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a safe passage

snæbjörnsdóttir/wilson 2009

to give safe passage to a British mole from Lancaster, England to Kassel, Germany

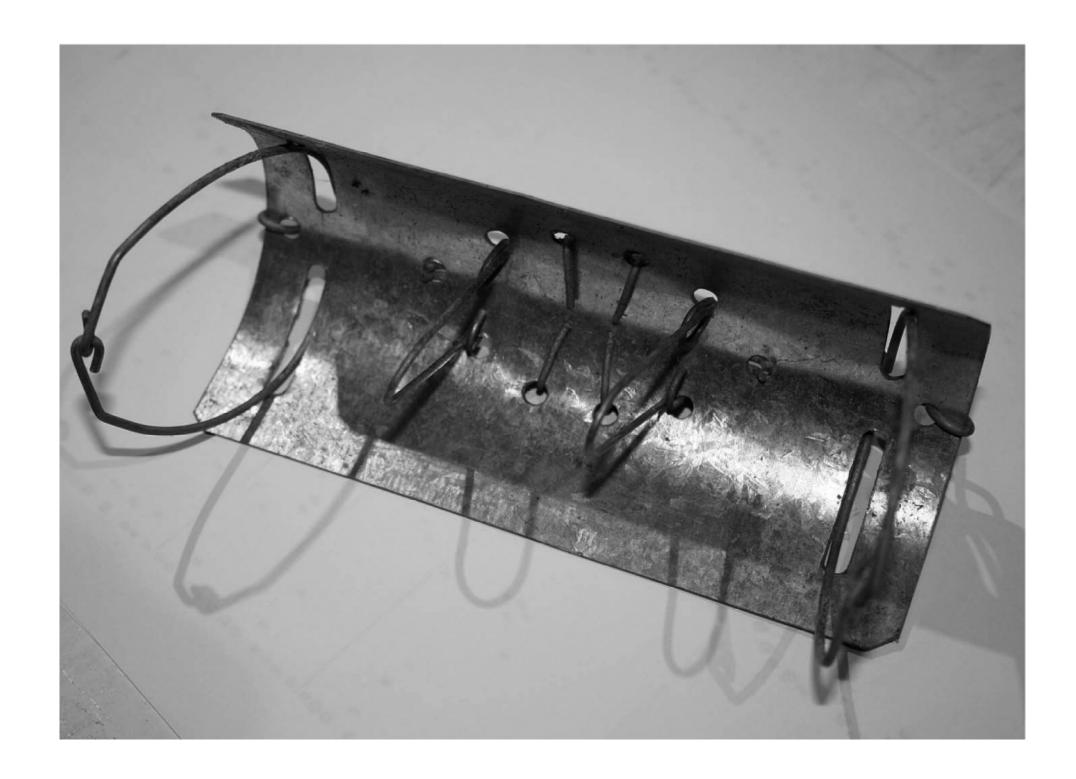
Kassel Gardens (from the Perspective of a Mole) (2007)

So from here Kassel Gardens (from the Perspective of a Mole) (2007) was served to shake her other past work up a little. The series of photographs and projection depicted
Rose Hill in the Kassel Gardens. During the Second World War, the locals would not let the Russian, Polish and Yugoslavian slave labourers use the nearby bunker, resulting is mass slaughters as the city got bombed. Alongside this, the remaining debris from the air strikes, that destroyed the city, was deposited there and Rose Hill was developed over it. In parallel to Kassel's Rose Hill, Martha Rosler has lived in Los Angeles and there, Rose Hill Cemetery, is a dominant feature of land. In response to the links between the two cites she felt a need to create a memorial site in Kassel. The Molehills are a symbol of what is beneath, being forced up. The sense that no matter how many years pass or how much it is covered up, forgetting should not be an option, and nature reinforces this by bringing it back up. 'The return of the repressed', 'making visible the invisible' all play a part in what is underneath. The moles are a protected species;

permission is needed to kill them; yet, she said, in California you slaughter them. Their protected status leads to their end. Each notion that is explored within this piece circles round; back into itself, back into war, back into America, and then back into the past. Just as Martha Rosler has explored before, the past reoccurs and with war and slaughter in mind, there is no escape.

*for Documenta 12 in Kassel, Germany, the artist Martha Rosler made a photographic work, Kassel Gardens (from the Perspective of a Mole) 2007

