

By Eliza Ladd

Spoken text with visual images tracking the evolution of my art making process. Words in italics were sung.

1 UPWARD



I started out in Nature, seeing nature being in nature.

That which is above, below, before, behind, 360 degrees around

The great grace of the sky

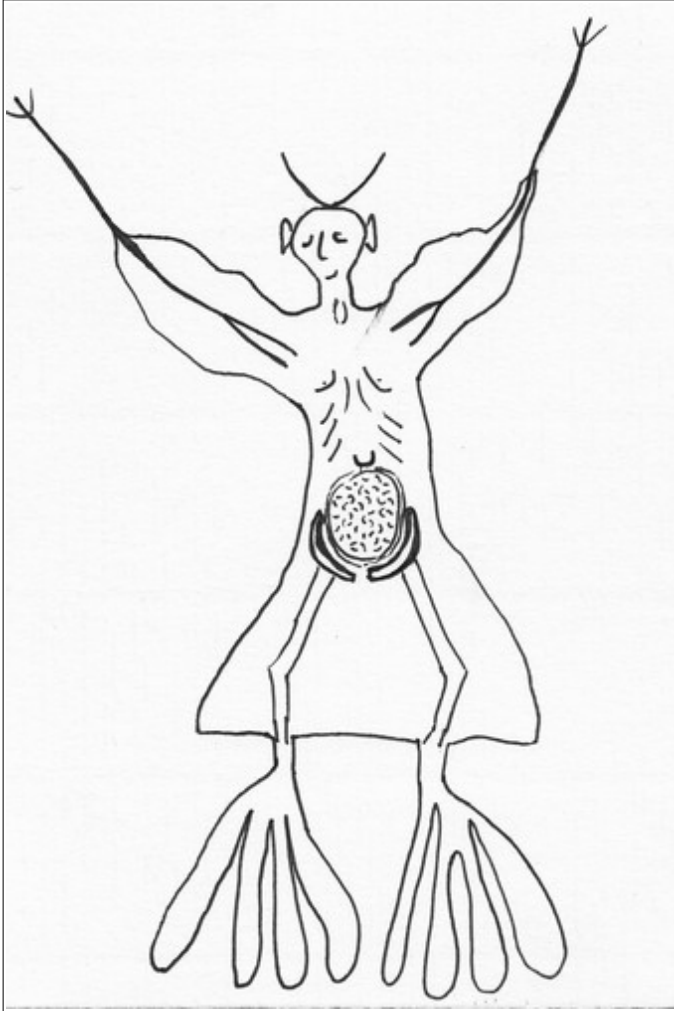
The nimble delicate reaching fingers of the trees

Arching canopy of protection, open possibility, potential expansion

The heavens

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2 SEE THRU DRESS



Blue Flowers from the sky fall down into my eye

Some people ask why the sky is blue, I know its cause of you

I did locate in the body, visual at first,

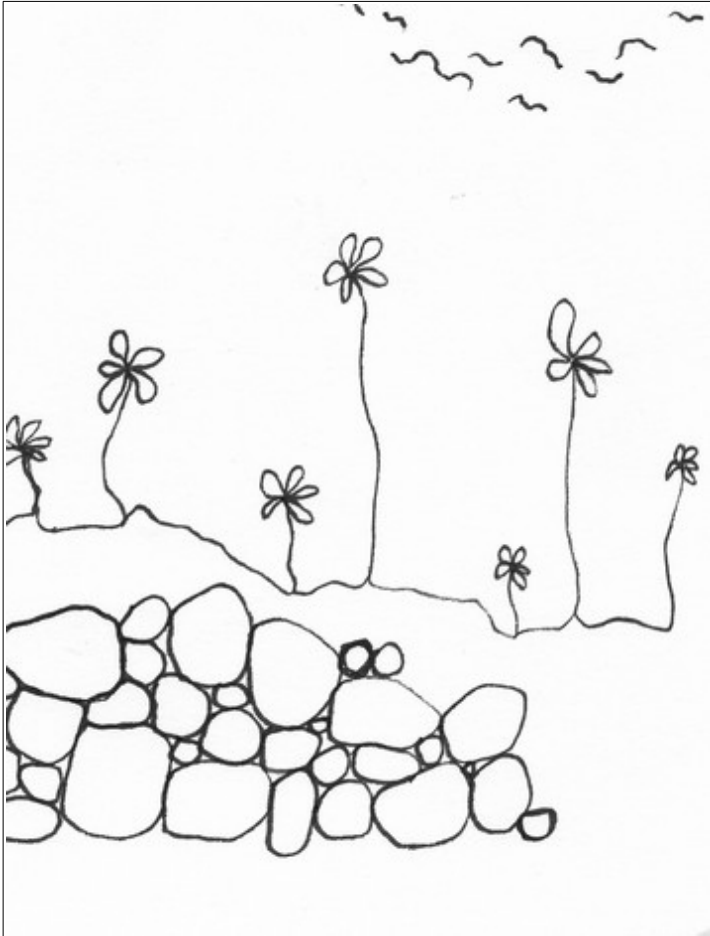
The innards, the container, the animal feet

The conscious – ness

The magnificence and the distortion

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3 ROCK LAND



I did see and feel the trees and the greenery
The boulders underlying in the belly
The rocky hill land scape moving across the territory
Sprouting upward growth, round rooted weight
The flock of birds soaring up above
All in a composition on the page
I did draw

