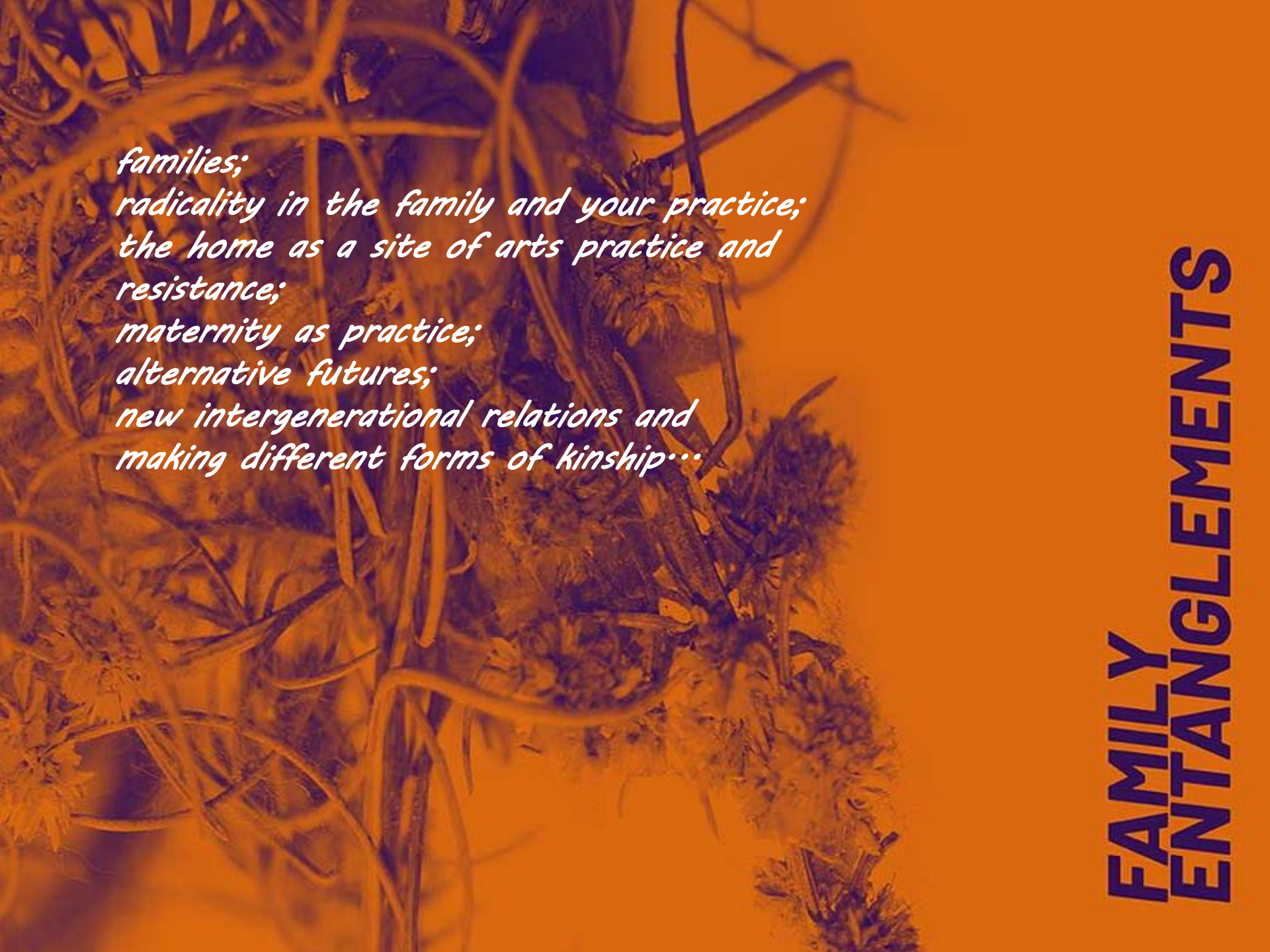




FAMILY ENTANGLEMENTS



*families;
radicality in the family and your practice;
the home as a site of arts practice and
resistance;
maternity as practice;
alternative futures;
new intergenerational relations and
making different forms of kinship...*

