

WALKING THE DEBRIS FIELD

Public Geographies of the Halifax Explosion

AFTERMATH

Public Walk

Presented by Narratives in Space + Time Society



Saturday April 18, 2015 at 1:00 PM

Starting at the Historic Marker in front of Veith House
3115 Veith St. Halifax, Nova Scotia

All are welcome

WALKING THE DEBRIS FIELD

Public Geographies of the Halifax Explosion

AFTERMATH



Presented by Narratives in Space + Time Society

Walking the Debris Field

Public Geographies of the Halifax Explosion

AFTERMATH

If you have a mobile phone with a GPS tracking app, please turn the app on now, and make a track of this walk. After the walk, please send your recorded track to us at:

nistyh@gmail.com

This walk is an opportunity for us to meet and converse informally with others. We have planned some events and presentations to take place at specific sites along the way. Here are some highlights about the sites where we will be stopping:

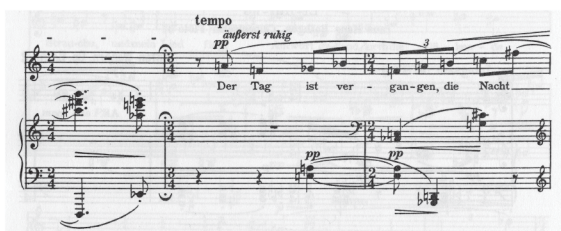
1. Our starting point is the commemorative plaque outside Veith House. This is where the Halifax Protestant Orphanage stood until its destruction in the Halifax Explosion. Over 20 children and staff lost their lives here on that day. The current house was built in 1924, and since 1974, has been an important centre in the North End, providing programs and services to children, families and individuals affected by poverty. Paige Farrah, a community activist with deep roots in this neighbourhood, speaks with us in the Memory Room on the top floor of Veith House.

2. The next stop is at the Lions Head Tavern and Grill on Robie Street. Arts and community activist Pat Kipping tells us about the Patricia and the emergency response to the Explosion. She is joined by members from Xara Choral Theatre Ensemble, who sing *The Briar and the Rose*, *Be Like the Bird*, *Citadel Hill* and *The Parting Glass* here.

3. We will cross Robie Street at the corner of Young, close to where the Dominion Textiles cotton mill stood until the Explosion. Many workers were killed and injured at this site. The architectural model of the mill was made by artist Angela Henderson. Architecture Professor Brian Lilley will tell us more about the building itself.

4. From here, we will walk west through a mixed commercial and residential neighbourhood, arriving at the Maritime Conservatory of Performing Arts on Chebucto Road near Windsor Street. This building was originally the Chebucto School, and was used as the general morgue immediately after the Explosion. The audio recording of *Four Songs Op. 12* by Anton Webern (1917) was prepared by Evan Rensch (pianist) and Robert Bean, with live vocals by Janice Jackson, and projections by Angela Henderson and Robert Bean. The cotton mortuary bags were made by Leesa Hamilton.

Throughout today's event, the figure of Elizabeth Fraser, Explosion survivor, is portrayed by Josephine Macnab, and that of Arthur Lismer, artist and the Principal of the Nova Scotia College of Art in 1917, by Madeleine Putnam.



Thank you to these creative contributors who have helped NiS+TS with *Aftermath*:

Marcia Connolly, Brian Downey, Ray Dubé, Paige Farrah, Leesa Hamilton, Angela Henderson, Janice Jackson, Pat Kipping, Claire Leger*, Colleen MacIsaac*, Josephine Macnab, Leah Pritchard*, Madeleine Putnam, Evan Rensch, Jennifer Trites*, and Kallie White*. We appreciate the hospitality of Veith House, the Lions Head Tavern and Grill, and the Maritime Conservatory of Performing Arts.

*Members of Xara Choral Theatre Ensemble

Please note that this event is being videotaped for documentation and promotional purposes, and by participating, you are consenting to our use of the material. If you don't wish to be recorded, please stay behind the camera operator.

Thank you for walking with us today. We are planning more events in the debris field during the coming year; please see the contact information below to keep in touch.

Contact Information:

www.narrativesinspaceandtime.ca

<https://www.facebook.com/narrativesinspaceandtimesociety>

NISTYHZ@gmail.com

<https://twitter.com/NiSTSNS#halifaxexplosion>



NiS+TS (Narratives in Space+Time Society) is an interdisciplinary creative research group working on projects involving mobile media and walking.

Founded in 2012 and based in Halifax and Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, NiS+TS promotes the use of mobile media by artists and members of the public. NiS+TS projects are sited in spaces that are often overlooked, disused or vacant. Participants use mobile media such as GPS, smartphones and mobility tracking devices, in combination with other modes (such as walking, talking and making objects) in interactive explorations of locations and subjects.

The founding members of NiS+T are Robert Bean, Léola LeBlanc, Brian Lilley, Barbara Louder and Mary Elizabeth Luka.