

Displacement:

- ∞ dislocation
- ∞ alienation
- ∞ substitution
- ∞ transgression
- ∞ overflow
- ∞ dispersal
- ∞ traffic

Displacement:

1. The act of displacing or the condition of being displaced
2. The weight or volume displaced by a floating or submerging body in a fluid.
3. The transferring of emotional feeling for their original object to one that disguises their real nature.
4. Removal of a thing from its place, putting out of place

Displacement:

What defines the space of the Murray Darling Basin? Geographers point to the line of mountains down the east coast of the continent: the Great Dividing Range that separates the well-watered coastal fringes from the semi-arid inland. Hydrologists mark out the vast catchment basins of the two main rivers, the Murray and the Darling. Historians recall the sentiments of colonial authors such as Barron Field who stated as he looked over those mountains and across the vast distances beyond that it was '*a land flowing with milk and honey*'. Economists name the Basin's contribution to Australia's export earnings and, of course, politics defines it in terms of state boundaries.

Water itself defines the shape of the land. The displacement of water (either mediated or un-mediated) determines flood/drought and boom/bust cycles, physical appearance of river valleys, creeks, billabongs, flood plains, drains, channels and dams. The receptacles of water are transformed by their respective voluminous state.

But what happens when these definitions are displaced, by the drought that currently grips the Basin, by the competing interests of agriculture, horticulture and environmental use, climate change and by the Indigenous dreams that are always present but often submerged? What happens if they are allowed to flow in different directions, to disperse and transgress boundaries?

Can we imagine a new space for the Basin and for ourselves in it?