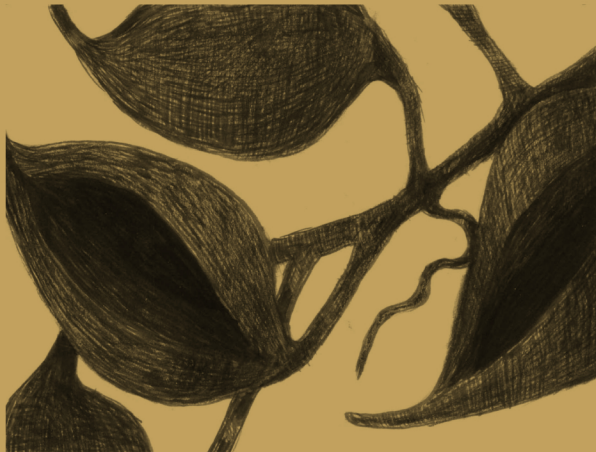


Souvenir is a project of remembrance through collecting. I began by gathering small bits of natural debris from the park and made ink drawings of the natural objects onto postcards. Each card was inscribed with a personal memory of the park, provided by anonymous members of the local community. These memories were collected through a call on Facebook, personal interviews in the park, and internet sources. The cards were consequently mailed by members of the the EPMoA class.

The project is documented at:  
[theactofremembering.blogspot.com](http://theactofremembering.blogspot.com)



*We might say that this capacity of objects to serve as traces of authentic experience is, in fact, exemplified by the souvenir. The souvenir distinguishes experiences. We do not need or desire souvenirs of events that are repeatable. Rather, we need and desire souvenirs of events that are reportable, events whose materiality has escaped us, events thereby exist only through the invention of the narrative.*

*-Susan Stewart, On Longing*



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# Souvenir

by Cindy Rehm

a project of remembrance  
through the act of collecting



**EPMoA**  
The Elysian Park Museum of Art



I'M NEW TO L.A. SO I'M STILL DISCOVERING THE CITY. I WAS IN AWE THE FIRST TIME I CAME TO ELYSIAN PARK TO WALK MY DOG. I FELT LIKE I HAD WALKED DEEP INTO THE MIDDLE OF THE WOODS. IT'S SO QUIET AND PEACEFUL. I FEEL LIKE I DISCOVER SOMETHING NEW EACH TIME I VISIT THE PARK. IT'S NICE TO HAVE SUCH A BEAUTIFUL SLICE OF NATURE RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CITY.



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WE LIVE IN ECHO PARK AND MY PARENTS HAVE BEEN COMING TO THE PARK SINCE BEFORE MY BROTHER + I WERE BORN. WE COME TO WALK OFTEN + PICK UP TRASH + COLLECT THINGS. MY BROTHER + I LIKE TO SCARE PEOPLE BY HIDING UP ON THE HILLS + JUMPING OUT AT PEOPLE. ONE TIME WE WERE HIDING + MY MOM COULDN'T FIND US FOR OVER AN HOUR. SHE RODE AROUND WITH A PARK RANGER LOOKING FOR US. MY BROTHER ONCE HAD A PIRATE PARTY. I WAS THERE, BUT DON'T REMEMBER SINCE I WAS IN MY MOTHER'S BELLY.



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MANY YEARS AGO, I LIVED DOWNTOWN AND ELYSIAN PARK WAS THE PERFECT PLACE TO RUN. IN THOSE DAYS, I RAN ON THE ROADS. MORE RECENTLY, I HAVE LOVED TO RUN ON THE TRAILS AND HAVE DONE THAT WHILE TRAINING FOR RACES. ONE YEAR, I WAS THE DIRECTOR FOR THE 5K+10K FIRECRACKER. I HAVE RUN THE 10K AND GOING UP THAT BIG HILL IS A GREAT CHALLENGE. IT IS FANTASTIC TO HAVE A LOCATION IN THE CENTER OF THE CITY WHERE YOU CAN SEE 360° VIEWS OF L.A.



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