

**FUTURE IMAGES
OF CAREFUL
ENTANGLEMENTS
WITH COMPANION
SPECIES**



**FUTURE IMAGES OF CAREFUL ENTANGLEMENTS
WITH COMPANION SPECIES**

Catalogue with contributions by:

Students and teachers from Design School Kolding's
PLANET master program

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INTRODUCTION

What futures do we look into when it comes to the relationships between humans and other species? Can species extinction and the anthropocentric domination of other lives be reversed if humans learn to care for rather than to use the living with which they are so closely entangled?

In this catalogue of future images, a class of students from Design School Kolding's PLANET master program have acted as agents of change by speculating on futures of careful entanglements with companion species. The students have crafted imagined artefacts to make us think about how humans may live in engagements of curiosity and obligation and through their photos, they are seeking to give the speculative artefacts a materiality and presence that makes them more than mere statements or ideas. The photos invite caring speculations through bringing ambiguity and estrangement to the utilitarian attitude to the non-human, that for so long has prevailed. The catalogue also brings excerpts from the processes of engagement.

We hope this can inspire others to speculate from the inside of a caring relationship.

**FUTURE IMAGES
OF CAREFUL
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BEYOND THE VISUAL

What if we aim to go beyond the optical and rational to rather focus on our understanding of more than human-centered needs?

Allowing other senses to take over while rethinking the way we engage with our surroundings might help re-connect to the species that live alongside us. Caring for non-human species in more mindful ways asks us to question things we take for granted; our everyday life, the way we eat, listen, smell, and the way we perceive the world.



She loved her morning ritual. Lying in the grass, whilst calmly immersing herself in the overall sounds of her garden. She didn't just hear them, she could feel them. In this moment the life in her garden surrounded her, making her feel so small yet so at peace. The feeling of deep connection and respect overcame her, being a tiny part of an entangled environment. Various sounds came out of „The Sensing Speaker“ plugged in the soil. It worked with both the natural and the technological, sensing the area's species diversity and echoing their sounds, offering her this unique experience.

SENSING DIVERSITY

modeling clay, a flower pot, aluminium foil, nail polish (Trend It Up nr. 01 | Trend It Up Nr. 358 | Manhattan Base Coat), steel sponge, tooth pick, glue
120 x 70 mm



Enjoying a Friday evening in a restaurant means diving into an all engaging experience with the dish. Putting on a necklace. Lifting the eating tool from the serving cutlery. Enjoying the act of eating. The human is perceiving patterns and rhythms of the insect dish, tasting vibrant flavors and feeling varying textures. All, while having a wholesome experience of being connected to the food that is nurturing the human body.

SENSING EATING TOOL

metal wire

50 x 130 x 30 mm



A young woman is exploring her garden as she listens to an orchestra of ants through a sensitive hearing aid. It's an immersive sound experience; the device receives sound vibrations and translates them into electrical messages that stimulate the inner-ear of the human directly. By widening the sense of hearing, humans have made a stronger and deeper connection to the insects' unbelievable life and universe. They are a significant part of an interconnected world, and by studying how insects communicate, collaborate and act, humans have adapted new efficient and sustainable ways of organizing infrastructure, agriculture, and even govern our society.

IN-SECTOSCOPE

beads, copper wire, button
30 x 60 mm // Ø 25 mm



Smoking vape to overcome depression. A woman habitually sits where she used to stroke her dog softly. The entire house felt quiet. The corner of her living room was warming with the flood of afternoon sunshine. She inhaled the vape. A few minutes passed, she slowly infiltrated into the mood of her dog's emotions; Happiness, relaxation, and being loved. As dozing off, a woman felt a gentle petting on her back that feels like being cared about. They have fallen apart but still together.

EMOTIONS SMOKING VAPE

Sofie's fur, clay, LED light

150 x 120 x 90 mm



In the outskirts of Copenhagen, an hourlong intimate watering ritual was witnessed. A glove absent of any protecting elements and attached with reactive threads enabled a simple but powerful way of communication between pine and man. The intense vibrations emitted from the device induced vivid sensations on the skin and bark. This mutual experience seemed to form a transcendental bond between tree and man.

HUMAN // TREE // GLOVE

leather & nylon

380 x 140 x 60 mm



Time Magazine; 2053

First child born with the "symbion gene" - All grown up

18-year-old Ciana Cardel, who was part of the first human trials investigating the "symbion gene", is excited to share her experiences with us.

"I grew up with my symbiont and my symbiont with me. We are companions for life, completely intertwined. I am really blessed for my unusual experience, it has made me very aware of all the species around me and defined the way I engage with them.

I feel as though I can truly understand their needs and am grateful that I never had to harm them to sustain myself."

SYMBIOSIS

paperclips, yarn, cotton, linen, silk (naturally dyed), bioplastic

150 x 200 mm

DATE 1

Dear Agents

*[We are in a quite special situation! The following weeks will be an experiment on several levels.
As you already know we have a huge constraint in this course: The Design School is closed.
We have chosen to consider this challenge as a creative constraint and get the most out of it. Hopefully you will do this as well.*

*The following days we will communicate primarily in letters with instructions for missions that you are going on. The letters will be sent to your email and uploaded in ItsLearning. Therefore, it is very IMPORTANT that you check your mail several times during the day!
We also made a Facebook group for sharing inspiration, discussions, process, results and mistakes.
So please find the group: Prefered Futures (Planet_Mal) on FB.]*

In this first letter we will introduce you to the context of the course and your first mission:

Earth is home to millions of species, but just one dominates it - us.
There are 7.6 billion people on this planet, but we only represent 0.01% of all living things.
Do we have the right to dominate, cultivate, extract and represent all species? What if we took a different approach?

We believe that we must re-examine the relationships that tie human lives to the life that surround them.
In National Nature Network we do this by challenging the conventional notions of care, to explore its significance as an ethical and political obligation for thinking and acting in the more-than-human worlds of technoscience and nature-cultures. A revised ethics of care expands agency beyond the human to ask how our understandings of care must shift if we broaden the view towards multiple worlds and establish caring collaborations to live the entanglements with the other species on our planet.

The National Nature Network Bureau has appointed you as Agents of Change towards more careful entanglements between human and non-human species. The challenges we face today and in the near future require Agents of Change to shift the focus of design from the here and now to the where and what if, utilizing speculative thinking and design probes to facilitate provocation around critical issues.
You are Agents of Change. You have been selected because of your ability to bring empathy, aesthetic and poetry into relations, objects, experiences.

Your assignment:

Establish a relation to another species
Design and craft an artefact from the future
Exhibit your future artefact

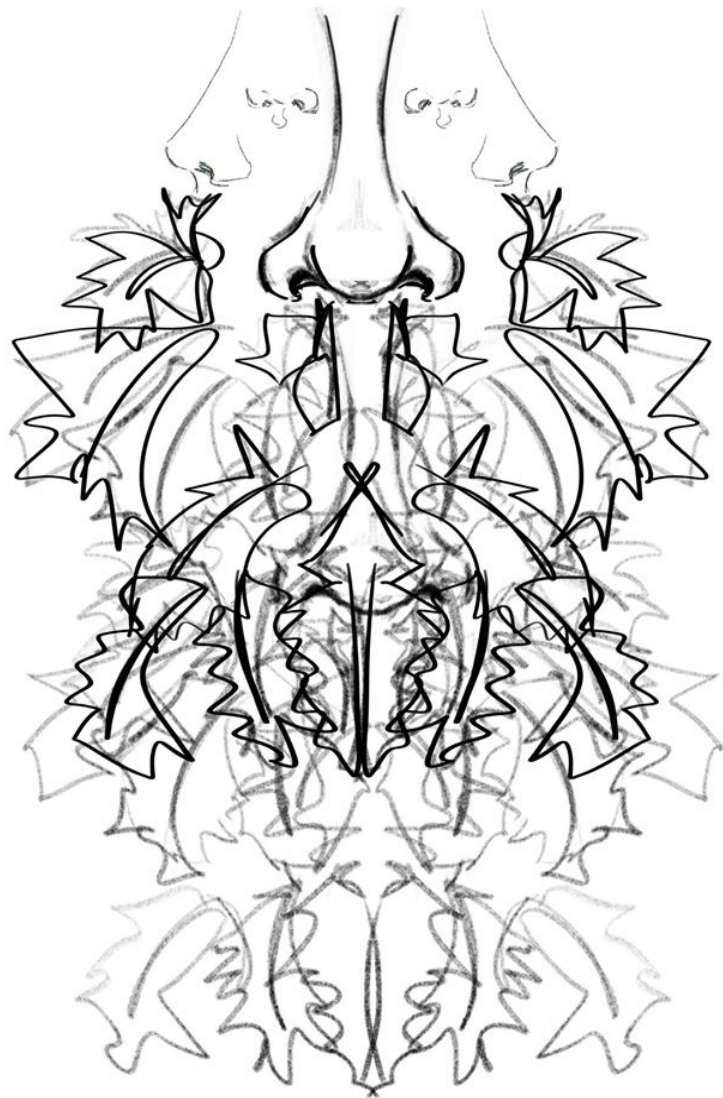
in order to get an understanding of the reality of non-humans
that speaks of a future of careful entanglement with companion species
at Kolding Stadsarkiv during the conference Living with Others*

Your first task is to meet and establish a relation to a non-human species. You will do this today. The National Nature Network Bureau has set up appointments with species for you to meet. Consider it as a first date. An encounter with the potential to become a long-lasting, loving and caring relation. In the next letter you will find a guide for preparing your first date and an a gps coordinate telling you where to find it.

Now: Hurry up – you are late for your date and you don't want to make a bad first impression. Prepare yourself. And then go meet your species!
Remember to keep your mind and senses open for all the wonders of the non-human world you are about to discover.
Your date is waiting for you Agent!

Regards,
Chief commanders of National Nature Network Bureau,
Astrid Mody, Thomas Binder and Maria Viftrup

*We still hope for the conference and exhibition to happen but are also working on other alternatives



1. MY DATING EXPERIENCE TOOK PLACE AT GPS COORDINATE:

56.161559,10.203906

2. MY DATE BELONGED TO FOLLOWING SPECIES

Lemon Balm

3. I LEARNED FOLLOWING THINGS ABOUT MY DATE:

- Lemon Balms are very calm
- Lemon Balms smells very good
- Lemon Balms are not that sensitive

4. I DISCOVERED FOLLOWING 3 THINGS ABOUT MYSELF FROM THE EXPERIENCE:

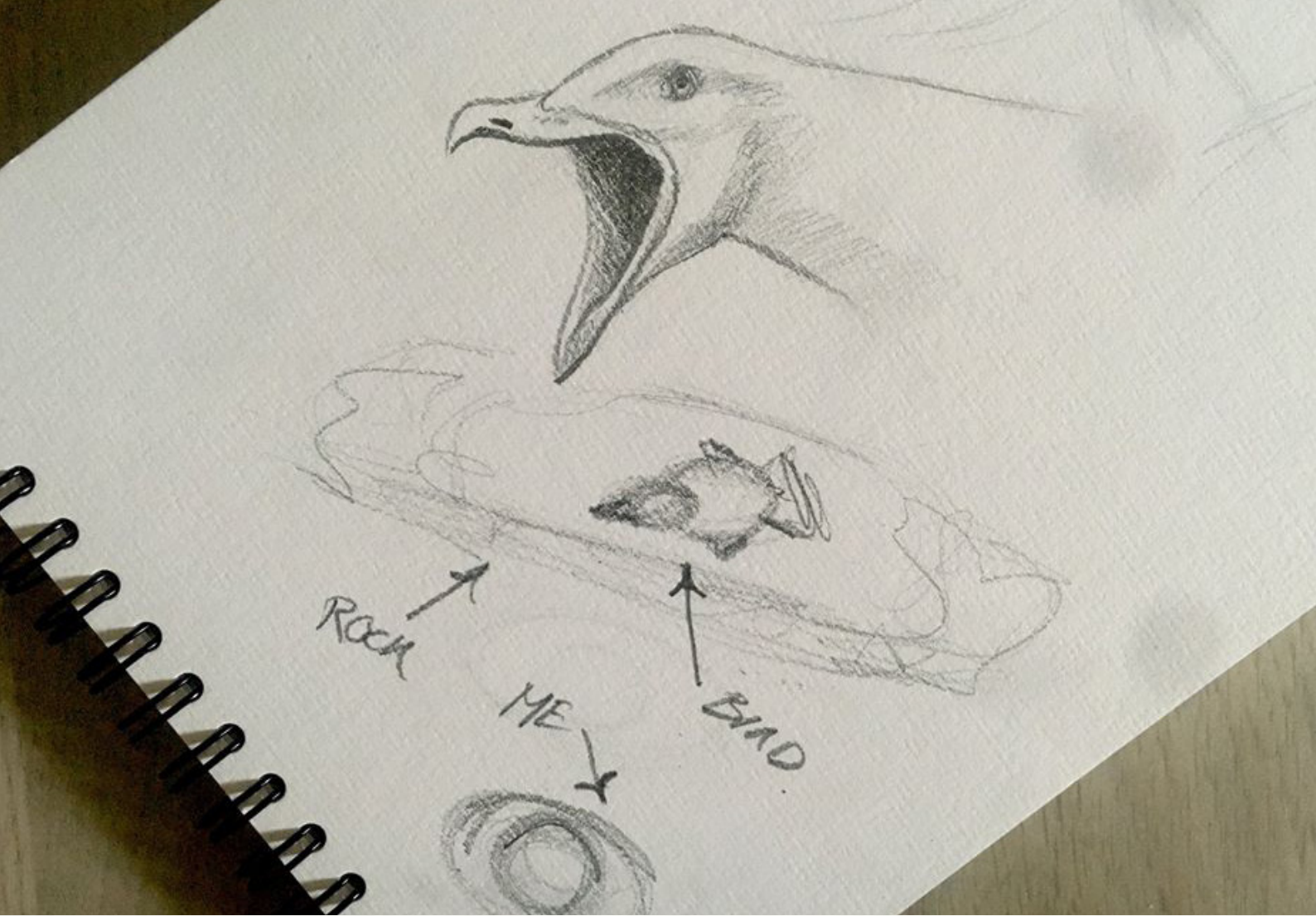
- I was very shy in the beginning
- I would very easily imagine a Lemon Balm language
- I like silence

5. I WISH I COULD HAVE ASKED MY DATE THIS QUESTION:

Are you ok?

6. IN ORDER TO COMMUNICATE BETTER WITH THIS SPECIES, I WILL HAVE TO DEVELOP/PRACTICE THE LANGUAGE OF.....

A senses transformer/Sens Language



1. MY DATING EXPERIENCE TOOK PLACE AT GPS COORDINATE:

55,0040 9,0406

2. MY DATE BELONGED TO FOLLOWING SPECIES 2. MY DATE BELONGED TO FOLLOWING SPECIES

Noisy Bird [SEAGULL]

3. I LEARNED FOLLOWING THINGS ABOUT MY DATE:

- Desperate
- Hungry
- Loud

4. I DISCOVERED FOLLOWING 3 THINGS ABOUT MYSELF FROM THE EXPERIENCE:

- Patient
- Tolerant
- Curious

5. I WISH I COULD HAVE ASKED MY DATE THIS QUESTION:

"What is the practical side of screaming for food?"

