

About Full Spring Studio, LLC

I make art that explores the connection and flow between people and the rest of nature. In artists books and public art, I use story or a sequence of events and often mix words and poetry with images, or in the case of public art – participatory actions. I believe infrastructure, such as power lines and water mains, tells a story of how our daily lives are interconnected with nature—whether from a sink through pipes to the river, or from a light switch, through wires, to the sky. In artists books I combine poetry, photography, and collage, to create an experience that unfolds within the familiar book form. In participatory public art, I create rituals, that I document and together the activities and the documentation form the impression of the work.

Current Work

Earth Systems Journey

My current focus is the intersection of art and environmental education, in a practice called *Earth Systems Journey*. Earth Systems Journey is a curriculum framework for art-led, experiential, place-based environmental education about environmental flows, (such as water, air, energy or material) through a school building and grounds.

This model was incubated in a project called: <u>Downstream/Upstream</u>: A Journey Through the Urban Water Cycle, which began on May 31, 2011, when 39 children, ages 4 to 6, began a journey from their school in Little Canada through the urban water cycle following the water infrastructure that connects the Mississippi River to their sink. After the two week field-based learning unit, they told their story of water using their own photographs and drawings in visual journals and through contributing their photographs to the 8-foot participatory map that had charted their path. They also helped to remember water through a participatory Water Marks site installation and planting native flowers for storm-water improvement. The next application of Earth Systems Journey is planned for 2014-2015 at an environmental charter high school.





I am also practicing participatory public art, such as the recent project <u>*River-Wash at Little Mekong*</u>, a water healing ritual along University Avenue, or the upcoming <u>*Aqua per Capita*</u> collaboration, an outdoor water play and theatrical event exploring the relationship of population, to water use, and carrying capacity in Bloomington.

I also have several artists books in progress such as *29 Days: A Journal of Moon Meditations* that follows paintings of a month of moon phases, and *Blowdown*, which examines the altered landscapes after the heavy storms in the Twin Cities in summer, 2013.



<u>Full Spring Flow</u>, a blog for Full Spring Studio, gives a glimpse into these and other projects in process, and I welcome your feedback.

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