

Documentation

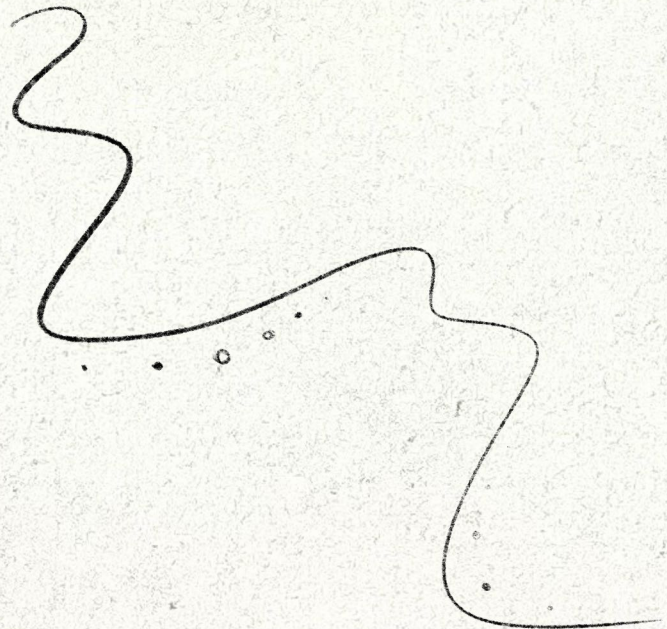
Artistic
Research
in
Situ

by Kira Dralyuk

19/02/24 - 22/04/24

In the past ten weeks I've been exploring the ENCI area. To deepen my knowledge I've looked at the area from different perspectives - cartographic, sociological, historical, archeological, biological, anthropological and artistic. I personally really enjoyed immersing myself into the space, as the research on it continued. The Situ is a big area full of treasures, so you can spend much more time than I did for just one course of the minor, however, already during this time I was able to befriend the ENCI.

I chose this minor in the first place to broaden my skills of sensory research. I was looking forward to spending as much time as I can in the area, traveling around the quarry, visiting the closed down factory, exploring the mines and getting lost in the forest.



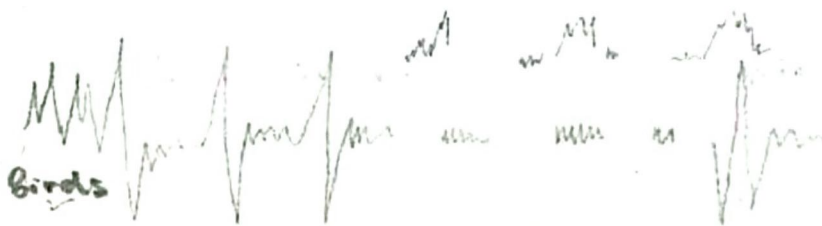
Fortunately, I was able to do all of this and experience those places not only with my eyes, but also with other senses.

Every Monday we would meet at the Chalet D'n Observant and have a workshop exploring the area. For instance, we had invited artist, cartographers, historians, biologist and anthropologists to bring their image of ENCI to our attention. The most memorable workshop for me was the tour around the (almost) abandoned factory. It is now functioning in only one of the buildings and it's not anymore related to the cement works.