FAMILY ENTANGLEMENTS

FAMILY

We want to free 'the family' from the Oedipal

*(following Deleuze and Guattari's Anti-Oedipus -
the family as a kind of organisation that must
colonise its members, repress their desires, and
give them complexes if it is to function as an
organizing principle of society)*

*We acknowledge the role of post-industrial notions of
'the family' in reproducing Patriarchy and Capitalism*

We acknowledge how 'the family' (as concept and lived experience) is subject to various forms of social stratification such as class, race, sexual orientation, age, disability and gender (which do not exist separately from each other but are interwoven together)

(see for example Collins Hill, Ben-Moshe and Magaña)

*We are acutely aware of the heteronormative
and/or essentializing of the family and what it can
fall prey to*

*(for example, Edelman's No Future, where the child
as the image of the future is problematised as that
from which the queer body is both unable and
prohibited from engaging with)*

'Families' (however configured or defined) are complicated, with their own challenges and traumas

When we invoke 'family' - not in the propagation of a set idea of family - we want to open up possibilities of alternate families in which liberation might be possible.

We also want to continually expand the arena of concern from familial relations to broader relations

(thinking of D & G, Helen Hester's ideas in Xenofeminism, as well as Donna Haraway's thinking "make kin, not babies!" which acts as a form of alternative (re)production (social, species and other) that encourages communities of difference to emerge over and against replication of the same existent hierarchies.

*With this thinking we want to include and grow
non-anthropocentric or non-human-centred relations*

; a place, of their own.





