

Library of Ancestral Knowledge: SCENT, FRAGMENTS AND MEMORIES

by Duong Thuy Nguyen
Co-created with ESEA Programme at Museum of the Home

Scent can become a doorway. It settles in our body, weaving people and places into fabric of memory.

A stem of perilla (tía tô) transports me to grandma's kitchen
The scent of agarwood (trâm hương) incense burning takes me to Tết (Lunar New Year) with family

We invite you to step outside, notice the garden and bushes, bricks and light, to slow down and follow your nose. What do you think of? What images arise?

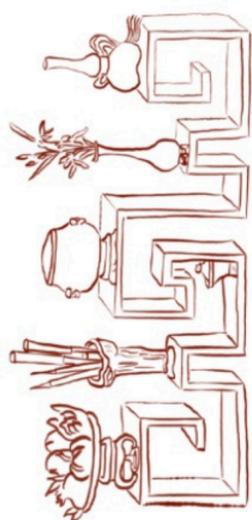
As you wander through the garden, you will create your own personal scent map.



Step into our Garden Through Time. Let's take three deep breaths...

"In... and ... Out" How does the air feel?

The journey continues here



Notice the colours, shapes, patterns and textures around you...

What are you drawn to?

Is there a funny shaped leaf?

A flower in bloom?

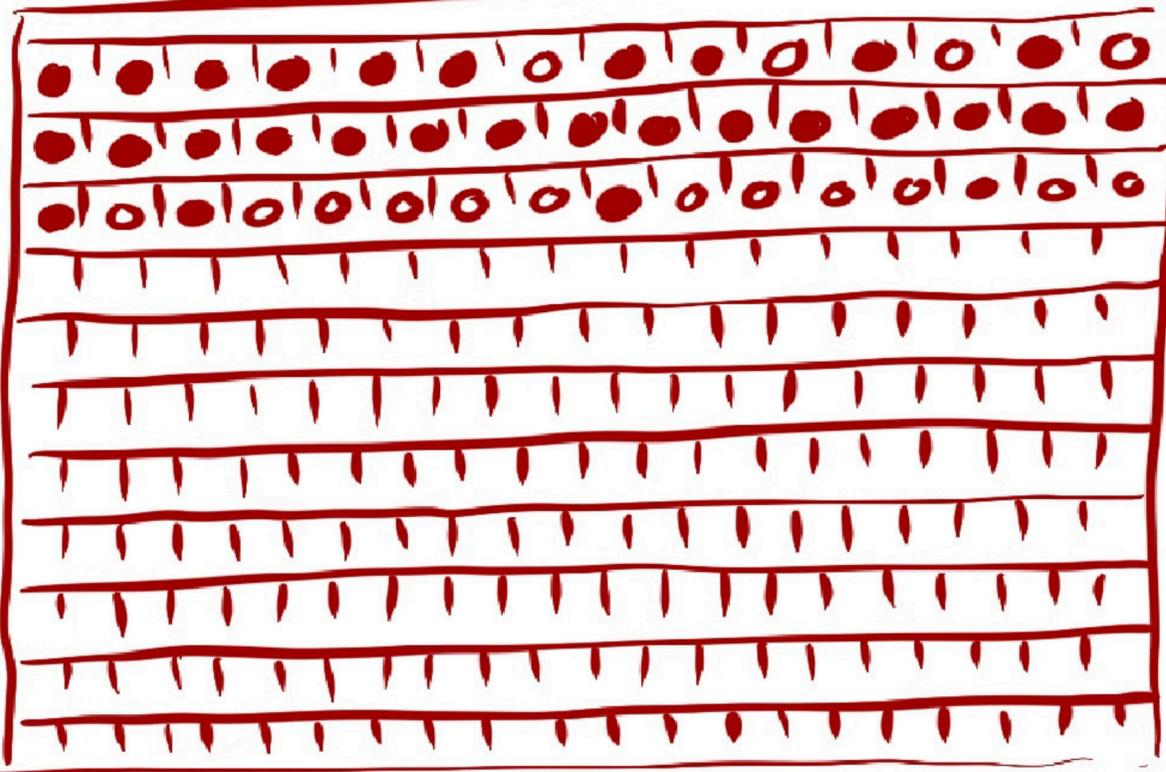
Be gentle, what does it feel like against your skin?

Use the colour map below for your memory: Now, list the familiarity of the plants from red (clearest) to turquoise (foggiest).



You have found the Herb Garden! There might be some familiar names and scents that appear at home.

