

Richard Long - walking the line.

Thames & Hudson - Richard Long: Walking and Marking



Description: -

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Age and employment

Age discrimination

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Long, Richard, -- 1945- -- CatalogsRichard Long - walking the line.

-Richard Long - walking the line.

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Richard Long: Walking the Line by Sarah Whitfield

Some of the sculptor's oeuvre is created during his walks through the world's landscapes, while other works bring the materials of nature -- stones, boulders, branches, twigs, and mud -- into a more domestic or sheltered environment: museums, galleries, houses, gardens. The artwork was the walking. Incorporating elements of performance into the sculpture and preserving the work through photography, his process was as much about the resulting photograph as the sculpture was about expressing the journey and the event of walking.

'A Line Made by Walking', Richard Long, 1967

At Bertraghboy Bay in the west of Ireland, he walked a cross into tidal mud, let a film of seawater flood the cross, then photographed the shimmering mark.

'A Line Made by Walking', Richard Long, 1967

Instead, the images show the marks he has made: footprints in river mud, paths scuffed through leaf litter, stones aligned or piled.

Artist Richard Long's groundbreaking A line made by walking

In this sense, it serves as a highly conceptual exploration of the transience of time, distance, and place, but presents these ideas in a very grounded and physical landscape.

Richard Long: Walking the Line by Richard Long

It's probably what appeals to me most about Long and his work. From these walks emerge the idea and material for his works.

Richard Long: Walking the Line by Richard Long

The resulting photographs all that now survive of these art acts are eerily cryptic.

‘A Line Made by Walking’, Richard Long, 1967

Long's work returns to more mystical notions of artistic creation, although he conveys these ideas through minimalist means: here, the line shows an exertion of energy and human intentionality.

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