

Thought-Lock





Thought- LOCK

Moreover, within the pages of “Thought-Lock,” there lies an invitation to question the nature of these mental restraints. How do our daily routines and societal expectations shape the landscape of our minds? As you navigate through the curated visuals and ideas within, consider the keys to unlocking these thought-locks, unraveling the potential for a more liberated and expansive mental landscape.

Let this catalogue be not only a reflection on captivity but also a journey toward the unlocking of boundless creativity and introspection. Explore the corridors of your mind, discover the nuances that define your thoughts, and embrace the prospect of breaking free from the chains of routine. “Thought-Lock” is an exploration—a voyage into the vast expanse of your mind where possibilities are unlocked, and ideas flow freely.

THOUGHT-LOCK unveils the essence of captivity within the corridors of the mind. The name itself whispers of a space where thoughts are held, not free to roam. This collection draws inspiration from the intricate web of ideas captured within Karl Philips’ groundbreaking project, “Vending System.”

ponder the subtleties of the vending machines and the profound commentary they offer on the captivity of our thoughts. Let the visual narratives unfold and the simplicity of “Thought-Lock” become a gateway to the complex realm of our captive minds.

Just as a lock secures something precious, “Thought-Lock” encapsulates the notion that our minds can become captivated, confined by routines and expectations. This catalogue is a journey into the exploration of these mental confines, a visual and intellectual expedition prompted by the symbolism in Philips’ art. Here, each page invites you to



Vending Machines

By Karl Philips

The sculptural masterpiece titled 'Vending Machines,' crafted by the accomplished visual artist Karl Philips, who proudly graduated as a Liberal Arts alumnus in 2009, stand as an engaging testament to artistic brilliance. This captivating installation intricately weaves together elements that transcend the conventional boundaries of visual art. At its core, 'Vending Machines' is a composition featuring three meticulously arranged drink and food vending machines, encased within a bespoke iron structure that envelopes them

in a captivating embrace. Elevated above this mechanical triad is a mattress, carefully positioned to mimic the proportions of the vending machines beneath. The iron cage, with its precisely arranged grids, serves a dual purpose – not only as a protective shield for the individual resting on the mattress but also as a confining entity, imposing a unique spatial dynamic on the observer. Within the confines of this artwork, a profound exploration of paradoxes unfolds. It delves into the intricate tapestry of daily systems that permeate our lives, accentuating the delicate dance between dependence and security. The juxtaposition of reliance on one hand and the cocoon of safety on the other becomes palpable, inviting contemplation on the delicate balance we seek in our pursuit of refuge. The mattress, positioned as both a symbol of

comfort and constraint, becomes a focal point for reflection. The lattice of the cage, meticulously designed, not only shelters the person on the mattress but also imposes a boundary, exploring the nuanced relationship between freedom and restriction. Beyond the tangible elements, 'Vending Machines' becomes a metaphorical lens through which we examine the complexities of human experience.

It peels back the layers of our perpetual quest for safe havens, uncovering the intricate relationship between our fundamental needs and the virtues that guide us. The narrative woven into the installation becomes a poignant commentary on the intricate interplay between necessity and virtue.

The Vending machine consists of three parts. Candy machine, soda machine and coffee machine.

It beckons the observer

to linger, contemplate, and unravel the layers of meaning embedded in its meticulously crafted structure, offering a profound journey into the depths of artistic expression and philosophical inquiry. The sculptural masterpiece titled ‘Vending Machines,’ crafted by the accomplished visual artist Karl Philips, who proudly graduated as a Liberal Arts alumnus in 2009, stands as an engaging testament to artistic brilliance. This captivating installation intricately weaves together elements that transcend the conventional boundaries of visual art.

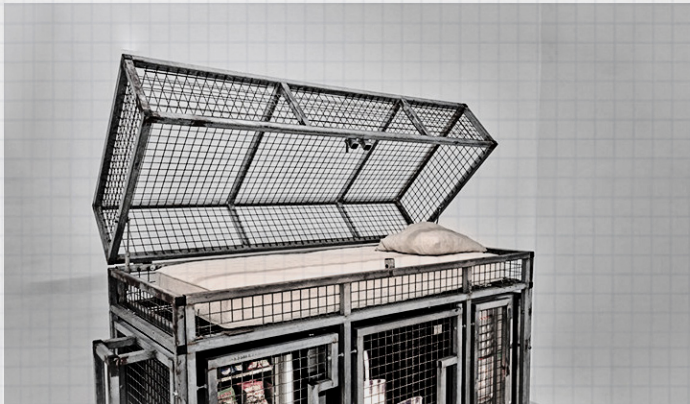
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In essence, Karl Philips’ ‘Vending Machines’ transcends the realm of mere art and emerges as a thought-provoking exploration of the paradoxes inherent in the human condition. It beckons the observer to linger, contemplate, and unravel the layers of meaning embedded in its meticulously crafted structure, offering a profound journey into the depths of artistic expression and philosophical inquiry.



