

Cortil, 08-09-22

Dear Sirs,

I just received, through *cdla*, the announcement of your project « Walking-in-air ».

The idea sounds extremely exciting. For my part I've been walking, on my own, for more than 40 years, across the British Isles, and it is true that nearly each time I came back with poems, reflexive texts or visual creations, so to speak sprung from the ground, whispered by the wind or soaked by the rain.

Unfortunately I'm too old now (92 !) to submit an original contribution, but I wonder if you would enjoy some of the past outcomes of my walking.

One is a sonnet composed along the celebrated long-distance walk devised by Alfred Wainwright and named *Coast-to-Coast*. The walk became a sonnet, of which I give only footnotes suggested along the way. My friend Jonathan Williams ... and Robin Hood were constantly inspiring the composition, which ended in the « roak » at Robin Hood's Bay. Full of bilingual puns and perhaps a bit cryptic.

Another is a « haptic » exercise made during a walk in Lancashire, during which I trained my right hand to identify the different sorts of grass without looking at them and without stopping.

Wishing every success to your project,

In sympathy,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'F. Edeline', with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Francis EDELINE, 12 rue de la Cabine, B-4130 TILFF (Belgium)

PS : have you contacted my old friend Thomas Alexander Clark, who published *In praise of walking* and runs a Gallery in Pittenweem (Fife) ?