



**HEATHER KAPLOW & WALKER TUFTS**  
***AUTOLYSIS***

JUNE 4-15, 2022

Studio 170



GOETHE  
INSTITUT

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## AUTOLYSIS

We take our project's title, *Autolysis* (self-splitting), from the name for the first stage of decomposition when a body is buried, and from the Greek roots of that word. *Autolysis* is a poetic and visceral exploration of issues around climate change, plant species adaptation/ extinction, and personal mortality through a focus on/engagement with soil/dirt.

Dirt/earth is the very base of our daily existence and also where we return to when we cease to exist. It nurtures us, and then we disappear into it.

In the Covid-era, when we have become profoundly oriented towards the digital, and where cleanliness has felt like a life or death imperative, *Autolysis* offers an immersive, tactile and olfactory experience of re-connection with the earth and to dirt.

*Autolysis* also opens conversations about personal relationships with the earth in a way that emphasizes the actual material of the earth rather than earth with a capital "E", and creates space for gentle contemplation of end of life/end of species issues.

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## HEATHER KAPLOW

is a self-trained conceptual artist. Kaplow creates participatory experiences that elicit unexpected intimacies using objects, alternative interpretations of existing environments, installation, performance, writing, audio and video.

## WALKER TUFTS

is an artist and game designer. Walker's work explores our relationship to others (human and more-than-human) through games, exhibitions, dinner parties, and performances.

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## EVENTS

### Goethe-Institut Boston

170 Beacon Street, Boston

### Guided Walk

Saturday, June 4, 1-3 pm

### Dirty Movie

Wednesday, June 8, 6:30 pm

### Finissage with Artist Talk and Dirty Karaoke

Wednesday, June 15, 6-9:30 pm

### Open Studio Drop-in Hours

Tuesday, June 6, 5:30-7:30 pm

Friday, June 10, 5:30-7:30 pm

Studio 170 is a project initiated by  
the Goethe Institute Boston  
[www.goethe.de/boston/studio170](http://www.goethe.de/boston/studio170)