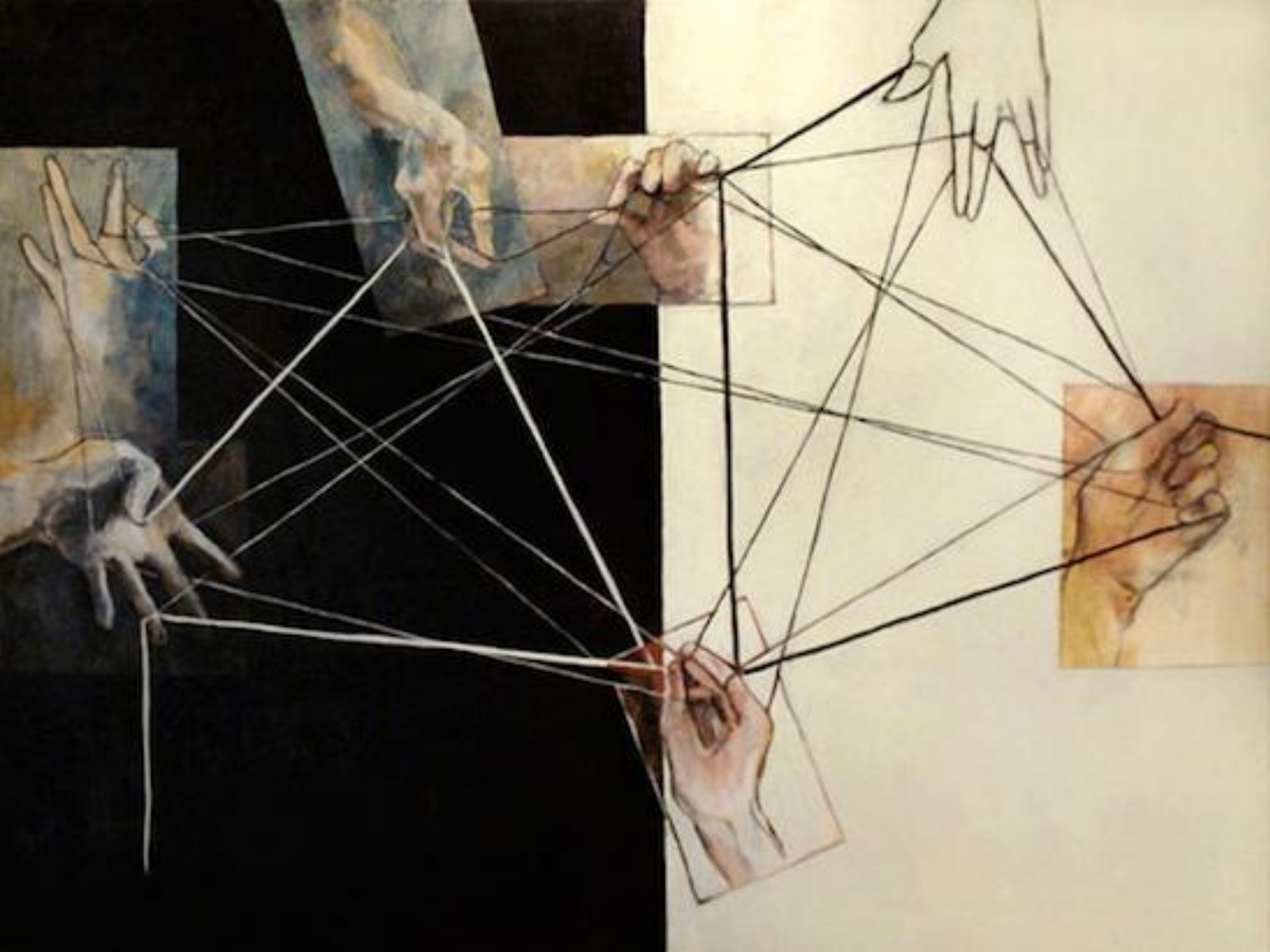




Can the 'family' be a site of resistance to dominant ideologies and of imagining collective alternative futures, through different kinds of collectivity, by thinking beyond 'family' to kinship / more than human / non-biologically based conceptions.

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How can living with and raising children, and the various relations and encounters that are enabled, create the potential for criticality, radicality and resistance, and how it might offer ways to think about alternative futures in the face of economic, social and environmental crisis, and what kinds of artistic practice are enabled.



Cat's Cradle

*Enables us to share something from our practice,
how we think and act, in embodied way, as a family/art
practice*

*String figures as a thinking and acting tool between us, creating
an alternative space and relations for thought and discussion*

"thinking-with – that is, becoming-with – is in itself a way of relaying...

But knowing that what you take has been held-out entails a particular thinking 'between'. It does not demand fidelity, still less fealty, rather a particular kind of loyalty, the answer to the trust of the hand held-out. Even if this trust is not in 'you' but in 'creative uncertainty', even if the consequences and meaning of what has been done, thought or written do not belong to you any more than they belonged to the one you take the relay from, one way or another the relay is now in your hands, together with the demand that you do not proceed with 'mechanical confidence'."

Isabelle Stengers,
Relaying a War Machine

"Two pairs of hands are needed, and in each successive step, one is 'passive', offering the result of its previous operation, a string entanglement, for the other to operate, only to become active again at the next step, when the other presents the new entanglement.

But it can also be said that each time the 'passive' pair is the one that holds, and is held by the entanglement, only to 'let it go' when the other one takes the relay."

Isabelle Stengers,
Relaying a War Machine

Cat's Cradle

Sharing ideas and experiences of 'family 'entanglements' by thinking between us, through playing the game together

Allows us to consider how we might shift roles and positions through the discussions, when are we passive or active, giving or taking, talking or listening etc.

