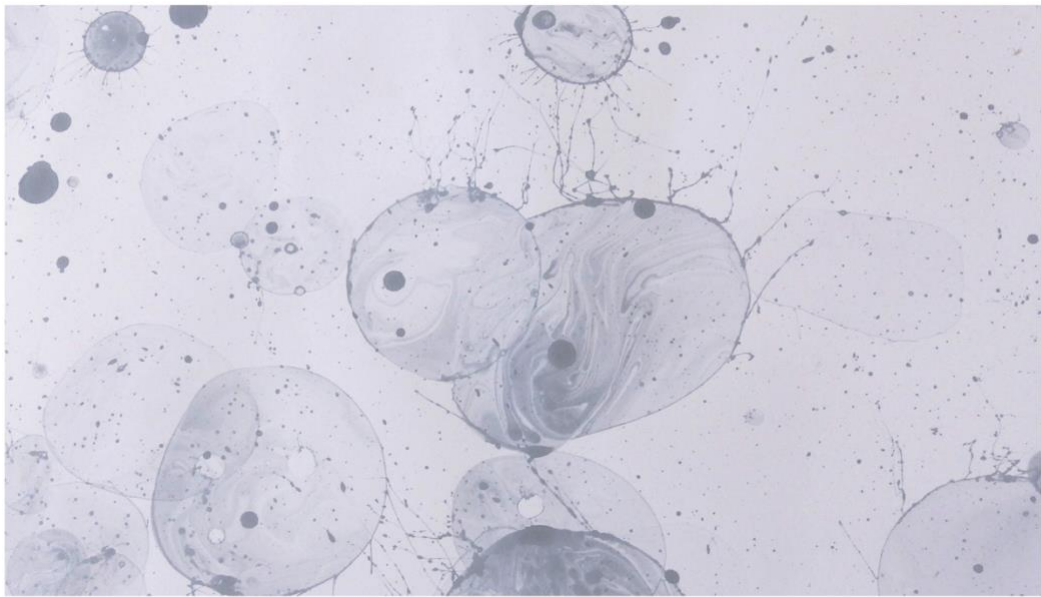




THE MEMORY OF AIR



THE MEMORY OF AIR
Alix Hall

THE MEMORY OF AIR

The theme I have explored in my work is the idea that Air has memory. I explore this idea through capturing, highlighting and comparing locations that hold specific memories. I also explore a more conceptual idea that we can detect and feel the memory of a place through the air, as if the air is telling us the memory. These ideas personify the air in a way that is interesting to fantasize about and makes us more aware of what is happening in our spaces. My work also touches on themes of pollution, breath and breath in Covid times.

The idea for my topic of work started with the theory that Dr Masaru Emoto came up with, and it states that water can retain memory. He did experiments on water that show that when water is frozen, the general shape of the snowflake changes depending on what emotions/phrases were said to the water. This started the thought process of whether the other four elements have the same attributes. Scientifically, all of the elements (water, air, fire and earth) contain particles from the places they have been and we can therefore track down the places they were before, this could be considered memory. But when considering this about air, the idea that air has memory is terrifying, since it is all around us constantly touching us. Scientifically, air does 'have memory' since certain places have certain pollution levels or certain scent particles, but we can also look at it from a more conceptual approach. This is what my work is about.

The concept is that the air remembers what has been in a space or what is happening in a space or even what is happening nearby. The feeling we get when we walk into a room would be the air presenting its memory. This could be described as the sixth sense. And if we start to think about each space and what the air in that space has witnessed, the air starts to get personified and we can start to empathize with the air. When we think about the emotions and feelings left behind in a space, we can sometimes resonate with them or 'feel them in the air'. An example could be when you visit a memorial site, you are struck with a deep sadness and respect or mourning feeling. The aim of my exhibition is to capture that emotion and try to present it in a way that, even though is not that strong and intoxicating, you could still feel some sort of residual emotion from the space. It also provides time to reflect on the space and empathize with all that has gone through the space before you and connect with what emotions are left behind.

That is the Memory of Air.



