

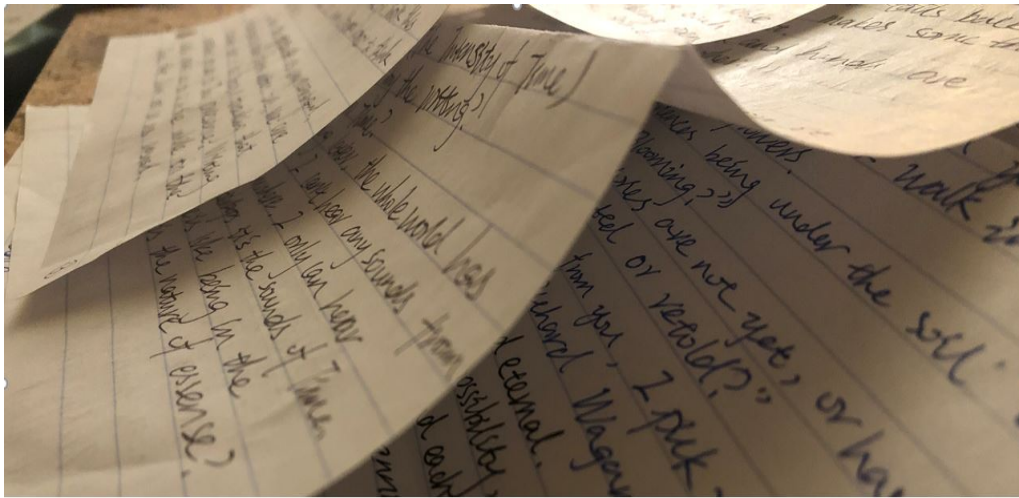
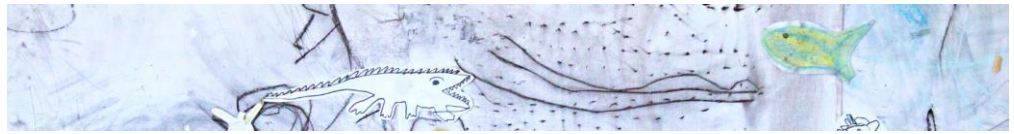


Living with Time through Letters

Ali Morrow and Shanqian Michelle Li

Affiliation: Capilano University

E-mail: alimorrow@capilanou.ca, shanqianli@my.capilanou.ca



Living with Time through letters

Ali Morrow & Shanqian (Michelle) Li



Living with Time through letters

Ali Morrow and Michelle Li are no strangers to inquiring together during precarious times of a global pandemic. As students and group members we have endured the pressures of deadlines and digital platforms, as well as the experiences and poetry of dancing in the rain. It is the inspiration and creativity that emerged from these challenges and previously shared projects that have us both excited to wonder together once again within a lived experience. In beginning to discuss project possibilities, we continued to find ourselves in open-ended conversations which were often entangled with our thoughts around time. Though we share common interests and comprehensions of time, we also interpret different understandings. Therefore, we welcome more possibilities to engage more deeply and alternatively with time in both ordinary and meaningful ways.



We recognize how the “machine clock” (Jardine, 2013. p,6), has ingrained demands and practices for time management in nearly every aspect of our lives, especially within the field of education. We also acknowledge the ways in which common language and socio-cultural values affect our thinking and relationships to and with time. However, in seeking what it means to live *with* time in otherwise ways, how Time lives with *us*, and how we might also create a *space* for listening to the voice of Time, we collected one another’s home address, and began writing letters back and forth as a provocation and means to think with and explore. We think with paper, pens and post-boxes, which we find differs greatly from the technologies we have grown so accustomed to, such as screens, keyboards and inboxes. To help support us in rethinking the ways in which time lives within our letters, we approach this living inquiry with the following guiding questions:

How does time live within our letters?

How is time experienced through writing?

Artists Bio

Ali is a 4th year student in Capilano University’s Early Childhood Care & Education program. She was born and raised on the west coast, growing up on the ancestral, unceded territories of the Coast Salish Peoples, including the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh nations. Ali holds a deep passion for learning alongside children and attending to contextual lifeworlds through heart-felt-sensing and reflective interpretations of lived experiences.

Shanqian (Michelle) Li is a fourth-year student in the Department of Early Childhood Care and Education at Capilano University. She enjoys experimenting with dispositions of hermeneutic phenomenological research, art as living inquiry, and the role of teacher-researcher in early childhood education. She also plays and continues to explore with a Chinese traditional instrument called Guzheng. She was awarded the Young Artist Award in the Canadian International Music Competition in 2020. Her musical background and the image of art as living inquiry invite her to rethink the process of documenting and experiencing visual, narrative, phenomenological, and ethnographic methods. Therefore, she also is particularly interested in engaging with hermeneutic textual expressions including photography, music, videography, poetry, and rich textual descriptions in future studies.