Submergences
River Community Heritage and Activist Strategies

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Necro-hydrology
'to account for the various ways in which, in our contemporary world, weapons are deployed in the interest of maximally destroying persons and creating death-worlds, that is, new and unique forms of social existence in which vast populations are subjected to living conditions that confer upon them the status of the living dead.'

Water Hyacinth growth (between February and July 2019) on the surface of the Hidroituango reservoir near the town of Sabanalarga, Antioquia province, Colombia. Landsat 8 (band combination: 4-3-2) (17/07/2019) (Ifor Duncan).
Evros / Meriş / Maritsa, (Ifor Duncan and Stefanos Levidis, February 2019)
River Defense

River Community Heritage and Activist Strategies
Water for Rojava

Activist Art practices like Carolina Caycedo

River defenders like Movimiento Rios Vivos, Colombia

Siostry Rzeki (River Sisters), Poland

Floating University, Berlin

Save the Tigris campaign, Iraq
'Thinking with Water [...] invites readers to consider how water - with its potent symbolic power, its familiarity, and its unique physical and chemical properties - is a lively collaborator in our ways of knowing and acting. What emerges is both a rich opportunity to encourage more thoughtful environmental engagement and a challenge to common oppositions between nature and culture.'


‘To rethink embodiment as watery stirs up considerable trouble for dominant Western and humanist understandings of embodiment, where bodies are figured as discrete and coherent individual subjects, and as fundamentally autonomous. [...] Our wet matters are in constant process of intake, transformation, and exchange - drinking, peeing, sweating, sponging, weeping. Discrete individualism is a rather dry, if convenient, myth.’

“Ríos para la vida, no para la muerte” Movimiento Ríos Vivos, Antioquia, Colombia.
‘These submerged perspectives are anchored within social ecologies that reorganize and refute the monocultural imperative […] Submerged modes flurry in their activity, random, complex, and coordinated systems that are often illegible to those with state and financial power that assume simplicity where complexity actually dwells.’ p.xvi

‘the critical task of perceiving life otherwise, or what I refer to as “submerged perspectives” that allow us to see local knowledge that re-sides within what power has constituted as extractive zones.’ p.11

Siostry Rzeki (River Sisters), Poland
Nandan Saxena and Kavita Bahl, Dammed, 2011 (still)
The film questions the paradigm of Development that makes a priori assumptions that mega dams are critical to progress.

**DAMMED** investigates the passive genocide of citizens whose lives, livelihoods and property are submerged to electrify a few corporations and cities.
Video: Darvish Mohammad (@darvish.mohammad) Protests in the Zayandeh Rood river, Isfahan, Iran, November 12, 2021.