

## ***Writing with Water: Reservoirs, Ruptures, and the Poetics of Environmental Entanglement***

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This practice-based project “Writing with Water: Reservoirs, Ruptures, and the Poetics of Environmental Entanglement” develops a hybrid text that is both autobiographical and fragmentary. The synapses that spark between these fragments will connect narratives of our planet in crisis. Through an interplay of personal experiences, emotional and critical inquiry, the thesis enacts a refractive investigation into the multidimensional and vertiginous entanglement between self and environment in the modern life. Using the poetics of submerged landscapes and waterways as a yardstick, it explores how ecocritical tools can offer us different avenues to better understand how the human meshes with yet harms the more-than-human—something that pastoral literature has failed to do. Alongside, it interrogates the reservoir not simply as a utilitarian container of water, but as a contested, affective and memory-laden site that embodies human-nonhuman entanglements and complex temporalities, challenging the myth of benign environmental intervention. Undertaken as part of *Waterborne: The Heritage, Culture and Environment of UK Reservoirs*, funded by the AHRC/NWCDTP, this research contributes to a growing interdisciplinary conversation about reservoirs not only as infrastructural or hydrological systems, but as deeply affective, storied landscapes. It responds to the project’s broader aim of examining how histories of environmental transformation, displacement and memory are embedded in the fabric of the UK’s reservoir heritage.