

Friday 18 February –  
Sunday 03 April 2022

***Someplace  
Else: A Travel  
Archive***

**Louise  
Stevenson**



# *Someplace Else: A Travel Archive*

*Someplace Else: A Travel Archive* speaks to anyone who has ever travelled and negotiated an inescapable pull between two places. Since 1991, Tāmaki Makaurau-based artist Louise Stevenson has been travelling back and forth between Aotearoa New Zealand and Budapest, Hungary. Over the years, she has gradually built this long-running project which brings together accumulated travel ephemera with mixed-media in a large suite of intimate drawings. For the first time, a curated selection of these drawings spanning from 1991 to 2019 is presented as an extended body of work, collectively telling a larger narrative interspersed with smaller stories, tokens and fragments of the artist's memory.

Stevenson's body of drawings incorporates small touches of distant places in Europe, familiar to all those who have kept a drawer full of sugar packets and Metro cards after a trip away. The works incorporate such objects alongside intricate city maps and tickets from heart-stopping exhibitions, like Frida Kahlo at the Tate, that can only be dreamt about at present. Using these small fragments that stand as symbolic markers of memory, Stevenson

creates delicately balanced compositions. She incorporates stitching, pin-pricks and mark making to produce collage-like works, often in stylistic groupings of two or three. Installed in a freize-like single line around the Homestead, each wall is titled and represents a different travel memory and shift in time. We feel the bitter European winter in *Early Return 2015*, in subtle contrast with the coloured effervescence of the works guiding us through *Revisit 2005*.

The exhibition grapples with poignant shifts in time, culture and geo-political landscapes; between a Moana island and an Eastern-European nation. Disruption to international travel over the past two years brings these works into the uncertain present situation that many are experiencing now. Stevenson provides a gentle nostalgia for travel and precarious anticipation of when we can return to see loved ones, to travel again to our 'Someplace Else'.

*Someplace Else: A Travel Archive* is part of Auckland Arts Festival 2022.

## Artist Bio

Louise Stevenson is a multi-disciplinary artist born in Honiara, Solomon Islands and currently based in Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland. Her practice encompasses drawing, photography, moving image, painting and book-making. Within these diverse mediums, she explores shifting cultural and geo-political relationships between different places and times, often drawing on her upbringing in the Solomon Islands, the diverse cultural environments of Aotearoa New Zealand and a long-term connection to Budapest, Hungary. Stevenson holds a Master of Fine Arts from the University of Auckland. She was a Senior Lecturer at the Manukau School of Visual Arts and a Professional Teaching Fellow at the University of Auckland. She has published papers on tropical modern architecture in the Pacific and presented at conferences in New Zealand and Australia, and established the community-based arts initiative ArtSpark, sharing a vision for contemporary art-making. Her exhibiting project *Someplace Else* has been exhibited in part at Te Tuhi (2021), and was the subject of her editioned publication, *Someplace Else* supported by Creative New Zealand and a finalist at the DINZ Best Awards 2021. Stevenson is based locally to Waitakere and works from a studio in Titirangi.

## Work Details

### Gallery Two (L-R):

Wall One:  
Revisit 2005

Wall Two:  
Return Fare 1999-2000

### Gallery Three (L-R):

Wall One:  
Cold Return 2015

Wall Two:  
Back Again 2019

Wall Three:  
Forgotten Visit 1995

Limited Edition Prints for a selection of the individual works are available to purchase, with four framed editions hanging in the Homestead office.

Please ask the front desk to view a catalogue.

### March Saturday Gallery Club:

*Travelling Collage with Louise Stevenson*

Drawing on her works in *Someplace Else: A Travel Archive*, artist Louise Stevenson will guide kids and caregivers in the making of a series of small collage works on paper that tell a story about travelling. Participants can bring in their own travel artefacts, or use collage materials provided, all while sharing stories of someplace else.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

No booking required.

Art activities run for 30-40 minutes.

Saturday 12 March 2022

10:30am - 12pm

Homestead Galleries

Free. Ages 4-12

### On Travel Ephemera: Artist Talk and Workshop

Alongside her solo-exhibition *Someplace Else: A Travel Archive*, join artist Louise Stevenson for an Artist Talk and Workshop in the Homestead Galleries. Spanning thirty years of collecting and making works about travel between Hungary and Aotearoa, Louise will discuss her practice in relation to travel ephemera and our collective impulse to collect and keep such tangible items in the form of boarding passes, museum entries and maps.

Following her discussion, Louise will host a workshop in which participants are welcome to bring in ephemera of their own travels and make their own series of small works on paper.

Saturday 19 March 2022

10:30am - 12pm

Homestead Galleries

Free. Adults 16+

Booking essential. Email: [curator@ceac.org.nz](mailto:curator@ceac.org.nz)