6. IN ORDER TO COMMUNICATE BETTER WITH THIS SPECIES, I WILL HAVE TO DEVELOP/PRACTICE THE LANGUAGE OF.....

Surviving



1. MY DATING EXPERIENCE TOOK PLACE AT GPS COORDINATE:

(55.4858680, 9.4680932)

2. MY DATE BELONGED TO FOLLOWING SPECIES 2. MY DATE BELONGED TO FOLLOWING SPECIES

(Olive tree)

3. I LEARNED FOLLOWING THINGS ABOUT MY DATE:

- stay hydrated so you can bloom
- smile too the sun and the sun smile back
- Move with the wind

4. I DISCOVERED FOLLOWING 3 THINGS ABOUT MYSELF FROM THE EXPERIENCE:

- the language of visual look as communication tool
- enjoy the beauty of silence
- enjoy the environment around us

5. I WISH I COULD HAVE ASKED MY DATE THIS QUESTION:

Dear olive tree what would you say to me if you had the opportunity?

6. IN ORDER TO COMMUNICATE BETTER WITH THIS SPECIES, I WILL HAVE TO DEVELOP/PRACTICE THE LANGUAGE OF.....

Movement



1. MY DATING EXPERIENCE TOOK PLACE AT GPS COORDINATE:

55.489101, 9.479576 (at home)

2. MY DATE BELONGED TO FOLLOWING SPECIES

Orchid [Maybe: White Dendrobium or Phalaenopsis Amabilis Fuga]

3. I LEARNED FOLLOWING THINGS ABOUT MY DATE:

- How to take care of orchid in different seasons? Yeah it's the first time that I find detailed information to learn how to take care of such a type of plant. Please do not die!
- Orchid can be eaten food, even though I can't bear to eat it.□
- It's more like a quiet companion. You will feel peaceful but also curious and look forward to its change.

4. I DISCOVERED FOLLOWING 3 THINGS ABOUT MYSELF FROM THE EXPERIENCE:

- I keep remembering the plot of 'Léon: The Professional'. What if I take it wherever I go like Léon?
- I gradually understand why orchid lives as a spirit of noble and elegant in China
- I think I know why my mum wanna take care of so many plants in the garden. Even though some of them are usually eaten by birds.

5. I WISH I COULD HAVE ASKED MY DATE THIS QUESTION:

How do you feel when you know you have short lifespan?

6. IN ORDER TO COMMUNICATE BETTER WITH THIS SPECIES, I WILL HAVE TO DEVELOP/PRACTICE THE LANGUAGE OF.....

"How orchid drinks water..."



1. MY DATING EXPERIENCE TOOK PLACE AT GPS COORDINATE:

1. My dating experience took place at my home.

2. MY DATE BELONGED TO FOLLOWING SPECIES

Mold.

3. I LEARNED FOLLOWING THINGS ABOUT MY DATE:

- It's really persistent - no matter how many times I've tried to get rid of it, it really wants to be my roommate...
- It's not as fuzzy as I thought it would be/it has merged more with the wall than I'd expected.
- It's just kinda there.

4. I DISCOVERED FOLLOWING 3 THINGS ABOUT MYSELF FROM THE EXPERIENCE:

- I don't know a lot about mold.
- I don't know how bad the chemicals that I'm using to trying and kill it are for me, but apparently not that bad for the mold since it has returned.
- I have a hard time identifying with something that probably mostly exists within my walls?

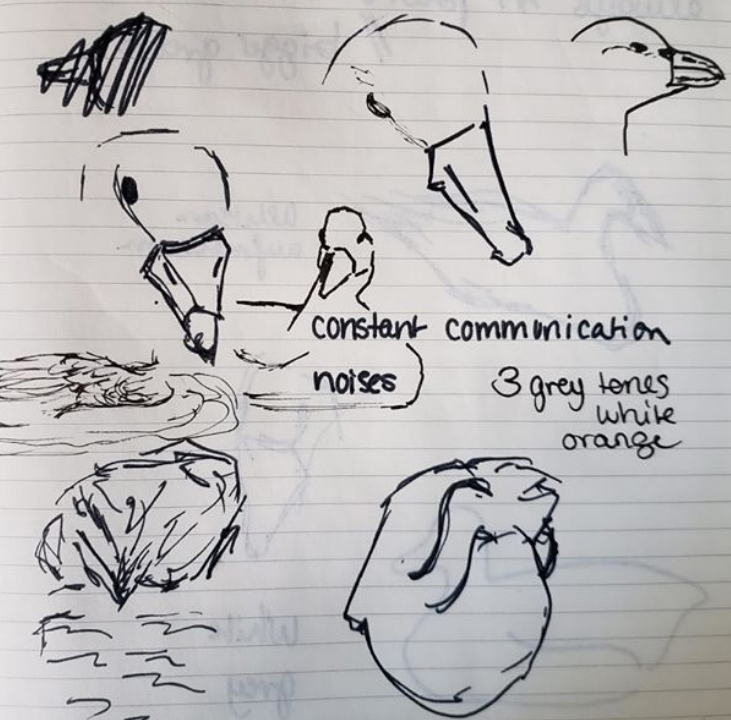
5. I WISH I COULD HAVE ASKED MY DATE THIS QUESTION:

Why won't you leave?

6. IN ORDER TO COMMUNICATE BETTER WITH THIS SPECIES, I WILL HAVE TO DEVELOP/PRACTICE THE LANGUAGE OF.....

becoming one with something? (In this case, a house?)

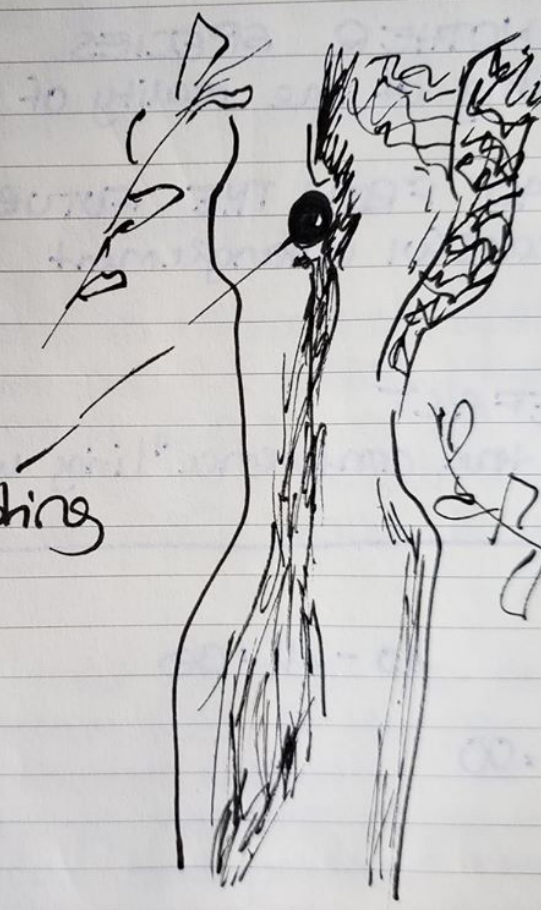
DUCKS GEESE EPPENDORFER MOOR
 swimming & walking on land
 y're all snipped



constant communication noises
 3 grey tones white orange

sie necken mich an
 necken sie einander an?

Bat nesting
 Hole



1. MY DATING EXPERIENCE TOOK PLACE AT GPS COORDINATE:

53°36'N, 9°59'00", Nature Reserve Eppendorf Swamp (hamburg - Germany)

2. MY DATE BELONGED TO FOLLOWING SPECIES

Goose (genera Anser)
Bat nesting site (Quartierbaum)

3. I LEARNED FOLLOWING THINGS ABOUT MY DATE:

- Geese like to swim and move in groups or pairs
- They were very interested in me but kept shouting at me and other geese (communicating loud and frequently)
- They are very cautious about their environment and the groups behavior
- It's really difficult to find a bat nesting site on a tree. Bats are night active

4. I DISCOVERED FOLLOWING 3 THINGS ABOUT MYSELF FROM THE EXPERIENCE:

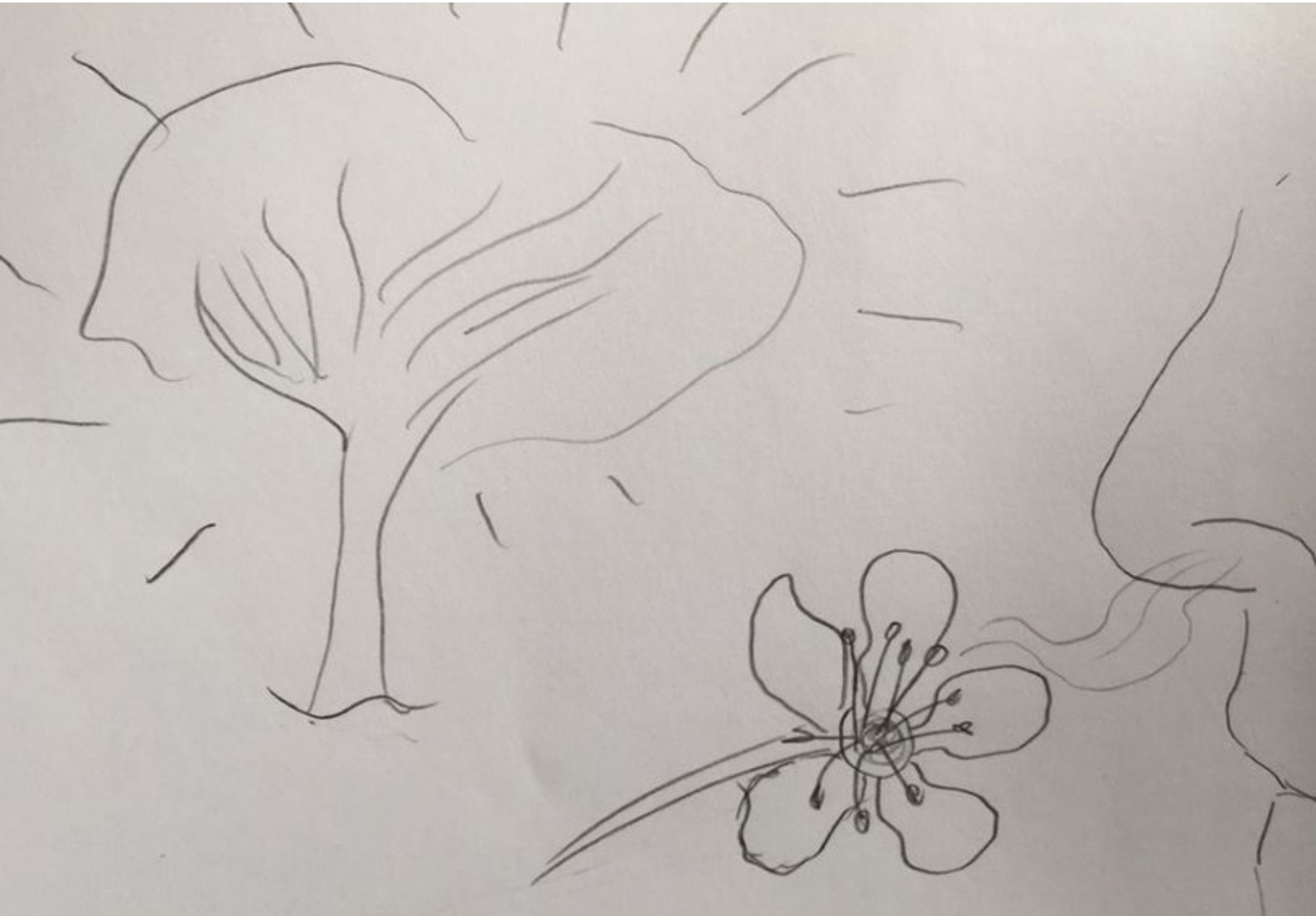
- I was really interested in what the geese have to say - I liked trying to communicate with them
- I tried to be as cautious and attentive on my environment as the geese were
- I'm curious about the bats - I'd like to come back at dawn and try to see them

5. I WISH I COULD HAVE ASKED MY DATE THIS QUESTION:

Goose: Why are you shouting at me and each other?? What are you saying?
Bats and Geese: What do you think about humans constantly interfering in your environment? (The swamp and nature reserve are in the middle of the city)

6. IN ORDER TO COMMUNICATE BETTER WITH THIS SPECIES, I WILL HAVE TO DEVELOP/PRACTICE THE LANGUAGE OF.....

Geese



1. MY DATING EXPERIENCE TOOK PLACE AT GPS COORDINATE:

55.485090, 9.488625

2. MY DATE BELONGED TO FOLLOWING SPECIES 2. MY DATE BELONGED TO FOLLOWING SPECIES

Maybe Mirabelle tree - Prunus Cerasifera

3. I LEARNED FOLLOWING THINGS ABOUT MY DATE:

- Likes to draw attention to itself visually but it also communicate in an invisible way.
- All its relationships are based on a mutual benefit "principle".
- It is very good at standing still or moving extremely slow.

4. I DISCOVERED FOLLOWING 3 THINGS ABOUT MYSELF FROM THE EXPERIENCE:

- I didn't feel it was interested in our date.
- It got boring quickly.
- but it was also nice just to be quiet together.

5. I WISH I COULD HAVE ASKED MY DATE THIS QUESTION:

How do you know when to start blooming and can you sense your surroundings? Can you communicate with other trees?

6. IN ORDER TO COMMUNICATE BETTER WITH THIS SPECIES, I WILL HAVE TO DEVELOP/PRACTICE THE LANGUAGE OF.....

through chemistry



1. MY DATING EXPERIENCE TOOK PLACE AT GPS COORDINATE:

9.488000

2. MY DATE BELONGED TO FOLLOWING SPECIES 2. MY DATE BELONGED TO FOLLOWING SPECIES

reminded me of "brøndkarse" but tiny

3. I LEARNED FOLLOWING THINGS ABOUT MY DATE:

- likes to grow in the shade
- loves moisture/ water
- Is part of a connected community of its spices
- Is very cute when you look at it up close

4. I DISCOVERED FOLLOWING 3 THINGS ABOUT MYSELF FROM THE EXPERIENCE:

- I felt for the plants I interacted with
- it was very hard to communicate with it
- it was fun to look at all my dates neighbors

5. I WISH I COULD HAVE ASKED MY DATE THIS QUESTION:

How are you so perky, when you get stepped on all the time?

6. IN ORDER TO COMMUNICATE BETTER WITH THIS SPECIES, I WILL HAVE TO DEVELOP/PRACTICE THE LANGUAGE OF.....

observation

GREEN CARE

In an interconnected world full of life, all species are totally dependent on each other. This can be shown through mutual respect and desire for growth and harmony. It is about not taking more than we can give, using the senses, about seeing, smelling, hearing and feeling each other. This has the power to make dreams come true, for a sustainable and preferred future. It is all about mutual and equal care. Unconditional love.



A young woman stretching her love to Lemon Balm.

On a Monday afternoon in a courtyard garden in a small street of Aarhus a young woman was photographed. She was stretching the traces of love over distance and tapping into the smell of the precious present. The photograph was taken with the consent of polite distance and restrained senses for both the Lemon Balm and the young woman, to convey the invisible sensitive but still powerful love of the sense of smell between the two species with the artefact named "Sensformer".

SENSFORMER

Fabric, Linen

88 x 11 11 cm



No plants were harmed in the making of this product

A political and religious act made all plants sacred and therefore protected. As the plants became sacred it became improper to eat plants from nature. Food production that causes no harm to plants became essential.

Meat production by animal farming was not sustainable and ultimately hurt the plants and humans.

A new food movement began, labotarism. This new lifestyle means eating only lab grown food. Artificial is no longer a bad word but rather the preferable option.

Here seen among the sacred wild plants is a food option that gives you a complete meal in minutes.

POP_PIZZA

Foil cardboard, paper, glue

180 x 110 x 300 mm



Man and nature absorbing each others energy.

Electromagnetic fields surround everything that lives. The man in the picture absorbs and gives energy to the geographical ecosystem nearby that's visible through the light from the pendant the man wears on his finger and the tree carries. They rely on each other to maintain a sustainable environment for growth and progress, not only for nature and the ecosystem we are part of but for the human soul, focus and well-being. They live by and for one another in harmony and equality in a complex interconnected system.