CAPTURED AIR

Installation, 2021



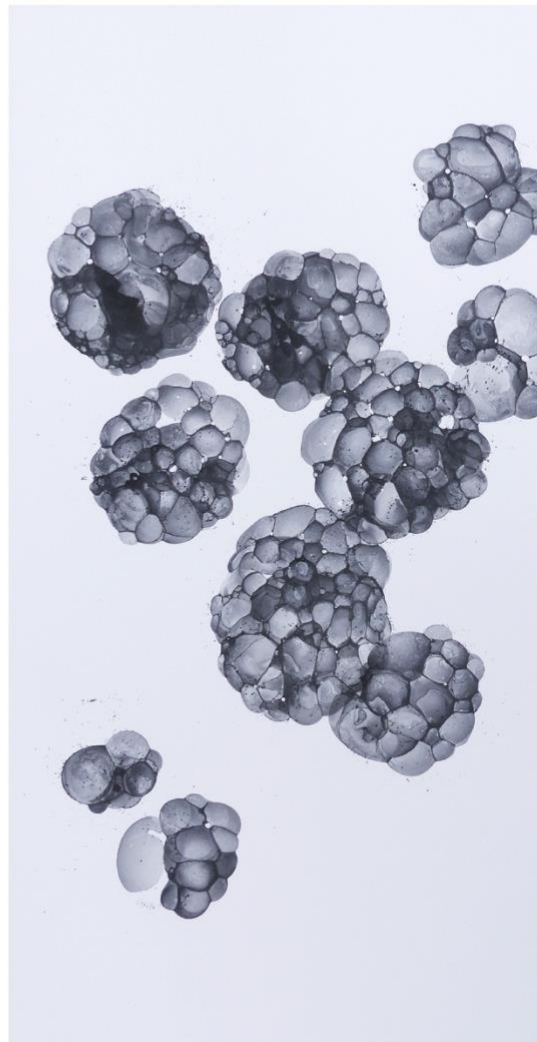
Captured Air, is an artwork consisting of inflated ziplock bags filled with air from specific places, and corresponding information cards. I went into a space, collected the air (and memories in the air) in the bag, used the bag as a filter in front of the camera and took a photo. I then recorded the feelings, sounds, temperature and air quality. Each space has different memories and emotions which I captured in the bags.

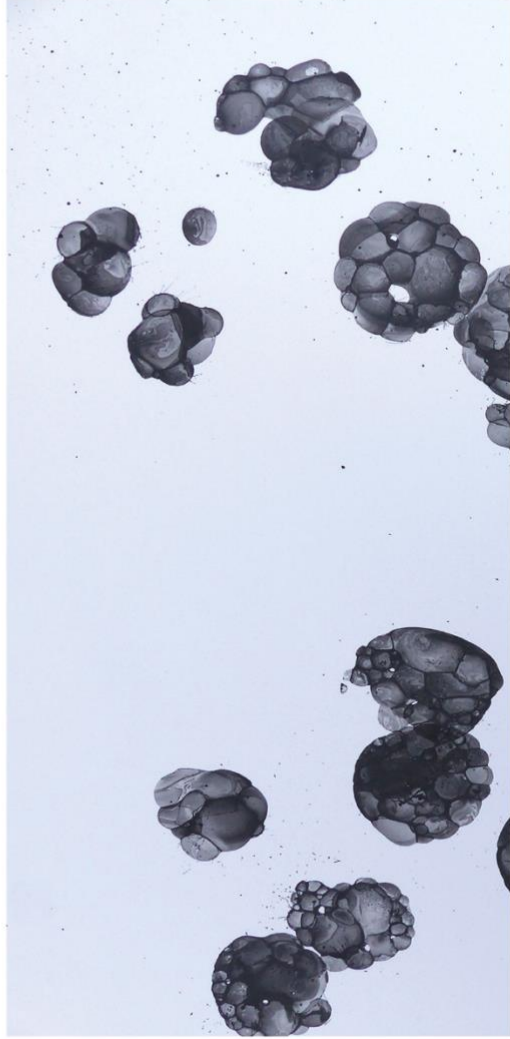


MEMORY OF MY LUNGS

Bubble print, 2021

The Memory of my lungs is a bubble print. It uses ink, dishsoap and breath to create a stagnant version of breath. Breath contains memory of whatever is going on inside you. Whether it be an emotion or physical pain. These are prints of what is going on inside of me when feeling different emotions.





