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Zine Evaluation

Word Count – 532 words

## Zine and Evaluation -

My original idea was to screen print on to seed paper the design of the zine using two colours of natural earth pigment of reds and ochres, but due to time of the process and access to screen-printing equipment led me to consider different processes of creating my zine whilst holding true to my original concept, such as handwritten zines or laser etched woodblock printing methods. But I later discovered that the risograph printer uses water soluble non-toxic inks which led me to use this as an alternative process.

I initially experimented using colour papers to print on to create a varied palette and intentionally using contrasting muddled colours to make the zine something with which one must give time to read each work but my experiments though interesting in concept led to be difficult to achieve clear enough words to create a readable yet awkward quality to the zine. With this, one aspect of zines and books in general which draws my attention is haptics, from scale to paper quality and intractability beyond just reading. Exploring how I could develop this led me to consider whether something could be supplied with the zine or tucked into the pages, whilst still using natural materials drew me to attaching charcoal to the binding drilling holes into the sticks as to not lose them.





Awkwardness as something to push to slow the audience to draw in those who look for a challenge, but when considering then the meaning behind my process using irregular and sometimes intentionally unorthodox combinations is combining my love for and research into nature, and biological/ecological studies alongside folklore/mythology and the unknown; be it physical or spiritual.

Thus, to convey a message within the context of a zine, I looked to combine different elements from poetry split between pages and binding, photography, digital collage, and drawings to show the true breadth of my practice as to choose a single medium, I feel too bland; studying previous scenes which have used entirely photography based though can be visually interesting, also lacks something individual. Furthermore, my reasoning for working with seed paper draws influence from the act of guerrilla gardening, which is the act of introducing plants, farming and/or cultivating land that it is either left abandoned and or “guerrilla” refers to the lack of authorization to grow in a given space” (Kuchta, 2022). Thus, the zine then offers the reader, once finished to tear the zine or its cover up and leave on soil in an act of guerrilla gardening.



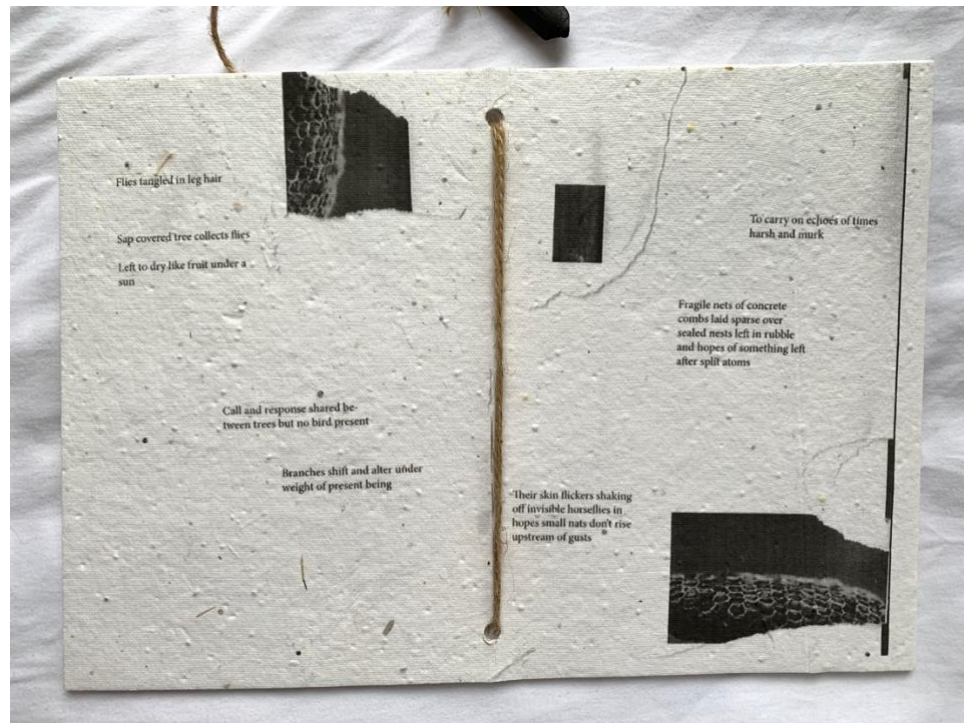
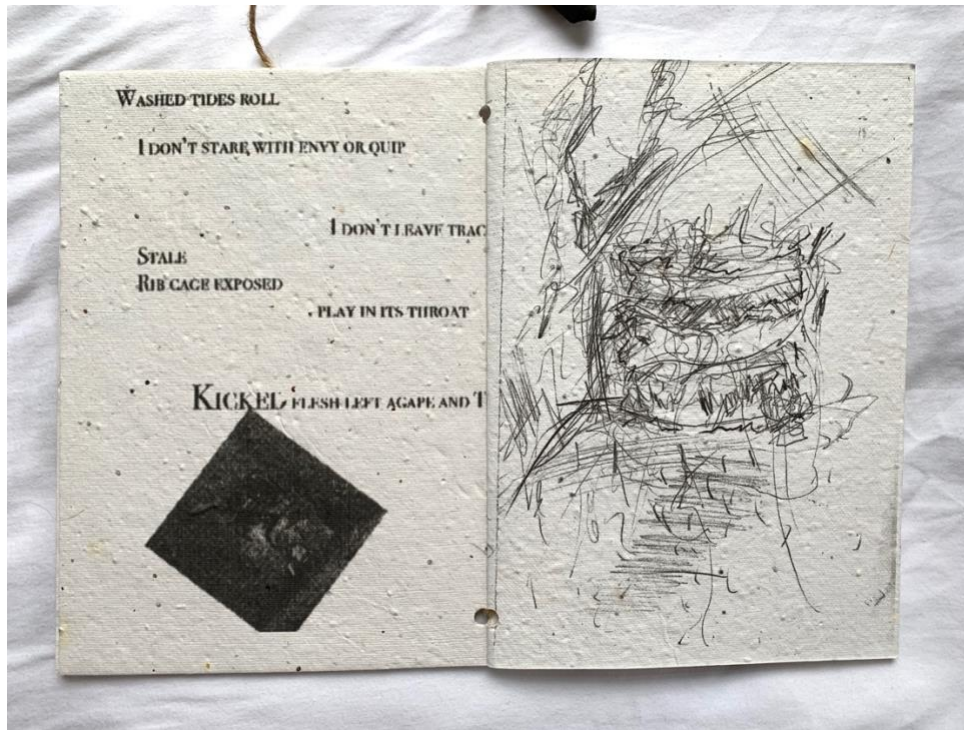
As pictured above are my initial mock-ups of my zine which I feel works in scale, experimenting with different papers have higher and lower GSM and a semi-transparent paper, initially incorporating a protective cover around the zine out of seed paper and

