

Row after row appeared beans and corn and grapes. Out my passenger-seat window, I blankly stared at the rhythmic passing of the fields as my mom and I made our way up the Golden Coast. Amid my stare appeared lines of workers, maneuvering through the fields, breaking my memorization. I wondered to myself, “Who are these laborers? Where have they come from? Where will they return to? Who has driven their hands into the dirt, and how have I contributed to the demand for their labor?”

While experiencing my final project, the participant is encouraged to immerse their mind and their body in the visual and vernacular aspects of the piece. Feeling the concept beneath their feet and the spray of irrigation overhead, the environment of the participant is much like the food they consume as well as those who farm it. Guided by the poem, thoughts may wander and try to find clarity through the visual and physical viewing experiences, yet I encourage the participant to question their consumption habits and understanding of agriculture on the deepest level.

Think: “What words or characterizations do I associate with agriculture? Who controls the information and food I consume, and how may I alter my consumption in the future? Where do I think my food comes from, where do I source my food biases? What conditions will I envision when I bring my fork to my mouth next? Do I believe climate change has reached a point of crisis? Can our biases and neglect for peoples breach and cross borders?”

CORDLESS CONSUMPTION

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