ECO-PENDANT

Metal and stone

150 x 150 x 100 mm / EU 42-66 mm

DATE 2

Time: 09.00
Date: 17.03.2020

Good Morning Agents

Hope you are well!

Today you are going on your second date with the same species as yesterday. The goal is to build your relation and make a stronger communication. Based on your reflections from yesterday you now have 2 hours to build a prototypic tool/artefact/object that makes it easier for you to communicate with your date. Follow the instructions below:

1. Decide on a simple goal for your communication – What do you want to obtain/know/do/offer/get/ask?
2. Find some kind of stick [It can be from nature, a chopstick or another stick you have at home, any size will do]
3. Select one material to work with [something you can easily find at your home or close by]
4. Combine the stick and your chosen material into a prototypic tool for communicating with your species to obtain your goal of communication.
5. Build your prototype and bring it on your second date!

REMEMBER to take a photo of your tool in use when on the date.

AND please take a photo from your making process, showing the space you are using as your temporary workshop.

You will receive a new letter with instructions for reflection at 14.00 and we ask you to upload your reflections before 15.00.

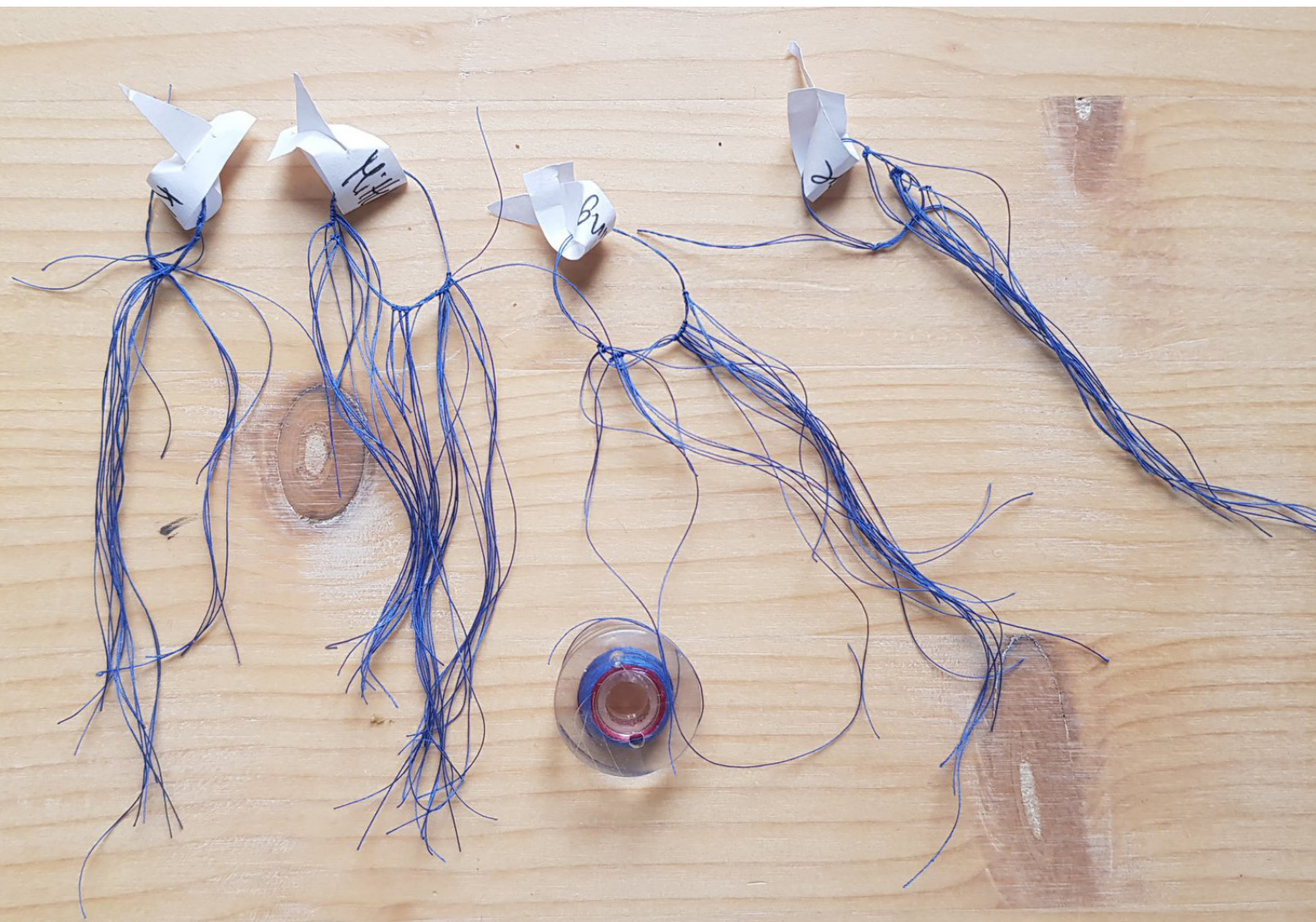
Below you will find a plan for the day.

Have fun and stay safe!

Regards,

Chief commanders of National Nature Network Bureau,

Astrid Mody, Thomas Binder and Maria Viftrup



1. MY DATE BELONGED TO FOLLOWING SPECIES

Mushroom on Wood (*Ganoderma applanatum*)

2. I TOOK FOLLOWING INSIGHT WITH ME FROM YESTERDAY'S EXPERIENCE:

Different species, like mushrooms, have a different way of communicating with each other. Mushrooms have an underground nerve system which allows them to also communicate with other species, not just mushrooms. They also use nutrients from another species to survive.

3. THE GOAL FOR MY COMMUNICATION TOOL WAS:

To adapt the idea of the mushrooms nerve system and try to understand a little bit more about their way to communicate.

4. THE STRATEGY AND DESIGN SKILLS I USED FOR OBTAINING MY GOAL WAS FOLLOWING [PLEASE ELABORATE IN 3-5 SENTENCES]

At first I used some internet research to find out more about the communication system between mushrooms and other species. Then I tried to adapt this system and try to build a similar system humans can use to imitate this system. The design is connected to my body and embodies me to imagine a closer connection to the mushroom species and how I might interact with them.

5. I USED THIS MATERIAL TO CREATE MY COMMUNICATION TOOL

As I wanted to do something string/nerve/root related I needed something like a string, rope or wire. In this mock up I used sewing thread and made rings with knotted strings

6. I LEARNED FOLLOWING 3 NEW THINGS ABOUT MY DATE AND/OR OUR RELATION:

I can't just touch the mushroom with my threads because the mushroom nerves are not on its surface. This role play helped me to imagine how information from the mushroom can come to melt did not help me to understand the information and how it really works (science wise)

7. MY BIGGEST CREATIVE CONSTRAINTS IN RELATION TO MY CURRENT WORKSPACE IS

I am in a workspace where I just have my laptop, paper and pens (I just got the thread or the tool because I found it on the street the other day). By that I can't rely on the masses of prototype material I have at home usually. Also that I just have digital contacts with my classmates is very hard. I am used to their report and the planned group work is not as easy as I thought. I think this project will for me be either very industrial design or not at all.

8. I MIGHT TURN THIS CONSTRAINT INTO A FORCE BY [BE SPECULATIVE AND IMAGINATIVE]

I probably have to focus on myself and my own ideas. By that the outcome will be much more me and driven by my own thoughts than usual. This can also turn out very negatively. Also making a design process without the physical outcome I am used to can make this project much more thoughtful into details than me getting lost in physical, more aesthetic design decisions.



1. MY DATE BELONGED TO FOLLOWING SPECIES

Mute Swan Couple

2. I TOOK FOLLOWING INSIGHT WITH ME FROM YESTERDAY'S EXPERIENCE:

How can I make more interaction with you that won't not scare you?

3. THE GOAL FOR MY COMMUNICATION TOOL WAS:

Getting closer to you while floating on the water,

4. THE STRATEGY AND DESIGN SKILLS I USED FOR OBTAINING MY GOAL WAS FOLLOWING [PLEASE ELABORATE IN 3-5 SENTENCES]

Researched about Mute Swan's behaviour, diet, and habitat.
Looked for tools and materials at home & garden - tried to find something that I can upcycle.
Quick and simple sketch to make a prototype.

5. I USED THIS MATERIAL TO CREATE MY COMMUNICATION TOOL

Found materials that could float on the water- styrofoam and light weight wood branches.
Dried seaweed were soaked in water.
Plait branches in styrofoam to make feeding net that can hold seaweed.

6. I LEARNED FOLLOWING 3 NEW THINGS ABOUT MY DATE AND/OR OUR RELATION:

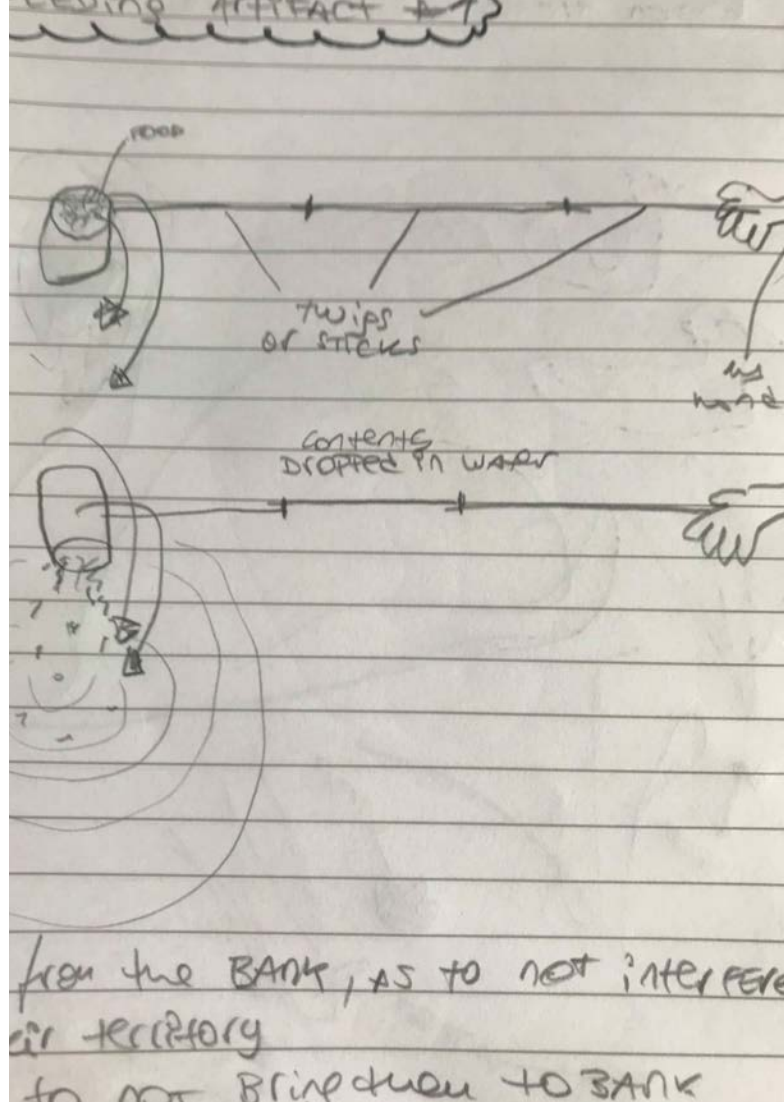
I couldn't meet swans today, they weren't there. I'll try tomorrow again.

7. MY BIGGEST CREATIVE CONSTRAINTS IN RELATION TO MY CURRENT WORKSPACE IS

I don't have appropriate tools and materials to work with.

8. I MIGHT TURN THIS CONSTRAINT INTO A FORCE BY [BE SPECULATIVE AND IMAGINATIVE]

I would try to prototype with sketches and computer tools.



1. MY DATE BELONGED TO FOLLOWING SPECIES

The Mute Swan (Cygnus Olor)

2. I TOOK FOLLOWING INSIGHT WITH ME FROM YESTERDAY'S EXPERIENCE:

Respect their space, watch from afar

3. THE GOAL FOR MY COMMUNICATION TOOL WAS:

To earn their trust, to find a means of communicating that maintains that trust

4. THE STRATEGY AND DESIGN SKILLS I USED FOR OBTAINING MY GOAL WAS FOLLOWING [PLEASE ELABORATE IN 3-5 SENTENCES]

I created a device that would put up with the natural elements the lake presented me with, a way for the swans to reach the treats I was feeding them, without getting close. I worked with the resources I had available to me in the immediate surroundings of the lake.

5. I USED THIS MATERIAL TO CREATE MY COMMUNICATION TOOL

leaves, daisies, branches, grass.

6. I LEARNED FOLLOWING 3 NEW THINGS ABOUT MY DATE AND/OR OUR RELATION:

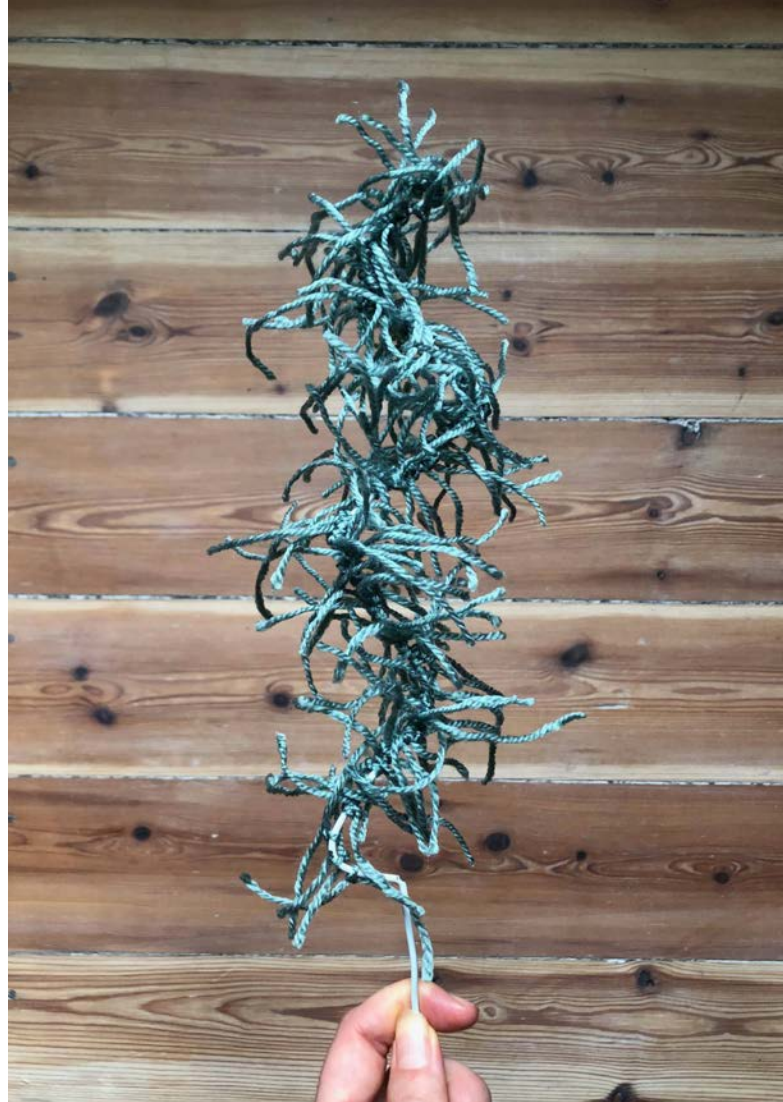
- Swans don't hang out in the same areas every day, and they look for food in various places around the lake
- Swans prefer to avoid humans unless they are presented with food or something of interest by them
- Swans know not to eat banana peels, but do take the rest

7. MY BIGGEST CREATIVE CONSTRAINTS IN RELATION TO MY CURRENT WORKSPACE IS

That I live in a closet

8. I MIGHT TURN THIS CONSTRAINT INTO A FORCE BY [BE SPECULATIVE AND IMAGINATIVE]

Making the outside world my office, doing a lot of work in my head and notes, then building outside (on site)



1. MY DATE BELONGED TO FOLLOWING SPECIES

Horse-tidse - Thistle

2. I TOOK FOLLOWING INSIGHT WITH ME FROM YESTERDAY'S EXPERIENCE:

My date was a bit passive aggressive yesterday and not pleasant to touch

3. THE GOAL FOR MY COMMUNICATION TOOL WAS:

To mimic the thistle and gently touch it.

