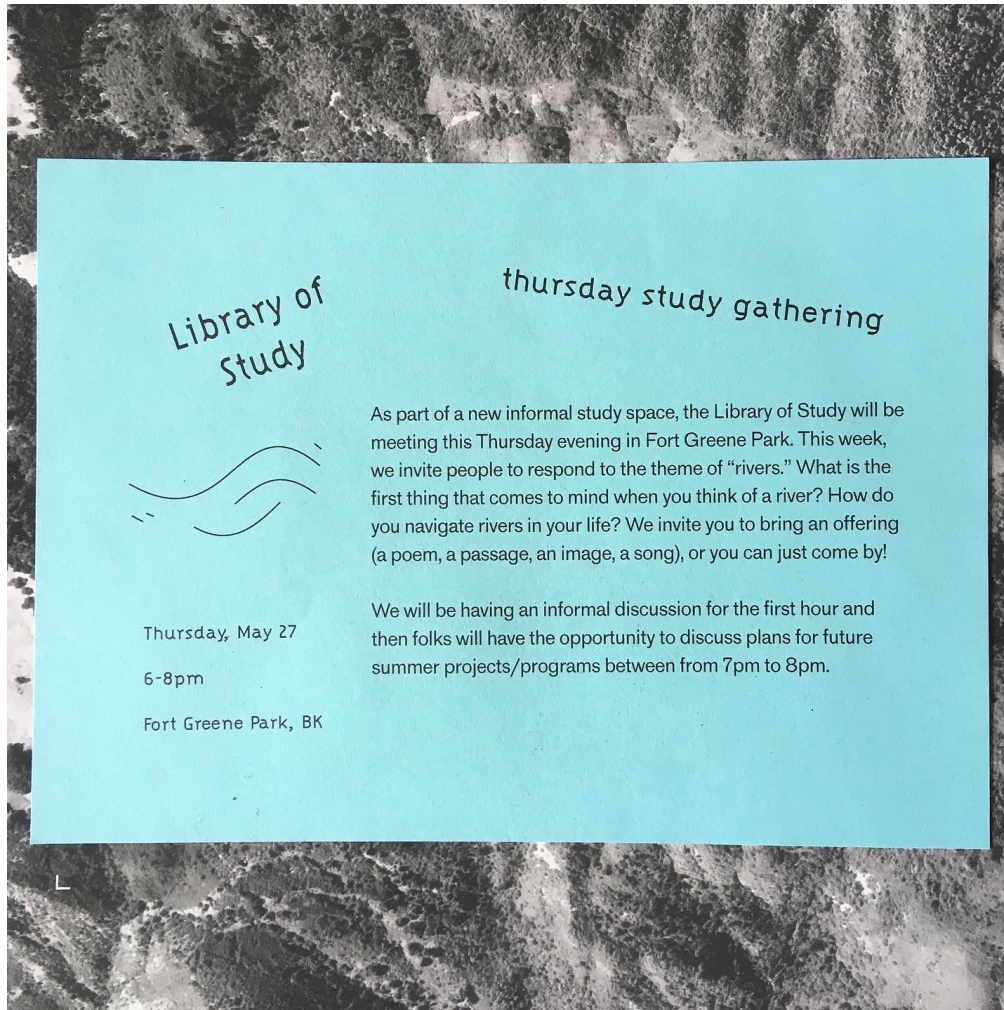


Library of Study

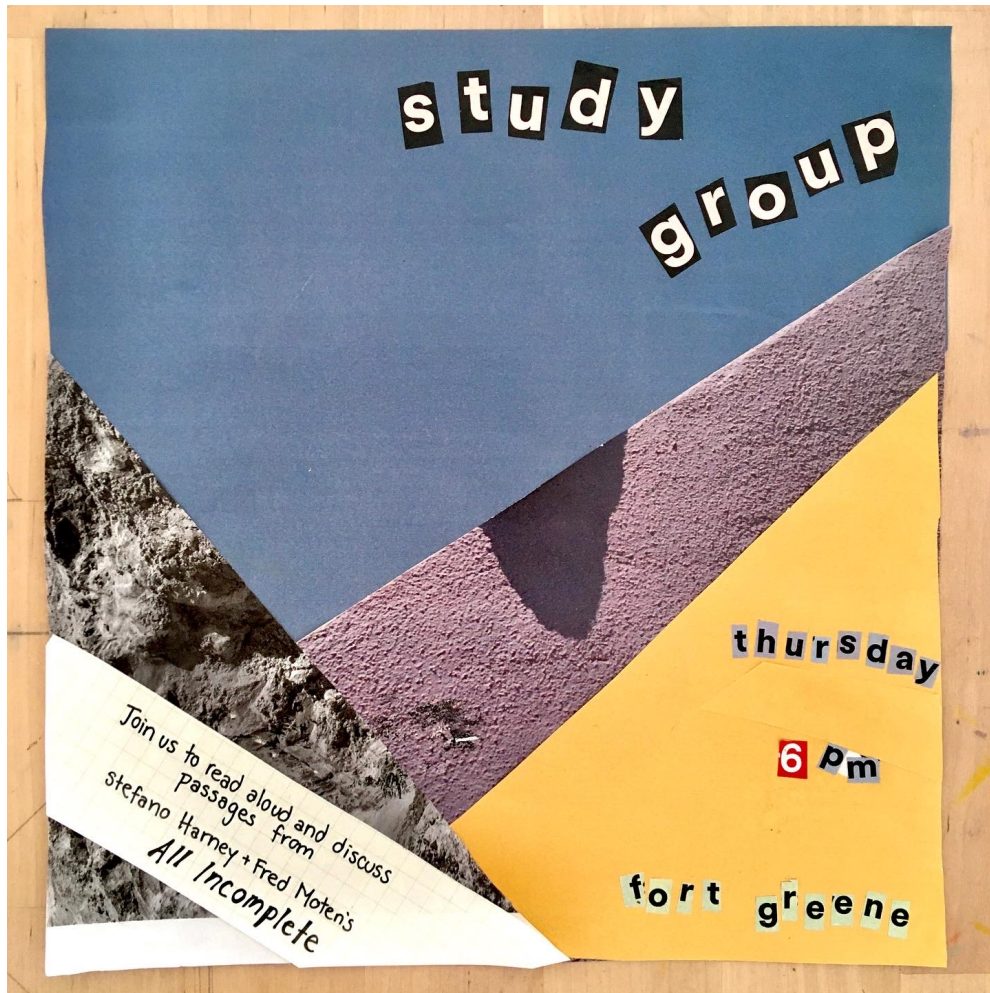


The Library of Study began in the summer of 2020 as a lending library in New York City. We host a free borrowing library alongside study groups, poetry readings, performances, and meals. The Library is a place for meeting others and sharing resources, questions, ideas, music, books, and more. We celebrate radical imaginaries, world-building, abolitionist visions, black study, and insurgent learning.

In the spring and summer of 2021, the Library of Study continued to host free lending libraries as well as informal weekly “study groups” where people gathered in Fort Greene Park to share ideas, texts, and resources.



Invitation to study gathering, May 2021



Flyer for spring 2021 study group on Stefano Harney and Fred Moten's *All Incomplete*



