

A rhythm analysis of the (de)/(re)-territorialisation of self in trajectories of migration

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CACHE PROJECT (2021-22)

- “Finding housing, making home: Romanian migrants in post-Brexit/post-Covid19 Britain” (under peer review)

In this additional paper, I aim to explore:

- The ways in which the intertwined rhythms of education, work, housing, home, place, family, age, body contribute to the (de)/(re)-territorialisation of self in trajectories of migration
- The related question on the reconstruction of identity through migration

ASSEMBLAGE-THINKING (DELEUZE; DELANDA)

RHYTHMANALYSIS (LEFEBVRE) as a framework to obtain a deeper understanding of trajectories of migration as much looser practices of desires and affects when migrants traverse, ignore, struggle against or work with structures and assemblages of all sorts (e.g. education, labour, family, housing)

(De)/(re)-territorialisation of self

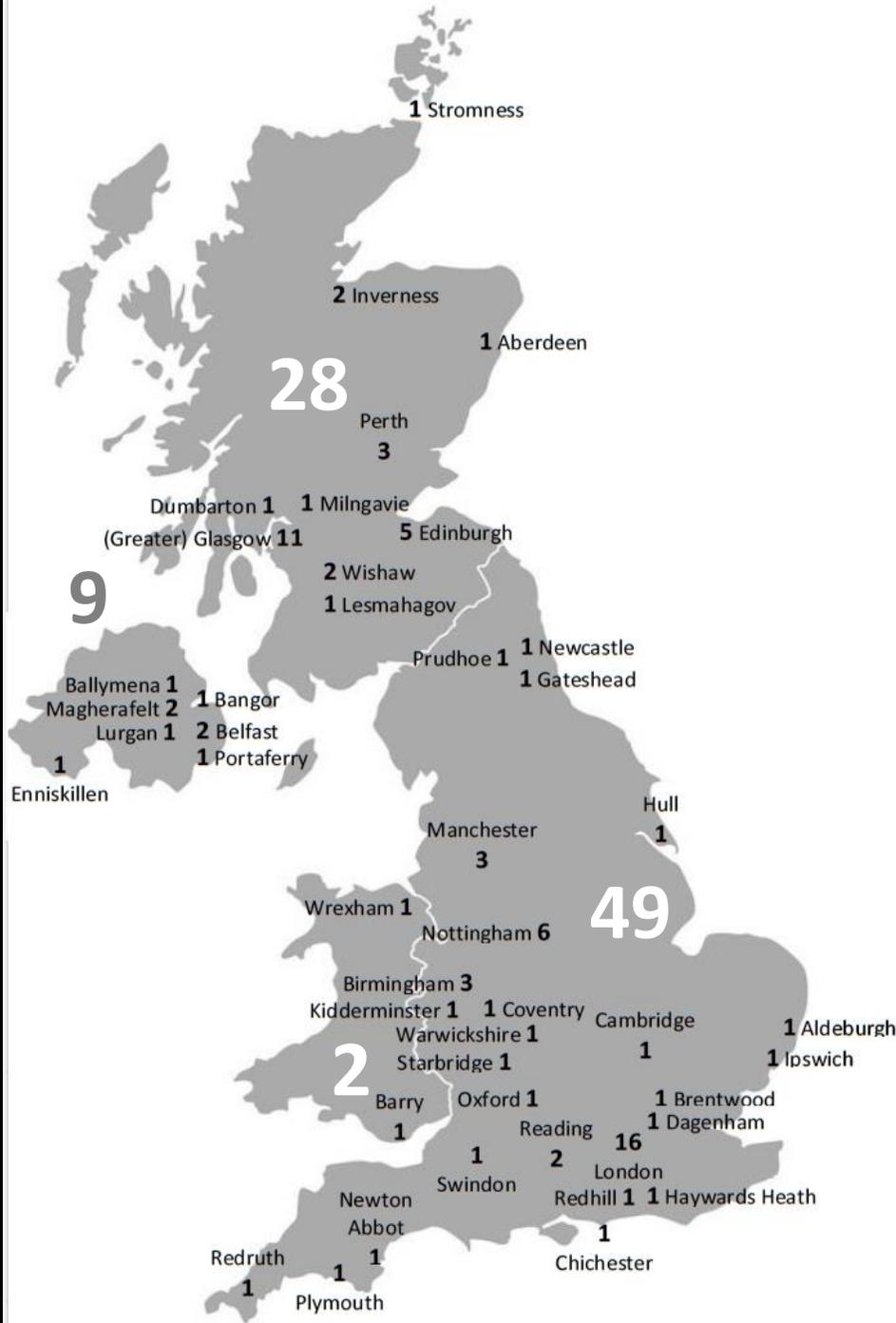
(or self reconstruction; to develop)