1

*Deciding shared concerns today
Individual cats cradle - 'Apache'*

2

*Exploring concerns #1
Cat's Cradle in groups of 3*

3

*Exploring concerns #2
Cat's Cradle with bodies*

4

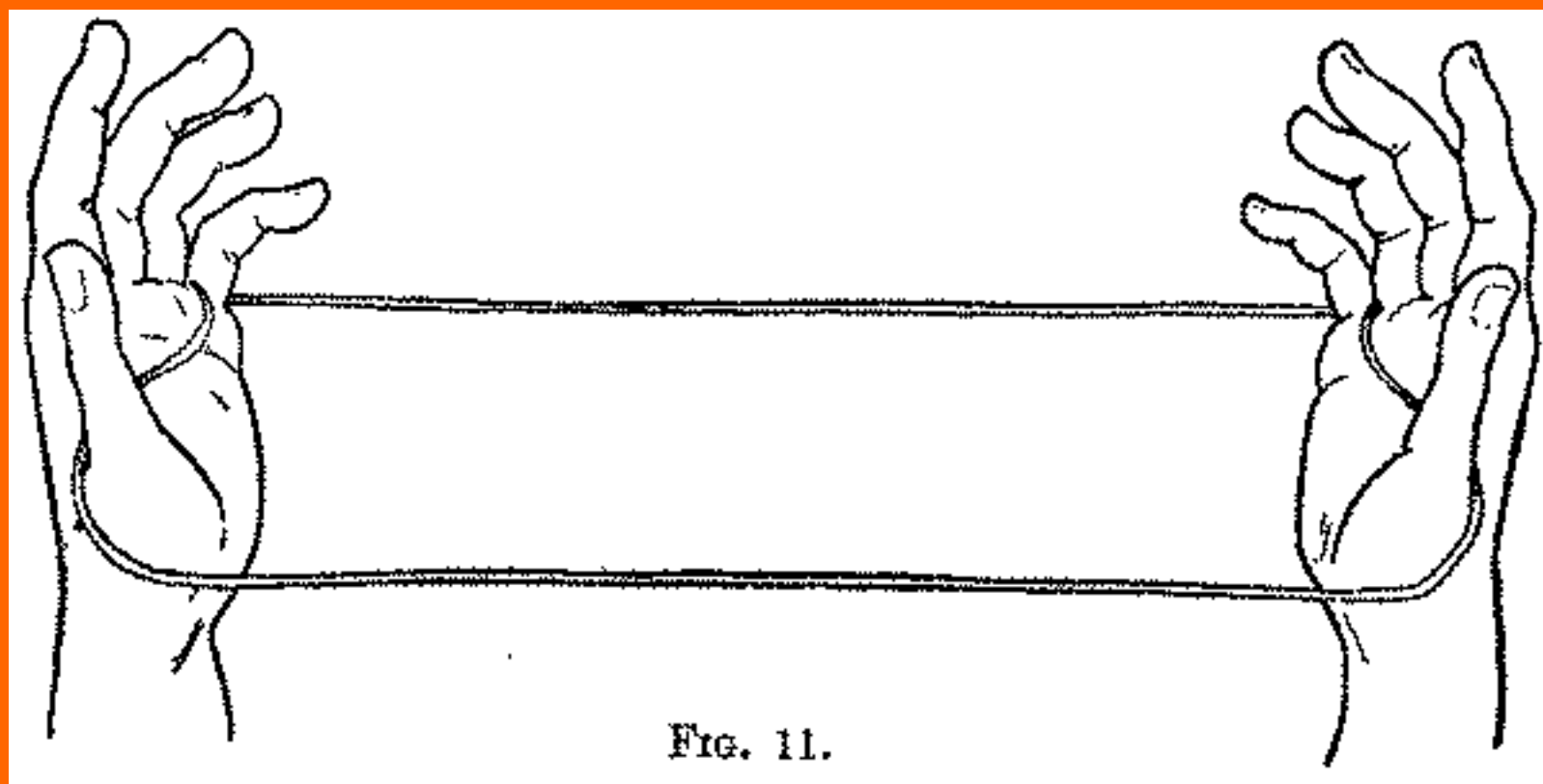
*Exploring concerns #3
Free play - bodies, string, space*

5

Reflections

1

Deciding shared concerns today
Individual cats cradle - 'Apache Door'