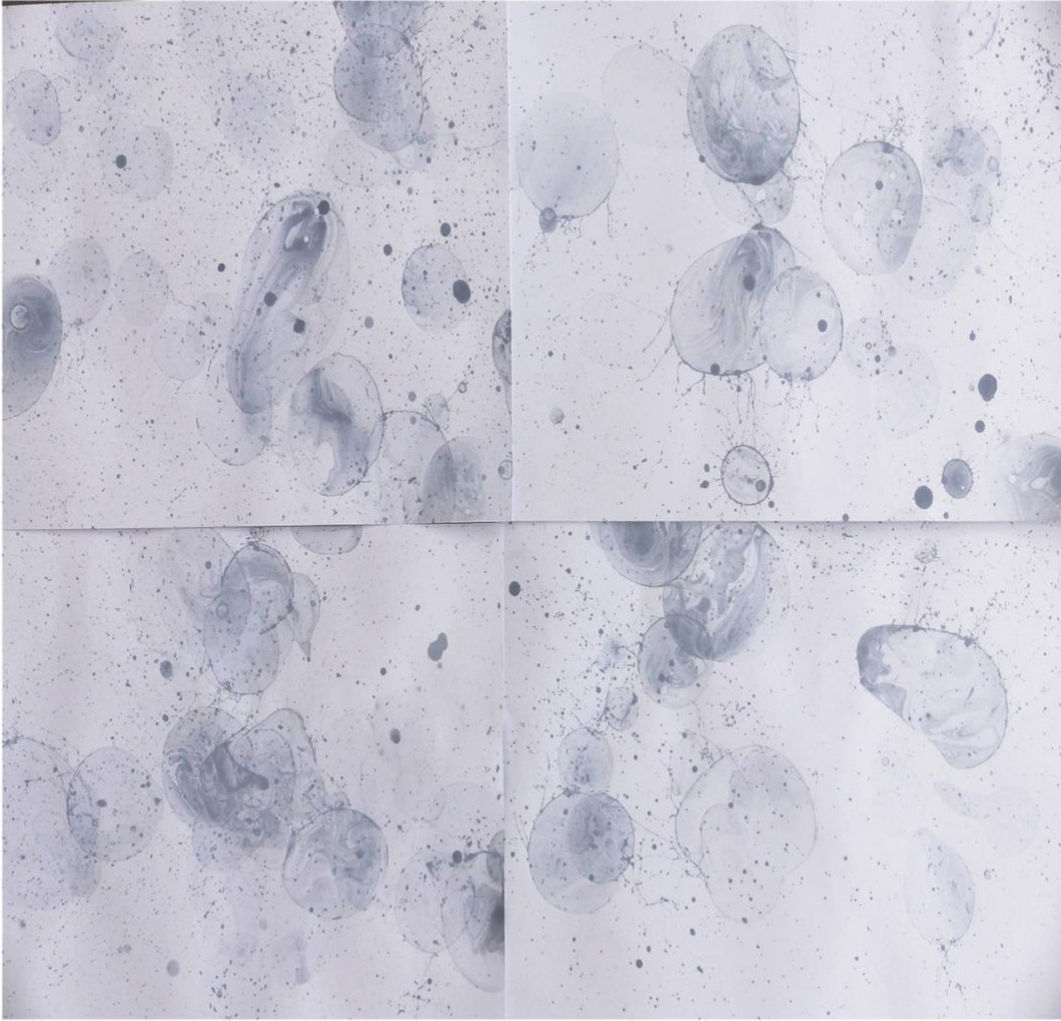


Breath of Society is a tapestry or quilt artwork made from collected, used, disposable masks. This artwork speaks to our breath that has become so apparent during Covid times. The idea is that the memories that live inside the air we breath out, gets stuck in the mask along with the germs. The masks were hand sewn together with thread I inherited from my grandmother who died during the intense Covid period. Death during this time might be the tiny thing that we as a society can all relate to.



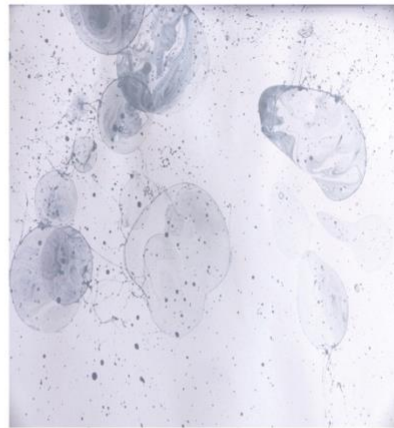
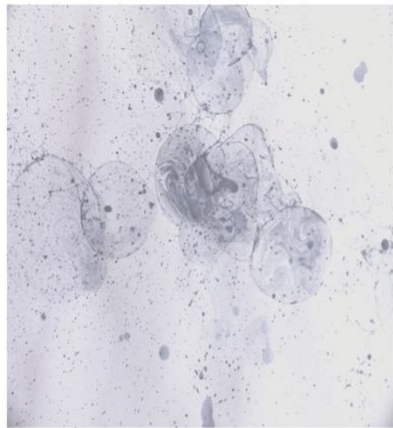
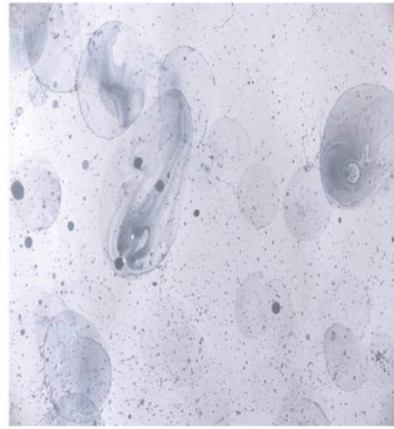
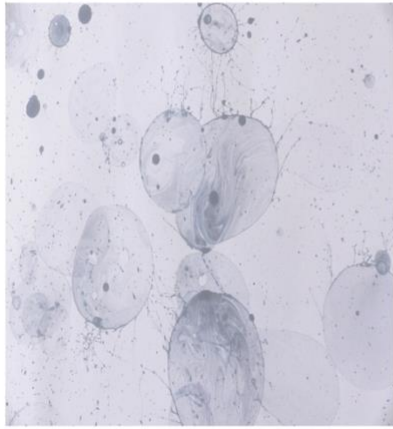
BREATH OF SOCIETY

