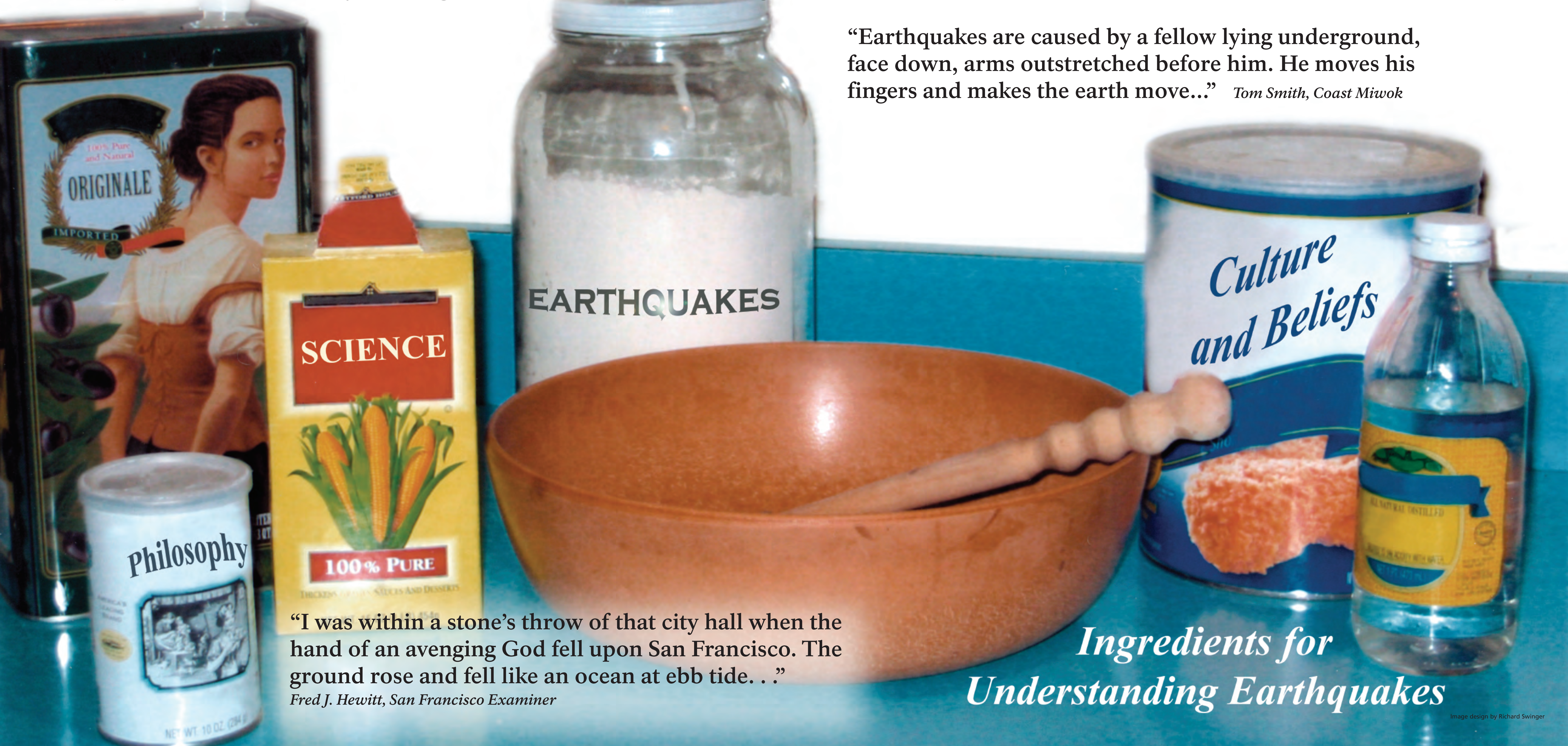


Searching For Meaning



Since the beginning, people have used a recipe of science, culture and religion to explain unseen forces that shake the earth. While many of us believe that science offers the best explanation, some cultures interpret earthquakes as visits from vengeful gods. Locally, the Coast Miwok people also have a number of traditional stories to explain quakes. Whatever you believe, earthquakes have shaped our lives, mythologies and understanding of the world.

“Earthquakes are caused by a fellow lying underground, face down, arms outstretched before him. He moves his fingers and makes the earth move...” *Tom Smith, Coast Miwok*



“I was within a stone’s throw of that city hall when the hand of an avenging God fell upon San Francisco. The ground rose and fell like an ocean at ebb tide. . .”

Fred J. Hewitt, San Francisco Examiner

*Ingredients for
Understanding Earthquakes*