- **Co-constitutive processes of *unhoming, dis/emplacement***

QUALITATIVE QUESTIONNAIRES

88 responses (qualitative survey):

- Diverse (e.g. migration status, time of arrival, income, age, tenure, stay)



VISUAL-ELICITATION

88 responses (qualitative survey):

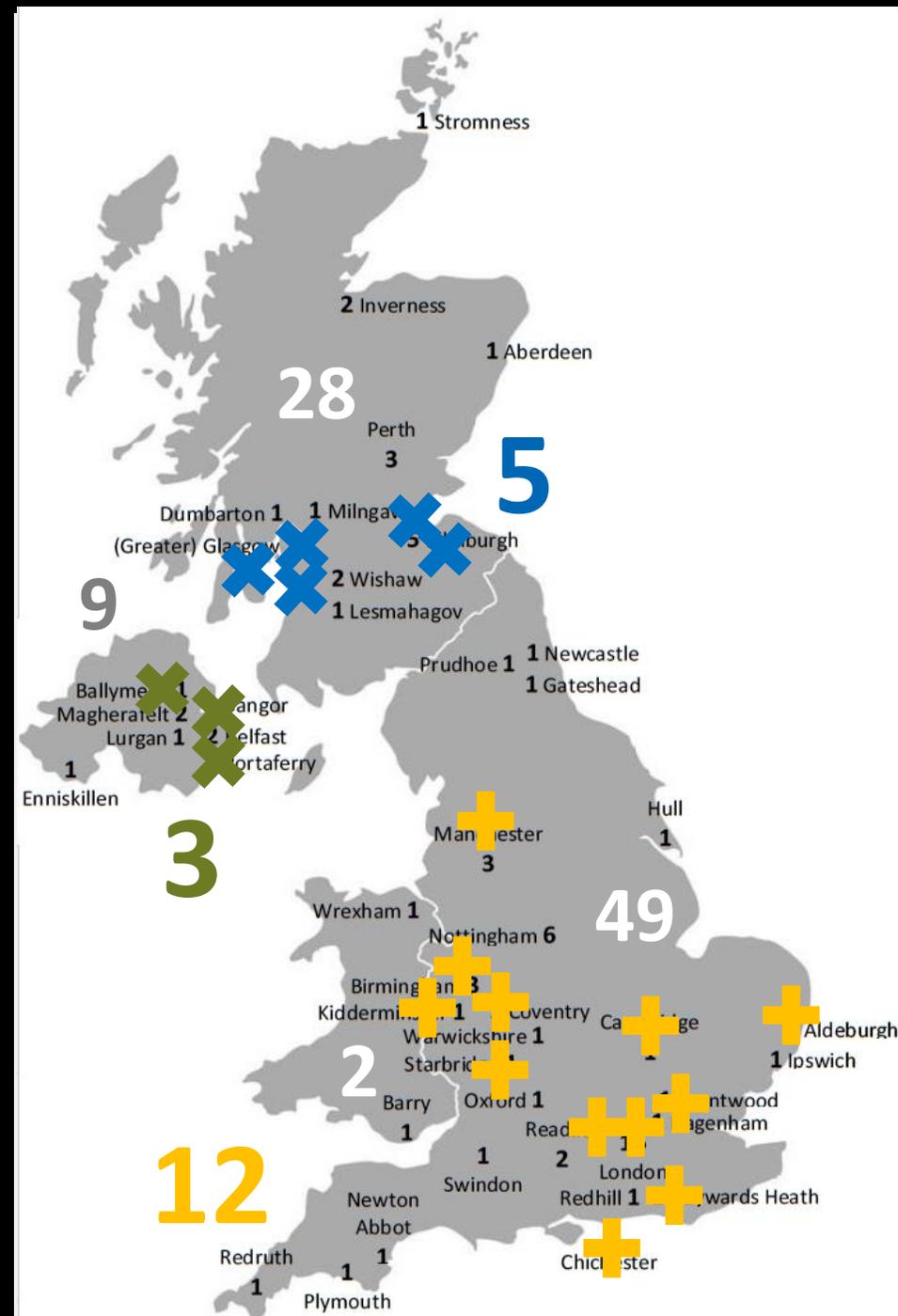
- Diverse (e.g. migration status, time of arrival, income, age, tenure, stay)