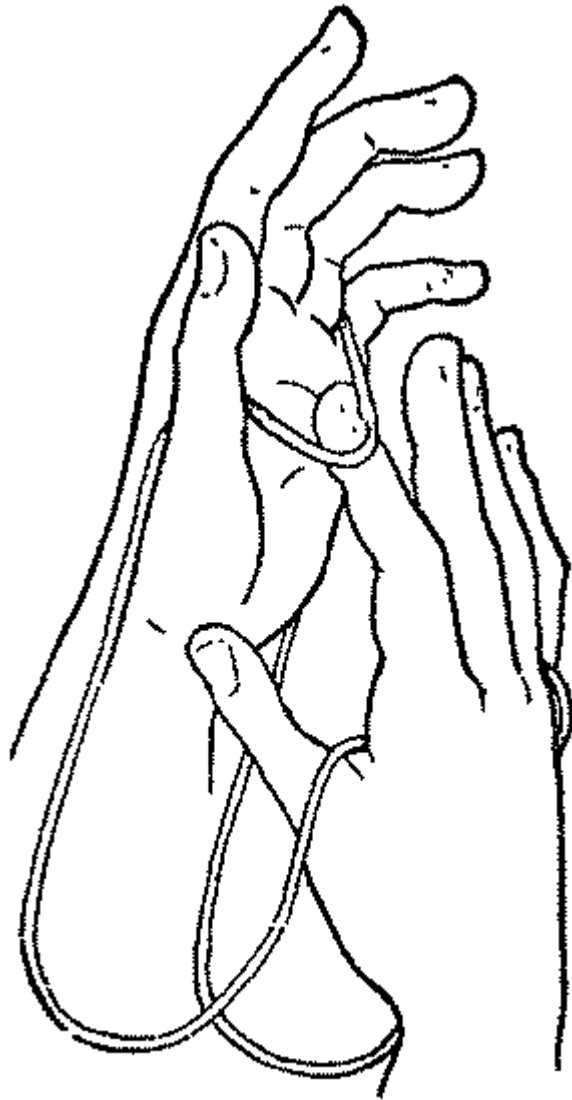


FIG. 12.

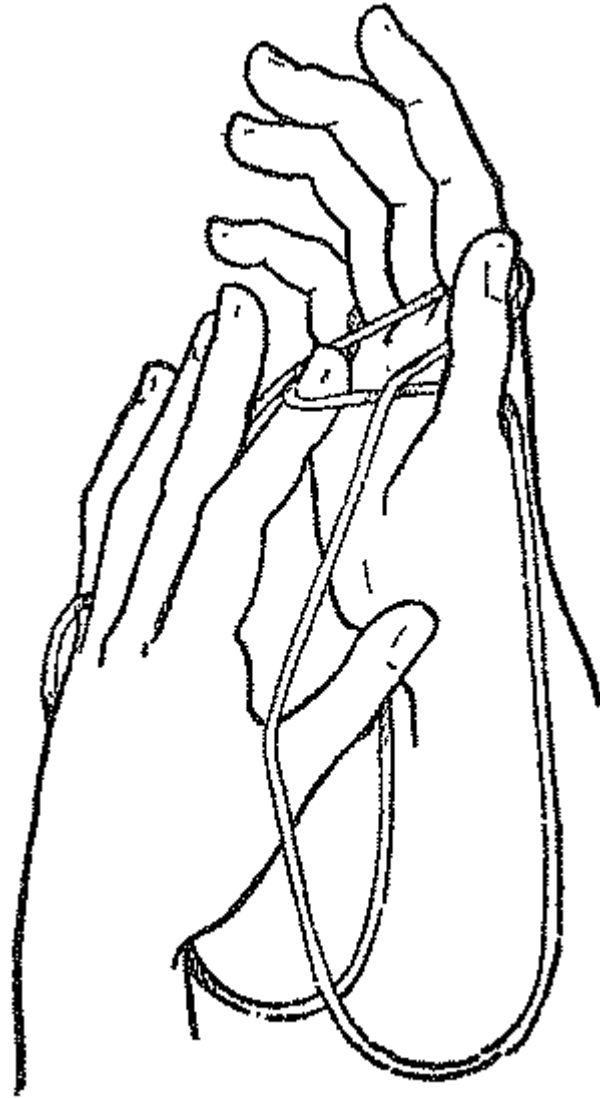


FIG. 13.

