

SAMPLE OF NO VALUE

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[MARS]



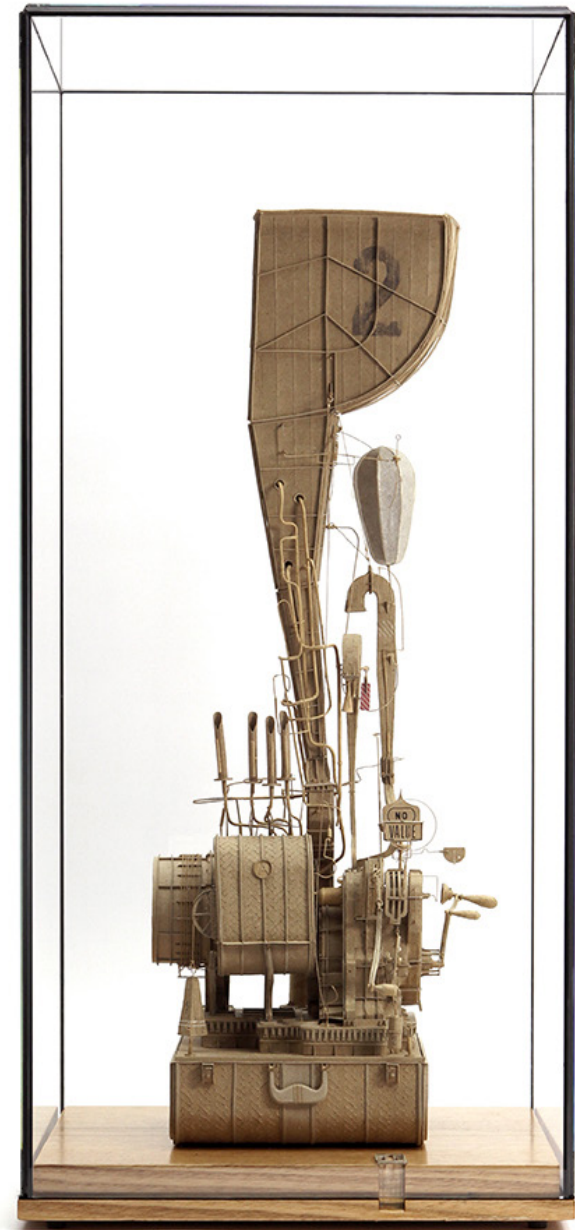
Machine / Instrument No. 1, 2017

Cardboard, wax paper, electronics, glass,  
23 x 12 x 17cm



Machine / Instrument No. 4, 2017

Cardboard, wax paper, electronics, glass,  
23 x 12 x 17cm



Machine / Instrument No. 2, 2018

Cardboard, paper, brass, nickel, 11 jewel Hermle carriage movement.  
Mounted on wooden base (Victorian Ash) under low iron glass,  
65 x 30.5 x 30.5 cm (including glass vitrine)



Machine / Instrument No. 3, 2018

Cardboard, paper, brass, nickel, 11 jewel Hermle carriage movement.  
Mounted on wooden base (Victorian Ash) under low iron glass.  
65 x 30.5 x 30.5 cm (including glass vitrine)



Young blood, 2018

Cardboard, wax paper, electronics, glass,  
antique leather case,  
36cm x 21 x 36cm

Sample of no value

Daniel Agdag

Value systems determine the value of things. Sample of no value is a phrase used to ascribe the idea of no value to goods on a customs declaration, so as not to be quantified by an assessor, and thus have no value. This allows the item to pass freely between political and commercial borders without having to assert value and give compensation for the pleasure of doing so. It's as abstract a concept as infinity. Everything has a value until it doesn't. I am valued by the sum of my output, commodities are valued by an economy, people are valued by their ability to contribute to the value system.

In an attempt to measure value, rules are created and legislated, machines are programmed and employed to expedite the process of assigning the value equation. In essence all of these measures are held in place by a common belief and assisted with systematic persuasion.

'Sample of no value' is an interpretation of this process using an arrangement of fictitious machines that perform various functions concerning the ingesting, assessing, measuring and broadcasting of value.

The apparatus are detailed and impossibly intricate, forged principally from cardboard, to deliberately speak to a discord of fragility to the robust, opulence with commodity, simultaneously expendable yet precious.

Daniel Agdag

Born in Melbourne in 1976, Daniel Agdag is an Australian artist and filmmaker. His studies began in fine art before turning his hand to filmmaking and receiving his Masters from the Victorian College of the Arts in 2007.

Agdag is a creator of meticulously executed, industrial machinery and structures of his own imagining. His work examines the often unheeded underlying mechanisms and systems that provide function to the world as we know it. In many ways his creations are of symbolic self-analysis, reconstructed and preserved under glass, as if to be studied as mechanical manifestations of his thoughts, ideas and ancestral stories.

Agdag describes his process as 'sketching with cardboard', as he makes no detailed plans or drawings of the pieces he creates. His work has been described as architectural in form, whimsical in nature and inconceivably intricate.



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