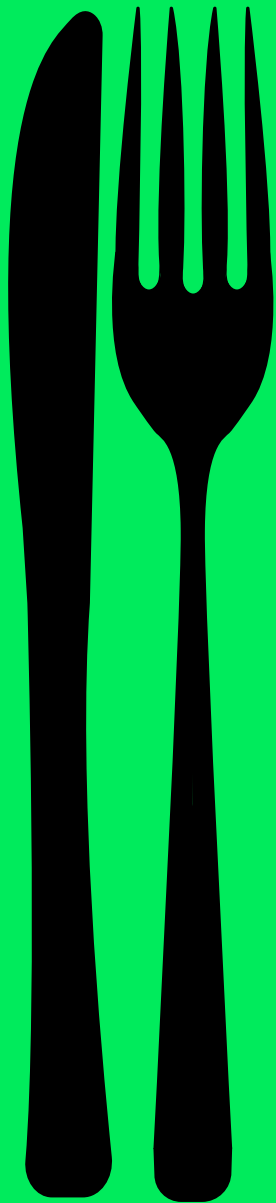


# ON THE TABLE:

TJ SHIN



Seedling Pore

MIT List Visual  
Arts Center

Dig a hole into the earth and gather its soil. Press your nails into the bed. If they sink softly into touch, continue to dig until the hole is about one feet deep. Gather its excess and the excrement of worms and invertebrates. Moisten the heap using water and saliva to form a perfect gathering. Accumulate, dismember, remember. Repeat. Amass, sever, evoke.



Roll out the mud into thin coils, into a continuous line, the earth in duration. By memory, trace the interior of the earth's recessed image and retrieve its silhouette. In circles, spool the earth vertically, layer by layer, into the exterior shape of the hollowed earth. Absence is made material again, into a vessel, a contour, a passage. Memory is remnant, remnant is memory. What has been forgotten is retrieved back as a mold of loss, mold of invocation. The vessel is now your extended organ.

Make a fire and ask the earth for absolution. If coerced, your vessel will break and everything held captive will be released into millions of shards as vengeance. To appease Zeus, reveal your deepest shame as deliverance. Only after can you place your vessel into the fire. Watch your organ vitrify, loss of bone, earth's pores turned orange red.



Gather this season's vegetables, preferably with yin effects like leafy greens, yellow, or white. Stay away from red vegetables. Soak the leaved heads in water and salt them generously. Salt will sweat out their moisture, make their flesh pruney. Add any of the following for taste: ginger, garlic, daikon, red pepper flakes, fish sauce, chives, onion, leeks, oysters, cucumber, and pear. Glucose breaks down into effervescence. Time is made material again.

Place your brine into your vessel. Place your vessel back into the earth. Wait for Fall, Winter, and Spring.