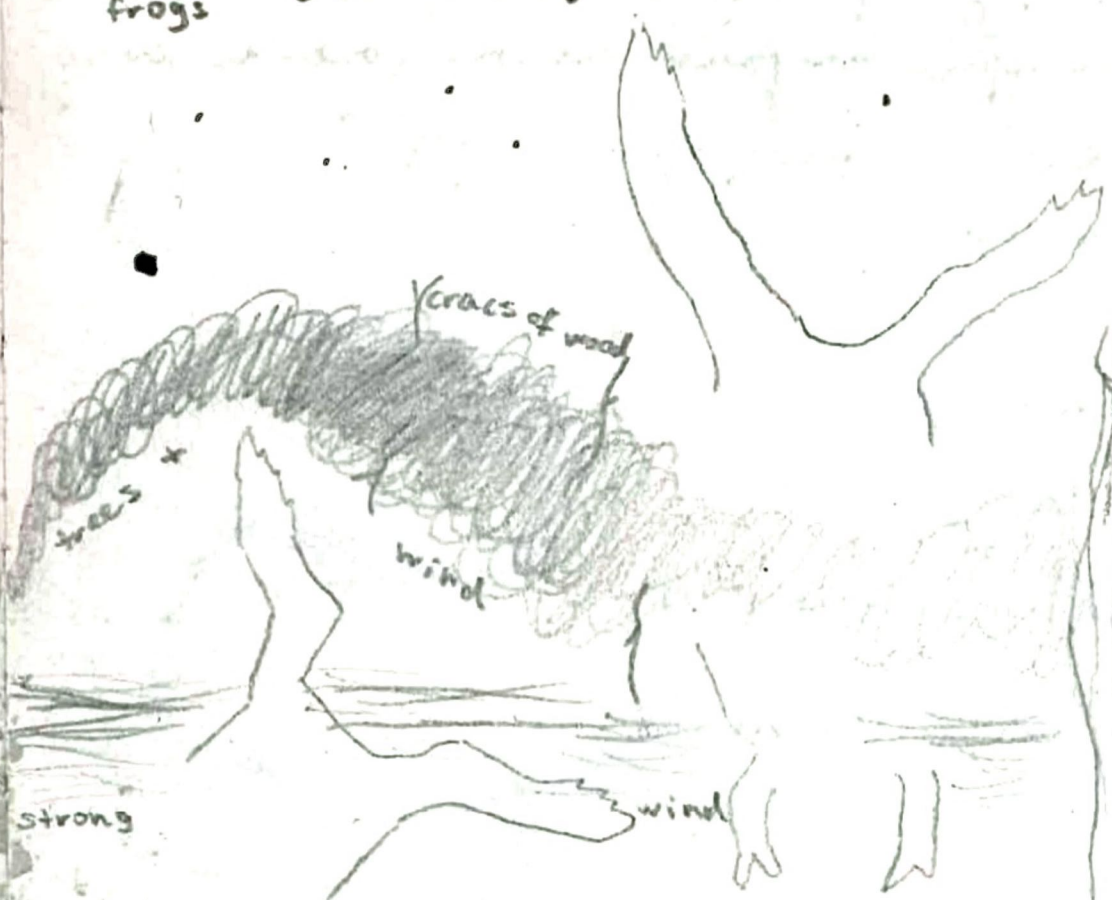
I think that the workshops were a nice starting point, as the rest of the week I'd spend diving deeper in the area with a new view in mind and developing my ideas for the final exhibition.

For instance, during the central three day workshop I learned the techniques to focus better on one specific sensory input. For instance, with the group we went on the walk in the column one by one facing the back of the person in front of you. So, we were allowed to use only our peripheral view to observe the quarry. Or in the other exercise we needed to blindfold ourselves and be guided around. These approaches block one sense to activate more sensitive responses from other senses making it very effective to notice and easier to document.

