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This British artist uses natural materials -- rocks, boulders, sand, mud, and clay -- to create outdoor sculptures.

Stone Details

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Author : Andy Goldsworthy

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From Reader Review Stone for online ebook

Richard Thompson says

This collection of photos documenting Andy Goldsworthy's unique "nature" sculptures focuses on pieces that he has created with stone.

Lafcadio says

Brilliant photography of nature art.

Paul says

Andy Goldsworth has a knack of taking simple, natural, elements, such as leaves, stones, grasses and soil and transforming them into ethereal and sublime pieces of art.

This book has some of his most widely recognised images from the towers of stones that have a limited life beaches of the incoming tide, to the way a rock covered with leaves, takes on new dimensions and brings a stark contrast to the surrounding forest.

I love the way too that he uses the most transient elements of ice and water. From the rain shadows that he creates to the use of icicles in dramatic ways. There are rocks taken in each season covered with different leaves, the black of ash to the autumnal red of hazel and interestingly shaped stones covered with leaves or surrounded with sticks at different parts of the year.

But this is a book primarily about his artistic exploration with stone. He makes the most amazing cairns and arches that sit in the landscape as if they have been there for years and are made from the materials that he has to hand such as slate or river stones. Probably the most amazing is a cairn that was stuck to a vertical cliff wall held in place by the frozen water between the stones.

Not all of them work, but the art that he creates is dependant on the materials and the conditions as much as the intent. But all the pieces have energy and a dynamic spirit that transcends the original material and make such beautiful, temporary masterpieces.

Exquisite.

Kelly says

Wonderful work. Impressive.

Michele says

One of my favorite artists ... he creates structures in nature with nothing added, just stone, ice, water, leaves, wood ... with gobs of patience and talent. Many of his pieces only exist in photographs because they go back to nature as intended. Check him out in the DVD, "Rivers and Tides."

Stephen says

"Fixed ideas prevent me from seeing clearly. My art makes me see again what is there, and in this respect I am also rediscovering the child within. In the past I have felt uncomfortable when my work has been associated with children because of the implication that what I do is merely play. Since having children of my own, however, and seeing the intensity with which they discover through play, I have to acknowledge this in my work as well," writes British environmental artist Andy Goldsworthy in his book "Stone."

Goldsworthy's message is a wise one. Fixed ideas DO prevent us from seeing. We should all approach each walkabout outdoors with no fixed ideas and the eyes of a child, recapturing our sense of wonder.

Growing up with modest means in the mountains of East Tennessee, our toys were the rocks and sticks we found outside. Often, we would just pile up rocks. Goldsworthy has carried this sense of exploration to a most sublime conclusion, creating works of art that are as beautiful as they are natural.

His book "Stone" is a portfolio of some of his creative explorations with found rocks, sticks, dirt, sand and stones. And although he says he has more failures than successes, his successes are amazing!

Christie Angleton says

Goldsworthy's art is so inspiring to me as a Reggio preschool facilitator! So excited to share this with my students!

Wendy says

Goldsworthy is a sculptor, photographer and environmentalist living in Scotland who produces site-specific sculpture and land art situated in natural and urban settings. His art involves the use of natural and found objects, to create both temporary and permanent sculptures which draw out the character of their environment. They are particularly wondrous and beautiful. He explores unfamiliar landscapes, assess how the elements will work for his pieces, and perform what are essentially a set of experiments. His intent is making work that is, as he writes, *completely welded to its site*.

There is a wonderful DVD about him:

Janie says

"Most (if not all) that I need can be found within walking distance of my home. When travelling I regret the loss of a sense of change. I see differences not changes. **Change is best experienced by staying in one place.**"

(my emphasis: my line for my 2013-Books found poem)

Some of my favorites in this book were where he worked with the same place in different seasons.

Chris Allan says

Another excellent book of his outstanding work, this time in stone.