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4 WALKING THE LAND



I did translate this drawing to the three dimensional space

Marking with materials on the theatrical floor

Circling with bark, drawing with stones

Walking the land in front of our very own eyes

Freedom came like a pearl, freedom was made by you and me

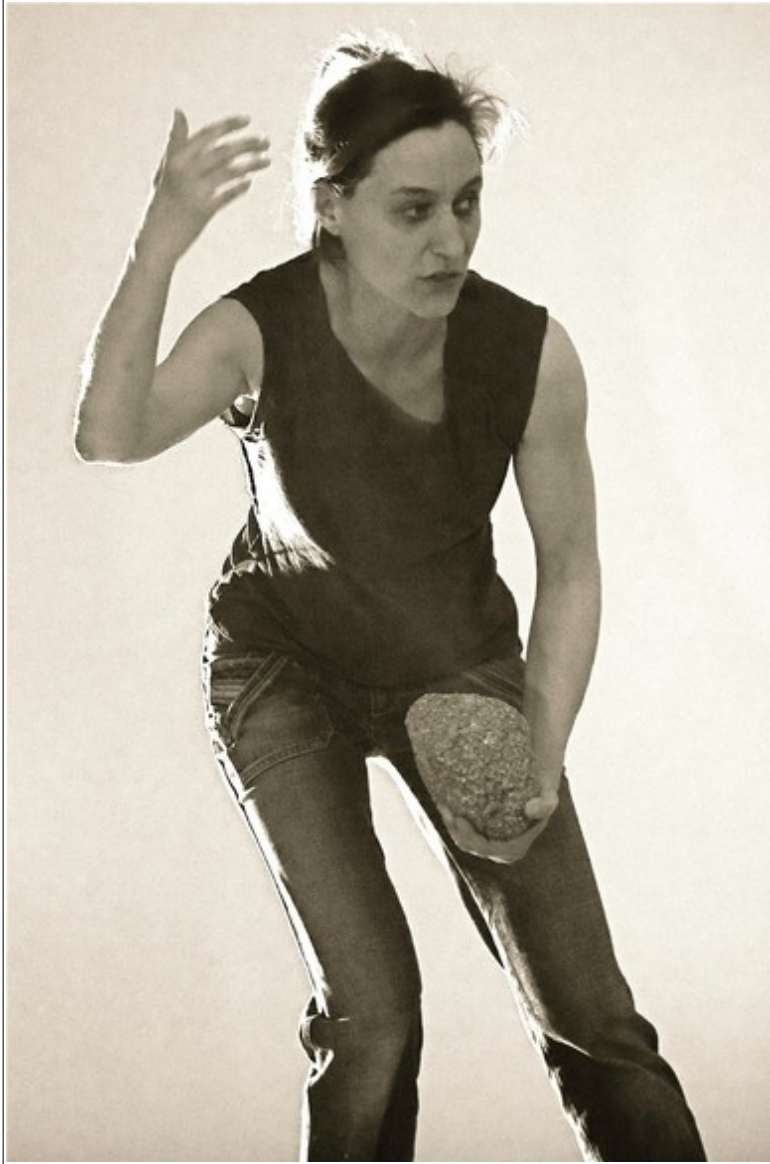
We were running across the field we were running ourselves right in to the heat

Long thigh bones tore us off, in to the distance, in to the horizon,

Forward in to the next big thing

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5 HOLDING THE STONE



I am like Boulders on the sea shore

Water moves me and I rub in to myself

Water moves me, water moves me

Vga d ding ding da dee dee, gene gee da ba da bada bee ba bem

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6 ENSEMBLE TOOLS



We did work with tools and objects, we the ensemble,
We did sound and sing and stir and plow
We did dig and spoon and fork ourselves forward Like an
Army of Ants, Band of Gorillas
Cloud of Gnats, Congregation of Alligators
Drift of Swine, Murder of Crows
Plague of Locusts, Parliament of Owls
Tribe of Humans, group gathering herd
Ensemble

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7 SHAPE SHIFT TO ELEPHANTS



We did shape shift (shift our shape) to become the Elephants

As the humans are able to do

Walking with our weight as Mama and Baby

Iron railroad hooks served as our feet.

We did study the land in this elephant mind

In order to understand our place in the natural order of things

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8 ONE AND FOUR



In our play, “Elephants and Gold”, we find the composition of One and Four

One Poacher Man and four Sleeping Elephants.

Dynamic did emerge, tension between the two,

Competition for space, race, money,

Who’s space? Who’s place?

Conflict on this earth between the animals and the humans and the green-
ery

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9 STANDING ON STONE



Here we are, standing on the stone

Supple toes curled around the circular earth, gripped (to the big ball)

So easy to tilt, lose balance, fall, run astray, topple topple topple over, run away

Four ways of building a tower to the sky, four ways of saying I don't want to die

O la cantita, bonjour aujourd'oui, yekka sala manaka onoko ye ha yea eheh

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10. NEEDLE HANG



Here I am

Just watching the world go by, yup, hust watching it pass.

Its pretty, its ugly, its disgusting.

(hanging on by the skin of my teeth, . . .)

Here I am, yup

Thank you.

I love you