Autoethnography

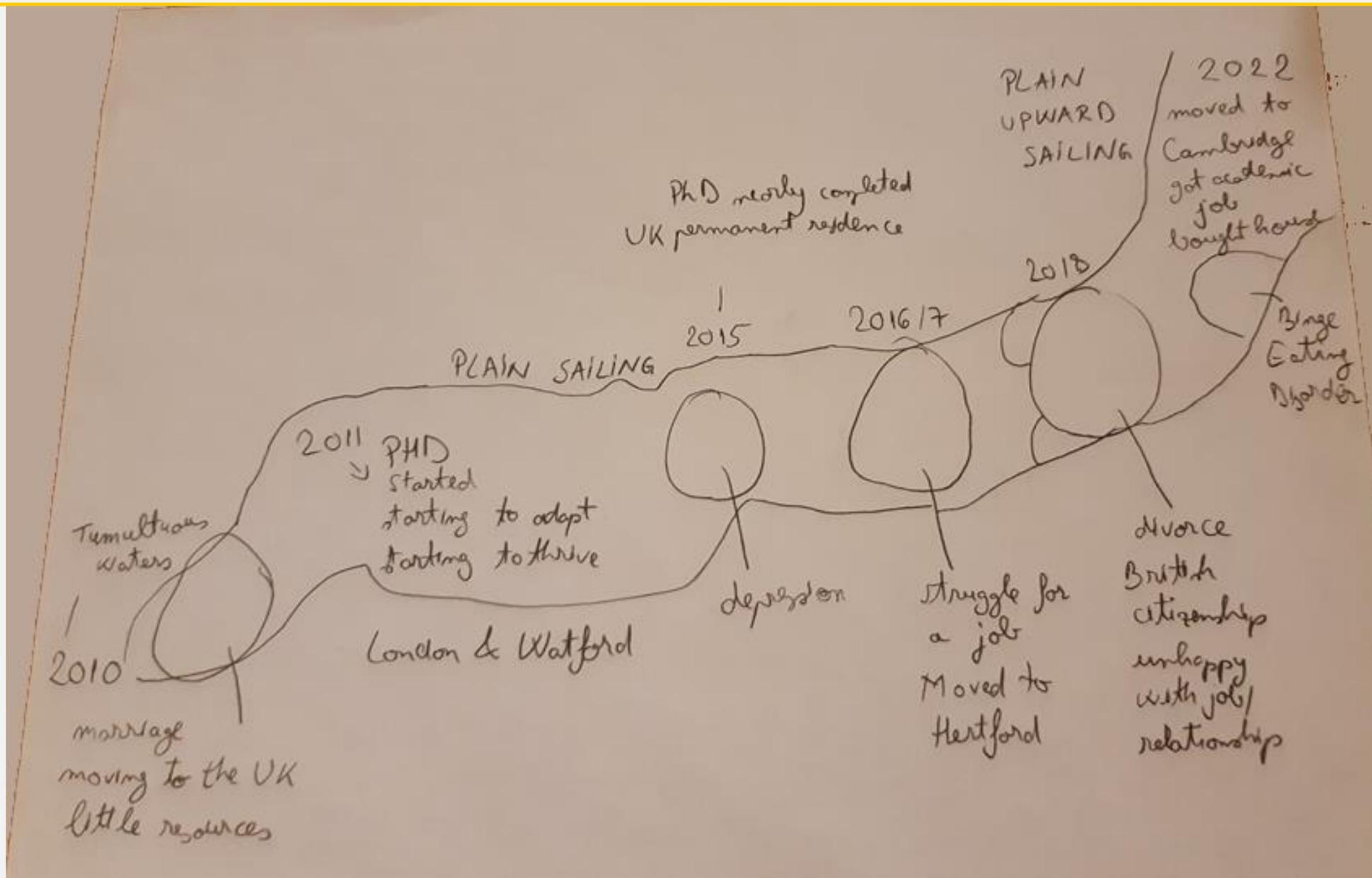
20 interviews with visual elicitation

- *The river of life* & photos of home

