

Developing Critical, Expansive Awareness with Contemplative Arts-Based Qualitative Research

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Embodiment

**Arts-Based
Research**

Contemplative

Critical



Creativity as Inquiry Portals

HOW



Painting

Poems

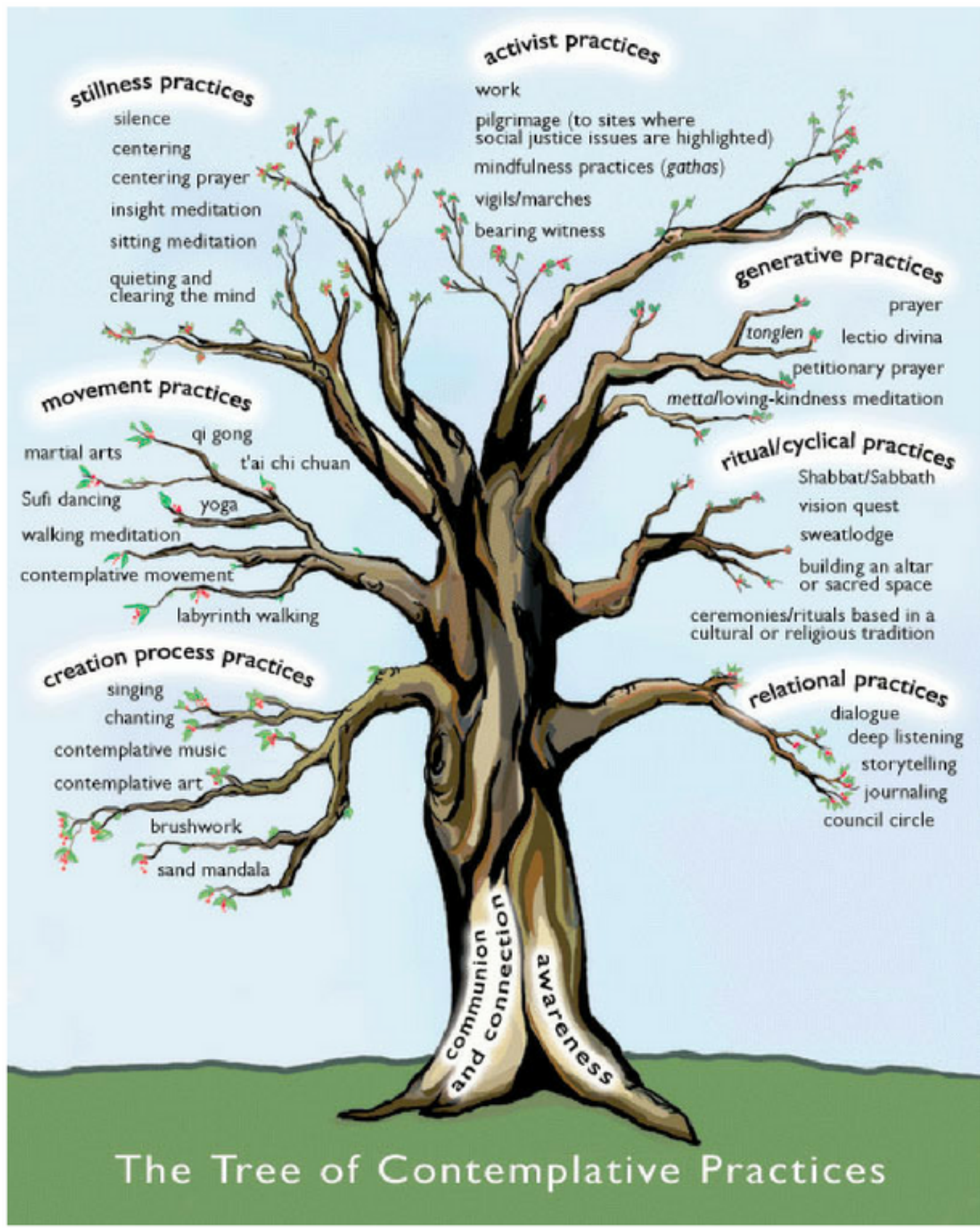
Mixed Medium

Photography

Ethnodrama

Creative Writing





The Tree of Contemplative Practices

Gloria
Anzaldúa

Linda Tuhiwai
Smith

Global South
Scholars

De/colonizing
Scholarship

Islamophobia

Spirit Draining Fatigue

Social
Justice

Travel Ban

SIGN ME UP!

Homophobia

Refugee
Crisis

Reproductive
Rights

Black Lives
Matter

Shadow



Xenophobia

this is my
story.

