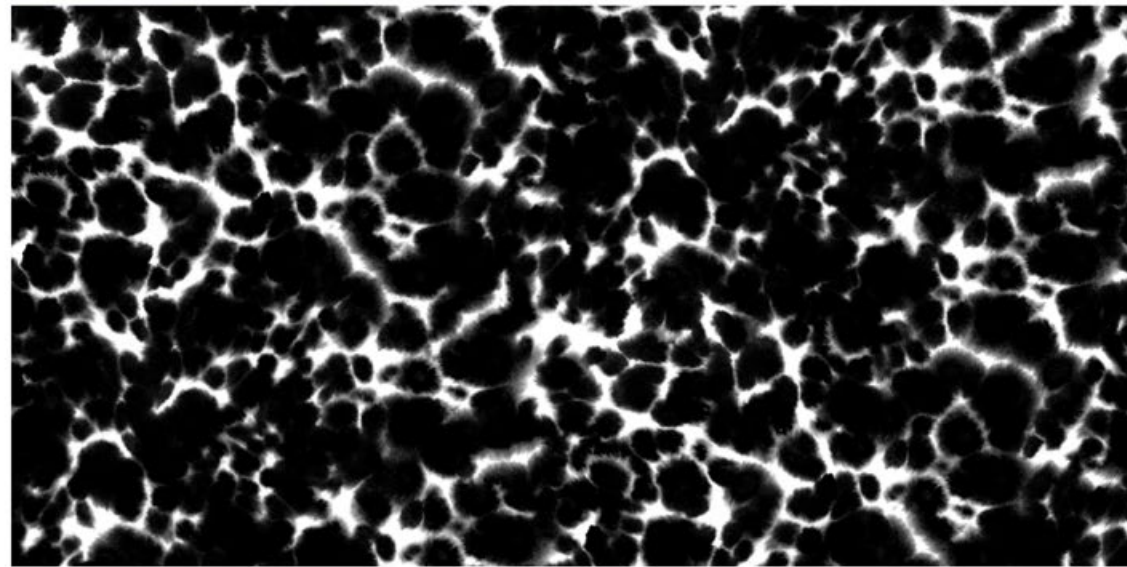
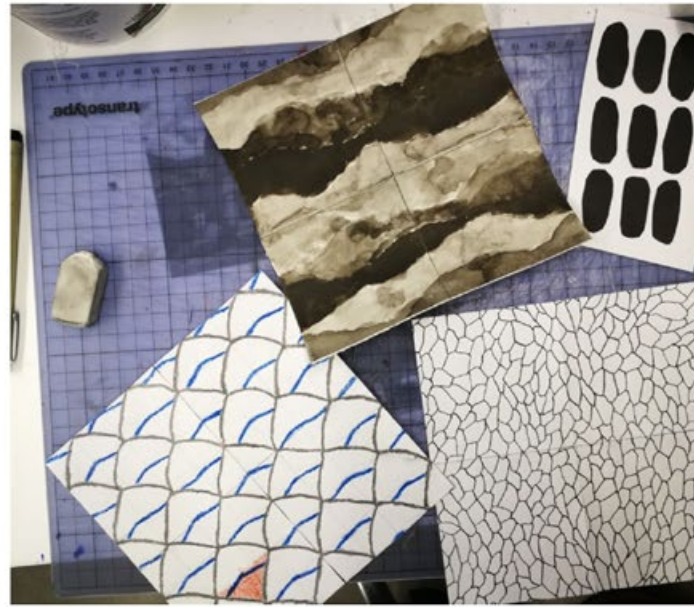
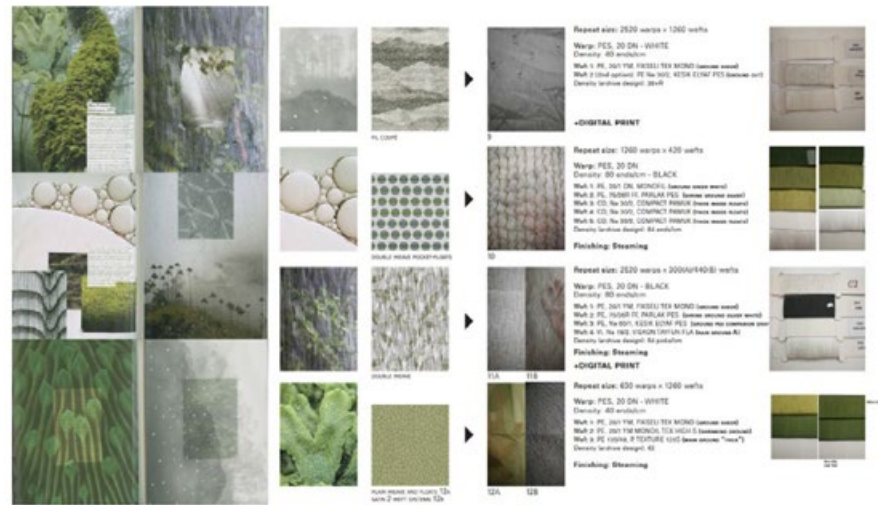
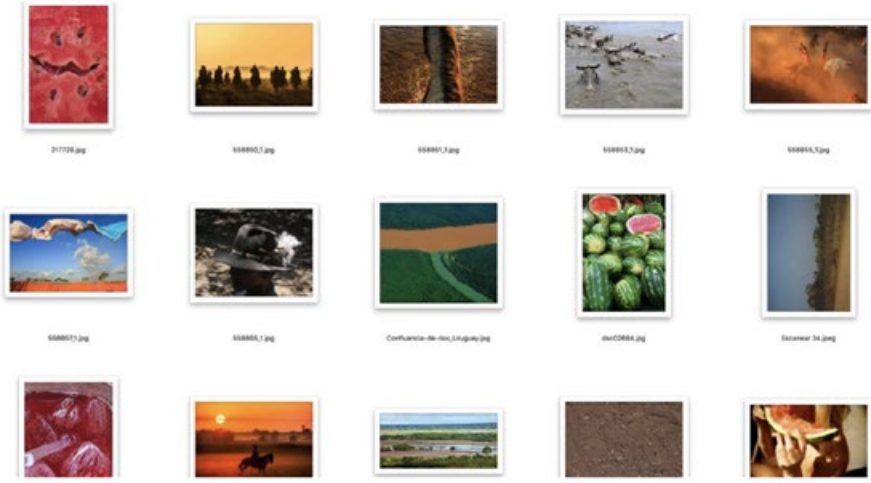
#### SEARCH OF IMAGERY