4. THE STRATEGY AND DESIGN SKILLS I USED FOR OBTAINING MY GOAL WAS FOLLOWING [PLEASE ELABORATE IN 3-5 SENTENCES]

I wanted to imitate the thistle and create something that I could touch it with (that wasn't my fingers!). I looked at the thistle and tried to create a similar color, shape and texture. The green yarn was similar both in looks and feel. I left out the passive aggressive thorns as I wanted it to be gentle and calm.

5. I USED THIS MATERIAL TO CREATE MY COMMUNICATION TOOL

Metal "stick", yarn

6. I LEARNED FOLLOWING 3 NEW THINGS ABOUT MY DATE AND/OR OUR RELATION:

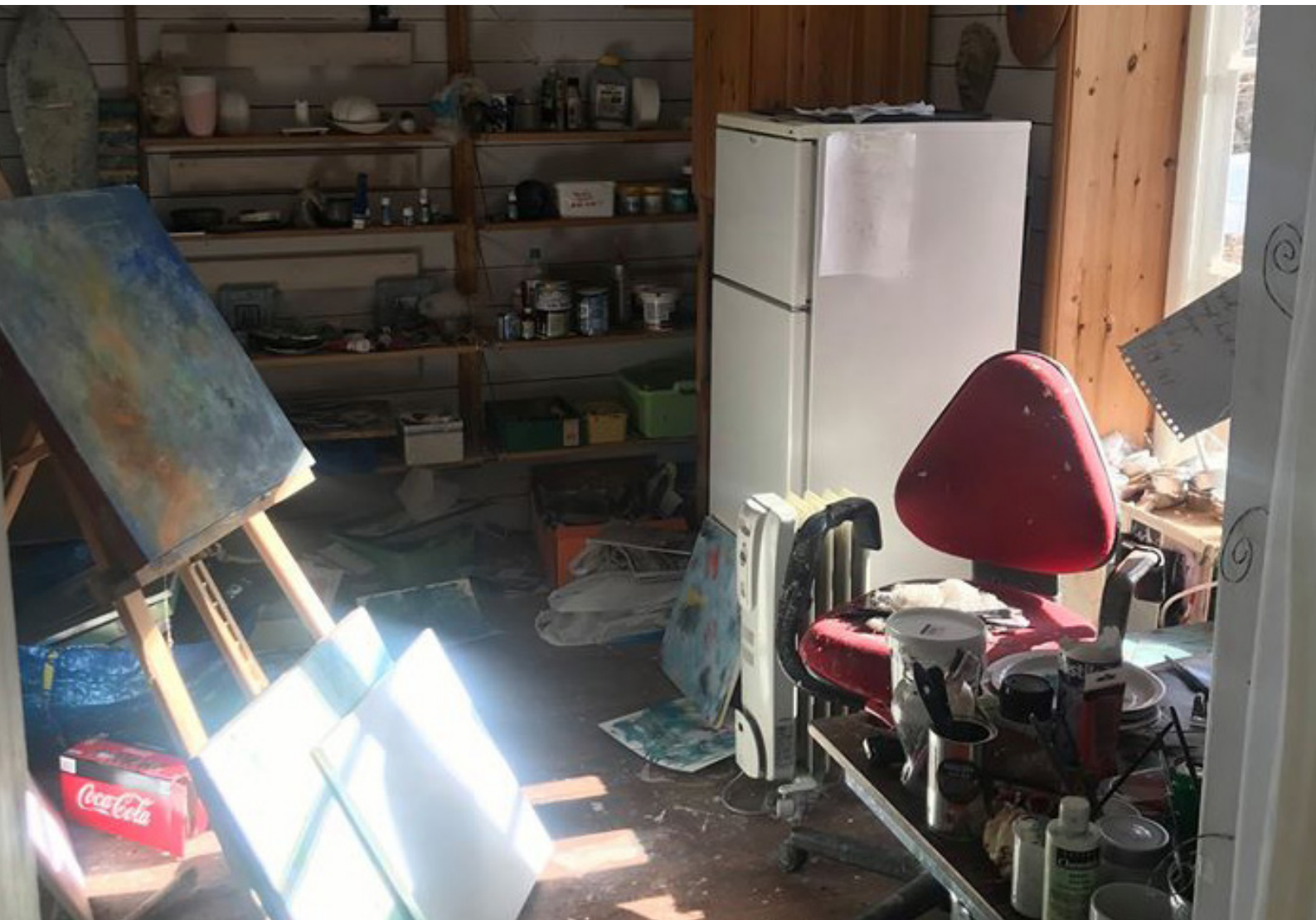
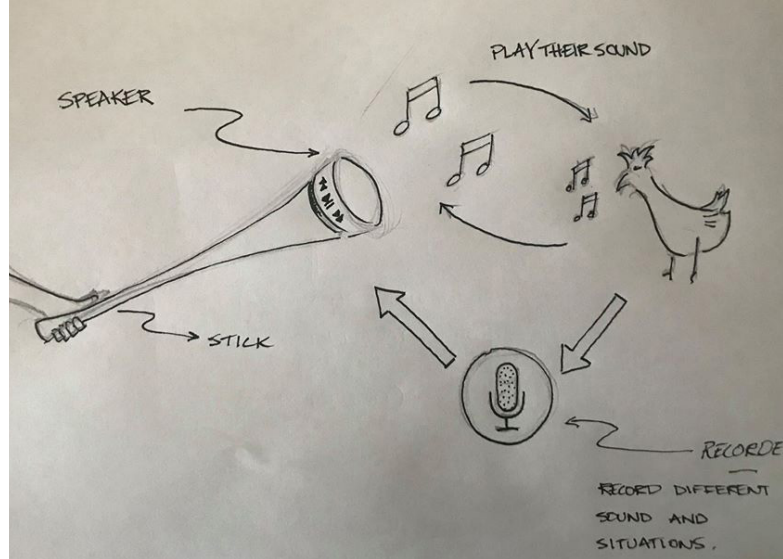
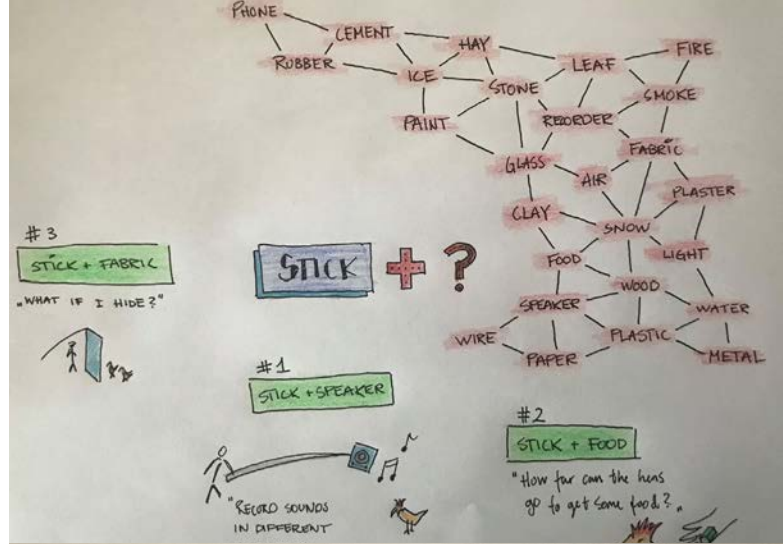
My date is very young and it will grow much bigger and get flowers in the summer.
It holds onto stuff it touches. Parts of my communication tool got caught in the thorns.
It blends into its surroundings I could almost not find it again

7. MY BIGGEST CREATIVE CONSTRAINTS IN RELATION TO MY CURRENT WORKSPACE IS

Not a lot of materials or tools available.

8. I MIGHT TURN THIS CONSTRAINT INTO A FORCE BY [BE SPECULATIVE AND IMAGINATIVE]

Working with what I have. Using the available materials in new ways maybe.



1. MY DATE BELONGED TO FOLLOWING SPECIES

Birds - 4 hens, 1 rooster.

3. I TOOK FOLLOWING INSIGHT WITH ME FROM YESTERDAY'S EXPERIENCE:

The rooster is the boss.
Always on the hunt for food.
React to sounds.

3. THE GOAL FOR MY COMMUNICATION TOOL WAS

To make the pack get out from their room and out to the backyard by sounds from a speaker that was placed outside.

4. THE STRATEGY AND DESIGN SKILLS I USED FOR OBTAINING MY GOAL WAS FOLLOWING [PLEASE ELABORATE IN 3-5 SENTENCES]

I recorded sounds from the hens when I gave them food, when they were alone and when they made different sounds. I also used music and sounds from youtube. I had a camera inside their room to see their reaction to the sounds and music.

5. I USED THIS MATERIAL TO CREATE MY COMMUNICATION TOOL

Fishing rod, speaker and duct tape

6. I LEARNED FOLLOWING 3 NEW THINGS ABOUT MY DATE AND/OR OUR RELATION:

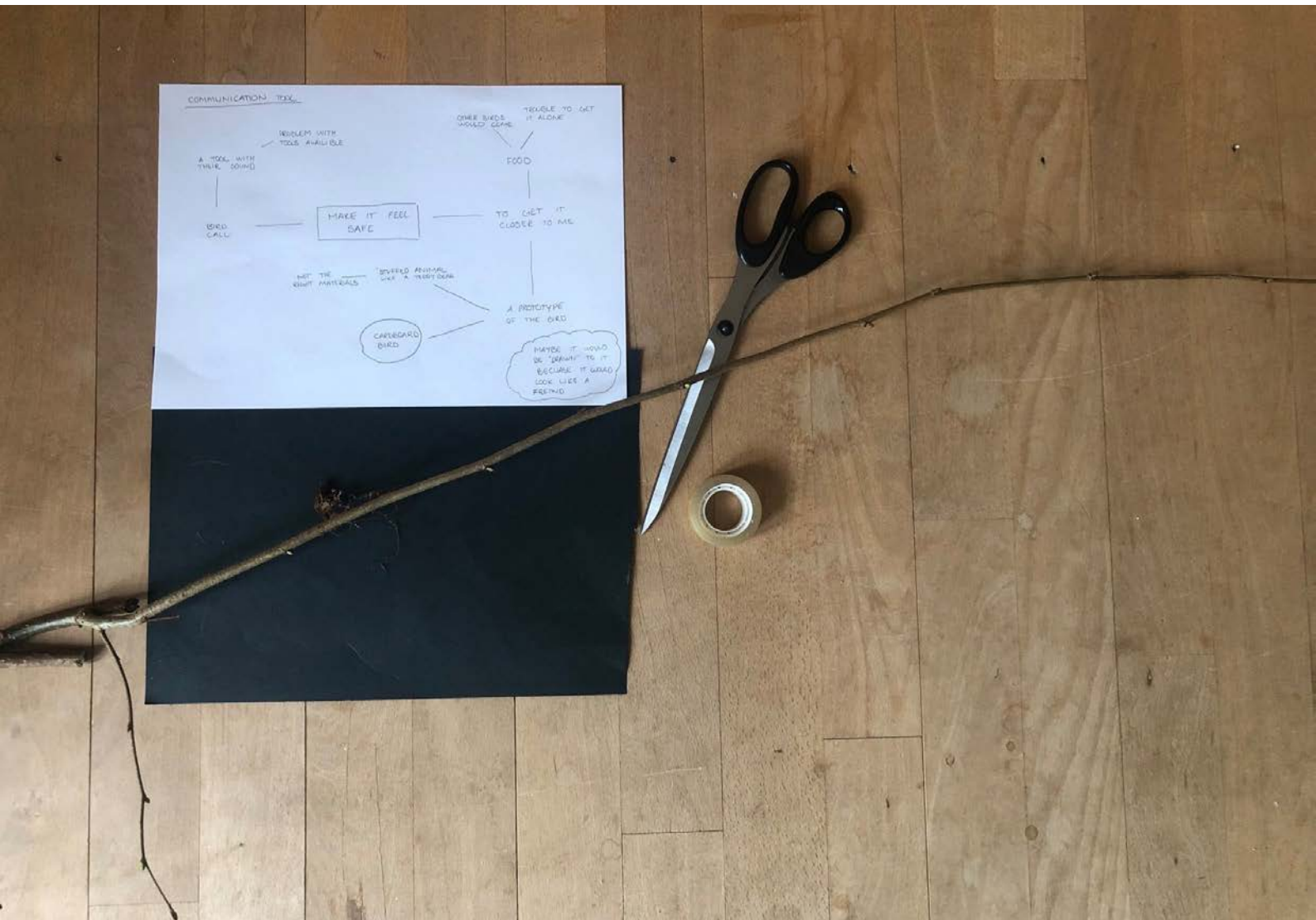
They operate as one. The hens will always follow the rooster.
They have different "personalities". Some of the chickens are tougher than others. It is clear that they have different roles in the herd.
They seem concerned about anything that not belong to their pack.
Different sounds and music make them look curious (I think), and especially classical music seemed to make them almost go out

7. MY BIGGEST CREATIVE CONSTRAINTS IN RELATION TO MY CURRENT WORKSPACE IS

They don't act individually, The rooster is the leader, and very careful. They don't know anything else than their room and their small backyard.

8. I MIGHT TURN THIS CONSTRAINT INTO A FORCE BY [BE SPECULATIVE AND IMAGINATIVE]

Removing the rooster from the herd.



1. MY DATE BELONGED TO FOLLOWING SPECIES

Coots

2. I TOOK FOLLOWING INSIGHT WITH ME FROM YESTERDAY'S EXPERIENCE:

It was hard to get close to it, because it was afraid, so not making any fast movements, just be still, and be patient. Go down to the birds eye level, not standing up.

3. THE GOAL FOR MY COMMUNICATION TOOL WAS:

To get closer to the bird and make it feel safe to get a closer relation.

4. THE STRATEGY AND DESIGN SKILLS I USED FOR OBTAINING MY GOAL WAS FOLLOWING [PLEASE ELABORATE IN 3-5 SENTENCES]

I made some research about coots and what they like. They seem to be together with other coots always.
Then I tried to mindmap different ideas for a prototype, to make the coot feel more comfortable to come closer.
I wanted to make something that only attracted the coots and not other birds.
Simple sketches of prototype ideas, to bring the coot closer to me.

5. I USED THIS MATERIAL TO CREATE MY COMMUNICATION TOOL

Branches and cardboard

6. I LEARNED FOLLOWING 3 NEW THINGS ABOUT MY DATE AND/OR OUR RELATION:

It could see from a near distance that my tool wasn't a coot, but at first it actually was on it's way over there. So they are quite clever.
I learned that it was better if I went a bit a way from my prototype than being near it.
I think I need to have more patient and also a time, when there isn't a lot of other people. Also there were only two coots this time I went out.

7. MY BIGGEST CREATIVE CONSTRAINTS IN RELATION TO MY CURRENT WORKSPACE IS

Not having too many tools/materials to use besides householding objects to make a physical object.

