

Earth Pigments

This selection of rocks and pigments are sourced from the nearest hill, Bernal Heights, as well as Utah, Oregon, and Northern California. All rocks were readily available on cutouts in roadsides and trails, and only collected in amounts that could fit in the palm of my hand. Tilke Elkins's *Reciprocal Foraging Guidelines* fundamentally shape how I engage in the process of collecting.

Bernal has a strange history, and the rocks tell the story. Bernal is a folded hill, layered land that bends over time. Chert is the main rock that forms Bernal which is composed of biogenic silica, silica from the exoskeletons of radiolarian that built up on the deep ocean floor over 150 million years ago. Bernal is land that was forced skyward due to the Pacific Plate subducting under the North American Plate.

In the 19th and 20th centuries Bernal was mined for gold (because of mischievous false plantings) and aggregate to fill in the marshes of San Francisco. Before European settlement the San Francisco peninsula was home to about 40 different tribes of the Ramaytush Ohlone.

As a tribute to the Ramaytush Ohlone people whose unceded ancestral lands we inhabit, 100% of proceeds of watercolor bottle caps (\$20 each) go to Yunakin Land Tax through the Association of Ramaytush Ohlone. Through their guidance and partnership may we restore our relationship to land and place.

I would also like to acknowledge *Wild Pigment Project* and *Pigments Revealed International*, communities of earth pigment people who have made foraging wisdom and safe pigment processing practices available to all who look for it.

Angie Allen
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