

Talk?? About Trees??!

Join us for a walk and discussion exploring the Docklands area near Canada Water where timber from this country was unloaded. In Canada's vast, ancient, wetland forests the occasional first growth tree can still be found, having survived the harvest due to some perceived imperfection. The discussion will consider the role of imperfection as a quality of environmental stability, in today's blended (virtual and material) world, and bring Margaret Atwood's analysis of poetic forms in the writings of immigrants to Jean Luc Nancy's notions on the Sublime as a schema or an ethics.

Walkative Project

We will start at the boardwalk designed by artist Asif Khan 'Rafter Walk' (2024), which overlooks a rewilded wetland area (Canada Water Underground Station end). Canada Water is a fresh water lake and from here we will walk along the remaining inlet, Albion Channel, to the 1930's bascule bridge at Surrey Water. The sinuous shape of this structure afforded a vertical movement that allowed ships to pass into the dock area. The walk will continue along the Thames past the garden of the Brunel Museum. The museum marks the entrance to Brunel's foot tunnel (1843), the first under a waterway. At the Prince's Stairs we will walk down to Bermondsey Beach for the view of Tower Bridge (1894), a structure designed to accommodate the vertical reach of trees, shown by the masts of sailing ships. The discussion will conclude with a short workshop thinking on the subjective (upwards) view, value, and the vertical dimension in moving image works. Please note that this is a hard sand beach with areas of pebbles and flat rocks. The walk will end at Bermondsey Gardens.

Walk led by: Dr K M Bosy
Time: 11am - 1pm
Date: 22nd February 2026

Meeting Point: Canada Water Boardwalk
(Underground Station end)

Contact: @kmbosy