The candy machine emerges as a deceptive oasis of satisfaction, promising the fulfillment of physical desires with its tempting array of candies. However, beneath this surface allure lies a poignant commentary on the unseen harms embedded in our daily routines. The candy machine becomes a metaphor for the sweet yet imprisoning nature of our cravings and routines. It subtly suggests that indulging in immediate gratification can lead to a confinement of one’s experiences, trapping individuals in the repetitive cycle of life’s demands. Thus, the candy machine within this installation serves as a powerful symbol, prompting reflection on the potential pitfalls of succumbing to the superficial allure of our immediate desires.

**YOU'RE NOT FIT
WHEN YOU'RE
HUNGRY.**

**YOU'RE NOT FIT
WHEN YOU'RE
SNACKY.**

***FOR
THE
OVERLOADED***

***FOR
THE
BOLD***

**BREAK
THE
HABIT,
SKIP
THE
KITKAT**

KITKAT

**HAVE A
BREAK,
HAVE A**

SODA



The soda machine emerges as a symbol of the deceptive allure of instant gratification. Much like the fizzy sweetness apromised by the beverages within, the routine of reaching for a soda can become a quick fix that masks the deeper complexities of life. This mundane act, seemingly harmless, can be likened to a carbonated escape that momentarily distracts from the profound questions and aspirations that lie beyond the clutches of routine. The soda machine within this artistic narrative serves as a poignant reminder that our thirst for routine comfort may sometimes blind us to the deeper, more meaningful facets of our existence.

open happiness
close

the coffee machine unfolds as a compelling metaphor for the daily ritualization of life. The comforting aroma of freshly brewed coffee may momentarily mask the routine, yet it serves as a poignant commentary on the repetitive nature of our habits. Much like the cycle of sipping from the coffee cup, our daily routines can become a ritualized dance, offering a familiar yet potentially numbing experience. The coffee machine prompts contemplation on the fragility of our comfort zones and the need to break free from the hypnotic rhythm of our everyday lives, inviting viewers to question the true richness that lies beyond the routine sips of familiarity.

coffee

Italy's
favoured
coffee

health
risk

Captivity Chronicles:

Project Parallels



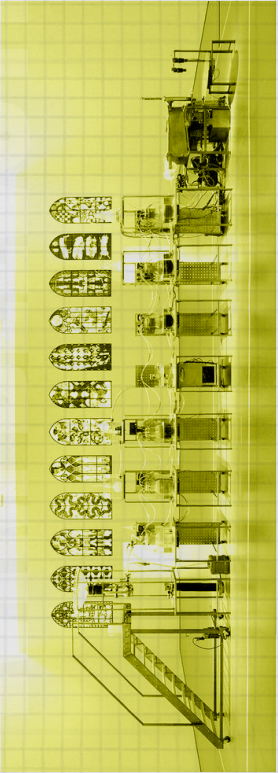
One of the most memorable works from British street artist Banksy's New York City "residency," the meat company truck filled with screaming plush animal toys dubbed Sirens of the Lambs.



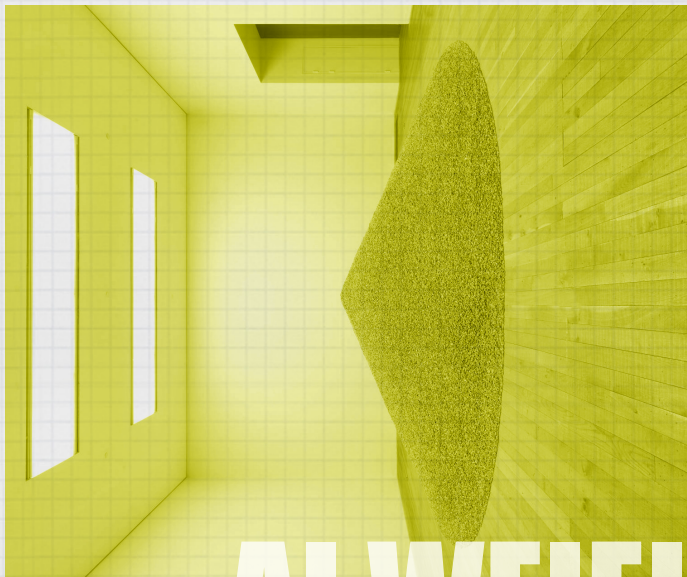
Concrete Jungle (The Birds), 1992 - Mark Dion



Diorama in venting illusion



"Cloaca" explores the mundane and routine nature of bodily functions



AI WEIEI

“Insertions into Ideological Circuits”

Meireles’ conceptual art series involves inserting subversive messages into everyday objects, challenging the routine and prompting viewers to question the ideological frameworks they encounter.

“Sunflower Seeds”

Comprises millions of hand-painted ceramic sunflower seeds, prompting reflections on mass production, consumerism, and the individual’s role in a larger context.



CILDO MEIRELES

CARSTEN HOLLER



“Decision”

Höller’s installations often engage with the theme of choice and decision-making, challenging participants to navigate through environments that question the predictability of daily choices.

