



## Mick Douglas

Andrew Stuck is with Mick Douglas, a self-confessed, long-distance solo hiker. He has worked as an artist researcher into creative practice at RMIT University in Melbourne, Australia, for three decades. Much of his work was around the interaction of people within modes of transport, comparing practices in cities in Australia to cities in India.

We are walking along the uneven shingle beach of the Great Prespa Lake in western Macedonia in north west Greece, as Mick has come to present a piece of work at the Walking Arts Encounters there.

He's here to talk about and demonstrate a piece he developed for an unusual festival in New Zealand in which he takes a solo hike for four days within a shipping container. If that's not unusual enough, he goes on to tell Andrew how he is hosting and ghosting walks around a 40 acre block of land. He is developing an ecological practice in which he invites people to engage with their surroundings in part, listening to commentary that he's created as a sound walk. 25'42' 12MB

Notes from the podcast interview by **Andrew Stuck**: Recorded on a walk beside great Prespa Lake in NW Greece in July 2023 and published in March 2024. <http://www.talkingwalking.net>

Mick Douglas's website: <https://www.mickdouglas.net/>

Tramways based art projects: Tramjatra imagining Melbourne and Kolkata by Tramways; and W11 Tram: An Art of Journeys: <http://tramtactic.mickdouglas.net/>

The Walking Arts Encounters in Prespa, July 2023: <https://walklistencreate.org/conference/walking-visions-walking-arts-encounters-prespa-2023/>

The Performance Arcade Festival Te Art / in Wellington, Aotearoa / New Zealand where Mick first performed *Container Walk*: <https://www.mickdouglas.net/project-page/container-walk/>

MONA (Museum of Old and New Art) in Nipaluna / Hobart, lutruwita / Tasmania, where the second iteration Container Island Walk was performed, by Ben Landau as walker: <https://www.mickdouglas.net/project-page/container-island-walk-2017>

*unsettling station*, the reparative land and arts-ecology project on Djabwurrung / jardwajali Country in south eastern Australia where Mick inducts residents through sound walks: <https://www.mickdouglas.net/curatorial-page/unsettling-station/>

RMIT University's Creative Practice Research doctoral programme: <https://practice-research.com/>

Mick suggests two walks:

1. The Menalon Trail in Greece: <https://menalontrail.eu/en/>
2. The Peaks Trail in the Grampians National Park in Victoria, Australia: <https://www.parks.vic.gov.au/places-to-see/parks/grampians-national-park/things-to-do/grampians-peaks-trail/the-full-grampians-peaks-trail>

Image credits: *Container Walk* (Te Aro / Wellington, Aotearoa / New Zealand ) and *Container Island Walk*(nipaluna / Hobart, lutruwita / Tasmania), courtesy Mick Douglas