

OTHER THINGS TO EXPLORE

These diversions (probably) don't pertain to our story, but you may enjoy them nonetheless.

In addition to Ben's, Lee Flower Shop and Industrial Bank are two of the only businesses to be untouched during the 68 riots.

Located across the street from the metro that shares its name, The African American Civil War Museum aims to correct the assumptions about Black involvement in one of the most important events of this country's history.

Catch a movie at Atlantic Plumbing Cinema, or a band at the 930 Club. Or do both in one day! They're right next door to each other.

Explore the history of Howard University by visiting their Museum and Art Museum (a short walk away) or see a show at the historic Howard Theatre.

Hungry? Check out:

Dukem

Right Proper
Brewing Co

Nellie's

DC9

El Rey

Oohs and Aahs

Ben's Chili Bowl

Check out these songs on the platform of your choice to enhance your DCPG experience!

DISSONANT CITY
SOUNDTRACK

Good Times
Jerry Butler

Try A Little Tenderness

Otis Redding

One More Parade

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Ben Branch

Phil Ochs

At Home Experience

If you choose not to leave home right now, or you live far away, find a place that reminds you of revolution. Open a window and allow the noises to envelop you. Perhaps light a match and extinguish it after a few seconds. Smell the dank smell of sulfur and change in the air.

Break the seal inside the envelope. Begin by exploring the items in the order described in the "WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU ARRIVE" section.

Watch the video and listen to the record referenced above as you read through the articles and transcripts:

rorschachtheatre.com/pgdc-home

DISSONANT CITY

CHAPTER Five

The U St Shaw Neighborhood
U St Metro Stop

The famed Black Broadway of DC, this nightlife hub has played host to everyone from jazz legends to former presidents.



what you need to know

Bring your Chapter 5 envelopes.

The walking path is a bit of a non-linear path but you do start and end in the same location.

Make sure to wear comfy shoes for your journey!

HOURS

While your exploration is outdoors, please be aware of busier, "rush-hour" times of the day where both pedestrian and vehicular traffic will be heavier. If you plan to enjoy any food, beverage, or other activities along the way, make sure to check their hours of operation.

GETTING THERE

Metro – Take metro to U St Metro station and exit to 10th St NW.

Parking – paid parking on nearby streets. Please pay close attention to all posted signs and meters.

And as always you can share your unique perspective with us at info@rorschachtheatre.com or tag us on social media

Instagram: @rorschachdc
facebook/rorschachtheatre,

#dissonantcity #psychogeographies #rorschachdc



IF YOU'VE BROUGHT A YOUNG (OR YOUNG AT HEART) RORSCHACHER ALONG

Check out the Harrison Playground at 1330 V St NW. This playground is located between 13th Street and 14th Street, and the perfect spot for little ones to play and explore. Inspired by the history of jazz in the neighborhood, the newly renovated park's walkways and play spaces are music-themed.



Accessibility

The journey mainly consists of paved pathways with minimal inclines. Some areas of the sidewalk may be uneven, so please pay attention. A video of the full walk is available via the At Home Experience included here.

A GREAT PSYCHOGEOGRAPHIC EXPLORATION INCLUDES:

Wandering as you explore your physical world in a leisurely way

Subverting your everyday relationship with the city through a fresh perspective

Discovering the present through the prism of the past... and maybe a dash of the occult.

As you explore the present, past and fictional world of **DISSONANT CITY**, think about where these ideas converge. If you're moved to snap a photo, sketch a vision or jot down a moment in time--do it.

What To Do When You Arrive

Start at the U St Metro station and exit to 10th St. NW. Take a seat where you can get a good look at U St. Consider all the people passing you on that street – who are they and what brought them to Washington? What brought them to U Street? After you ponder, read the article "Get Cupid On The Horn." Compare what you see to Photo A.

Cross North on Vermont Ave. NW, until you get to the intersection with the 9:30 Club. Pass in front of 9:30 Club going East on V St. NW and sit at one of the outdoor seating locations facing it. Observe the former WUST building and read the article "Easier to Bear." Compare what you see to Photo H.

Walk to 8th Street and turn South. Walk past what used to be Town Danceboutique. Turn left on Florida Ave., cross Georgia Ave. and pass the MetroPCS building on your walk to the Howard Theater. Take a seat on one of the benches outside and look across the street at those rowhouses. Read the article "Bitter Ball" as you think about the generations who have lived inside. Compare what you see to Photo J and Photo K.

Head West on T Street and turn right on 9th Street. Stand outside of what is now DC9 Nightclub; what used to be Hollywood Club. If you feel inclined and the time is right, step inside for a drink or just to listen to the music before you read the article "Awake for a King." Compare what you see to Photo G

Turn down U Street and walk past the Metro station. Continue West on U Street – Walk past Lee's Flower Shop, one of the few surviving businesses from the 1968 riots; walk past Lil Benny Way, named for a founding member of Rare Essence; and walk past Bohemian Caverns, which is now Mama'san. Arrive at 13th and U Street and cross North. Go to the outdoor seating in front of Ben's Chili Bowl and read the Transcript of Interviews and Observations of Unfinished Concert, as well as the Police Report. Compare what you see to Photo F.

Make your way back East on the opposite side of U Street. Pass what used to be U St Music Hall and is now Privilege Bar; pass what used to be Velvet Lounge; and make your way to where you began at the Metro station 10th Street exit. Read the article "U Logy for U Street" in the same seat you started with, if possible, and take a good look at U Street of 2023. Compare what you see to Photo I.

DON'T MOVE THE REFRIGERATOR* NOTES



U St is one of the busier stretches of DC. Please be aware of people around you, and don't disrupt flow of life for the sake of this walking tour.

* "Don't move the refrigerator" is a shorthand phrase invented in the early days of Rorschach to mean-- "This should be so obvious we don't think we have to say it...but we're saying it anyway."