

TO-ING is an artist's book about how the topography of the self is shaped by the repeated practice of particular activities. This process is visualised through the naming of twenty-four acts of doing which trace a journey through one such topography. These acts of doing represent a personal accretion of history, of going back over many years to a childhood place and the life story that has been formed by choices made. Photographs of a tree which stands in the local park provide a parallel narrative, one of being done unto rather than the decisive and determined act of doing, of being rooted to a certain spot and impervious to the cares and delights of toing and froing. A short text takes the form of a parable about the tree and the man. They both develop incrementally but, for the man, to do is to become.

Rob Hillier has created the design, photographs and the font used throughout the book. TO-ING visits relationship between print and digital, the interface between photography and design, the spectacle of the ordinary, the inner worlds of everyday life and the basic urge to do things.