Sources  
*Own photos*  
*Family archive*  
*Books, magazines and internet.*

CREATING  
VISUAL AND  
SENSORIAL  
WORLDS

Written journal methods

Visual methods



# EXAMPLES OF DOCUMENTATION METHODS

Photo diary

Collage

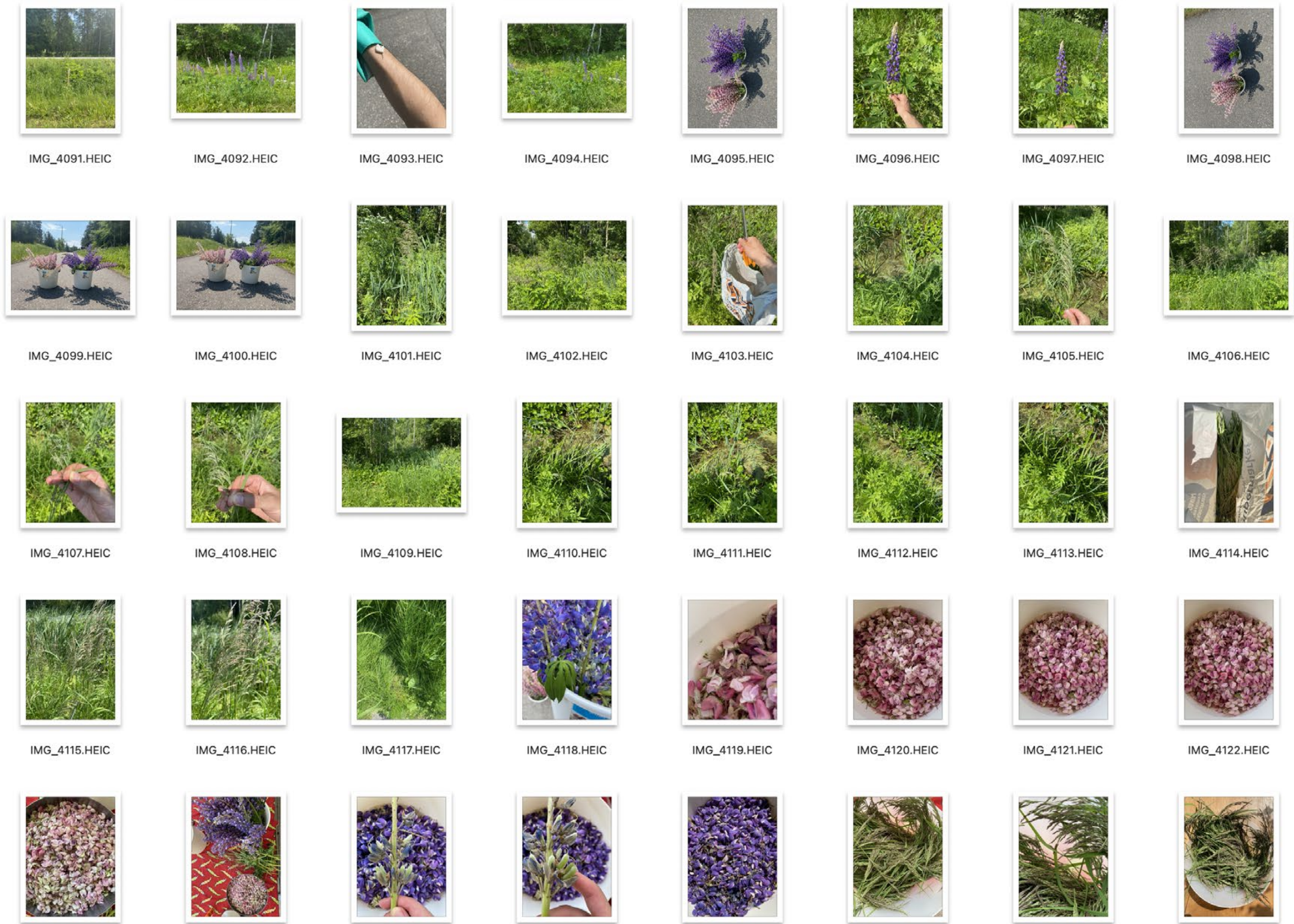
Written journals

Drawing, sketching

Video of processes

Organizing outcomes of creative practice

- Favoritos
  - AirDrop
  - Recientes
  - Aplicaciones
  - Google Drive
  - Escritorio
  - Documentos
  - Descargas
  - leonardohidalgo
- Ubicaciones
  - MacBook Pro de Leonardo
  - LEONARDO
- Etiquetas
  - Morado
  - Roja
  - Amarilla
  - Azul
  - Violeta
  - Personal
  - Naranja
  - Verde
  - Todas las etiquetas...





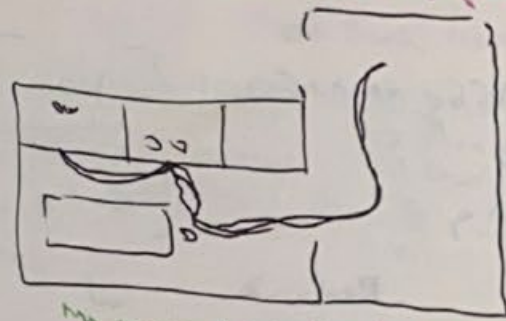


By checking with my thermometer the bath starts to  
 make steam/vapour from about 70-75°C

I wonder in the liquor became weak due to the cold  
 storage, or cold temperature when checking it.  
 Also the long time in the fridge (almost 2 months)  
 maybe started to ferment? or cold death of help?  
 or the local parts of the extraction. Maybe  
 it was too much and I lost dye "power"

