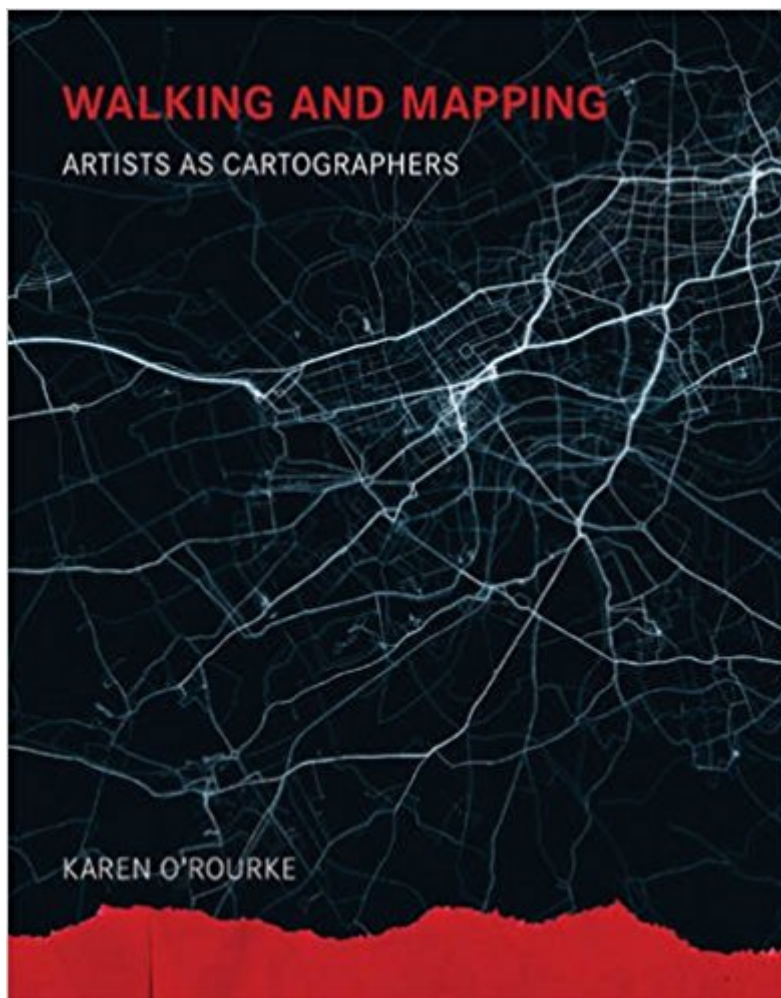




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# Walking And Mapping: Artists As Cartographers (Leonardo Book Series)



## Synopsis

From Guy Debord in the early 1950s to Richard Long, Janet Cardiff, and Esther Polak more recently, contemporary artists have returned again and again to the walking motif. Today, the convergence of global networks, online databases, and new tools for mobile mapping coincides with a resurgence of interest in walking as an art form. In *Walking and Mapping*, Karen O'Rourke explores a series of walking/mapping projects by contemporary artists. She offers close readings of these projects -- many of which she was able to experience firsthand -- and situates them in relation to landmark works from the past half-century. Together, they form a new entity, a dynamic whole greater than the sum of its parts. By alternating close study of selected projects with a broader view of their place in a bigger picture, *Walking and Mapping* itself maps a complex phenomenon.

## Book Information

Series: Leonardo Book Series

Paperback: 348 pages

Publisher: The MIT Press; Reprint edition (February 12, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0262528959

ISBN-13: 978-0262528955

Product Dimensions: 7 x 0.8 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 3 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #580,106 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #159 in Books > Arts &

Photography > Other Media > Conceptual #4737 in Books > Arts & Photography > History & Criticism > History

## Customer Reviews

*Walking and Mapping* is a veritable trove of generative ideas systematically unearthed as a 'subjective science' for inspired modes of engagement with the ground of everyday life. From Oulipian Pataphysics and Lettrist drift to Stalkers traversing the periphery of Rome, and from artists tracing Mexican and Moroccan border and immigration routes to microscopic landscapes and Intifada checkpoints, O'Rourke's book is a landmark contribution to authentic countercultural thinking. (Kristine Stiles, France Family Professor of Art, Art History & Visual Studies, Duke University) Karen O'Rourke clearly has wide knowledge of the field and has provided a valuable and informative book. *Walking and Mapping* brings together, in an intelligent fashion, the state of the art

in walking artistic practice. I am sure that for many readers it will be an engaging volume that will spark lots of new ideas. (Martin Dodge, Geography Department, The University of Manchester, and coauthor of Code/Space: Software and Everyday Life) In Walking and Mapping, Karen O'Rourke links the 'territories' of art and cartography. Other works have addressed this as a series of conference-delivered chapters, but Walking and Mapping provides a detailed investigation of the topic -- from the artist's perspective. (William Cartwright, School of Mathematical and Geospatial Sciences, RMIT University) At once searching, lucid and engaged, Walking and Mapping is a remarkable primer for the study of an important and increasingly prominent cultural overlap. (Cartographica)

Karen O'Rourke is an artist and Professor of Digital Art at Jean Monnet University Saint-Etienne, France. Her work has been exhibited in Europe, the United States, and South America.

the book is even better than I expected, establishing an original relationship between the intuitive, the creative and the organized experience of wandering. I would recommend it to anyone loving maps, and particularly to architects, artists and performers. It is very challenging this idea of the feeling of a place through the movement of the body, and linking with the top down overview of the map.

Fantastic.

The content of the book is great, with a nice variety, although quite academic. Beware there are few illustrations, all are black & white and small, and only a handful are maps.

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