Used Mask Tapestry, 2021

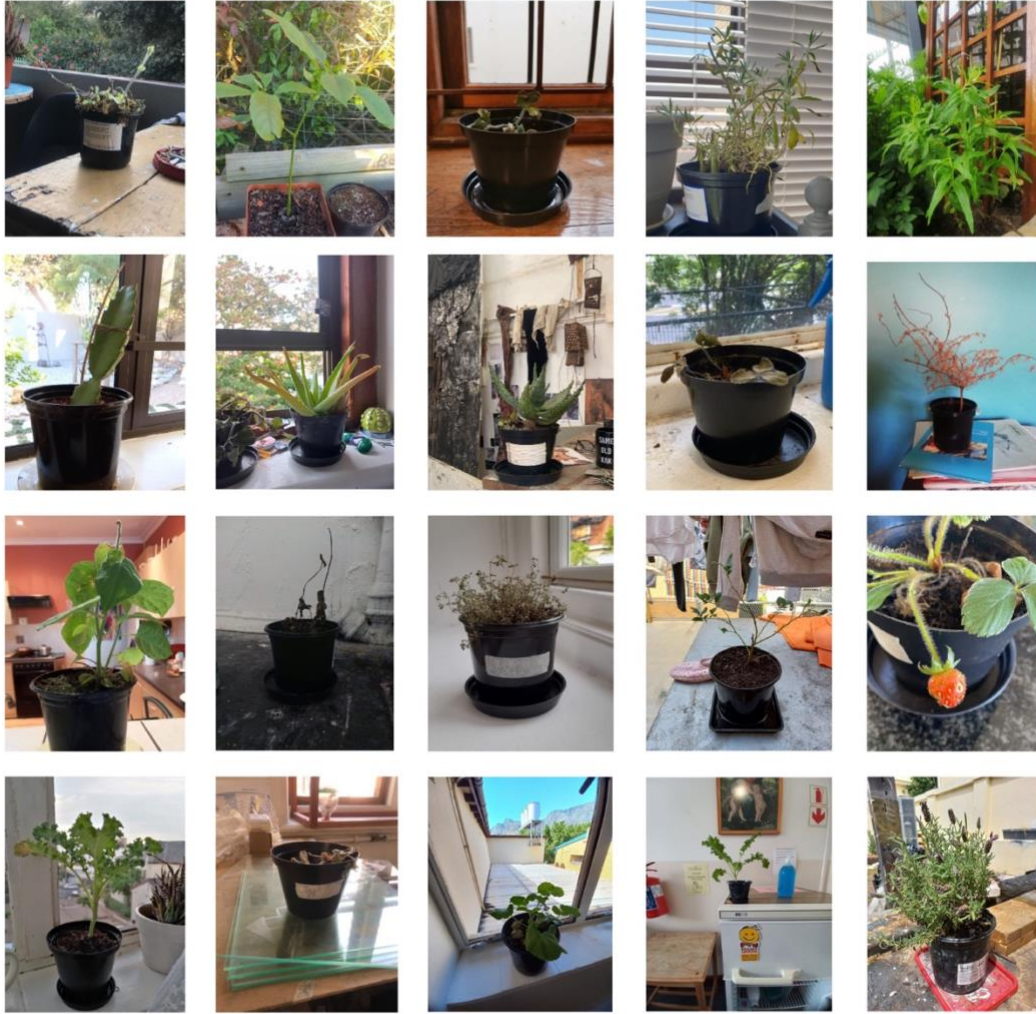


THE AIR HERE NOW

Bubble Print Performance Example, 2021



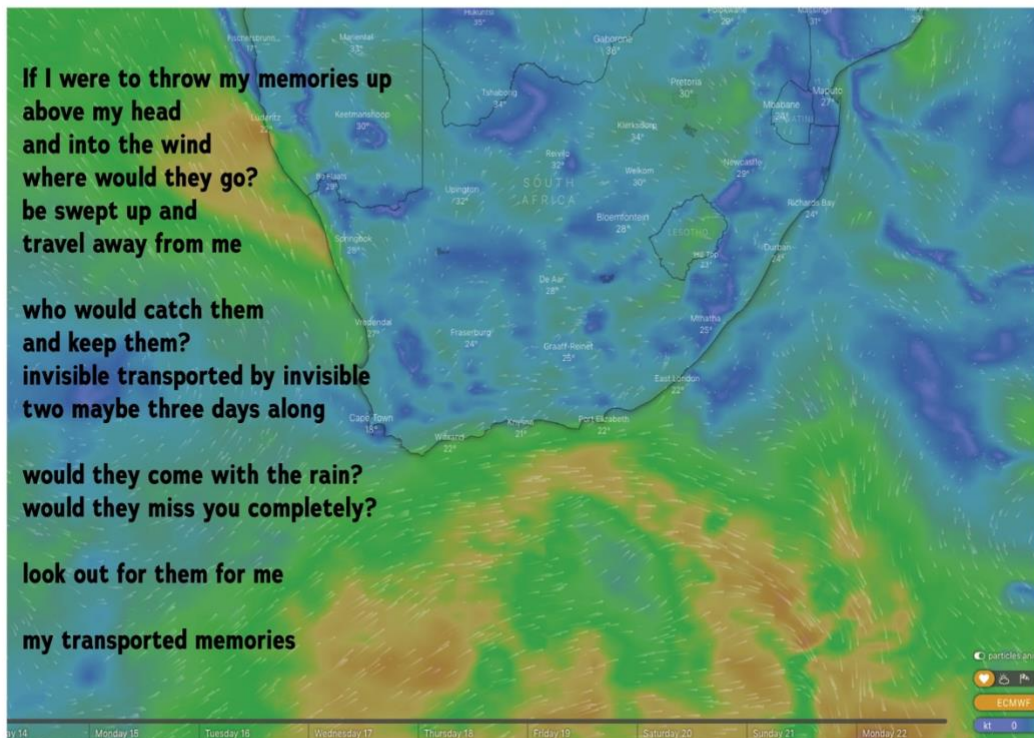
This work will be completed during the exhibition.
This is an opportunity for the audience to contribute
their memories to the space in the form of Breath, by
blowing bubbles.
The space will then become its own artwork of collected
memories from the audience.
This work also includes an aircon.



WITNESSED MEMORY

Curated Plants as Memory Collectors, 2021

Witnessed Memory is a collection of plants that each lived with their own person. The plants absorbed the air in the space as well as the memories that were in that air. Each space contains different memories and emotions. The plants stood witness to the events and feelings going on in the space. They also keep the memories inside of them. Each plant, homopathically, has memory enhancing properties. So if you were to ingest the plant or the fruit it bears, your memory would grow and you would be eating the memory of the space.



TRANSPORTED MEMORIES

Poetry and Live Wind Projection, 2021

Poem written by me.

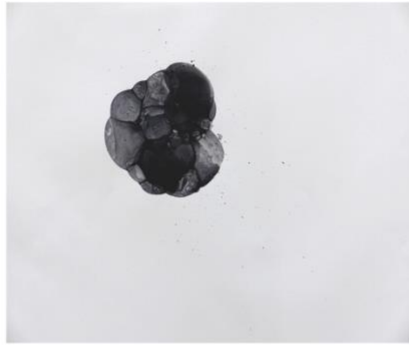
Windy website: <https://www.windy.com/?-32.426,22.764,6> live wind patterns.



MANUFACTURED AIR

A Collection of empty Aerosol and other gas bottles, 2021

Manufactured Air is an artwork highlighting the products that we use that go into the air. When the product is in the air, it disrupts the air's memory. Because the gases and formulas are pure forms of themselves, there is no memory in them. However, when we spray these contents into the air, the air changes. It has a new smell. It dilutes the memories that were already there but also creates new ones in accordance to the content of the can.



THE MEMORY OF AIR
BY ALIX HALL