In the late 1980s, Harry Fonseca embarked on a series of road trips in the American West. Many of them were with his good friend Brian Bibby, who is a noted Native American basket scholar. Most of their visits were to rock art sites in the Eastern Sierra near Bishop, California, or to eastern Utah.

Fonseca was inspired by different aspects of each rock art site he visited. Sometimes he was drawn to the dotted patterns, spiral forms or anthropomorphic figures he saw, and other times it was animals like big horned sheep or deer that caught his attention.

These pages from his scrapbook offer insight into his thought process while first beginning work on the Stone Poem series in the late 1980s. The sketches, prints, and drawings on view in this gallery illustrate the multiple ways Fonseca responded to these ancient sites.

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