band, I then experimented resizing the paper intake of the risograph machine which enabled me to then print on to the seed paper whilst carrying over the protective cover over to the finale version as something to both protect the zine whilst something which can be interacted with, removing the sleeve to reveal the zine inside.

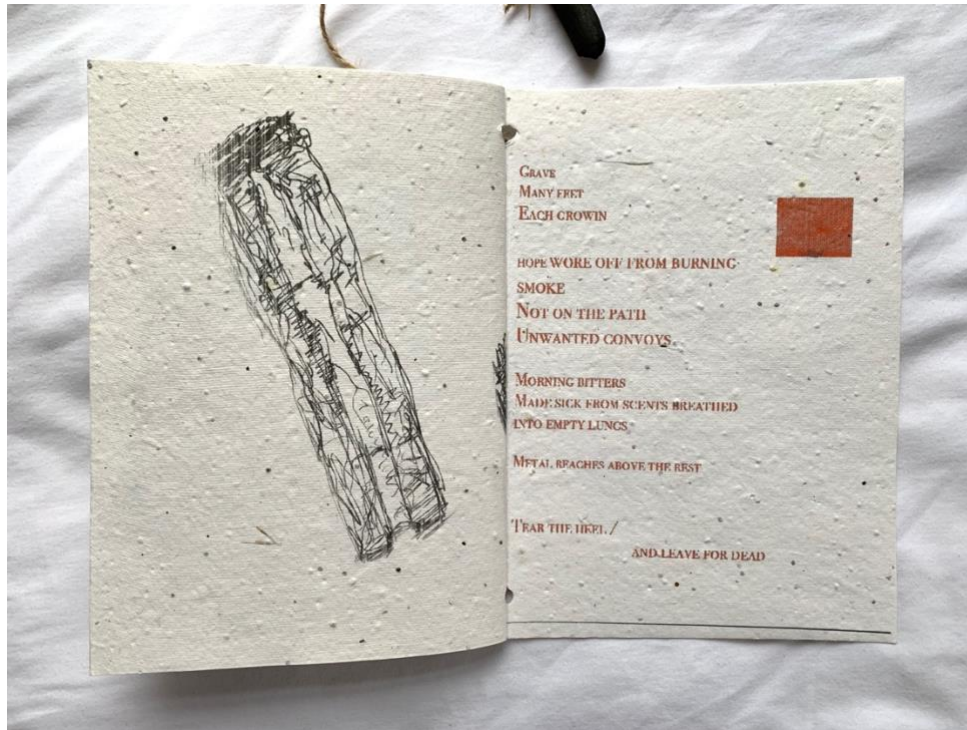
As pictured below is my finale outcome with a page through page snapshots.











Bibliography -

Websites -

Kuchta, D.M. (2022) What is guerrilla gardening? definition, history, and examples, Treehugger. Treehugger. Available at: <https://www.treehugger.com/what-is-guerrilla-gardening-5196129> (Accessed: January 10, 2023).