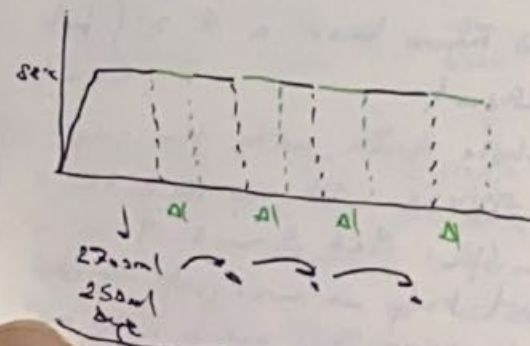
I just check at 97°C and the color is much  
 darker, so temperature deal in furnace. But now  
 it is as dark as previous dye papers, so ok but it  
 is not strong. (250ml of dye liquor). Maybe also loss  
 of the amount of water - total 2550 - 300ml  
 But I'm happy with the color now

But the dye liquor (the liquor) looks super dark and  
 when I put the yarns and fabrics they get super dark  
 I wonder if it will be that extreme with normal  
 extractions but the super concentrated ones!



my movement in the kitchen

Dyeing curve



I didn't like the all in  
 dyeing process for the  
 fabric, I obtained it. Also  
 I have to check the  
 if they are not even.  
 Also the gradient is harder  
 achieve - oja! the more  
 pieces should be separated  
 not all  
 really well  
 some amount - all the

The smell of the spruce is super strong, it feels hot  
 and frankly quite filling. It feels concentrated!  
 It is a sign of the big amount of wood that I  
 during the extraction. Feels as heavy as  
 the moment I did the extraction.