19/02

Birds 

frogs 



strong

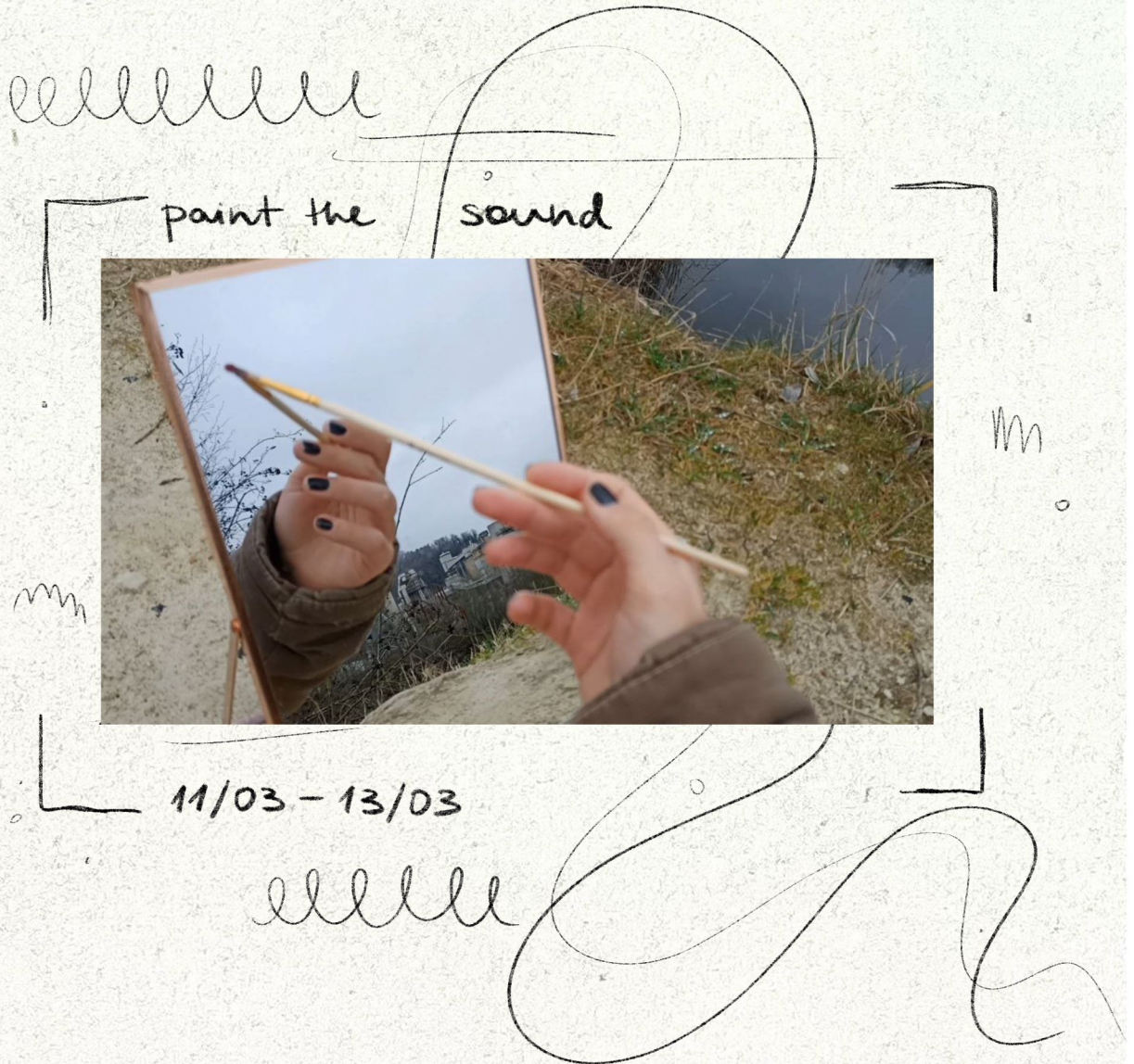
quiet

 construction site

K

every thing is grey, reminds me of how

I based my research around one sense - hearing. From the first weeks of the project I documented the sounds of the area. Honestly, I didn't expect to get so into it and work on it further, however, I thought that it might be interesting to document sounds not only to represent the change of time, but also to create a language of ENCI.