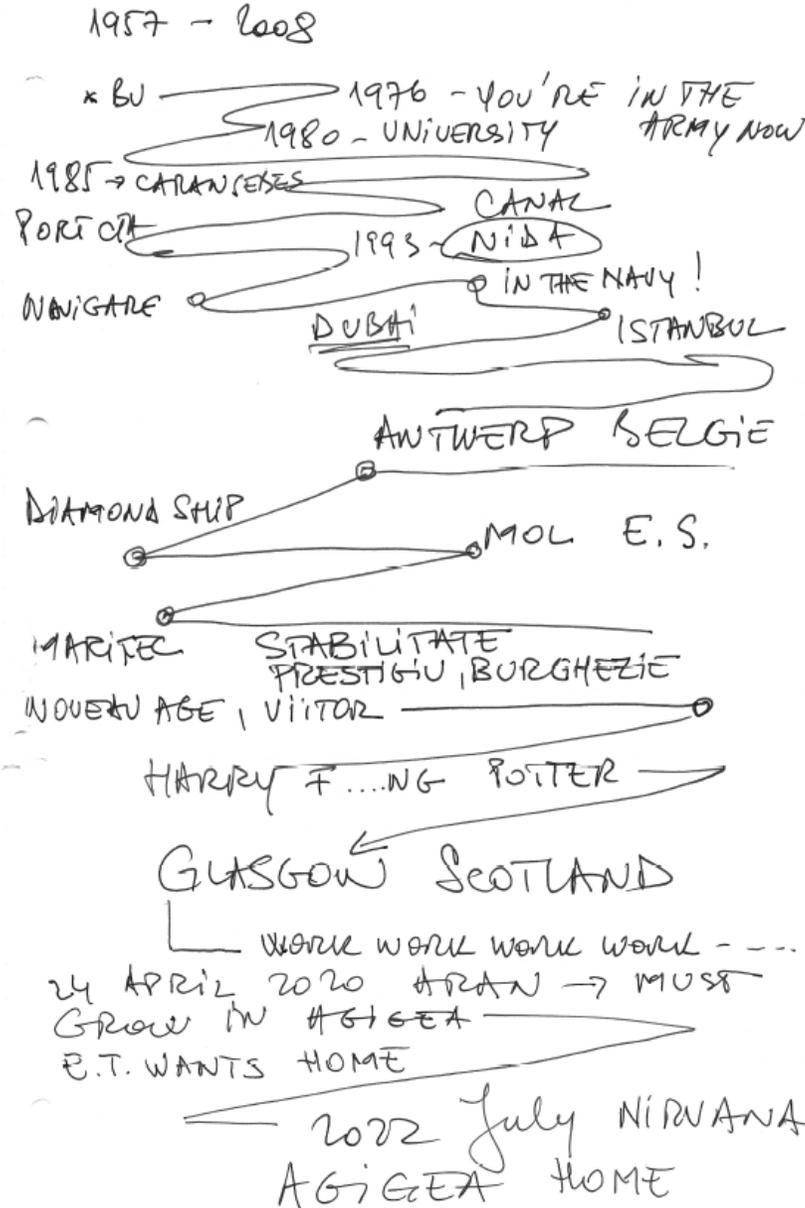
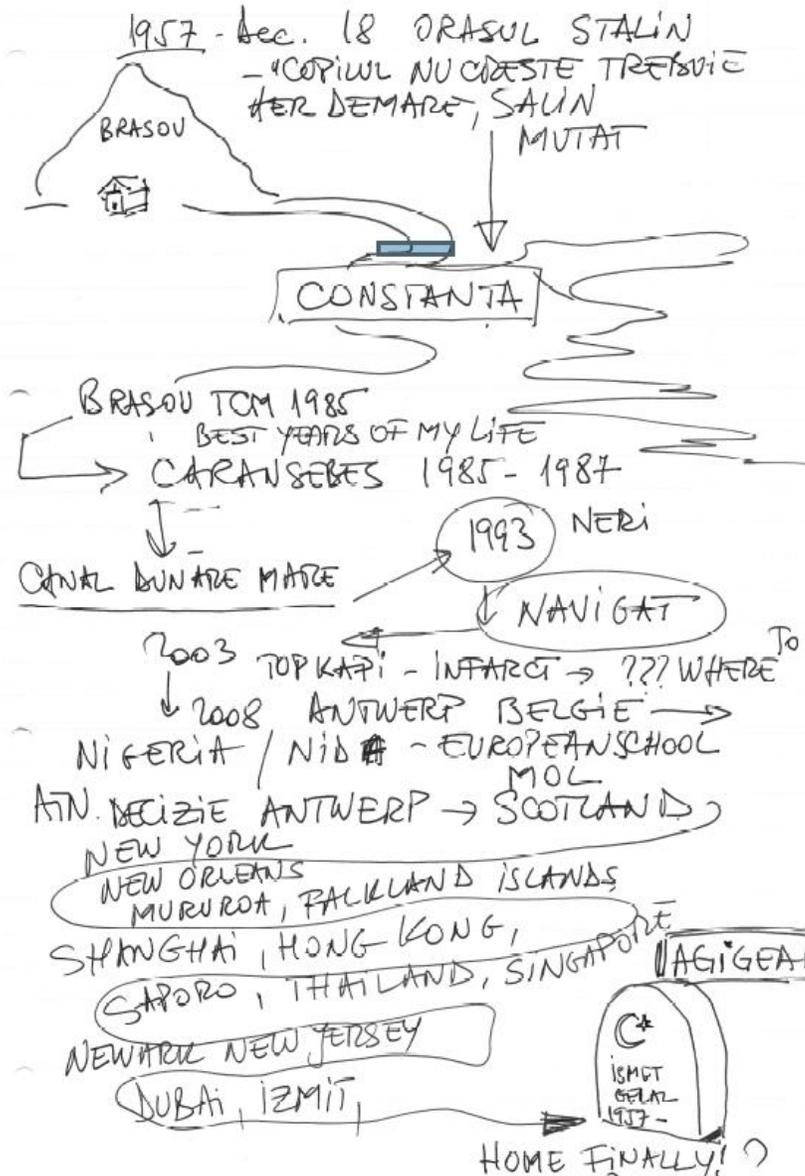
I had to recall events, decide which were more important. I wanted to show my whole life not just the UK period, as I am that whole, I never wanted to leave and when I did, I brought the whole, including my dog



