

This Way: Xaviera Simmons

MIT List Visual Arts Center

this way is towards, into and through the layers
Pause
begin to picture yourself out of the way
look around wherever you are— close your eyes and then open them again
Pause
interrogate the moments and minutes you have been in the way-
imagine yourself and your loved ones out of the way
picture yourself getting out of the way here in this landscape
Contemplate how else to belong in a place of harmony here, in this place
Now
picture your property
all of it
draw in your mind the major and minor property you "own"
draft an image in your mind or on paper \underline{of} those properties you would like to own, dream of having as your own or are hoarding coast to coast and off of these shores right now
or

Imagine/draft, right now, your idea of yourself as property holder, or somehow as a rightful property owner

Examine and articulate the ways of letting go of this property or desire for it and then do such a thing-

abolish the desire for property

Swiftly

Do such a thing swiftly

and

do it now

You realize it really can all happen quite quickly and in an instant

In one moment, you went from desiring or owning property to reconciling your need want and quest regarding your desire for property to letting go of said dream or actual "ownership" of any property

When we are speaking of property here, this way, we are speaking of land, material goods, monies, resources, assets and all of those properties that keep you in a settler state here, that keep you connected to the position of oppressor and colonizer

This is the position that keeps you connected to the continuation of a police state here--

In the process of letting go, you immediately understand that it is not any of this property you desire but something more profound-

Now, in the imagination, and on the actual release of property there is a profound wave of calm that persists the more you pause into this way and the more you let go of property

This way

You realize a reconciliation; a redress and a repair are all far greater than any property you might have longed for or currently have in your ownership

You pause

In this space, you realize it never was your property anyway — maybe you realize that you never even wanted to own these things that you call property

what you call property----your land, your monies, your home and your things associated with such ideas begins to fall away swiftly as ideas of objects that have a hold inside of you

You remember that <u>---</u>property is everything under the sun here, and you no longer desire to covet, hold, control and own everything under the sun

And, in this way, you no longer desire, covet or dream of property and its rules, laws, attachments and consequences

Property forms the police state so in this pause now you breathe out the desire for property because you breathe out the desire for a life held together by a police state.

you let go of desires to harm others for the sake of your desire for property

you relax away the quest of ownership because you breathe out the inevitable harm, oppression and conquering that property "ownership" entails

you breathe into this way