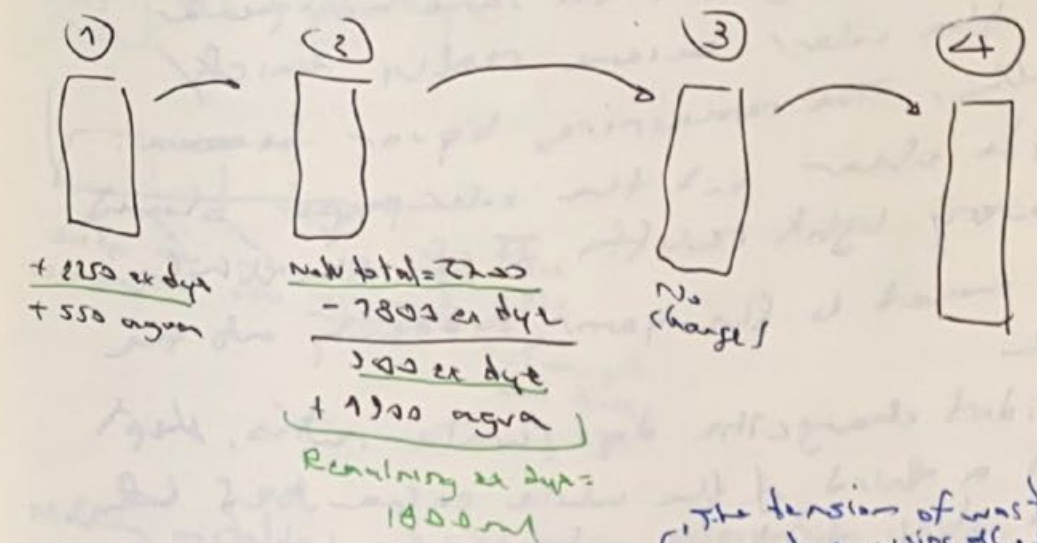
And reminds me the smell of fermented acetic  
 which wasn't nice

It feels a bit 'chemical' to call it in a way.  
 'not natural'

This is nice because I tried this feeling of  
 forest/plant/natural dyes as something  
 nice, natural, safe, etc.

The smell and the vapour remind me the react  
 dyes and being in the 'lab', not the kitchen

Exhausted dye bath



The exhausted dye is really strong. I'm dyeing  
 just 60g of wool, so it may cover it entirely  
 as the previous dye. I want a lighter color  
 what I expect from a dye that is tired  
 washed. This makes me think about the loss  
 between washing do use all dye as possible  
 darker color, and let it be weaker

On walking in autumn

In each season there are plants that highlight  
 more than others, today i can see the bushes  
 which leaves turn into light yellow

They highlight from the dark areas of the  
 forest

There's silence

And few sounds that come and go

Birds, branches, people,

And my steps that sound different as the  
 ground changes

Now I hear my steps on leaves

Los suelos son dominados por el árbol que  
 predomina en la zona, como los alders