Material from May 2021 study group looking at the work of American Artist

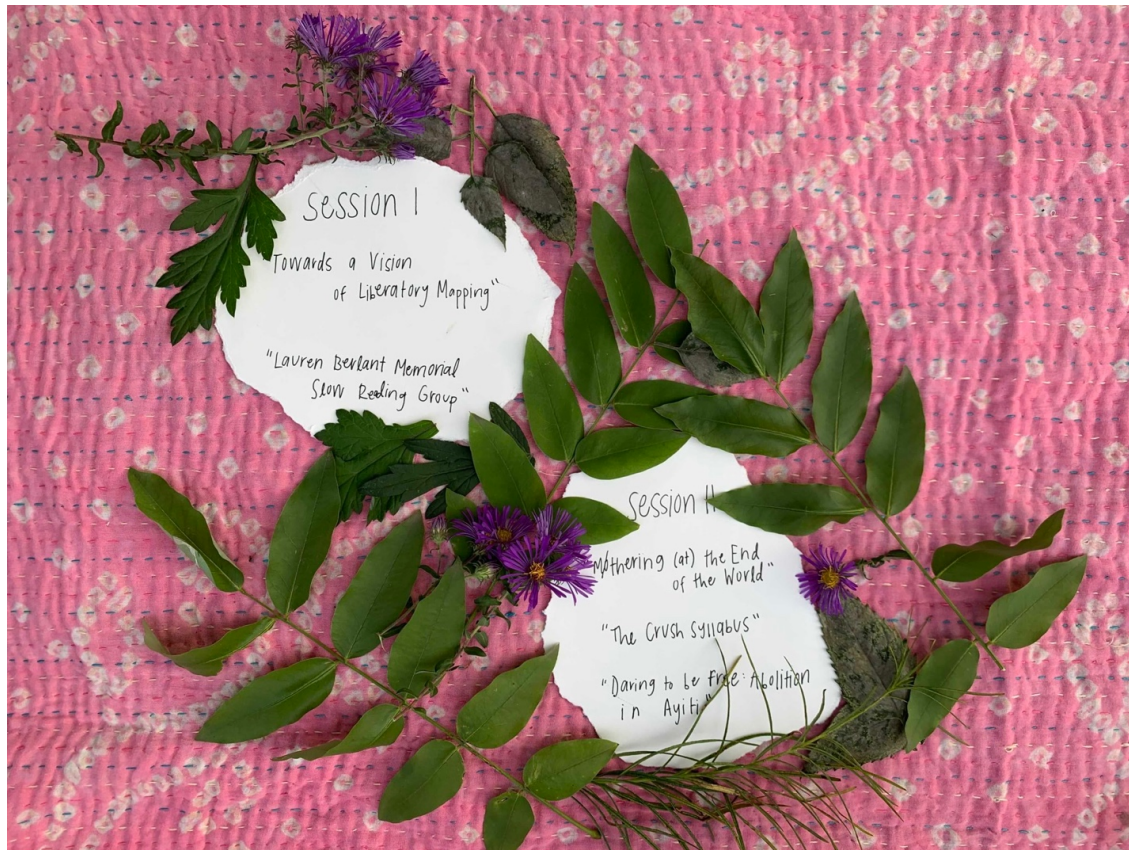


Invitation for June 2021 study gathering in Fort Greene Park, Brooklyn

In fall 2021, the Library of Study assembled and began hosting a program of study groups, inviting proposals for in-person and virtual groups on topics related to radical imaginaries, freedom dreams, abolition, world-building, and more. The grant allowed us to give honorariums to facilitators and purchase books for attendees.



Call for Fall Library of Study “study groups”



Five study groups selected and supported in Fall 2021:

Towards a Vision of Liberatory Mapping

Lauren Berlant Memorial Slow Reading Group

M/othering (at) the End of the World

The Crush Syllabus

Daring to be Free: Abolition in Ayiti



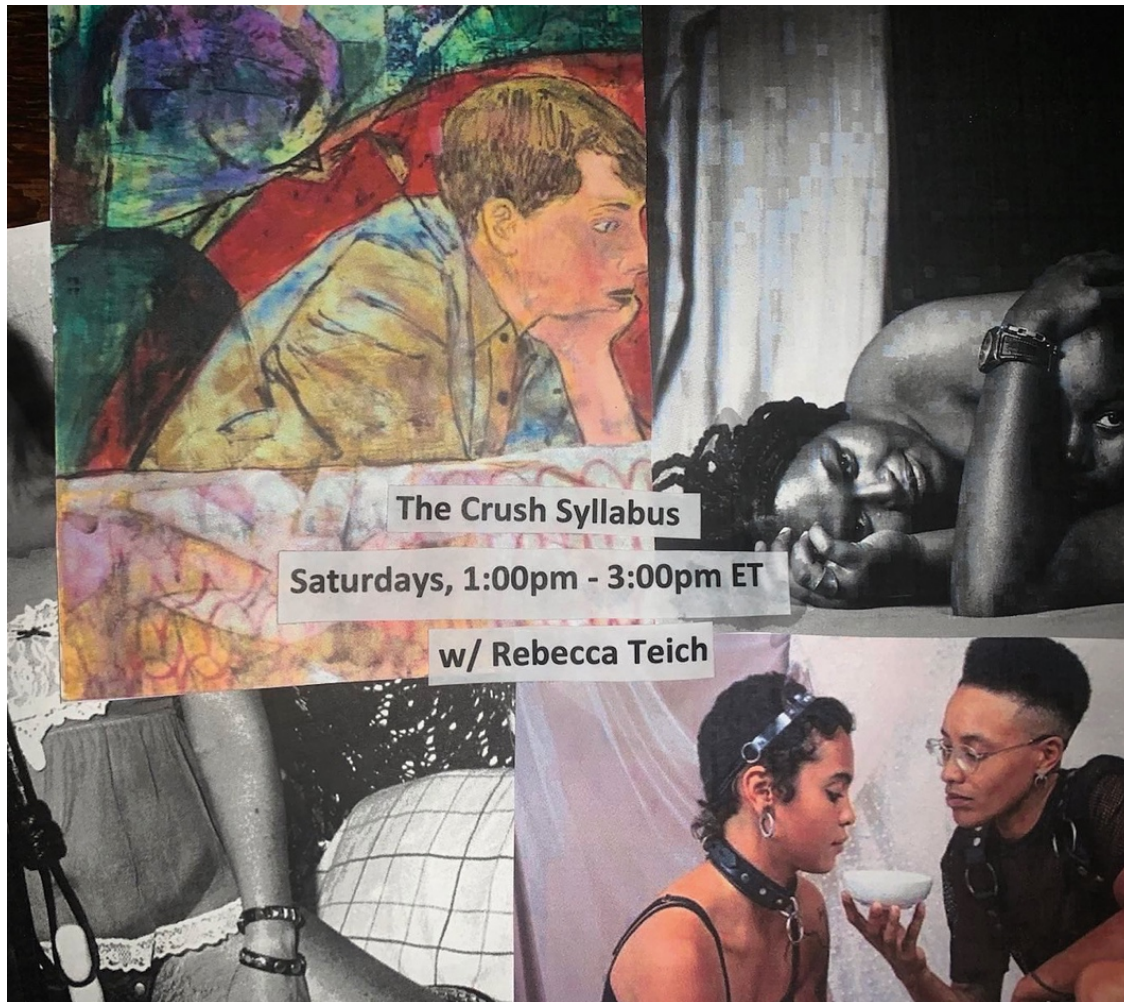
Lauren Berlant Slow Memorial Reading Group

In honor of Lauren Berlant's recent passing, we'll do a slow and generous read of their work, looking at a few pages at a time and including in each discussion meeting check ins, check outs and room for the personal and interpersonal in our readings of their thinking. We are particularly inspired not only by Berlant's theory, but by the way that they chose to present this thinking in the world, which included the discussion of Public Feelings and the insistence that the emotional is completely interlaced with the political. We'll work to give ourselves permission to not only discuss how we think with Berlant and what we think about Berlant's ideas, but also how we feel into this thinking and how our individual affective experiences bring us into relationship with the world.