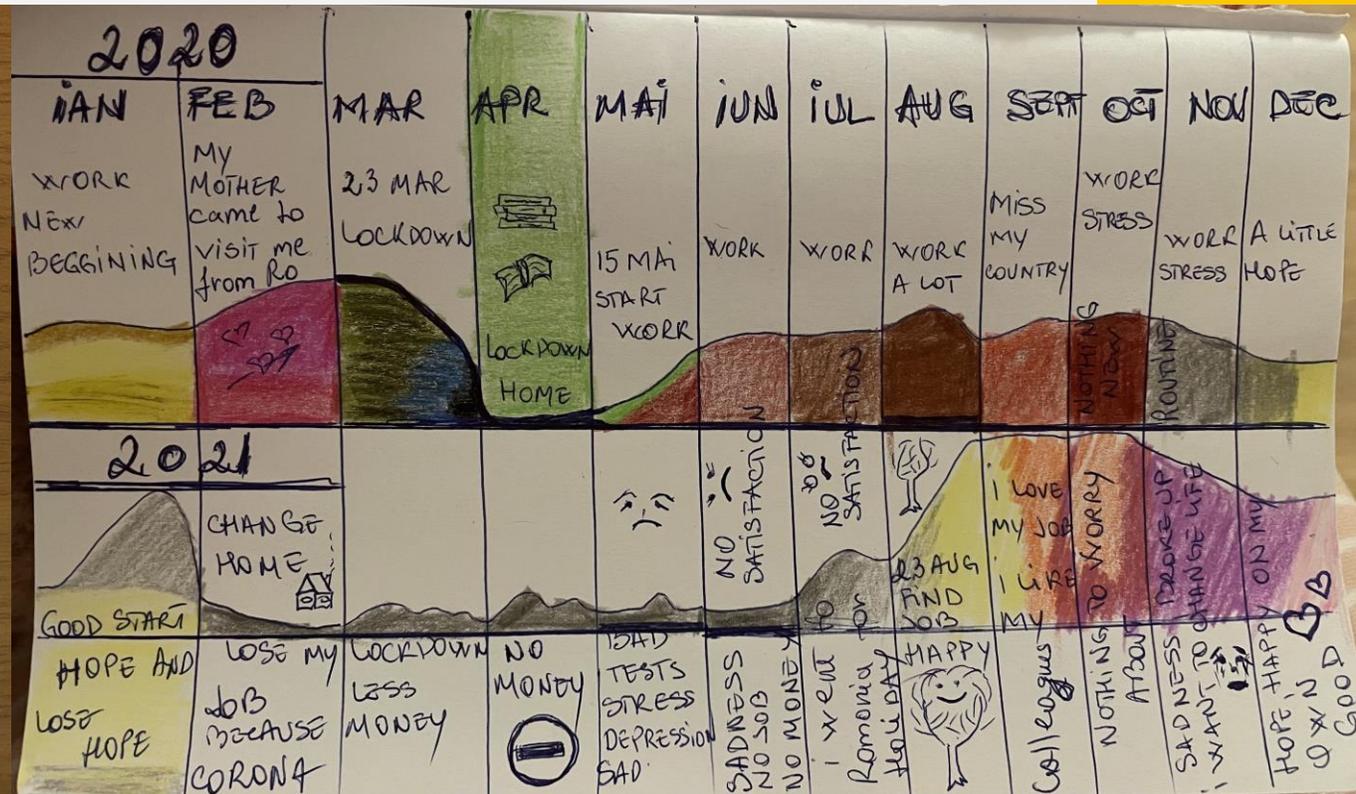
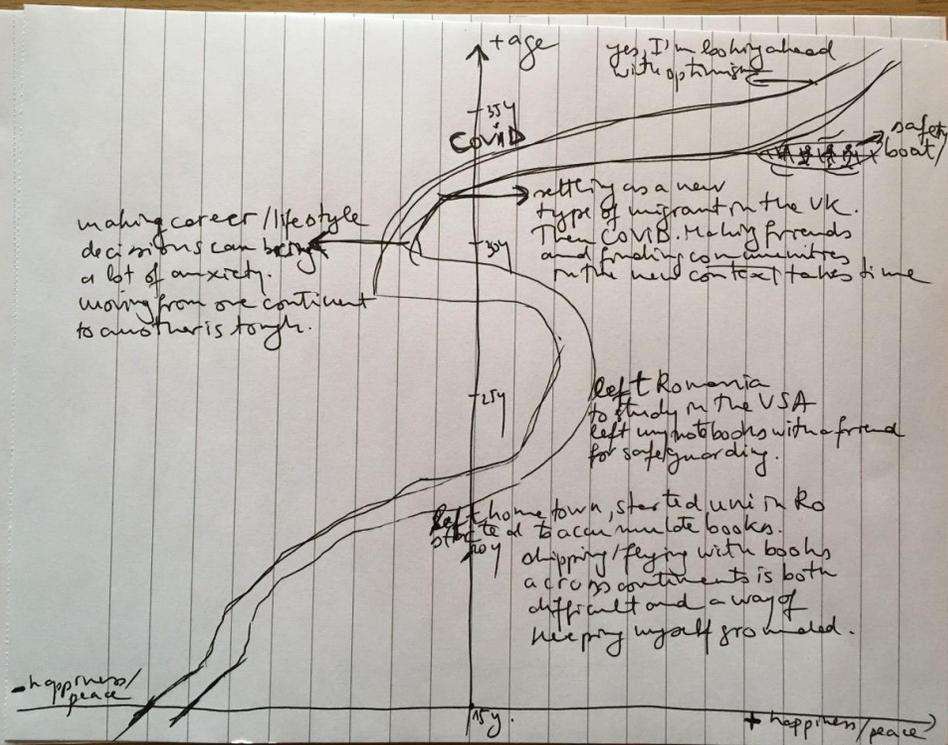
RIVERS OF LIFE: THE RHYTHMS OF ARRHYTHMIA