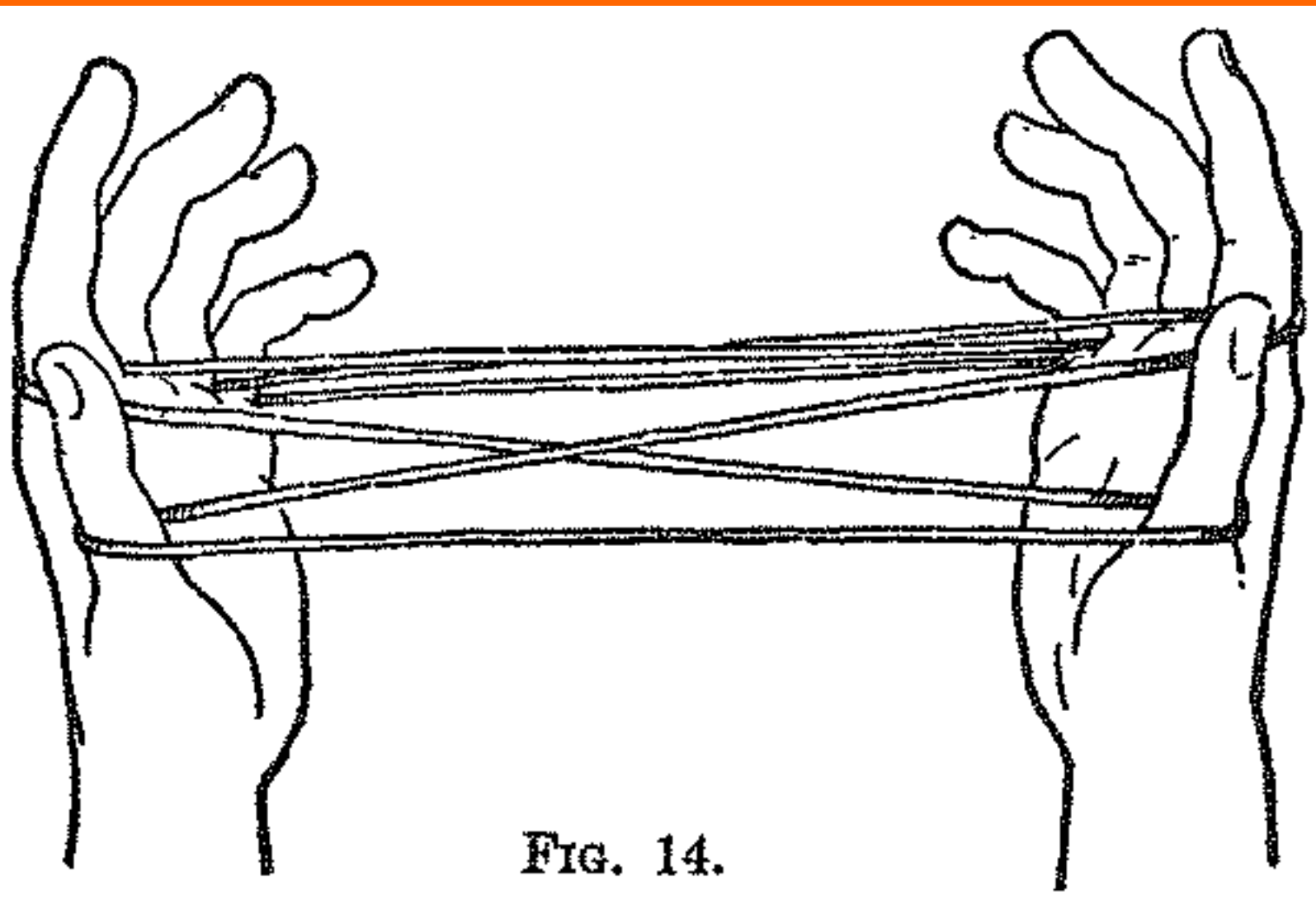


FIG. 14.



2

Exploring concerns #1

Cat's Cradle in groups of 3



3

Exploring concerns #2
Cat's Cradle with bodies



4

Exploring concerns #3

Free play - bodies, string, space

5

Reflections