

Episodes⁵

↳ AT THE ANCIENT QUARRY

NEMESTUDIO

17TH INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECTURE EXHIBITION
LA BIENNALE DI VENEZIA
PAVILION OF TURKEY

Architecture¹² as² Measure⁷
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Image: NEMESTUDIO, Four Dioramas, 2021. Diorama of Quarry. Courtesy of NEMESTUDIO.

The sun was setting on a calm evening at the Ancient Marble Quarry. The view towards the open-air museum of the Ancient Land Archeological Site was clear. A gentle breeze and the fresh smells of the new forests outside the archeological site had already replaced the dust storms. It was always a strange feeling to be on top of this quarry, viewing the Ancient Land and witnessing the extractive construction activities of archaic times. After the Great Fossil-Fuel Divestment and the end of the Extractive Era, the Ancient Land had become a site of conservation, repair, and cultural heritage. In the open-air museum, various remnants and ruins from centuries of resource extraction were collected. In the archeological site, spoil tips of abundant industrial waste were sculpted into shapes of various mountains from different parts of Anatolia. These fake mountains were flanked with scaled replicas and models of several ancient large-scale infrastructures—such as dams, nuclear power plant cooling towers—and ruins of solar geoengineering. The Ancient Quarry had been kept remarkably preserved and gave many clues about the daily life of ancient humans. The paperwork in the Quarry depicted long-ago publications, conversations, and episodes related to the quarries, forests, and mountains of the Ancient Land.