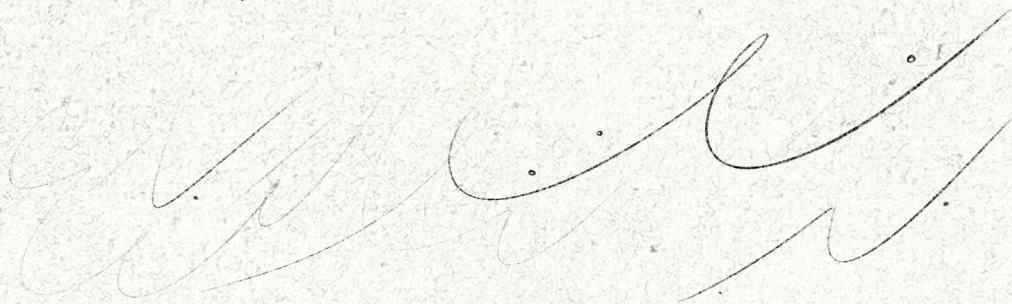
first steps

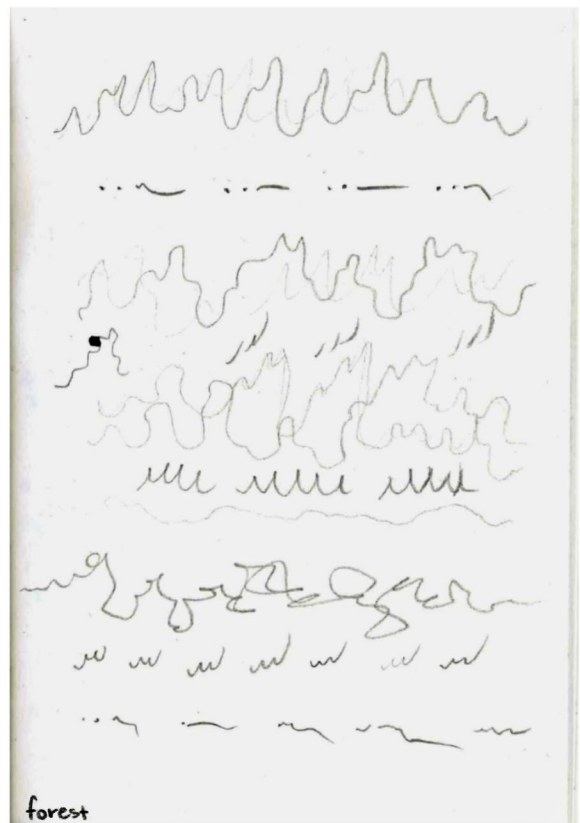
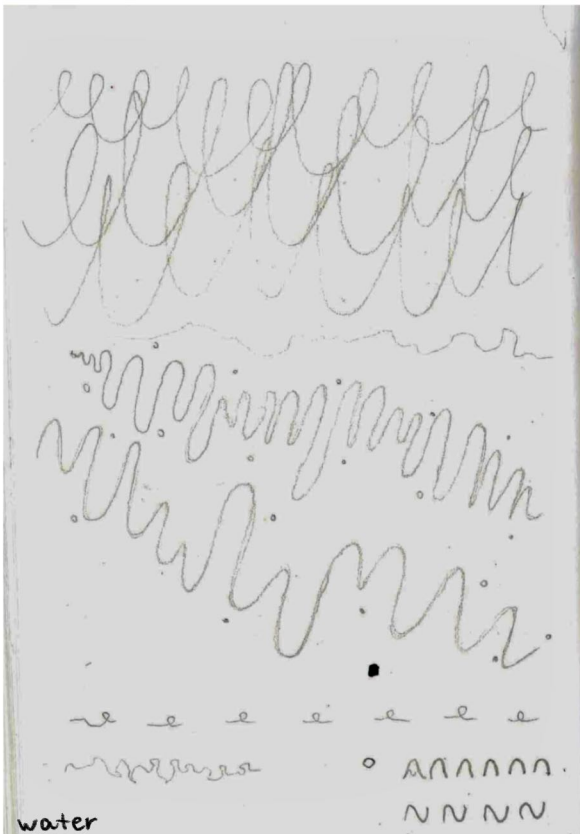
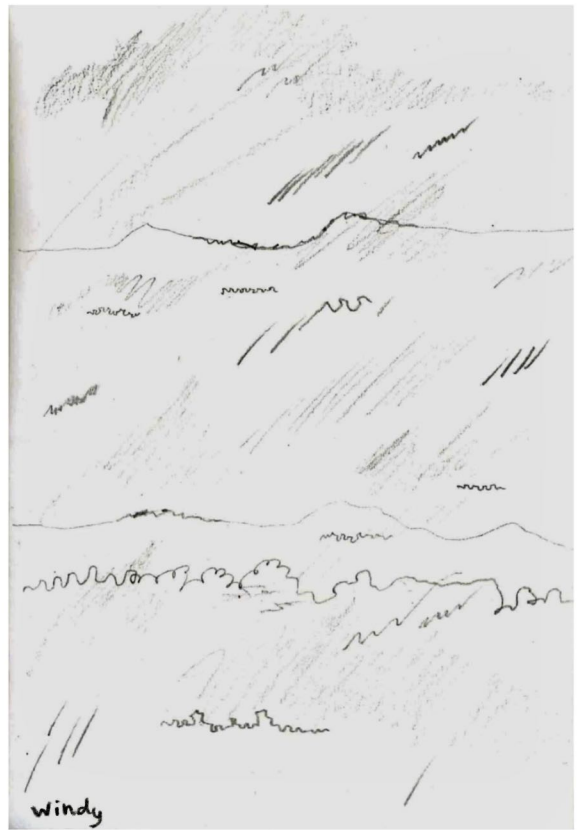
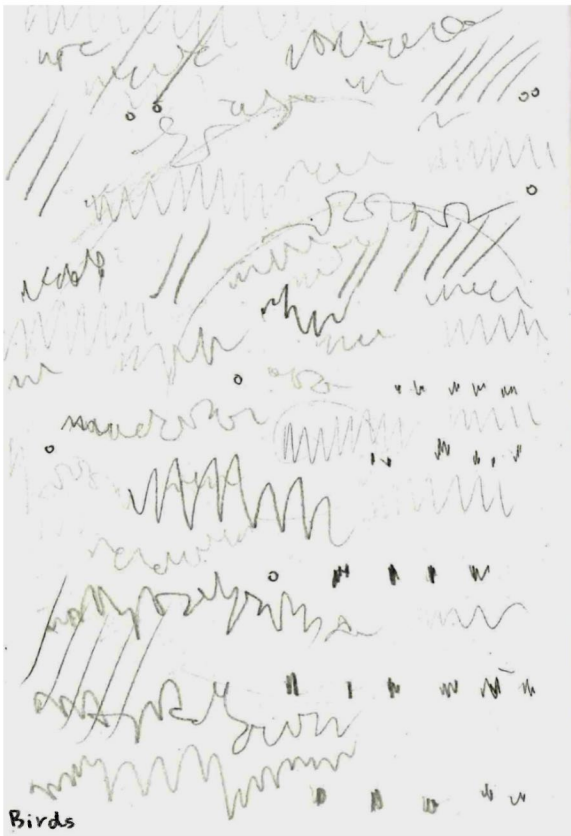
My research required me to be present in the quarry, so I did hikes, where I'd stop and listen every once in a while, for example, when I hear something interesting or new. At first, I'd sketch the landscape I'm in with a few sounds in it, but later on my focus shifted to sounds primarily, so the drawings I made also changed to more abstract and expressive style.