8. I MIGHT TURN THIS CONSTRAINT INTO A FORCE BY [BE SPECULATIVE AND IMAGINATIVE]

Either be creative with the stuff I got or using tools on the computer and sketches.

EVOT LOVE!

HOW DEEP IS

Hereby we present you with— careful entanglements
born in interspecies interactions!

We navigate different levels of care with curiosity,
generating deep conversations and reflections between
living and inanimate objects through our work. We would
like to introduce an alternative to a (much static) human
centred approach of interacting with other species,
decentralizing the way we approach other beings in
both present and future scenarios, with a sprinkle of
speculation and a bit of a fun twist.



The conversation of the lost, forgotten, and broken pottery.

Once upon a time in the faraway future a tea party is about to start. The table is neatly set, but the atmosphere that surrounds this tea party is serious. The lost, forgotten, and broken pottery has come together from all over the country to this secret location, to address the future of our planet. And I promise you, if you are really quiet and listen really carefully you are about to learn something spectacular.

NURSING HOME FOR LOST, FORGOTTEN AND BROKEN THINGS

Broken pottery pieces found in nature, embroidery thread, cotton thread.

13 x 10 x 6 cm

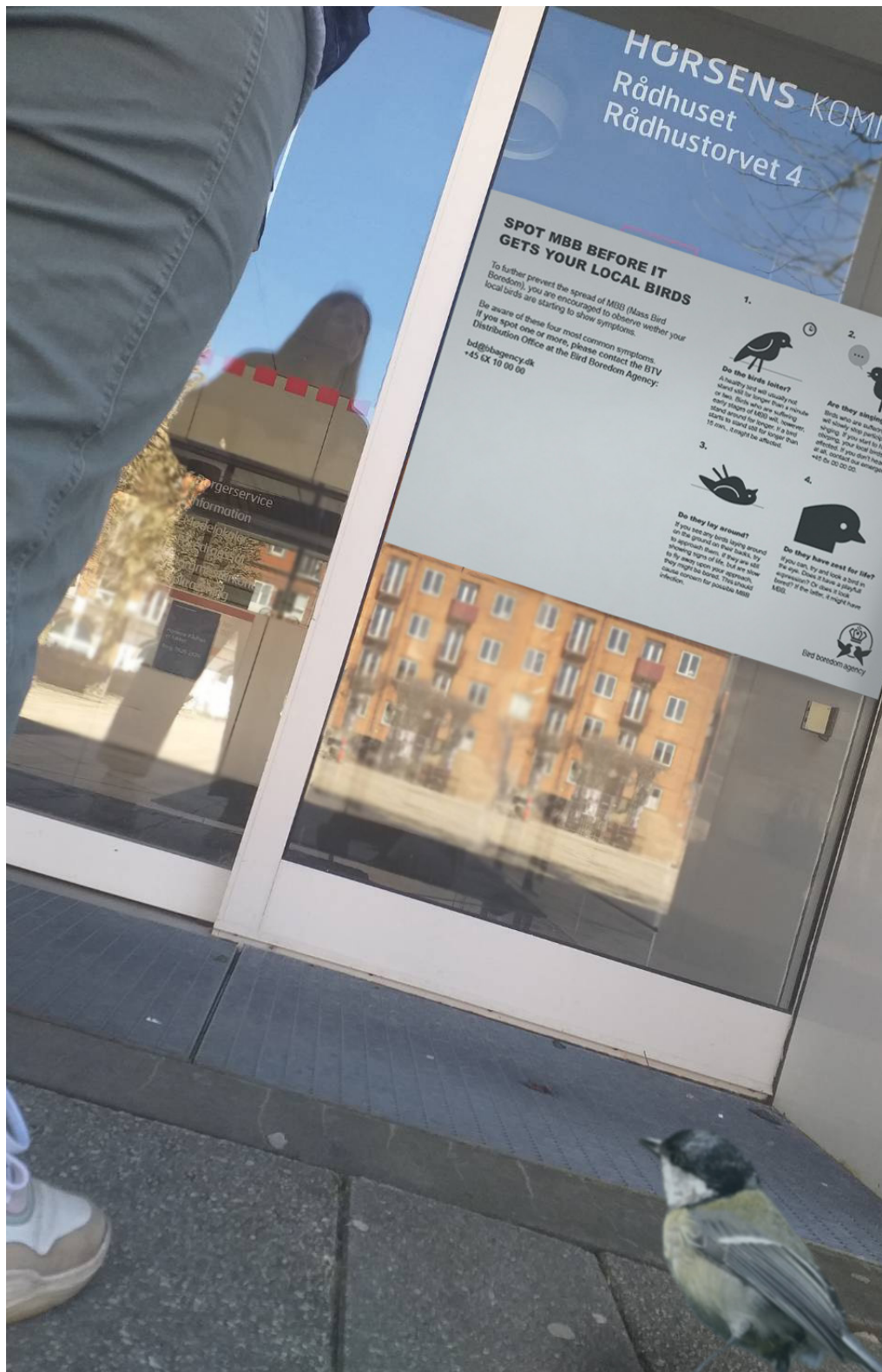


... swans want personal space. Similar to quarantine-ing—space and time. Did my interactions become beautiful over-embellished objects? Is beauty a communication tool or an aesthetic choice? Is this garnishing our interactions with species in nature? How do we prevent humans from existing in “ugly” ways mirroring Colonial nature? Can such objects serve as manifestations of spacial awareness? What happens when we over-embellish artifacts, finding joy in beautifying work? Does this relate to the architecture of clothing? Do we need beautiful objects doing the job? Isn't this fashions' eternal struggle? {Soundtrack comes on, “Seabird” by The Alessi Brothers}

UGLY-BEAUTIFUL INTERSPECIES ENTANGLEMENTS (CONT'D.)

Plastic waste, plastic doll,

36 x 16 cm

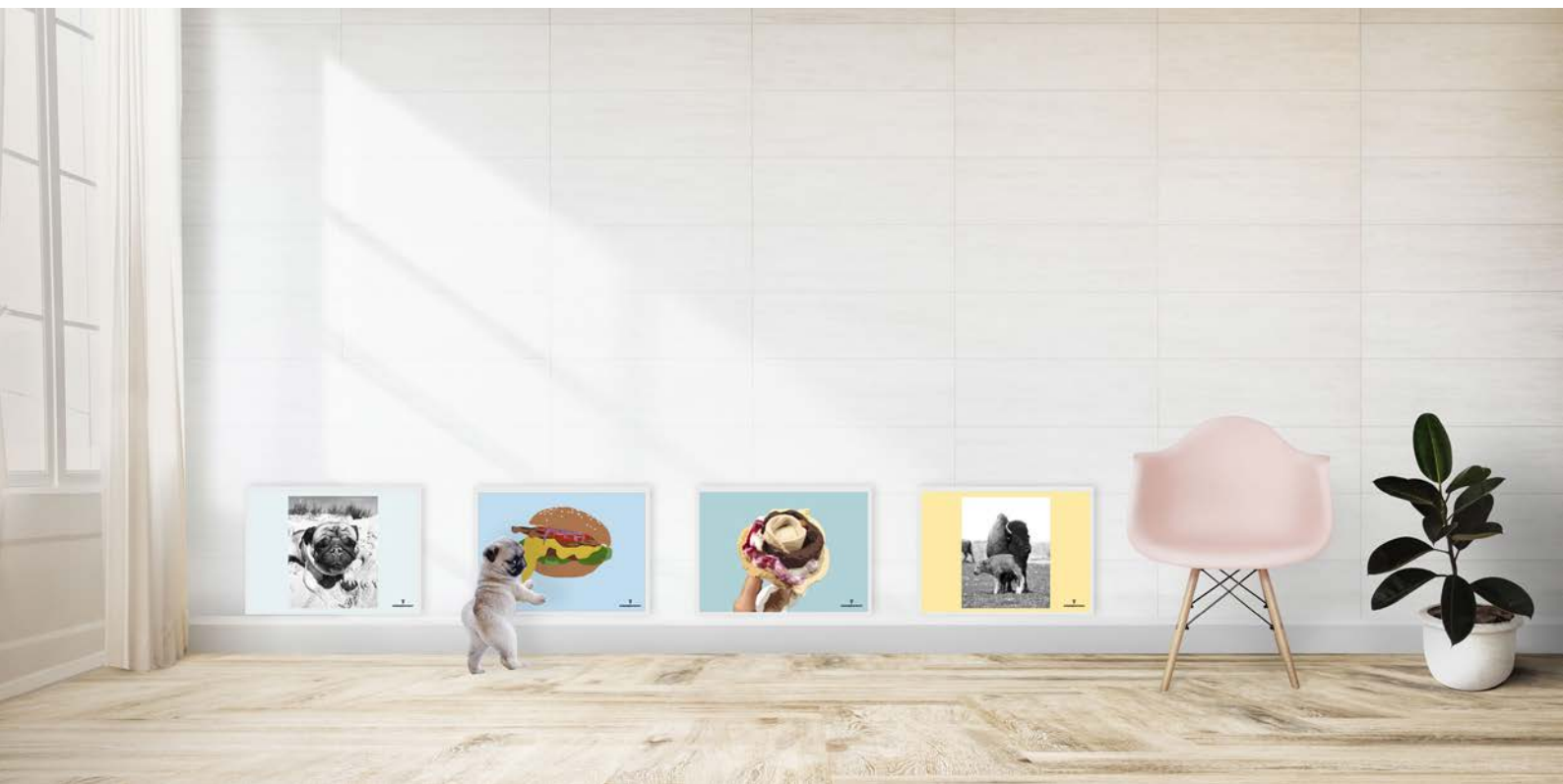


The year is 2035. In front of the municipality building in Horsens, a human observes a poster which warns the general public to keep an eye out for symptoms of Mass Bird Boredom, which has cause birds all over to die out from boredom. Something that is not visible to her worried eye is a coat of ultra-violet paint, which covers the entire poster. A bird can see this color, and in its struggle for entertainment it decides to investigate closer. A forced interaction, as the human now can observe the bird for the symptoms of Mass Bird Boredom.

SPOT MBB BEFORE IT GETS YOUR LOCAL BIRDS

Paper, digital.

42.0 x 59.4 cm



A young woman has just received a package ordered from the newly founded Ministry of Dog Welfare, an association demanding equal rights for dogs. The package contains 4 sense sheets to stimulate her puppy until the next delivery. Each one has been carefully chosen to the likings of her dog and contains four elements to heighten its senses: sight, smell, taste and sound. The woman places the sheets in the wall mounted wooden frames hung in dog perspective. A subtle bubbling sound of beef patty on the grill fills the room as the excited puppy goes straight in for the burger, enjoying the savoury smell and tangy taste of cheese. The puppy is happy.

STIMULATING ART FOR DOMESTIC DOGS

Wooden frame, coated mdf boards, mini speakers.

50 x 70 cm

MANIFESTOS

"Jewellery pieces are expressions of the emotional value and the fundamental human need for decoration and ornamentation"

Marjan Unger
JEWELLERY IN CONTEXT
© 2019

*Explore and excavate
hidden and forgotten objects*

*Digging for
history that once was lost*

*I will carry the responsibility
of caring for non-human
man-made artifacts*

- Now found
- Now cared for
- Now reassemble
- Now retold
- Now meaningful

*I hope to achieve a
deeper understanding
of the emotional quality*

*I will look beyond the
surface of the object in
order to start a deeper
Conversation*

*I believe that a static
object can provoke
high emotions and
with carefully interaction
with the object I will
retell there story*

KATRIEN INGRID CHRISTENSEN





MANIFESTO

DESIGNER FOR BI

After my date with a Re
part in a bigger ecosys
every forest and wood t
bacteria helping to con

Trees and forest are als
and source of oxygen, b
larger then ourself.

But beyond this fascina
basic human need and l
lost is an important ch

After my date into the
my oppressing feeling w
plantation.

Having those two image
there is a need to desig
tive but to shift sides
non human species : how
For instance trees what
space do they need ?

More over i believe des
visible)to be able to p
what if we consider tre
invisible network underg
if we could be part of

Biodiversity matters
“Biodiversity boosts ec
small, all have an imp
careful relationship wi
sity and stronger ecosys

Biodiversity and Balance
design discipline. take

BIODIVERSITY

and Pine tree, I was able to acknowledge how trees takes stem and richer biodiversity. As for instance beneath there is a complex underground web of roots, fungi and connect trees and other non-human species to one another.

so intertwined with humans on many levels as a resource but also as a symbol of our connections with something

ting, inspiring entities and it's importance into our life we still destroy, replace, uniform. Biodiversity challenge of our time.

calm diverse forest i couldn't help but think about when i saw, in Bornéo, kilometres of uniform palm oil

in mind, I believe as designers and agent of change and create not only from humans insight and perspectives, get inspired and develop a better understanding of they interact, support each others, benefits... do they need ? how can we respect them ? what kind of

designers have to see beyond boundaries (visible and in-project into future practice and artefact: trees as intelligent entities ? what if we could see this ground ? what if the forest could sense and talk ? what this network, understand their way of communicating ?

cosystem productivity where each species, no matter how important role to play." This way by accounting a more with trees and forest is contributing to a richer diversity more able to face changes such as climate change.

are key elements that should be more acknowledge into to give back. tolerance and mutual respect.

Manifesto

For my blind date I arrived at our meeting point and curiously I was looking for the species waiting to date me. I looked, for a long time, curiously from one species to the other, and suddenly there you were! - I thought ...

Would you really date me at all? Or was your brief presence a clear answer to me? Was it an equal date at all? Or was it forced when I tried to regain our contact? - And you shortly after disappeared again ...

Who has the need?

Whose need is this interaction between humans and species? Is the need human-made?

Is it in synergy or is it a one-way benefit? And if it is the needs of human, how can we, as humans, in a caring presence and the act fulfill our own selfish need to be together? Or is there an obligation too? Or is this again a human-made obligation we believe in?

Can this be put in direct context to the way we humans generally act in the world? In our persistent attempt to understand, interact and act in and with all the world's species?

When we take a diving certificate and, as a deep-sea creature, we want to explore the underwater life, when we jump in parachute like a bird without wings or when we speed up and chase the speed of the fastest savannah animal. Is this a caring entanglements with companion species?

How can I as a designer make people rethink the way we live together? Or do we live in it together at all? Do we, as humans have the perception that we have the power over nature and its species? And are climate change nature's answer to the fact that power will never be ours? What does it take until we, as humans, understand that this is perhaps the balance of power?

So when my date keeps hiding for me, is it then an attempt to tell me as a human being something? And if so, what?

Is it hiding for me? Is it hiding what it knows will come? Is it hiding because it knows more than I do and doesn't want to share this knowledge?

And is this the same technique we humans use? - hide for what we fear instead of acting? - hide for the climate change we will not realize is taking place. And as we ourselves have created.

Let's hide and seek.



Pigeons.

By Stephanie Lundby

Pigeons, peace, disease, delicacies, enemies.

Designers, speculators, imagimators, imitators, intimidators.

Activism, capitalism, consumerism, degradism, equalism, seperatism, industrialism.

Humans, animals, plants, living beings.

Oxygen.

Breathing, breath, death.

A world imagined by few, consequenced by many, influencing all.

Our tomorrow is today, our speculations happened yesterday, our past is present.

We have been preying on, breeding from, living on. Earth.

We are the emperors of the food chain, the ones to gain, leaving distinctive prints of pain.

We have our vision, our separate mission, a common proposition.

The curve is peaking, we are seeking. A new tomorrow, yesterday.

Design, detangle, a new angle. Handle.

If I was a pigeon.

Fly away.