Hay áreas que cambian menos que otras,  
 como el spruce

# *Vanhankaupunginlahti*

*August 15th, 2022*

*Second time foraging alder buckthorn berries*

*Biking in the sunset through the meadows*  
August 14th, 2022

*Back to "Vanhan", searching for berries*  
August 3rd, 2022

*Collecting alder buckthorn in "Vanhan"*  
August 8th, 2022

*Foraging for the first time in the forest*  
December 21st, 2021

*Collecting spruce and birch in spring*  
April 1st, 2022

*Searching polypores in the woods*  
August 8th, 2022

*An improvised walk in the swamps*  
May 9th, 2022

*Finding lichen in fallen branches*  
April 3th, 2022

*Second time foraging alder buckthorn berries*  
August 15th, 2022

*Picking nettles close to my home*  
June 22nd, 2022

*Searching tansy flowers close to home*  
July 22nd, 2022

*Scouting around midsommer*  
June 21st, 2022

*Following the trace of spruce and alder cones*  
April 18th, 2022

*Searching for red clovers*  
June 23rd, 2022

*Walking to the metro station during spring*  
March 29th, 2022

*Collecting mud after the spring rust*  
June 15th, 2022



Groth, Mäkelä, Seitamaa, 2015



# STRUCTURING DOCUMENTATION

## Basic aspects to keep in mind

Dates

Places

People involved

Activities

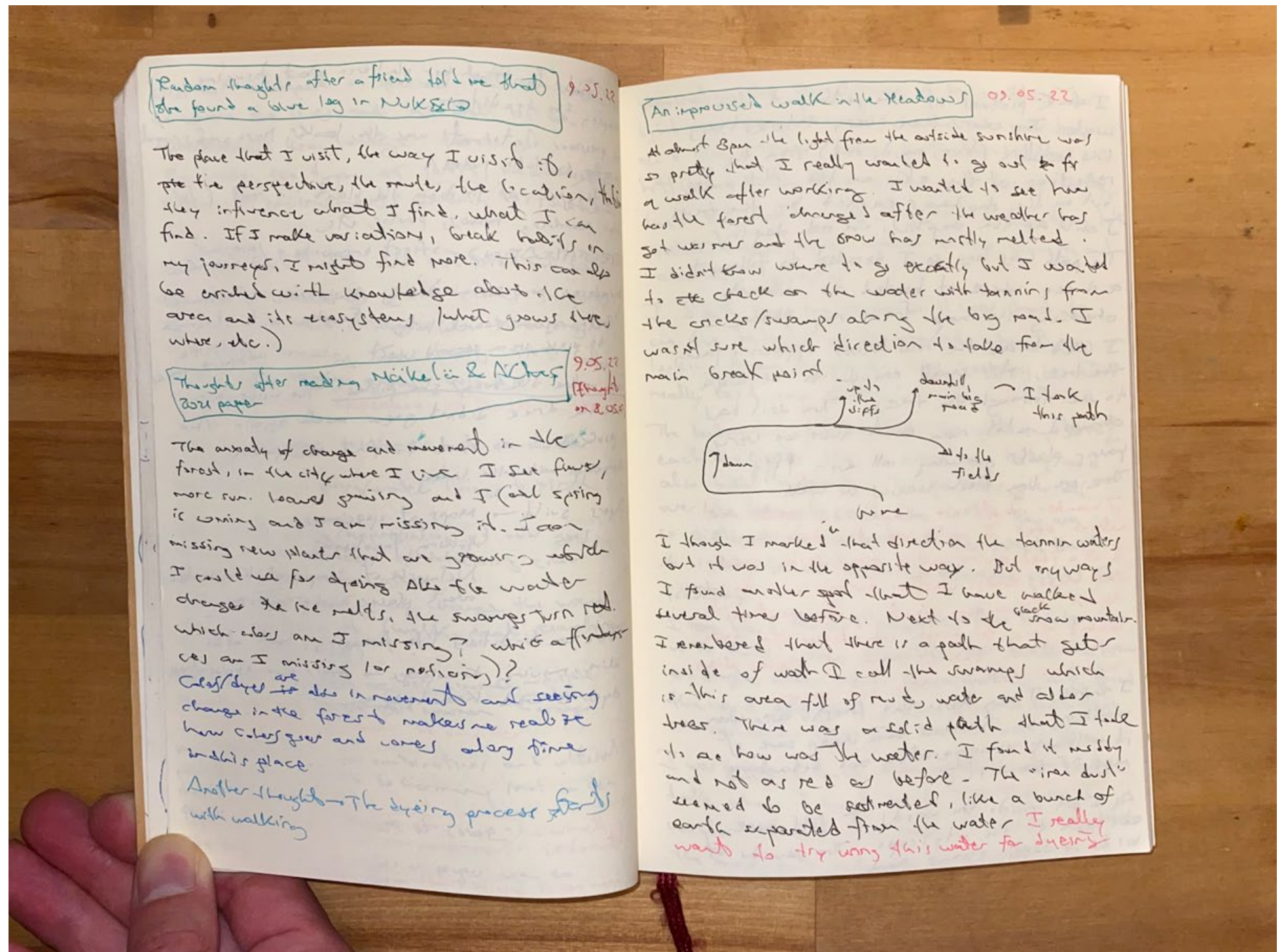
## When writing journals some general categories help:

Descriptions

Reflections

Future actions

When documenting there is also reflection



## DOCUMENTING ACCORDING TO YOUR CREATIVE PROCESS

Sometimes you don't want to interfere your creative flow, so you can first experience the process and then take notes (drawing, writing, voice recording, etc.)

Sometimes you can record the process somehow (sound, video, etc) and look at it later.

Sometimes you could take notes in between the process.

**Experiment and find the ways that work better for you and your process.**

# DOCUMENTATION CAN ENRICH YOUR PROCESS

Bringing **awareness** of your own flow, processes and decisions. Your way of thinking.

Triggers **reflection** and **understanding** of your process.

It makes it possible to **communicate** your thinking and creative process.

Allows further reflection and **analysis** of the whole process. Later it will help you to contextualize your work.