

# remnants... (the 2<sup>nd</sup> movement)

by Peig Abbott

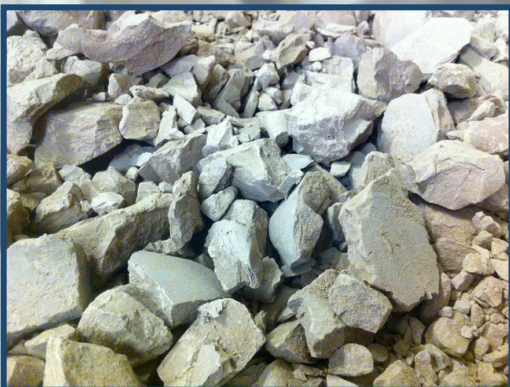
**REMNANTS... EXTENDS BEYOND THE SURFACE. IT IS A  
MEDITATION ON THE ESSENCE AND FABRIC OF EXISTENCE.  
IT CAN PROBE YOU DEEPLY INTO AN ANALYSIS OF SELF.  
....IF YOU LET IT.**

Ten years ago, the first installation of *remnants...* debuted at Anna Leonowan's Gallery in Halifax, Nova Scotia. It was during this exhibition I became acutely aware of the true magic of art: the sculpture became a mirror to those who attended the show, stimulating a diversity of reactions and comments. There is a chord that is struck within each of us when we engage with art. This is why someone may fall in love with a painting, while another is repelled by it. Art can, therefore, be a reflection of the viewer's state of mind, body and soul.



Today, *remnants...* is resurrected into part two of what will be a trilogy of installations to further offer a mirror for the viewer to engage -with themselves, or explore and reflect upon the universal human condition. Dualistic tones of nature vs. nurture; death/decay vs. life; "man" vs. environment, stasis vs. movement, etc. are common layers of analysis invoked by *remnants....* As well, the solid fragility of material used is often unsettling for some; the unfired clay body dries and begins to crack and decompose over the duration of the exhibition. The sculpture will depart the gallery in a different state from which it is first unveiled; the Evergreen sapling still vibrant with life.

The role of materiality is an important process of *remnants....* Each form exists only for the duration of the exhibition, and the memory of those who witness it.\* The unfired clay body is destroyed after each exhibition, where it is then reclaimed, prepped and stored until the next.



Fragments bound by history, energy, and intention are cradled in this trilogy of work. A quiet symmetry is composed of traces of remembrance at the heart of presence, and both material and the fabric of existence become akin.

**"PRESCENCE IS LONGING REACHING AT  
ONCE OUTWARDS AND INWARDS."**

**-JOHN O'DONOHUE**

\*The first installment of *remnants...* is featured in a special publication of the journal Atlantis, entitled "Women, Art, Politics, and Power", by Mount Saint Vincent University