Post-Oppositionality

I enact the post-oppositional theorizing that I call for. I interrogate some of the diverse forms that binary-oppositional thought can take while resisting the (very strong) temptation to react oppositely. I aspire to offer viable additions and alternatives to the oppositional forms of consciousness and politics that currently drive social-justice theorizing, activism, and academic disciplines. I develop nonoppositional theories and relational methods that insist on a realistic politics of hope and the possibility of planetary citizenship. (Keating, 2013, p. ii)

Our internal fragmentations-our intra-divisions, as it were-have their source at least partially in the oppositional energies (and the dichotomous thinking behind them) that the groups used to combat social oppression. We can't turn off the negative energies once we remove ourselves from the battlefield. We take these energies with us, into our work, our homes, our minds, our bodies, our souls. They eat away at us, devouring us as we direct this oppositional thinking at one another and at ourselves. We fragment. We crumble. We deteriorate from within. And then we regroup. We begin again. And on to the next corrosive battle. (Keating, 2013, p. 9)



AT WAR WITH SELF



Cultivating awareness

Cultivating stillness

Relationship with self and other

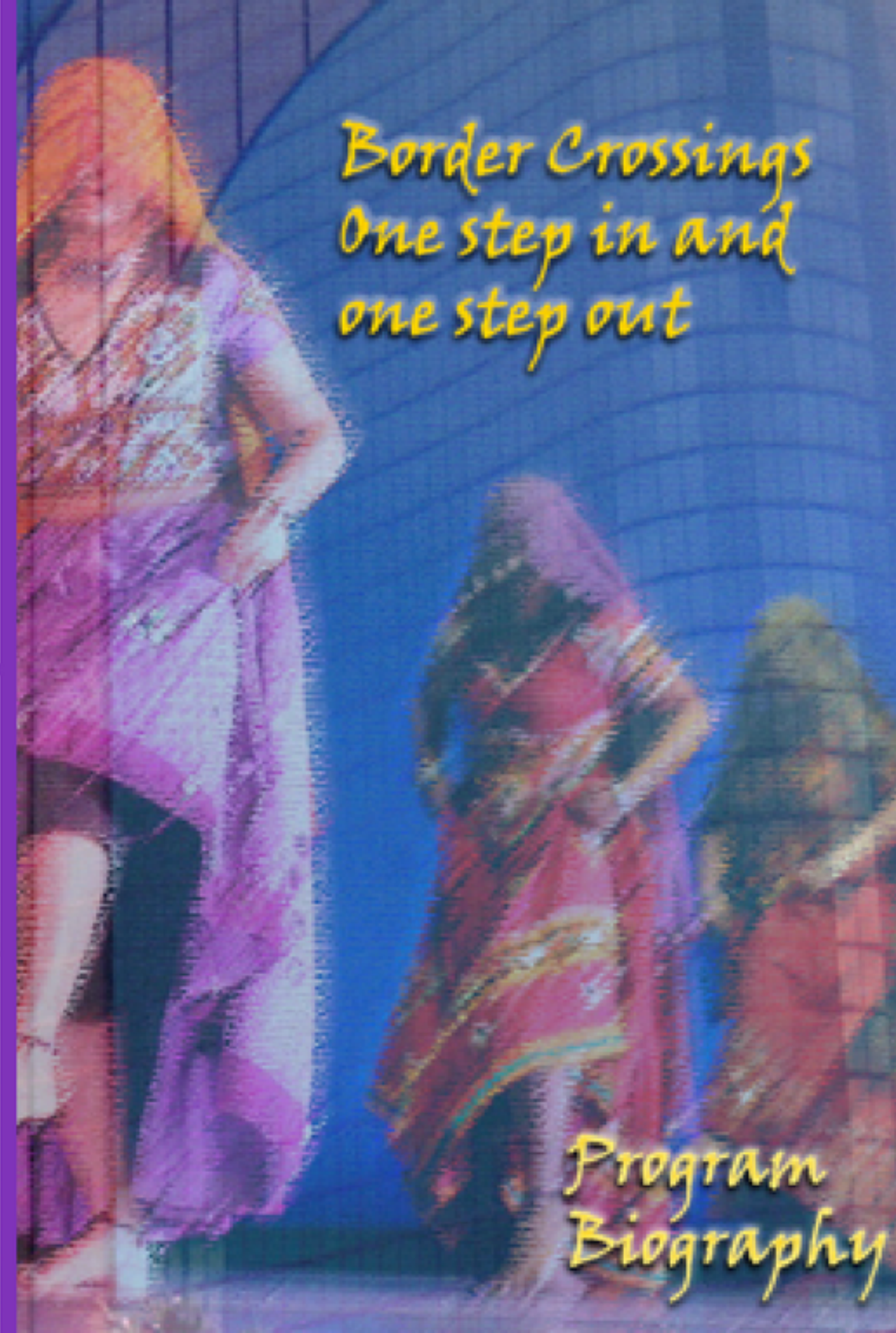
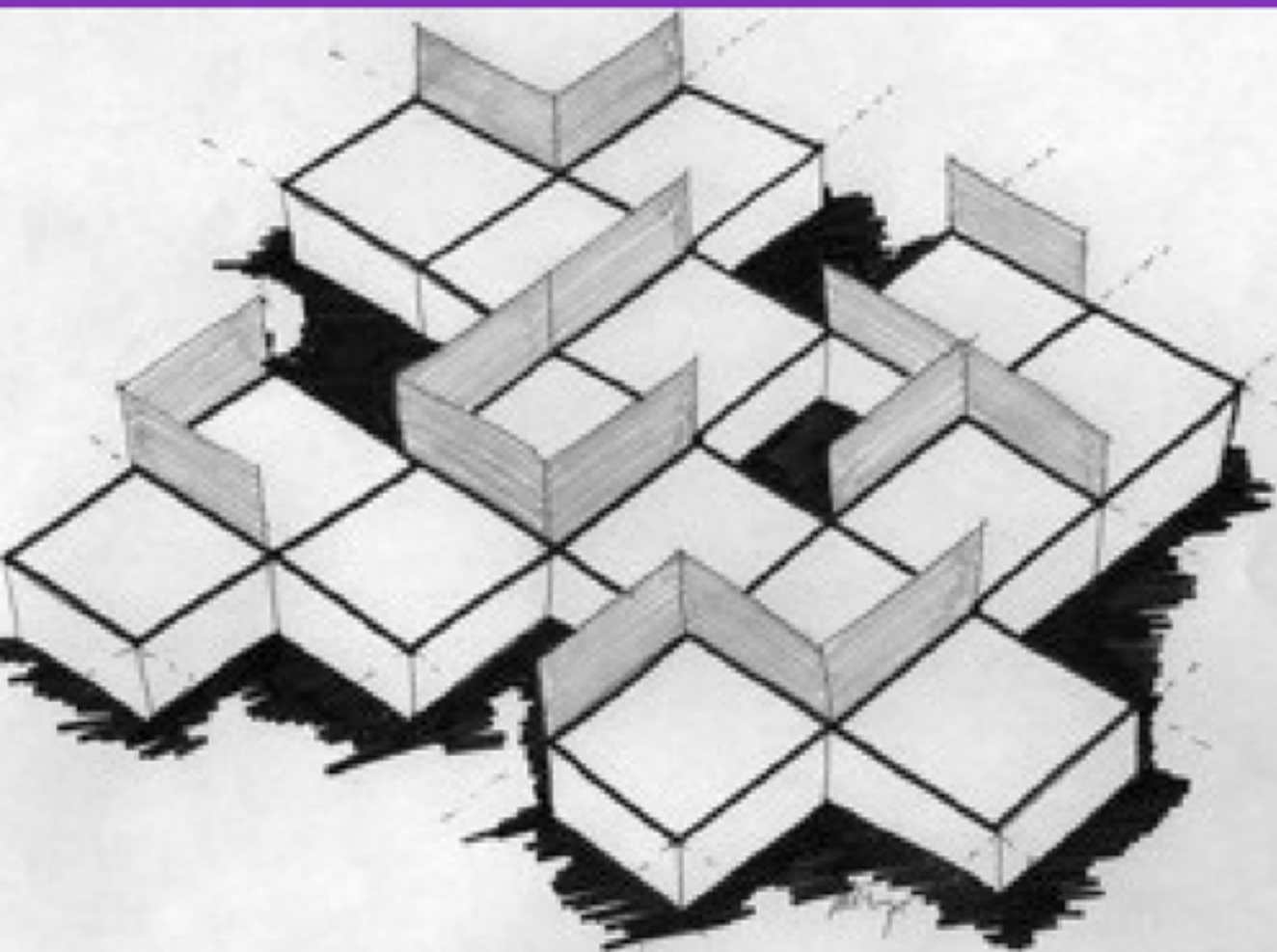
Shadow work/literacies

