

Dopamining

Summary / Intro

Dopamining is a title constructed by combining two words. A noun and a verb. *Dopamine* and *mining*.

Roughly thirty different materials make up a total of 149 grams, which is the weight of an iPhone 6. The materials are extracted from several countries with a huge geographical spread, questionable working conditions, political situations and environmental policies. A device, more or less a part of us, both physically and emotionally, is really just a composite of dredged up soil that carries countless of stories.

This artistic research project attempts to reflect upon the social and material footprints that the Iphone leaves behind. At the core of this project is the method *deciphering*.

Deciphering *The Method*

To better understand the meaning of deciphering as a method, it's helpful to look at the meaning of deciphering as a verb, here are two examples from the Oxford dictionary:

1. Meaning: Convert (a text written in code, or a coded signal) into normal language.

Example of use: "Authorized government agencies can decipher encrypted telecommunications"

2. Meaning: Succeed in understanding, interpreting, or identifying (something).

Example of use: "Visual signals help us decipher what is being communicated"

A method similar to deciphering is reverse engineering, but the intentions of the two methods differs. Reverse engineering focuses on dismantling a thing to see how it works from a hardware-based scientific point of view. The intention of reverse engineering is to analyze and collect data about the way something works.

Deciphering does much of the same but attempts to reach beyond the material facts and functional properties of the thing and its parts. In addition you dig into their cultural history, global significance and consequences. The method intends to uncover facets and stories that's hidden behind its layout. This may create new pathways into reflection, criticality and artistic expressions. (See illustration below)

The iPhone

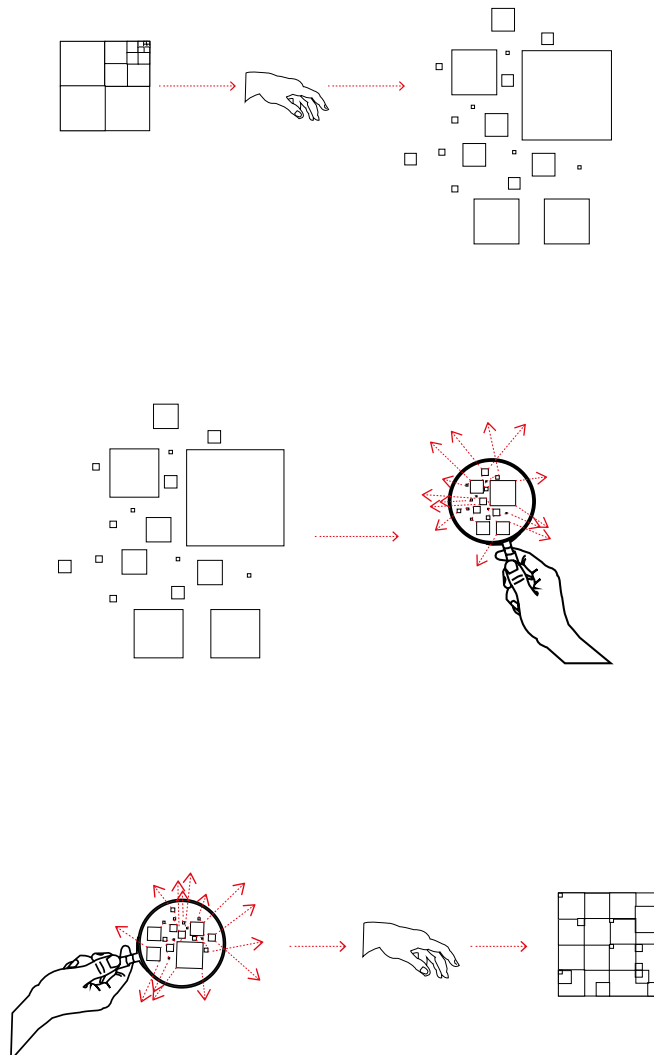
The one device

This is a self-examining project. I have become addicted and depended on a device that consumes me in the same pace as I consume it. I shape its content and the content shapes me. The iPhone and all it contain, has a global significance on how we communicate, promote, travel, percept, socialize and interact with each other. The symbiosis of user, hardware and software has created a window impossible to shut, accessible to all (at all times), that everyone carries around in their pockets. A constant current of unfiltered information, as believable as it is fake, passes through this window.