Manifesto

The spiritual part of me considers the COVID-19 pandemic to be nature's way of standing up for itself. Climate crisis has long been on everyone's lips, yet we have not seen significant improvement. The pandemic has turned everything upside down. All unnecessary activity is stopping, slowly but surely. As a result of the pandemic the carbon emissions are reducing and the very same people who would not act upon climate changes as well as increasing levels of stress, anxiety and depression due to capitalism have been forced to reflect upon everything they thought to believe, pre-pandemic.

We are in a state of emergency that forces all of us to reflect upon our values and the way we lead our lives. I am convinced that the horrendous and difficult times we face will change the world, as we know it for good.

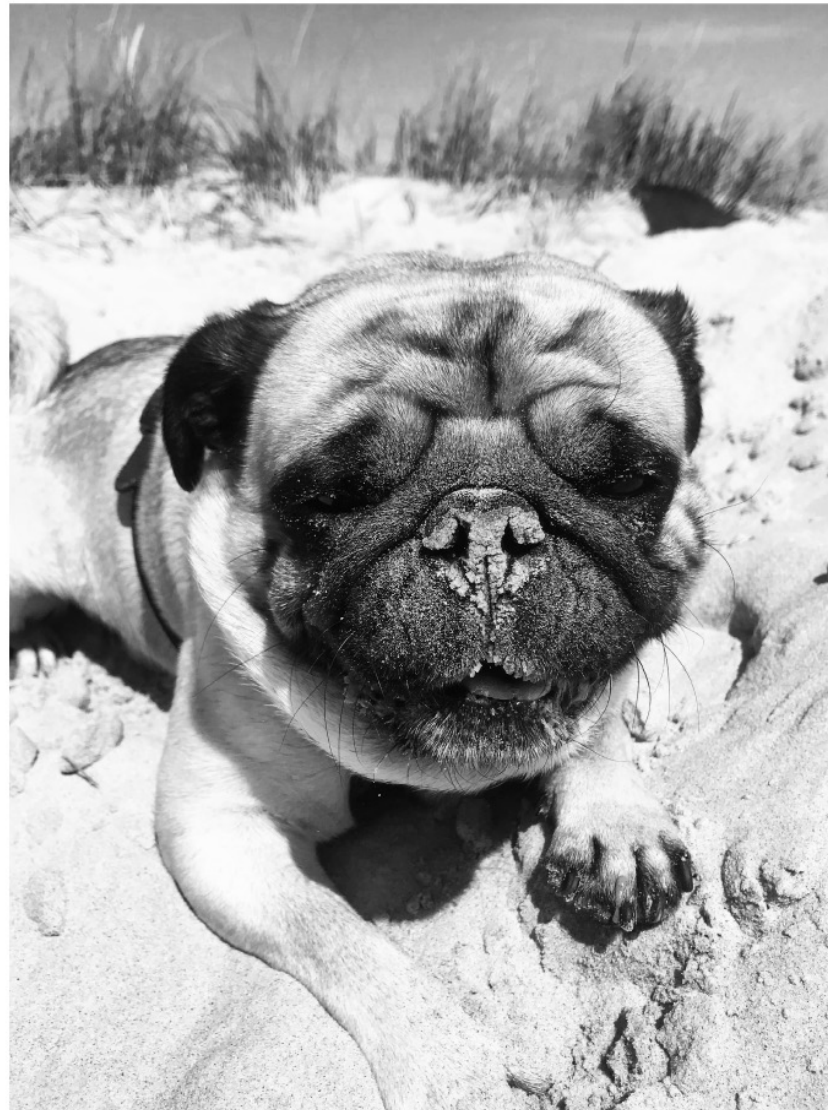
What good can come of this situation that we have little control of? How will this pandemic change our thoughts and behaviours for the greater good not only for mankind but also for all living creatures ensuring balance and quality of life for all?

The pandemic has changed me. It has made me reflect upon my basic human needs, my values and dreams for the future. As a dog-owner it has also made me reflect upon the needs of my best friend. Being self-isolated I have slowed down. Everyday stress, tasks etc. are less important.

Awareness, sensing and showing love have become more important to me, especially towards my dog. He didn't choose to be here. I bought him, took him home and made him dependant on me. Without my nurture he cannot survive.

Am I giving him what he truly needs? Is he happy? Does he feel safe, understood, accepted and loved?

How can I, as a communication designer, help to breed happiness for dogs everywhere?



The good life

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MANIFESTO

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU TOUCHED A PLANT WITHOUT HURTING IT?

Plants are a part of humans every day - They shelter us, keep us alive and keep us happy. Our relationship, however, has never been more alienated and distanced. We barely acknowledge them as a living entity.

We have taken ownership and established dominance over all plant life. We see them as nothing more than a resource for personal gain and leisure - even the nurturing of plants is a distanced act.

As climate change makes the living conditions of plants almost impossible, perhaps it is time we change our relationship and interaction to a beneficial positive one.

INTERACTIONS BETWEEN PLANT AND MAN SHOULD BE AN INTIMATE BODILY EXPERIENCE.

To re-establish a deeper emotional connection requires that we shatter the distanced interaction with plants and instead create an absolute tactile experience. The bond created from intimate physical engagement creates another level of plant-human empathy.

LET US ACT SELFLESSLY.

The purpose of our interaction should solely be at the gain of the plants. Our engagement and actions should contribute to the wellbeing and survival of the plants. It is time to teach ourselves and plants that human encounters can be a positive experience. Let the emotional value gained from a selfless act of unconditional nurturing be the only rewarding human outcome.

BE GENTLE, BE MINDFUL, DO NO HARM.

It is time to slow down. Let interactions be a calm moment to breathe for both plant and man. Gentle engagement is critical to avoid causing stress and harm when man meets nature.

Manifesto

Eszter Smid

Humans must have compassion for all living things in this world. We all are just guests of nature. The ongoing climate change has the potential to disrupt biological systems. Humans caused the global warming that has an effect on all living species on Earth. Now it's crucial to raise awareness to all living species around us -they suffer and may not survive. Therefore we may face a major extinction event.

Our current situation during pandemic opens our eyes to the alternatives we can do when not living our everyday lives. It can bring people closer to nature. We learn to slow down, consume less, focus on important things and learn to collaborate. Extending empathy towards non-human species can establish mutual dependency -where humans are a part of the ecosystem, by caring. We must understand we are not the only ones on this planet but our actions have an influence on other species around us. This is something we must consider today and tomorrow.

We live together on this planet, therefore we must show respect and empathy. We must collaborate -with each other and other species.



_MANIFESTO

DESIGN

MANUAL

FOR KICK-ASS ARTEFACTS TO CAREFULLY ENTANGLE
COMPANION SPECIES IN A SPECULATING PRESENT

_AFFECTION IN THE PROCESS OF CARE

IS USING THE ABILITY OF CARE ON AN EMOTIONAL LEVEL
TO UNFOLD NEW INSIGHTS AND AWAKEN CURIOSITY BY
KNOWLEDGE FROM NEW EMOTIONAL PERSPECTIVES.

_OBLIGATION IN THE PROCESS OF CARE

IS FACING THE UNKNOWN CHALLENGES BY KEEP ASKING QUESTIONS.
QUESTIONS OF WORDS, MOVEMENTS, EXPERIMENTS AND OTHER
EXPLORATORY WAYS WITHIN THE FRAME OF THE RELATION. AT SOME POINT
GAINED KNOWLEDGE WILL UNFOLD THE UNKNOWN INTO KNOWN, WHERE OUR
OBLIGATION AS DESIGNERS IS TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGE AT HAND.
NOT FOR OR TO THE ADDRESSED BUT WITH.

_PRACTICE IN THE PROCESS OF CARE

IS A GENTLE, SUBTLE OR CHOSEN TOUCH BROUGHT INTO
THE RELATION IN THE SENSE OF EMPATHY. IT DEVELOPS
THROUGH EXPERIENCED UNDERSTANDINGS, WHICH OFTEN IS
ACCOMMODATED BY THE PRESENCE OF FORGIVABLE MISTAKES
TRANSFERRED TO GAINED KNOWLEDGE IN USE.

_SPECULATE

IMAGINARY FUTURES BRINGS MEANINGFUL AND
CHALLENGING ACTIONS INTO THE PRESENT.
EVEN FAR OUT, CRAZY, STUPID, SILLY AND UNREALISTIC
PERSPECTIVES WITH VERY FEW OR NONE STRINGS
ATTACHED TO THE RATIONAL PRESENT IS ABLE TO
CHALLENGE MEANINGFUL PERSPECTIVES.

_HAVE FUN

JOY, SMILES AND PLAYFUL CURIOSITY IS AN AMAZING PARTNER
UNLOCKING CREATIVITY AND INNOVATIVE THOUGHTS. DON'T
HOLD IT BACK BY BEING "PROFESSIONAL".

_SCOPE THE SCOPE

UNDERSTAND YOUR ABILITY TO AFFECT THE OUTCOME OF RELATIONS
AND PROCESSES WHEN CHOOSING APPROACH, METHODS AND
VISUALIZING PREFERRED FUTURES.
DO YOU ENTER BLINDFOLDED AND NAKED OR DO YOU PURSUE OR
PREDICTED OUTCOME? EITHER WAY. SCOPE THE SCOPE.

_ALLOCATE PERFECTION TO A TOOL WONDER

PERFECTION IS SUBJECTIVE. A MINDSET OF INDIVIDUALS AND
GROUPS, BUT NOT AN ENDING RESULT. IT'S ABOUT MAKING
SPACE TO THE THRIVE OF DESIGN, ACCESSING THE TOOL OF
WONDER TO SOMETHING IMPERFECT, FULL OF PASSION AND
KNOWLEDGE.

#ITS_NOT_A_GOAL_ITS_CONTAINING_VALUE

BE MULTIPLE WORLDS. BE MUTUAL

BY MIKKEL MARTENS CLAUSEN

INTERSECTING CONTRACTING

There are different ways of bonding with other species. You could take the emotional approach where both parts are likely to benefit from the interaction. It forms a close bond that is fueled by the belief that you trust each other. Or you could pursue the resource approach, where the only goal is to form a close bond to get something from the counterpart. These projects are about developing a meaningful relationship with a companion species, and forming it into a contract where it benefits or harms, knowingly or unknowingly.



Repair Journal 3405

Time: Early Wednesday morning 08:23

Type: Energy Harvester

Serial number: 325962

Status: Broken Down

Cause: Faulty Limiter

Power still remaining: 83%

Description: One of our energy harvesters was found by a local today. The tree that it was connected with had died. I ran a quick safety scan and it appears that the limiter had broken. It had drawn out too much energy, leaving nothing for the tree to sustain itself.

I will take the faulty unit back for repairs and prepare it for reinsertion.

ENERGY HARVESTER

Plastic shell with wire spikes

150 x 150 x 100 mm scale 1:10



Addictive Touch

Plants can now communicate with humans the same way they do with their fellow plants. The human body becomes the canvas for them to share their needs and signal their activity through the imitation of touch. In time of isolation and social distancing, the girl and her plant "Hortensia" rediscover each other's presence at home and experience of a sharing environment. Every morning, the girl's day start as she wears her bio-exo-skeleton letting the plant take control of her body and influence her emotion and daily activity. Now to fight loneliness she needs to wear a "piece" of her Hortensia despite the side effects.

BIO-EXOSKELETON

Felt, Mesh, Cotton thread / Smart Textile

450 x 590 mm



Soap bubble butchering handle

Collecting food comes naturally to our instinct. We still do it today. Collect.

We go to grocery stores, collect the resources we need. It's so intuitive. To access beef for tonight's family dinner, we open the refrigerator by turning the butchering handle. Doing so, the spike gently pops the soap bubble representing the animal in the counter. It was kind of alive before pulling the handle. Now it's a resource in the counter. Slaughtered to eat. So easy. So transparent.

SOAP BUBBLE BUTCHERING HANDLE

Steel wire, Soap bubble water, Cardboard, Copper wire, Aluminium foil
350 x 310 x 130 mm



Me and my bee

I just came from an extensive „flawk“ with my bee. We were in the botanical district around the corner and now she's covered in dirt and pollen. It's always fun to play around and see her being in her element in the flowers. Before we can go back into the apartment, I have to brush her off properly. Since my bee is fully grown it can take up to half an hour. The pollen stick to her fur and the brush is quickly full. However, it is some nice care time we can spend together and that she collects pollen for me. Soon I have finally collected enough pollen to process it further.

BEE HAIR BRUSH

Plastic body and plastic straws

100 x 60 x 27 mm



A glove that brings pigeons closer to hand

Birds are found everywhere in the urban landscape. A woman is preparing herself for an early morning encounter with a flock of pigeons at her apartment balcony. She dons her soft and sensitive bird glove. She has made the glove herself and she poses proudly for the camera with it. The pigeons react to her presence as soon as she wears the glove. It acts as a sensitive protection - but who is protecting whom?

DOVE-LOVE-GLOVE

Materials: Tarp and string

10 x 18 x 5 cm

MATERIALIZING LANGUAGE

Materializing language – developing a ‘material manifest’

INTRODUCTION:

By now you have dated a species, composed a manifest and written a draft of your programmatic project description. You have a vision and you have chosen a matter of care. You have described it with language, now it is time to embody that language.

Today we will challenge you to materialize your manifest in the space that you inhabit now.

You will work with: Values. Studio. Materials. Actions.

By 15.00 we ask you to upload your explorations to the FB page AND ItsLearning in the folder: Videos under 24.03.20_Materializing language. We are looking so much forward to see your explorations of today.

OBJECTIVE OF THE DAY:

Values.

- To interpret your manifest into values and values into physicality

Materials.

- To start developing a physical language that lets you touch and be touched by your chosen species.
- To find materialities, tools, actions, senses and emotions that has potential to enlighten and materialize your manifest.

Studio.

- To establish a design studio where you are and investigate your design skills, tools and possibilities in this strange situation

Actions.

- To start developing a physical, embodied and sensory language of entanglement.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Preparation [use around 20 min]:

1. Read your manifest out loud to yourself – giving it a presence in the room
2. Distil your manifest into values by picking 3 significant adjectives describing the kind of entanglement you wish to create. [careful/caring cannot be one of them, because that would be too easy 😊] These will guide you through your day.

Encountering materialities in your studio [use around 60 min]:

1. Go around your apartment/house. Experience it through all your senses and with all the curiosity and enstrangement you can muster. This is your design studio now. Excavate at least three ‘raw materials’ from each room and gather them. Consider ‘raw materials’ in a wide sense as “something you can use for making something else”.
2. Inspired by the method Repertory Grid you are now going to analyze the materials:
Take 3 random materials and place them together. Then answer the following:
 - a. What do two of these materials have in common with your values that the third one doesn’t have?
(it can be visually, production wise, sensory, emotional, aesthetic...)

- b. Which of the three does best connect to your 3 values/adjectives? How, why?
- c. Repeat with 3 other materials. Repeat until you've been through all materials.

Establishing your workspace as a design studio (use around 60 min):

1. Take another turn around the place. Now in each room gather at least three objects that can be used as a tool somehow.
2. Randomly pick 2 tools and 2 materials and make physical experiments with manipulating the materials with the tools. Do that 5 times. Then ask yourself:
 - a. What are the actions I perform with the tools towards the materials? (For example: If your tool is a hammer and your material is a crispbread it is likely that you will perform a destructive, violent action – but if your tool is a feather the action will be different.) What are the inherent logics of your tool+material+action?
 - b. Which performative actions are most in line with my values/adjectives?