What are my findings? Well, I suddenly for myself came up with the certain and clear way to draw birds singing. When I looked back at all of my sketches, I could see that birds are the most common, but also the most recognisable ones.

However, I didn't want to analyse work that were done only by me, I wanted to see, how different people document the same soundscape, so I took a mic and I recorded the ENCI to bring it with me to the center of Maastricht.

I was left content with the outcome of the public contribution to the research, as it shown the similar pattern in expressing the wind howls.





my documentation

18/22/04

my works



Presentation of my findings/continuation of the research

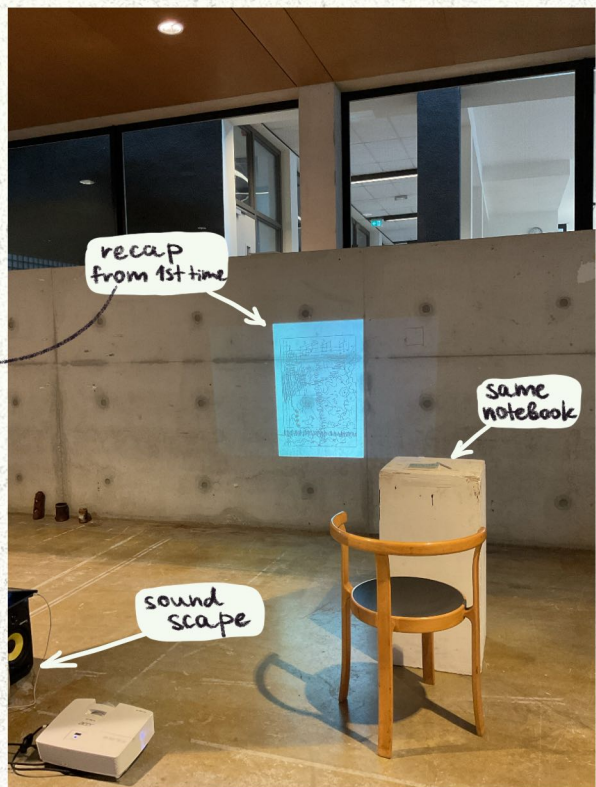
I had two days to collect data from the public during the exhibition at the academy