Rose Hill in Kassel Gardens

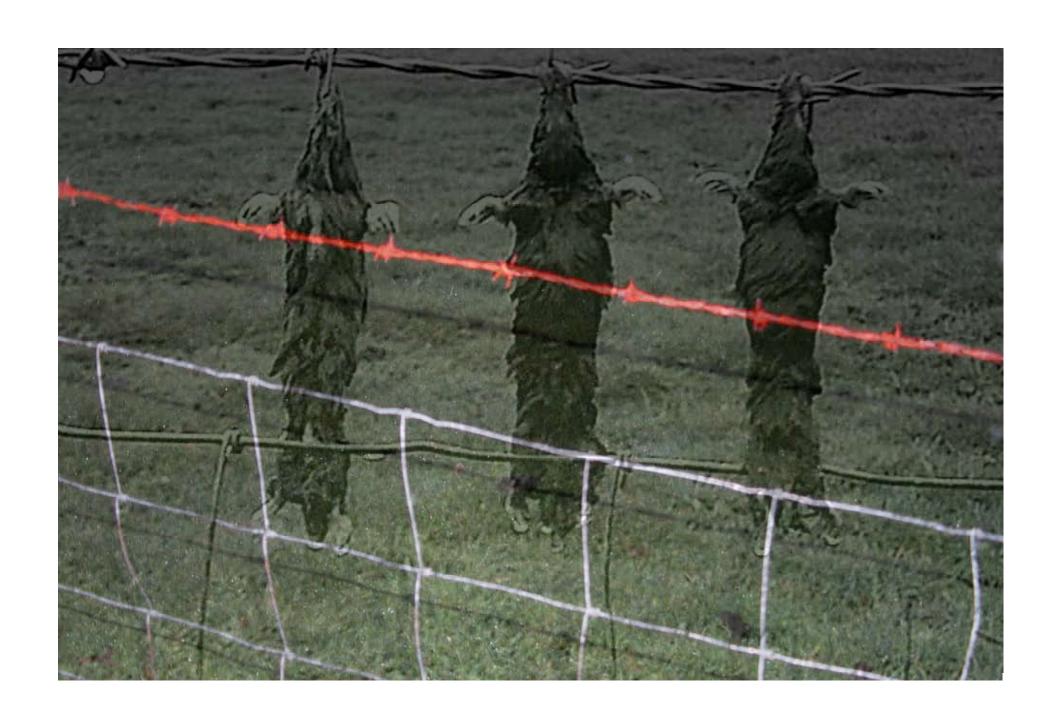


in britain we persecute moles

the following popular methods used to displace and destroy moles were gleaned from two or three randomly-selected websites:

Poison Baits, Attack Ferrets, Firearms, Explosives, Flammable Liquids (Igniting petrol poured down mole tunnels), Urinating on the molehills, Castor oil applied locally to the ground, Odorous Repellents, Gassing, Flooding, Mole Repelling Flora, Vibrating/Ultrasonic Devices, Scissor Traps, Other traps, Juicy Fruit chewing gum, Garlic, Chilli powder, Smoke cartridges, Mothballs, Crushed Glass, Rose Thorns, and Razor Blades, Tunnel Tromping, The Pitchfork/Shovel Method (Moles, like most other animals, are sensitive to stabbing and/or concussion), Sound/vibration deterrent, Attack Dogs and Cats...



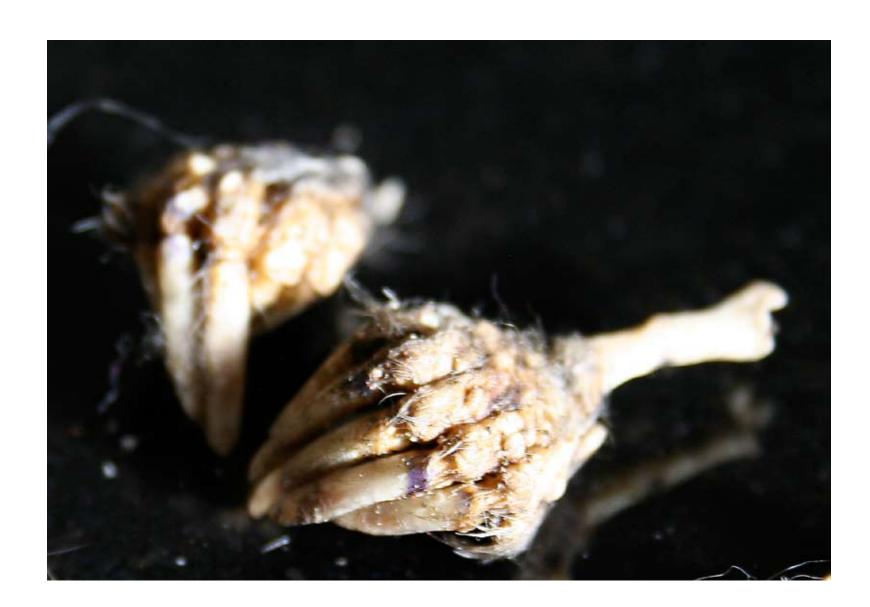


Mole archaeology

Moles have intimate knowledge of history and geology —

Mole engineering

and structural engineering



Mole burial

Do moles inter their dead or bury them upstairs?

Mole landscape gardening

Moles crenellate their roofs with whatever is to hand



Mole subways

Think of a transit system whose very constitution is a source of food

Mole mountains

For moles, despite how trivial we may think things are...

some things are of huge importance



