

Dave Harvey W.A.L.K. text: Mycernius to Chephren

My work explores the relationship between the walk, the land and the process of charting this action. Using handmade cameras that enable the exposure of an entire length of film in a single image, I am able to record a journey in its entirety.

I am interested in the visible scars found in landscapes – the product of ancient walkways and paths, the invisible political boundaries that demark territories, and the concepts around the charting and surveying processes that are used to map these.

Transporting the camera through the land, the rhythm of the walk, the undulation of the terrain, and climatic changes are all transformed into photographic trace. This work is the result of a walk between two of the great pyramids, Mycernius and Chephren, in Giza, Egypt .

I work on a large scale, often producing C-type prints 30 feet in length or more, requiring the viewer to become involved in their reinterpretation of the journey as they walk the length of the work.

A major part of my work involves the designing and construction of hand made cameras to enable the production highly specific forms of imagery. These cameras are often tailored to individual projects. The process of designing these cameras is an attempt to move away from the constraints of the photographic image, capturing only a fraction of a second, to map out the temporal nature of *the walk* into a new form of photographic trace. Drawing from the language of maps and cartographic processes, the entire length of a journey is mapped out into a single, panoramic, photographic image. Presentation of the work is often minimal in an attempt to get the viewer to connect with the photograph as a physical object rather than an image, bringing us back to the language of the map as artifact.