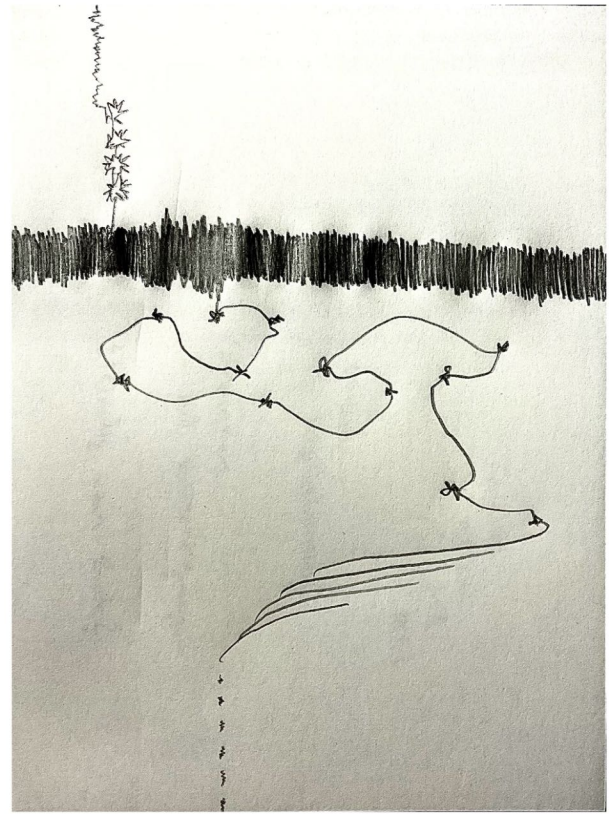
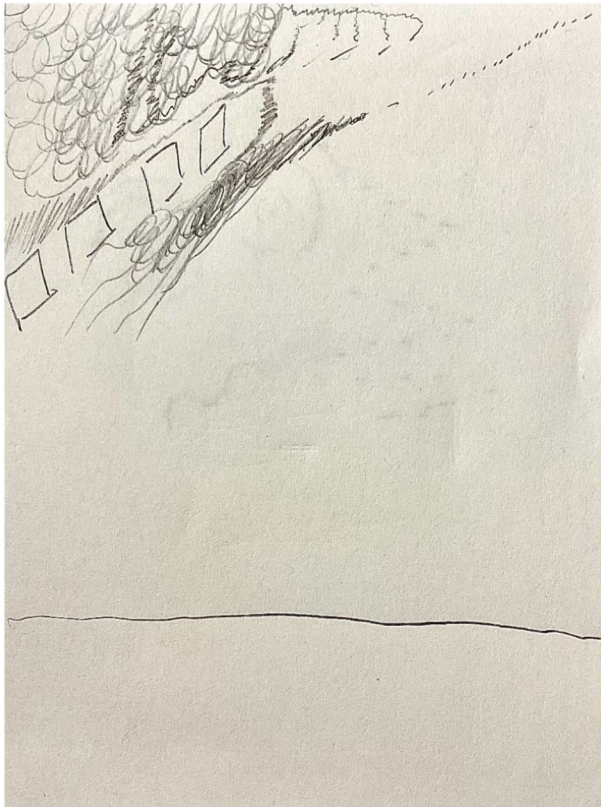
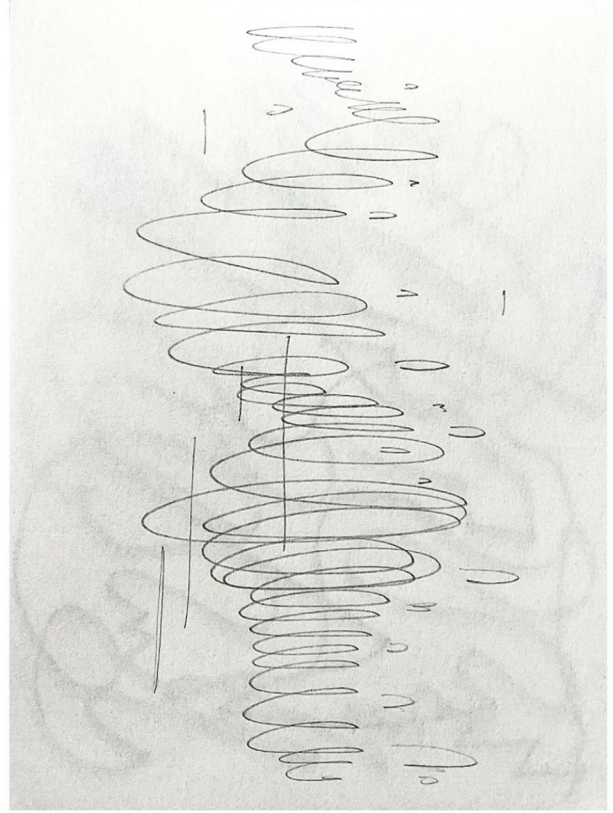
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originally animation





(some) public contribution

All in all, I wanted to depict the voice of ENCI. From what I collected I can say that it is gradually changing to more wild sound, as the nature slowly taking over what was hers. With the closer of the factory especially native species are thriving on the land they weren't welcome.

The quarry communicates with us, we just have to find a way to narrow down and understand it's language. I attempted to do that, but there are still a lot of questions. For example, are songs of the birds happy signals of gratitude or are they just an attraction for the people? The direction that the area is taking now is towards preserving what is left, however, there are still some actions from the people that make it artificial.

Although the period of the minor is over, I'd want to continue observing the changing nature of the quarry and listening what it has to tell.