Embodying your manifest (use around 120 min):

1. Now take a turn around you place again. This time look for immaterial actions/movements/sensory impressions/phenomena /emotions that might enlighten your values. Find a way to gather them.
2. Now combine your collected materials, tools and actions/impressions into a video that gives an impression of a way your manifest could materialize itself into the world. Consider this as an iteration/prototype that can set the mood/direction for further material/tool/action explorations. It is not something finite and it can be as abstract or concrete as you like. Its objective is to make a physical, materialized, embodied exploration of the values behind your manifest – **how you want to approach your matter of care.**

Sharing your exploration:

1. Upload the video on the FB page and ItsLearning together with answers to the following 3 questions:
 - a. What is the 3 values you are materializing?
 - b. What is the most important insight you got today? Please elaborate: Which exercise brought you this insight?
 - c. What will be the next step in your process now?
2. We encourage you to comment on each other's videos and get some disciplinary debate going on the FB site. Please share inspiration, feedback and encouragements with each other – it's really important that we connect these days.

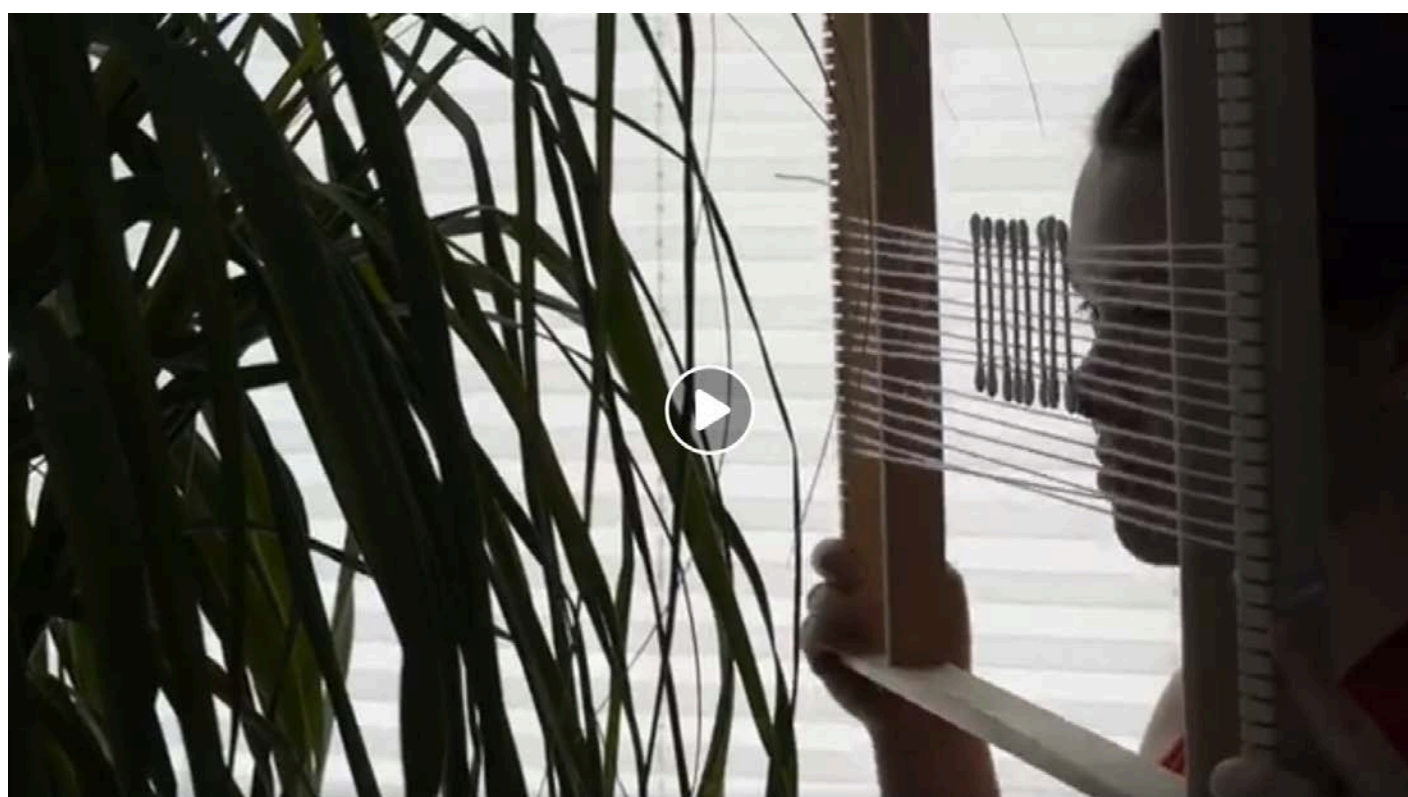
LAST REMARKS:

Thank you for joining the workshop experiment today! We will be back next Tuesday 😊

If you have comments, questions or feedback please email us.

Kind Regards,

Maria Viftrup, Louise Permiin and Astrid Mody



1. WHAT ARE THE 3 VALUES YOU ARE MATERIALIZING?

Joyfull
Unfolded
Reconsidered

WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT INSIGHT YOU GOT TODAY?

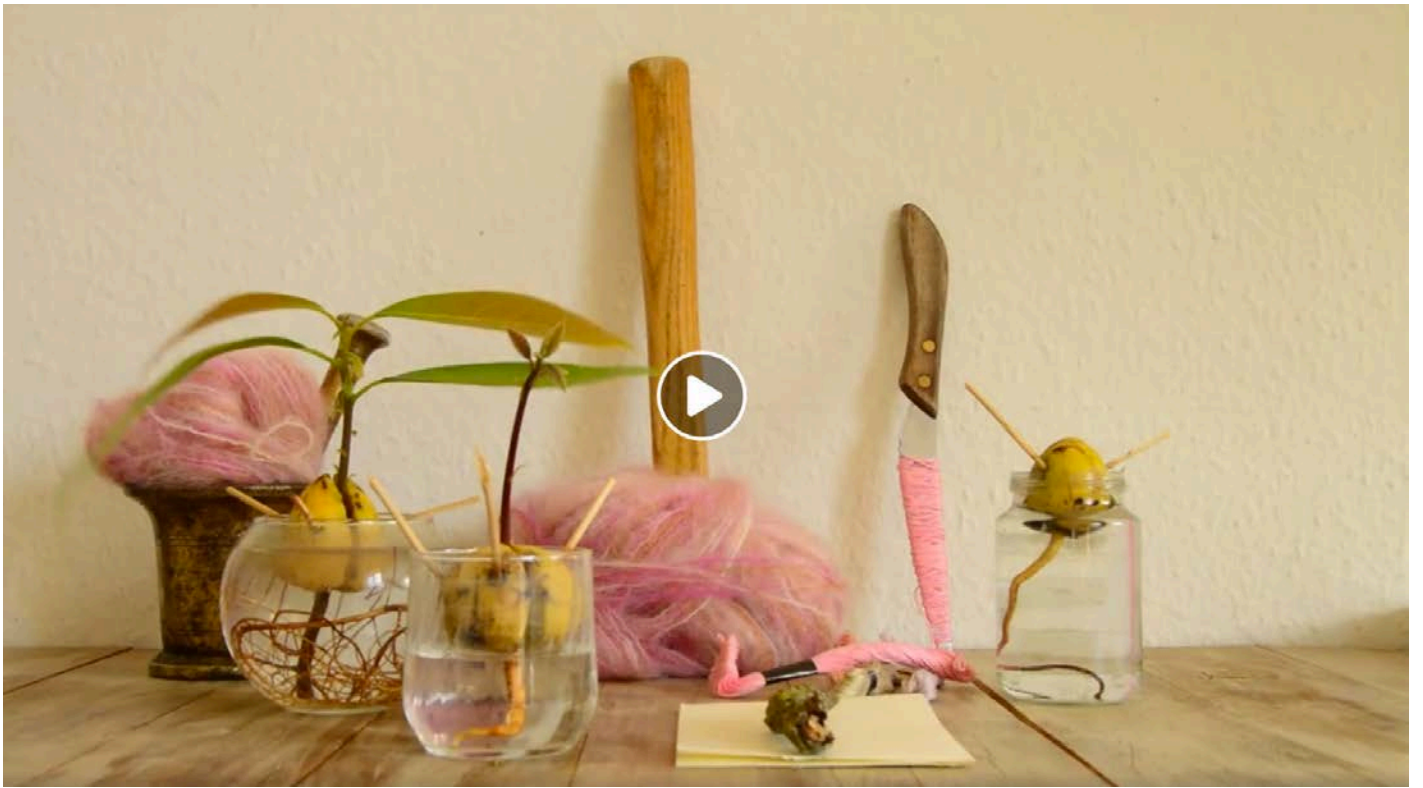
I really enjoyed today's workshop and it helped me a lot to link the quite abstract values with materials I would have never used under "normal" circumstances.

The biggest insight I had occurred during the material manipulations. I realized that all tools I picked had to be used with your hands. This is what we are doing most of the time. We combine sight and touch to get something new. When applying the prototype it is mostly linked to those senses, which are the same senses that are used predominantly when we explore our current world.

So in the final artifact for this project, the senses of sight and touch will probably have a minor role as they are less appropriate to convey empathy towards non-human species.

WHAT WILL BE THE NEXT STEP IN YOUR PROCESS NOW?

Materializing quite abstract values was really tough. That's why I had to translate the adjectives in a broader meaning. In order to continue I have to re-think the adjectives concerning my matter of care. I think I have to choose adjectives that are more visual and easier to interpret. At the moment they are still too imprecise and open in order to find a guiding idea in my project description as I am struggling to find a way on how to make the whole project tangible in the end.



1. WHAT ARE THE 3 VALUES YOU ARE MATERIALIZING?

Curiosity
Non-violent
Attentiveness

WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT INSIGHT YOU GOT TODAY?

It's not about the lack of tools. The form follows function!
When I looked around the apartment with another optics, it was no longer my cozy living room but a workshop full of materials and tools.
Anything can be used. I just can't go against the material but follow its properties.

WHAT WILL BE THE NEXT STEP IN YOUR PROCESS NOW?

I have to start changing the abstract atmosphere of my project to a tangible level. I'm pretty clear about the "how" but I have to figure out the "why" and hopefully I will find the "what".



1. WHAT ARE THE 3 VALUES YOU ARE MATERIALIZING?

Softness – To make careful entanglements, silk is a delicate and soft material.

Natural – Going back to the nature

Togetherness – I realized through research that silkworms are social species sometimes they create a cocoon 2 together. And togetherness can also be a word for working together- collaborating with the silkworms in the fashion industry.

WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT INSIGHT YOU GOT TODAY?

It was really interesting to dive into some material manipulations and experiments. I thought it was too early to start materializing my ideas, but by materializing my thoughts it became clearer to me which kind of mood I am looking for. I worked gentle with soft materials with knitting and gathering the materials, but also forcing the material into shape by sewing.

WHAT WILL BE THE NEXT STEP IN YOUR PROCESS NOW?

I want to do a questionnaire to see how people sees the silkworm- to figure out how we can extend our empathy towards them- create awareness and value their work. And I want to create/ frame the future I design for- to make the context of my design clearer. And then I want to dig deeper into critical design to see how I can affect people to extend their empathy towards the silkworms and their work- maybe with an idea like # who made my clothes



1. WHAT ARE THE 3 VALUES YOU ARE MATERIALIZING?

Symbiotic, Holistic, Attentive

WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT INSIGHT YOU GOT TODAY?

While collecting tools, I noticed that most of them do not fit in my manifest at all because they were all sharp, hard, manmade and far from nature

WHAT WILL BE THE NEXT STEP IN YOUR PROCESS NOW?

My next steps will be to understand my species better and figure out how to work with it while limiting a negative impact. Furthermore I need to elaborate on my future scenario and prototype my artefact.

EQUAL

The time for human-centered design has passed. We must now look to other species and creatures of the earth to cooperate and communicate. With our artifacts we explore the power and value of bonding with other sentient lifeforms. We strive towards a symbiotic relationship with other species. These artefacts you are about to experience, are all found in the future and show the equal partnership of entanglement between humans and non-human-species.



Plants talk to a girl

On a sunny morning, a girl stood in front of the orchid grown in a root-like medium at home for a long time. She touched the medium and said, 'Orchid, thank you for being my roommate.' It was soft like textile but strong. It began to expand a bit, move towards the wall and turn red gradually at where she touched but keep blue green on the other side. 'Do you feel warm and happy now, orchid?' She thought. 'We can talk to each other now. We are not alone.'

TALKING MEDIUM

Textile

350 x 280 x 160 mm



Spider weaving a glove. Autumn 2053 (Denmark)

In Feldborg a farmer went to the forrest to check upon the spiderweave he brought to the spider three days ago. The spider is working, weaving a glove of white silk, you work with pride- never before the humans have valued your work. Sometimes you hide- you hide in your favorite spot inside the weave and wait for your dinner to come into your net. In the spider weave you are invisible- falling in with nature. Two weeks later when the farmer visits the weave you are gone. You left to find a new place to hunt. Left behind is the glove of strong white cut proof silk. The farmer brings his hand inside the weave and puts on the new work glove.

SPIDER WEAVE

Vegan leather and cardboard 100% cellulose fiber

90 x 210 x 160 mm



A pregnant woman gen modifying her fetus

Deep inside the forest of Aarhus, a pregnant woman was observed in this silent and intimate act with a beech. A profound and loving concentration radiated from both species while the caring and heartfelt connection was obvious. Too was the equal relation in the act of partnership and a warm gratitude was present. For the fertility session a glossy artefact was used, reflecting both the soft female body and the strong and potent shape of the tree. This revelation of gen modifying in crossing of species was unbelievable to witness.

THE FERTILITY TREETMENT

Metal wire, metal thread, metallic paper, plastic dome
1450 x 160 x 160 mm



"I like being surrounded by plants in my home. It's almost like having an indoor garden," she said. Later that day, we see her sitting in the living room, inserting the instrument into her navel and connecting it to her potted plants. The same ritual everyday. The cord extended from her navel and wrapped around the roots in the vase. But there was an unspoken question: who is connected to whom?

STAY IN TOUCH

Sewing thread, elastic cord, cotton yarn, natural components (twigs, roots, wooden stick), aluminum detail
400 x 80 mm



Girl praises plant

An artifact sculpted for and from plants. Build with comfort and care for the seedlings it will carry in mind. Replicating the seedlings preferred environment, the artifact creates a protective sphere around the plant it contains. To help transport the plants around, the artifact can be placed on the body. This also helps us to keep a constant eye on the plants condition and show our divine appreciation and respect for them.

SANCTIFY

Organic clay, gold leaf and mechanical protection system
150 x 180 x 250 mm

PROTOTYPES FOR CO-SPECULATION

31.03.2020

Dear Agents

It's time for another workshop day!

Today is a digital experiment with co-speculation centered around your artefact prototypes.

If you haven't made an artefact prototype yet you can still join by either:

- Upload a drawing/sketch for an artefact
- Don't upload anything yourself but contribute by commenting on your group member's artefacts. Co-speculating about other's artefacts can also bring new insights when crafting you own later.

Okay!

Today we will make a Speculative Archeology Archive through a virtual relay. Imagine this:

We travel to the future and collect some artefacts. But we are just there for 5 minutes so the only thing we know about this future is a short description of the place we found the artefacts. We know nothing about the culture, the everyday life, the relations and the species there.

Now we need to speculate!

This is how we will do it:

You are working in groups of 5 and you are responsible for coordinating your own workflow in the groups.

[Our suggestion is that you rotate alphabetically. Question 1 is answered by the one whose surname is alphabetically after yours. Question 2 is then answered by the next in the alphabet and so on.]

Step 1: Everyone uploads a picture of their prototypic artefact on the FB page. AND one sentence about the place of the circumstances where it was 'found' [if you haven't already done this yesterday].