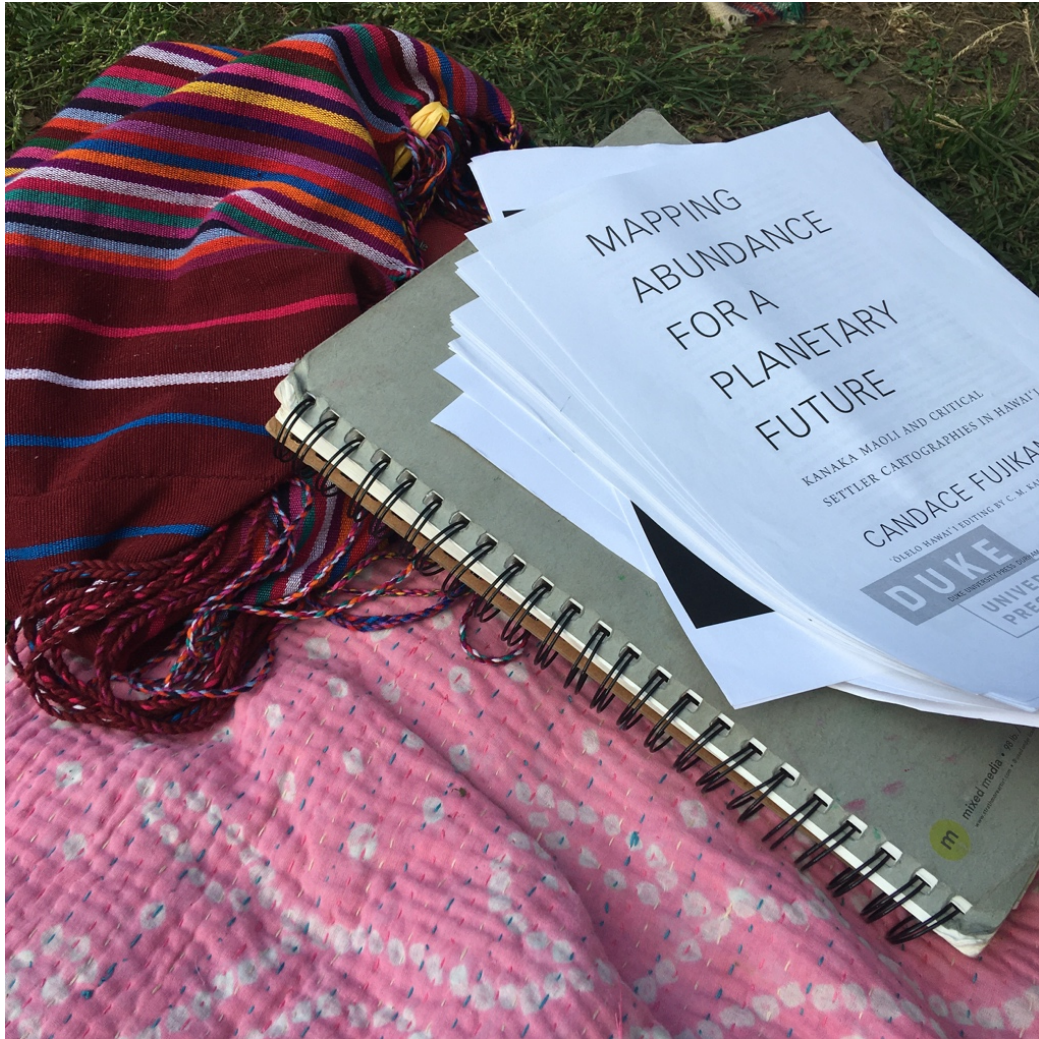
M/othering at the End of the World

This writing and reading group seeks to explore Black queer, trans, and lesbian lineages that have shaped care and justice in apocalypse. After Alexis Pauline Gumbs' essay, this study group will dive into the principles of survival, birth (and death), and renewal from ancestors and ancestors in training. In that definition, mothering is an action (with its perception shaped by oppressive, othering institutions), a kind of labor, and a kind of imagination—through writing exercises and discussions we'll investigate the ways, both speculative and real, that mothering work shows up in our communities at the end of the world.



The Crush Syllabus

Crushes are fleeting, overflowing, unattached, devotional, obsessive, nonchalant, secret, exhibitionist. Based on a living document that began in 2018 amongst a cluster of friends, lovers, comrades and has since sprawled too far beyond those bounds, this study group will take as its focus the politics of kinship through fleeting encounters. As Tiana Reid says, "Crushing lays bare the potential of boundless desire, enabling us to embrace brutal vulnerabilities that are often subordinated to everyday expediency." In this group we will work through Dean Spade's urging to consider "the place of personal relationships in the struggle (against authority, oppression, domination...)." We will read works (of poetry, essay, theory, and otherwise) that center unconventional and typically devalued relations. Thinking beyond the couple form, romance industry, and biological family, we will read texts that ask us to consider crushes, strangers, fleeting encounters sexual and otherwise--asking what are the stakes of these forms of desire and relating?



Towards a Liberatory Vision of Mapping

As we move through various spaces in the span of our days, weeks, years, how do we make sense of our relationships to our surroundings? What tools--what maps, perspectives, gazes--do we employ, & how do those tools influence our relationship to the living & nonliving beings around us? What would it look like to re-orient ourselves in our positionalities & subjectivities? How could we see abundance rather than capitalist scarcity, or center ourselves around the margins, the liminal spaces? How would these subversive strategies transform our understandings of the world? Through a series of five gatherings, we'll interrogate the colonial gaze of mapping--the method of surveying a space for extraction, exploitation, & conquest--& read about historical & contemporary radical map-making strategies. We'll learn about decolonial Indigenous Hawaiian cartography, Black abolitionist mapping, & queer digital mapping, drawing from postcolonial, Black feminist, & queer

theories. We'll study various maps of New York City & consider how we make a place known to us in a way that honors liberation dreams.