RIVERS OF LIFE: EURHYTHMY (CRUISING THE LIFE)



RIVERS OF LIFE: LIFE HAPPENS IS NOT PLANNED



The long sways of relatively privileged migration

The swift rhythms of hope and disaster of precarious migration

THE DOUBLE (DE)-TERRITORIALISATION OF SELF

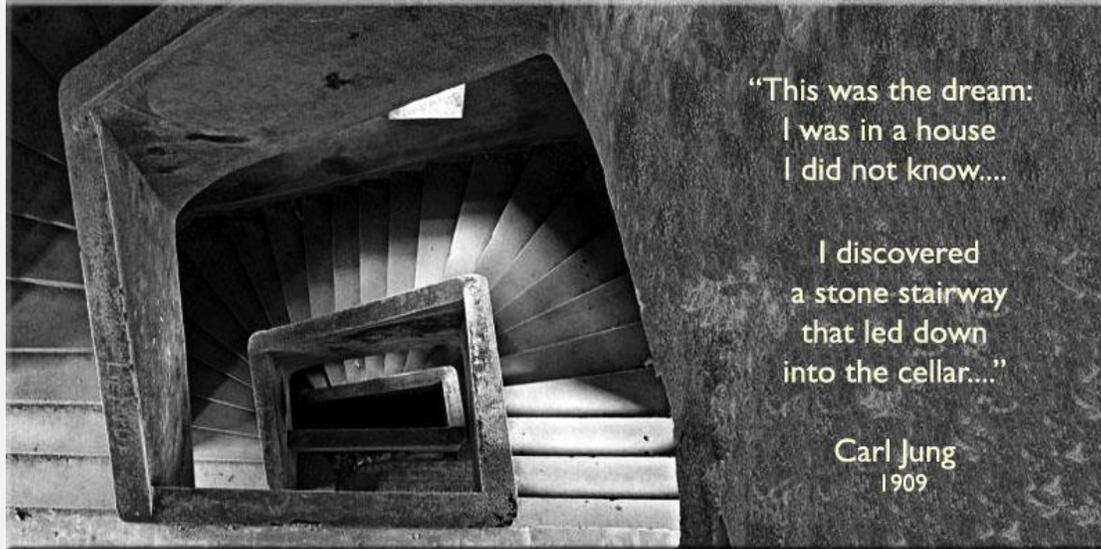
He spent time in this magic territory, making a life, remaining as young as when he came. Until when, in error, he returned home. There, he found other people, other cities, while the old ones had changed beyond recognition; forests had changed into plains. With tears in his eyes, he searched for every pantry, every nook and cranny that reminded him of the past. He found but ruins and he noticed he now was 100 years old.

Youth without Ageing and Life without Dying (children story by P Ispirescu)

Housing helps (re)territorialise the self



THE DOUBLE (DE)-TERRITORIALISATION OF SELF



I have a recurring dream in which either one of the flats I lived in has more rooms than in reality, or I would have an extra flat compared to the two owned by my family. The feeling is not necessarily one

of abundance :) but somehow of confusion, it is not clear to me where I am or where I should be. Given this prevailing feeling of confusion, perhaps I unconsciously feel a need to be rooted, fixed in a place, as these are the values with which I was raised, even if over time I reoriented myself to value nomadism more.

This is work in progress by which I want to show that:

- The rhythms of migration trajectories speak of never ending (de)/(re)-territorialisation of the (transnational) self (which is more evident in contexts of precarious mobility)
- Migrants' dual frame of reference brings the co-constitutive processes of *unhoming* and *dis/emplacment* in the everyday (more so than in contexts of relative immobility)

Thank you