

A PLACE FOR CREATIVE THINKING

SUBSTANCE



Breaking Earth

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Time Together and Time Apart

Neha Choksi

The drawings to scale on the following pages depict multiple views I outlined while holding in my hand a single, small particolored stone. The silhouette leaves a hole for the stone to inhabit, were it still to exist. The colored pigment that shapes the absence of the stone is made by pulverizing this same stone.

I pushed the pigment aside on the *recto* to create the evacuated silhouette. Imagining the hole bored through to the other side, I colored the *verso*, too. All the pigment from the stone was used up in painting these multiple views.

The Crete Senesi area in Tuscany, where I found the stone, is formed from tiny fragments of small shells and sea organisms compacted with sediments of clays and sands from a sea that covered it millions of years ago. I fancy the stone contains evidence of the missing sea.

I dislocated this stone during one of my multiple walks on a local *strada bianchi* near my temporary residence in a tiny village in Tuscany. I shared a summer there with six other artists and the coordinator as part of the Amant Residency Siena. I painted one stone view per member of our group. I made these drawings as a gift for them, for us, for our time together, and our time apart.

October 11, 2023
Mumbai

7 cotton paper sheets with stone pigment paint on recto and verso
Each 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 5 inches



