Step 2: In the comments below the photo the other group members will now fill out following, building on to each other's fictions:

1. WHAT kind of relationship will this artefact be part of? [Pretend you are a historian researching an unknown future culture through analyzing the artefact with the limited information brought to you by the time machine]
2. WHEN will this be used? [Draw a timeline from now until the time you imagine this object to be in use – place 3 events on the timeline, that sets the scene for the future you imagine this artefact to be a part of]
3. WHO does this belong to? [Make a description or drawing of the imagined owner of the artefact]
4. WHY does this exist? [Describe the potential use and importance of the artefact - think of the affects, commitments and practices unfolding in the relationships that the artefact is part of]
5. WHAT else? [Make a sketch of another artefact, that you think could be supplementing this one]

By the end of this session each picture on FB will have a comments thread below with speculative proposals for describing the what, when, who, why, what of the artefact.

Step 3: At 14.00 we will encourage you to make a video-chat in the groups to discuss the insights you gained through the day.

Step 4: Go back to the photo of your own artefact and write a comment below answering the question:

What did you learn about your own artefact today?

[For those of you who have not uploaded an artefact, make a separate post on FB about what you take with you from the workshop]

That's it. If your having troubles with the group coordination or general questions, please contact Maria at mvc@dskd.dk.

We are looking forward to following as the FB page will explode in a chaos of speculative archaeological guessing!

Regards,

Chief commanders of National Nature Network Bureau,

Louise Permiin, Astrid Mody, Thomas Binder and Maria Viftrup

Background

My scenario is a future where plants are sacred.

Humans started appreciating what the plants give to humans and the earth and the plants reached almost religious status.

As the plants became sacred it became improper to eat plants from nature.

Meat production by animal farming was not sustainable and ultimately hurt the plants and humans. Because of this, laboratory grown food, both meat and plant based, became increasingly normal. This made way for new products that make cooking with lab grown ingredients simple and easy.

Pop foods are packed like micro wave pop corn. Put the small package in the microwave for three seconds and a full meal comes out.



1. WHAT KIND OF RELATIONSHIP WILL THIS ARTEFACT BE PART OF?

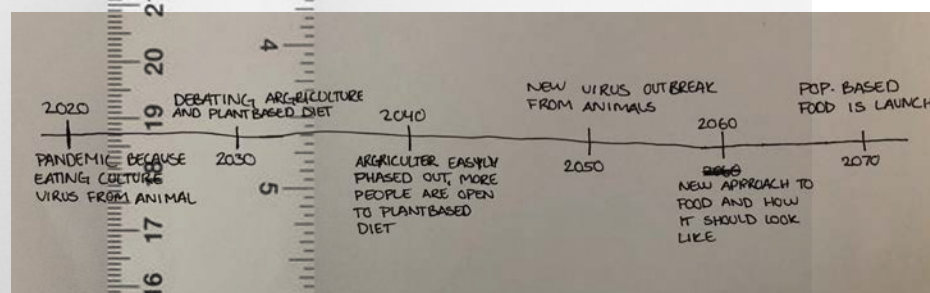
A caring relationship.

We see plants and the earth more in a giving way and we have to take care of it instead of ruin it.

We have a better relationship with plants and animals, and see them as equal. We take care of the other species and put their needs first and adapt our own needs.

This is a way to get the taste of everything we know without hurting the planet. We let other species live their own way and get our needs fulfilled.

2. WHEN WILL IT BE USED



3. WHO DOES THIS BELONG TO?

This product will be in every household, because as we see today we are eating plants and animals, but this will have changed in the future. It is easy for people to get a healthy meal and take care of the planet at the same time.

4. WHY DOES THIS EXIST?

It exist because we needed to change the things we eat. But many people didn't want to be a vegan, they still needed their meat. Instead of preparing meals from scratch and use a lot of the earths ressources by feeding farm animals, and care and harvest plants, this can be done more simple and less ressources are being used. It can be made local so it doesn't have to be transported too far away.

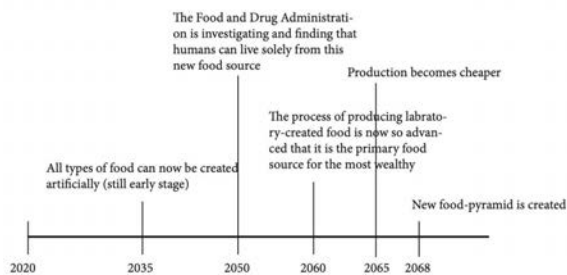
By eating pop-pizza
near to a cube of bees,
make you a part
of the hive for some
minutes



1. WHAT KIND OF RELATIONSHIP WILL THIS ARTEFACT BE PART OF?

Pop_ will be a welcome food product of the future. Pizza is just one of many options in the pop_ series. This is a product everyone has with them, and often a safe place like in a wallet. Pop_ is the world's most powerful supplier of food, and although it doesn't taste that much, we eat it. It is packed with vitamins and energy. Eating two will lead to death.

2. WHEN WILL IT BE USED



3. WHO DOES THIS BELONG TO?

This particular pop_product is probably owned by a young person, approximately a woman in middle twenties. This kind of pop_pizza was a very popular people in the twenties at this time. Because this product was not only for food but also gave intoxication. This intoxication allows you to get into an animal's thoughts and actions. This has become our way of understanding the outside world, and the reason why we stopped with plants and meat production. After the twenties, it is not recommended to eat this as one can fall into this world (trance). You will then be paralyzed until your human body no longer works. It should be said that one will get an extreme and euphoric sense of eating this, and we as humans have been given answers to thousands of questions as we learned to look through non-human species' eyes.

4. WHY DOES THIS EXIST?

This exist for two reasons: energy and understanding. It is food that gives us energy, but you are also entering the world through another species eyes by eating this. Therefore we use this to understand our world from a different perspective. Plants and animals are sacred and have their right to life just like us. By looking through their eyes, we have managed to create systems, products, and infrastructure that times everyone. Especially when it comes to infrastructure and transport, we have learned a lot from insects and microorganisms.

**SOFT LIGHT BENDABLE
TRANSPARENT MATERIAL**



1. WHAT KIND OF RELATIONSHIP WILL THIS ARTEFACT BE PART OF?

The artefact is enhancing human capabilities to smell, touch, taste and hear. It is an artefact that is connected to a person, making them very aware of their surroundings at all times. They can for example hear the water flow through plants, smell flowers from a big distance....the senses are always heightened and therefore create a better and more understanding relationship to non-human species.

2. WHEN WILL IT BE USED

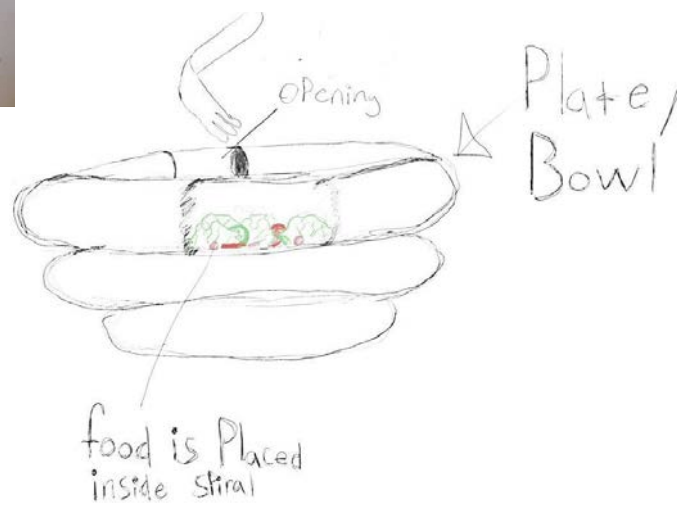
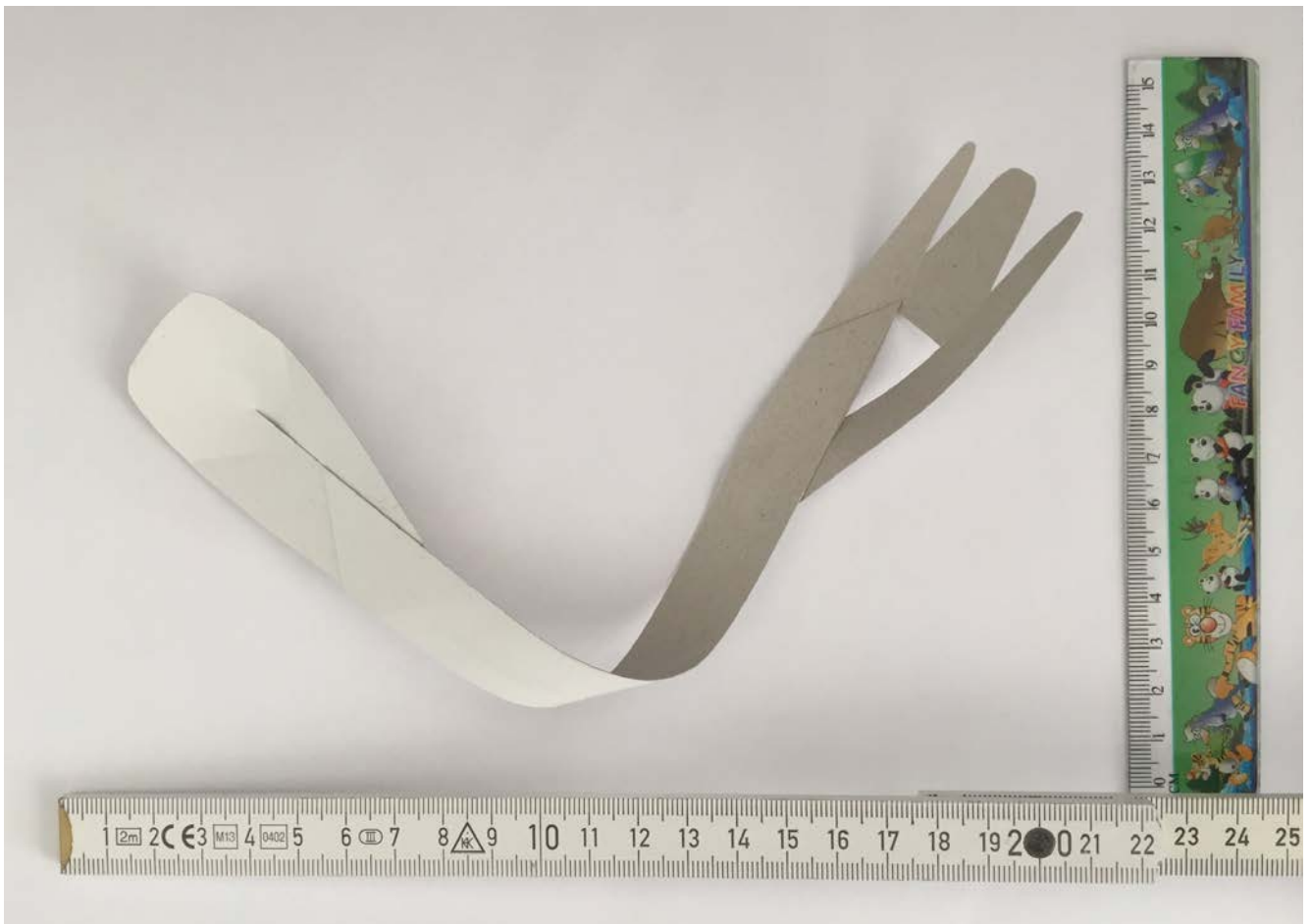
- 1) Present; the amount of face masks available are limited, hoarded upon and neither recyclable nor reusable, whilst at the same time fiercely uncomfortable and unadjustable
- 2) Tomorrow; there are no face masks left, so we have to create our own. We live in a community where an adjustable mask is now necessary to leave home... but we are quarantined and have to wait
- 3) The future; The community is still not open and a vaccine hasn't been discovered yet. However, we have created a mask in a material which adapts to your face and clears the air from viral impact and regenerates over night, so you remain safe and free to live your life with less constraints - even in a see-through material, so you can show your smile without only doing so through your eyes

3. WHO DOES THIS BELONG TO?

Every human in the future has one artefact. The artefacts look similar but are specifically adapted to each unique human, depending on their abilities.

4. WHY DOES THIS EXIST?

Scarcity and faulty production of self-preservation, -self enhancement, -and uniquely adaptable equipment made human beings look into new options of manufacturing.

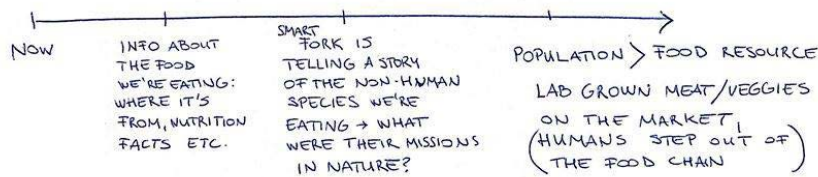


1. WHAT KIND OF RELATIONSHIP WILL THIS ARTEFACT BE PART OF?

This tool looks like it was designed to make the act of eating a challenging and engaging experience. Perhaps the world was so fast-paced that the luxury of taking time to eat was only for the very elite.

Maybe quite opposite to a luxury the reason could be that food availability was so limited that you had to make eating time consuming. Even the smallest portion of food would take a great deal of time to consume - perhaps with the goal of tricking the person to feel fuller?

2. WHEN WILL IT BE USED



3. WHO DOES THIS BELONG TO?

A Group of my friends gathered for checking out this newly open restaurant. At the entrance, the pack of forks and napkin were given to us, and then we followed our server. We walked down a beautiful garden, then sat on the table where it had different kinds of plants and flowers waiting for us. The server explained to us how to use the fork to start communicating with the plant before we eat them. We first gently petted the leaf with the fork....

4. WHY DOES THIS EXIST?

This tool was invented to create a new kind of eating experience.

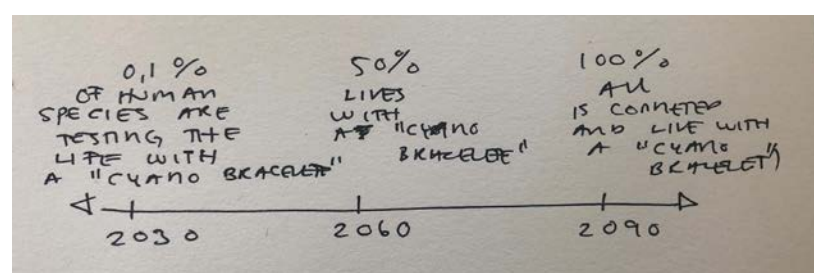
We live in a future where humans only live on a plant based diet, but they have also found a way to communicate with plant species and treat them with respect. Plants nurture humans and humans nurture plants. Consuming an organism is now an engaging and mindful experience where the human communicates with the plant beforehand. The dining tool is supposed to offer an intimate experience and a way to honor the species that will feed a human.



1. WHAT KIND OF RELATIONSHIP WILL THIS ARTEFACT BE PART OF?

As this artefact was found on a skeleton and is still in a perfect condition, one may assume it's a foreign object, adapting to connect broken tissues, veins or bones on the wrists or ankles while the human body is still alive. Given that it's called 'bracelet', the artefact would be placed in one of these areas, since the word 'bracelet' is usually only placed in one of the two areas of the body as we know it today (ankle or wrist bracelet). The foreign object might have gone back to its original shape after the decay of the living body to be recycled and used in a new vessel

2. WHEN WILL IT BE USED



3. WHO DOES THIS BELONG TO?

Given the dimensions, the owner was female or slenderly built, given the size of the object. One would imagine that the object would have been 3D printed and come in different sizes, to accommodate the vessel the best. From a visual perspective, the owner must have been fierce and not willing to give up despite her/his injuries and not settle for anything else but the latest technology to recover the fastest.

4. WHY DOES THIS EXIST?

The Cyano Bracelet exist so human species can live side by side with other non-human species and connect on a connecting level without hurting or touching each other. It's a connecting tool that integrate and translate and molecules that are air born to and from different species. It's a living connection memory tool.

LITERATURE

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