Much of the data collected for this project comes from the book *The One Device: The Secret History of the iPhone* by Brian Merchant. How can I translate/decipher hard scientific facts into personal artistic expressions? That's a question I've asked myself throughout the whole process.

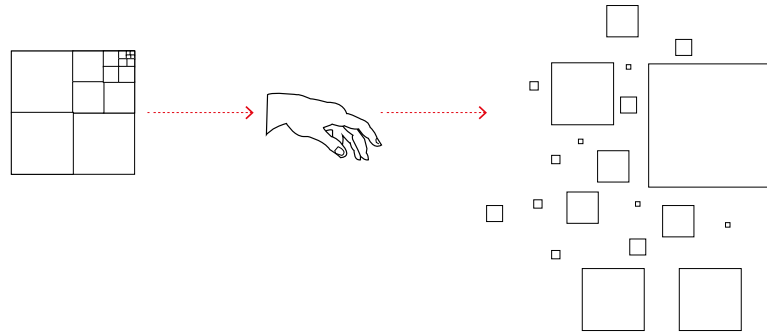
Deciphering

Illustrated



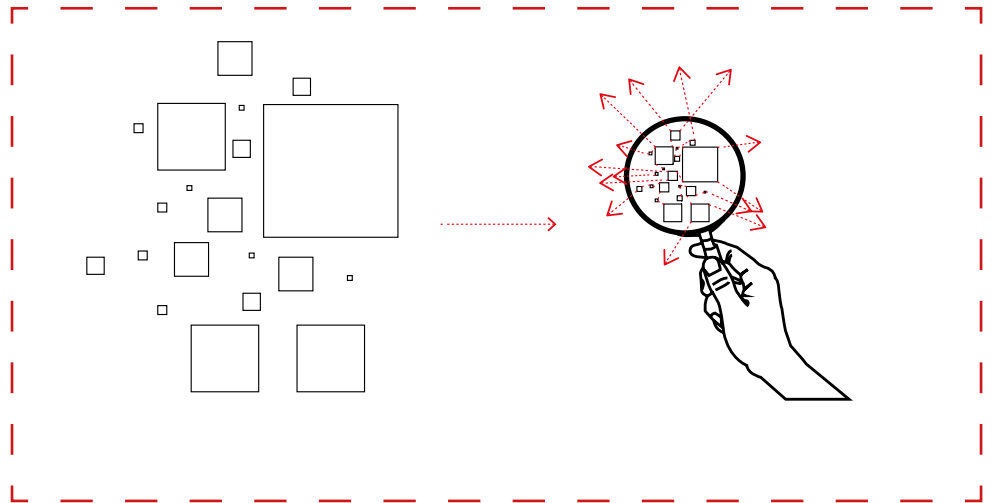
Progress report

1.



2.

This is where the project stands at the moment.



3.

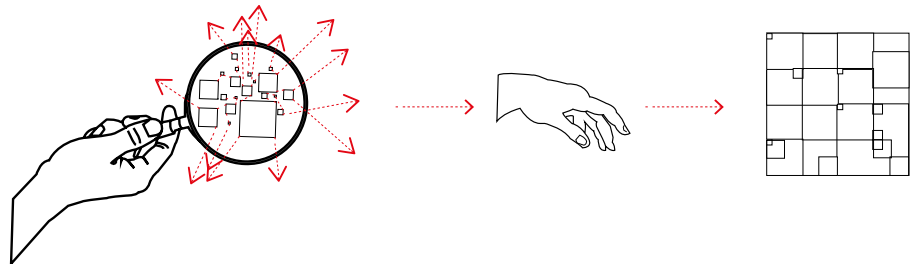


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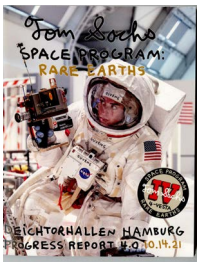
**Encyclopedia
of emotions**



www.Field Notes



Wojak



My trip to Vesta



**Voodoo /
Material
studies**

2.

