



GEOLOGY OF DISASTER

JUDY PRICE

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There are over 350 quarries in the Occupied Palestinian Territories of the West Bank. The stone excavated has been termed the 'white oil' of Palestine and is the only raw material available in this territory, providing a livelihood for over 20,000 workers. Against any semblance of legality Israel has expropriated the stone and sand for their construction industry and to build walls, checkpoints and settlements in the West Bank. The stone industry is having a devastating consequence on the environment and surrounding community in the West Bank with almost every hillside scarred by the brutal incision of the quarries. Walking through the landscape of the West Bank this mutilation is disconcertedly visible to the naked eye, a 'geology of disaster'.

In collaboration with the owners, workers and security guards *White Oil* explores the quarries as multilayered spaces, bringing to bear the myriad losses of land, economy, identity, history and community, and, how the forces of colonisation and globalisation structure landscapes, economies and experiences.

Cluster: White Oil

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