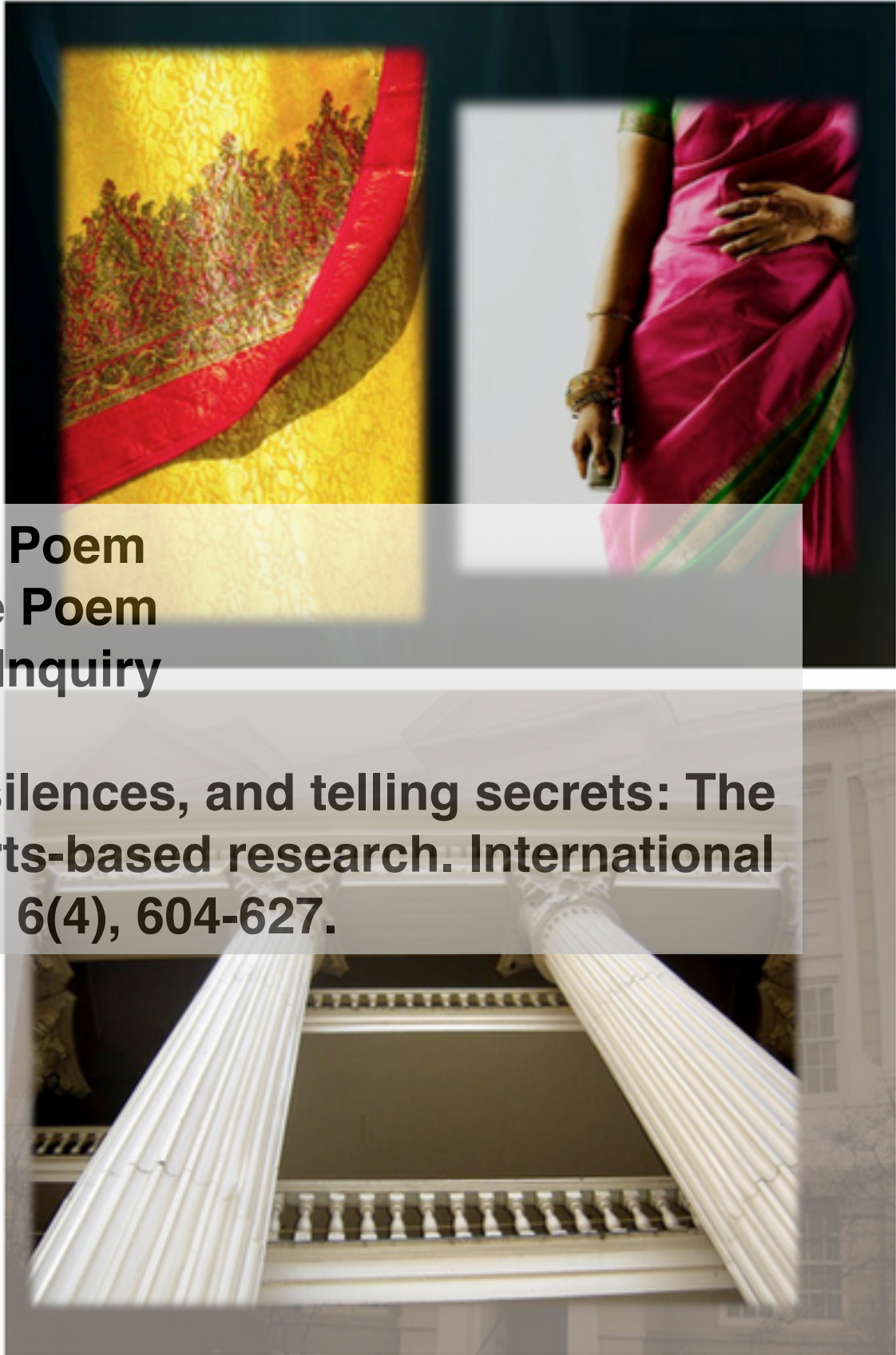
Witness consciousness

Creativity as expansion



Transnational Identity
Hidden Curriculum
De/colonizing Work
Ethnodrama





**Found Poem
Silence Poem
Poetic Inquiry**

Bhattacharya, K. (2014). Voices, silences, and telling secrets: The role of qualitative methods in arts-based research. International Review of Qualitative Research, 6(4), 604-627.





Cirque du Silence
Acrobatics of a
Transnational Female
Academic

Cultural Studies \Leftrightarrow Critical
Methodologies published online 20
December 2012

LIFE OF PI

NOVEMBER 21

Bhattacharya, K. (2015). The vulnerable academic: Personal narratives and strategic de/colonizing of academic structures. *Qualitative Inquiry*, 1-13. doi:10.1177/1077800415615619.



Working with Richard Parker

Bhattacharya, K., & Payne, R. (2016). Mixing mediums, mixing selves: Arts-based contemplative approaches to border crossings. *International Journal of Qualitative Studies in Education*, 1-18. doi: 10.1080/09518398.2016.1201163.



Saree Stories



THE PROCES





What are the (im)possibilities of relationships we build?

How do we think expansively, creatively, imaginatively without being restricted about possibilities of freedom and agency?

What are our internal fragmentations that inform our ontoepistemologies?

What do we struggle to accept as ours?

What arises if we cultivate stillness in our inquiry?

What arises if we cultivate witness consciousness in our inquiry?

What if we give up our will to know?



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