

Partibility, Time and Composite Stone

It is widely accepted
that making things from stone
represents durable intent;
that they are made to last until the end of time
(or at least until the departure of the ancestors).

But things also
embody fleeting moments.

A piece of me
is imparted to a stone held in my palm,
and when it passes from my grip to yours,
a piece of you, too, is sublimated within it,
(and so on).

All the relationships of those between whom it passes
are poetically folded
into the composite material,
so that it becomes a map;
a portable, solid web
of kin and other relations
through space and time.

Dr Angela McClanahan, 2014