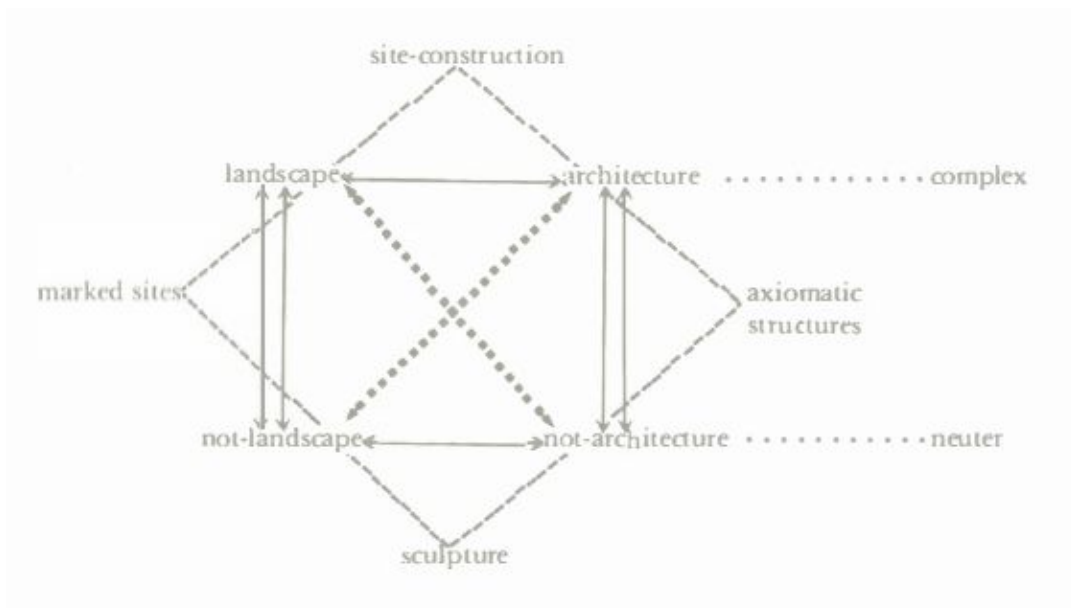


On expanding the field of writing:

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We went through a whole run of titles for this exhibition, and in the end I decided to use Kosmos, which refers to the large sculpture in the exhibition, but also inclusivity: the cosmos, and the world, and the universe, and the idea of something expanding. Which is very much how I view practice, as something that should always be expanding.

Eva Rothschild, October 2018





This question: what are we not permitted to consider as literature? As criticism?

Are we thinking the complex? Are we writing the complex already?

And what of the other possibilities?

What else are we doing— or not doing?

Eva Rothschild's Kosmos provides a setting, a subject and a thematic springboard for this enquiry.

As we sit with the show, sit on the show, move around it, be in it, we can think about how Kosmos works as expanded practice.

We can consider how expansion applies to our own writing, and how we want to respond to the exhibition.

“The logic of the Klein group takes a binary and proposes three different relationships of opposition: firstly, a pure contradiction between the key terms; secondly, a *self-reflexive opposition* running vertically on the diagram between the key terms and their involutory opposites; and thirdly, an opposition by *implication* running diagonally across the diagram which traces the implied relationship between the key terms and their opposite’s involutory opposite (i.e. the double negative that becomes a positive).”

I bring to this workshop the ethic of the non/fictionLab. We are a community of creative practitioners who revel in our awkwardness. We love:

Disruption through play  
Exploring in-between-ness

Intellectual openness  
Curiosity  
Risk taking

Friendliness (toward our ideas, toward our mistakes)  
Collegiality

Being comfortable being uncomfortable

We essay: to set out with open intent, not necessarily knowing the way. We find form as we go.

1. Let's begin by being here. Take off your shoes and socks (no problem if you don't want to). Sit anywhere, in any way, so you feel the ground through the soles of your feet or your palms.

2. Walk around the veiled room in any direction, or stand still in each section watching others. Immerse yourself in any way that feels resonant.

Sit down and shut your eyes. What colour comes to you?  
Write it down.

Do this a number of times until the colour sets in.  
Write on this colour.

Or find your own way in.

3. Take a partner. Each find a spot directly across from each other, at any point along the walls of Gallery 1. Look through the works toward each other. Stay here for a number of minutes.

What do you see?

Write on this.

Swap positions. Look through the works toward each other.

Stay in this spot for a number of minutes.

Catch a memory that is evoked by this sightline.

Write on this.

Do this a number of times until you find the most resonant positions.

Or find your own way in.



4. What colour is Cosmos? Write on this.

5. Respond in any way, narrative, criticism, poetry, material writing—whatever—to the themes or ideas discussed in a wall panel.