“One Minute Sculptures”

Wurm’s interactive installations invite participants to assume absurd and temporary “sculptures,” highlighting the fleeting nature of life and playfully disrupting the monotony of routine activities.



ERWIN WURM



Renowned for his subversive and thought-provoking street art, Banksy is an enigmatic British artist whose works often serve as poignant social commentaries. In the context of his 11th installation during the “Better Out Than In” exhibit on the streets of New York, Banksy takes his audience on a visceral journey with “Sirens of the Lambs.” Unlike his previous outdoor exhibits featuring enchanting gardens and running waterfalls, this time, a slaughterhouse delivery truck becomes the canvas for a powerful message. This project unfolds as a sculptural exploration, challenging the casual cruelty within the food industry and sparking contemplation on themes ranging from the loss of childhood innocence to the complex web of ethical considerations tied to our daily choices. It’s within this context that we explore the parallels and contrasts with Karl Philips’ “Vending System,” both pieces converging to illuminate hidden truths within the routines that shape our lives.

A thought-provoking installation navigating the urban landscape’s complexities, using discarded objects to mirror the chaotic harmony within a contemporary metropolis.

Both projects delve into the intricate realities of urban life, with Dion’s “Concrete Jungle” and Philips’ “Vending System” exploring the complexities and traps embedded in routine, prompting viewers to reconsider the concealed intricacies within the routines shaping our existence.



MARC DION



An engaging project by Marc Dion, "Diorama in Vending Illusion" offers a unique perspective on societal illusions. Through diorama format, Dion prompts viewers to question the authenticity of constructed realities, inviting a critical examination of illusions "vented" into the world.

Both projects share a focus on societal constructs and illusions. Dion's exploration of constructed realities converges with Philips' "Vending System," symbolizing the traps of routine and superficial satisfaction. Both challenge viewers to question their perceptions and reconsider the hidden intricacies within the routines shaping our existence.

Intriguing and unconventional, "Cloaca" by Wim Delvoye is a series of installations that meticulously recreate the human digestive system. This unique project mechanizes bodily functions, challenging perceptions of routine and transforming the mundane into a surreal spectacle.

Both projects delve into the unconventional and challenge perceptions. Delvoye's "Cloaca" and Philips' "Vending System" use unique approaches to symbolize routine and prompt viewers to question their daily habits, inviting contemplation on the consequences of seemingly mundane choices.





AI WEIWEI

Ai Weiwei's "Sunflower Seeds" emerges as a captivating installation. Featuring millions of hand-painted ceramic seeds, the project prompts reflections on mass production, consumerism, and the individual's role in daily life. Each seed, meticulously crafted and part of a larger whole, serves as a metaphor for the complexities embedded in routine and personal contributions to the broader societal landscape.

In contrast, Karl Philips' "Vending System" unfolds as a sculptural exploration, utilizing vending machines to symbolize the traps of routine and superficial satisfaction. This innovative approach challenges viewers to question their daily habits and consider the consequences of seemingly mundane choices. In the intersection of Weiwei's contemplative exploration of daily life and Philips' focus on routine traps, each artist invites audiences to reassess the concealed intricacies within the routines shaping our existence.

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CILDO MEIRELES



An engaging project by Cildo Meireles, "Insertions into Ideological Circuits" involves inserting subversive messages into everyday objects, challenging the routine and prompting viewers to question the ideological frameworks they encounter.

Both projects share a subversive quality in challenging societal norms. Meireles' "Insertions into Ideological Circuits" and Philips' "Vending System" use unconventional methods to symbolize routine traps, encouraging viewers to reconsider the hidden intricacies within the routines shaping our existence.



CARSTEN HÖLLER

An immersive installation, “Decision” by Carsten Höller engages participants in an exploration of choice and decision-making. The project challenges individuals to navigate environments that question the predictability of daily choices.

Both projects prompt contemplation on routine and choice. Höller’s “Decision” and Philips’ “Vending System” encourage viewers to reassess their daily habits, questioning the consequences of seemingly mundane choices and unveiling hidden intricacies within the routines shaping our existence.

An interactive installation, “One Minute Sculptures” by Erwin Wurm invites participants to assume absurd and temporary “sculptures,” highlighting the fleeting nature of life and playfully disrupting the monotony of routine activities.

Both projects engage with the theme of routine. Wurm’s “One Minute Sculptures” and Philips’ “Vending System” encourage viewers to question their daily habits, emphasizing the transience of routine and prompting contemplation on the consequences of seemingly mundane choices.



ERWIN WURM

The story of The LICE

In a
captivating excerpt,
Gaarder introduces a
metaphorical white
rabbit pulled from a top hat,
symbolizing the
unfathomable journey
of existence. As mortals
marvel at this cosmic
trick, nestled on the rabbit's
fine hairs, Gaarder weaves
a narrative thread that
mirrors the intricacies
embedded in routine.
This segment invites
contemplation
on the ephemeral
nature of routine and
inspires intellectual and
artistic expeditions
beyond the well-trodden
path.

unlock
your
thoughts