Select three or four herbs that you recognise, maybe from a recipe at home or are simply curious about.

	Example: My rosemary
	My sage
	My lemon mint



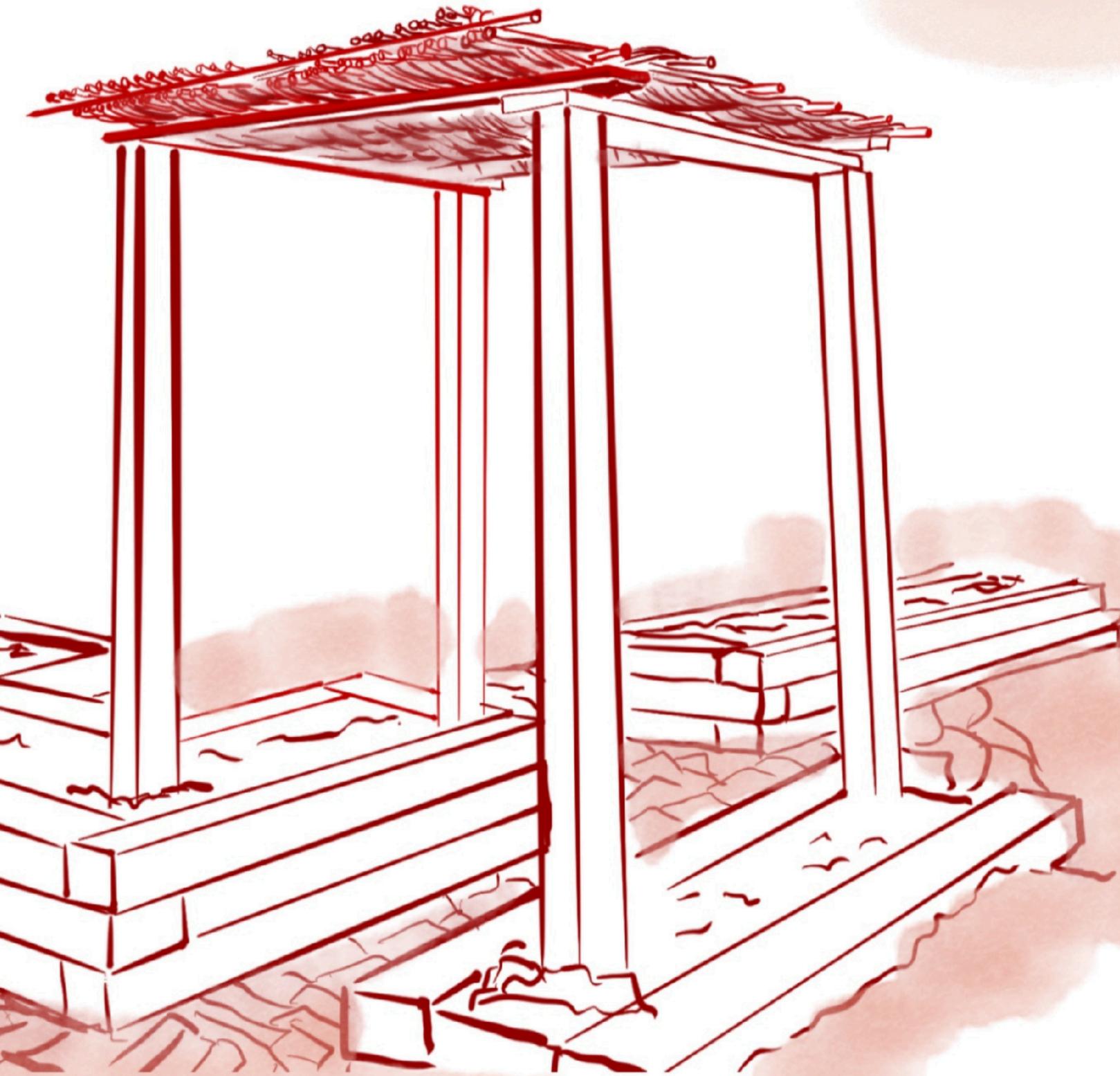
Use the table above to record your experience of three or four herbs through your nose. How intense is the smell? Fill in the dot

Our Herb Garden



Final stop, our Discovery Gardens.
Take a moment to enjoy the space and sit still.

Our Discovery Garden



MUSEUM OF THE HOME



Duong Thuy Nguyen (she/her) is a Vietnamese artist based between London and Hanoi. Her works navigate the interstices of place, memory and belonging, engaging with the socio-historical textures of local communities.

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