The impetus for the project is the notion that although we have many forms of communication, there is always an issue of translation or perception between those communicating. I am interested in how we convey meaning to others through the process of creation. How do we communicate a message to another person without the meaning getting lost in translation? Can a person ever really fully explain their creative intent? Can we ever fully understand someone else’s vision?

This project focuses on the interpretation of a dream as a vehicle for understanding how we communicate and understand visual ideas. Through this process I want to explore how we communicate ideas to one another, and the ability to replicate what believe is being shown or told to us. What are the implications for this in terms of general human communication? What are the implications in terms of the client-designer relationship? Our job as designers is to interpret the vision, desires and needs of our clients. Is it possible to “see” what’s in another person’s mind to create what they imagine?

In order to collect data to work from, several individuals were sent the following request and 6 responses were received and moved forward with the project:

Think about a dream you have had - you can narrow it down to one moment of the dream, part of the dream or the overall dream. I want you to think about how it made you feel during the dream and after. Its impact on you. The shapes, colors, forms, textures, etc. I am more interested in the visual and emotive aspects than the story line. Please give me a description of this dream using only words, no images please (paragraph or so) - remember this is more about visual aspects and emotions than plot.

I will use this information to create a single, small object that tries to capture what you have described. A sort of memento of the experience of that dream. I will serve as the interpreter of the content you have given me. My goal is to establish an object that you are able to find connection to or can see/feel what you have described to me in this object. The objects will all be small, something you could hold in your hand(s) and all made of the same material so as to create a series of objects that form a family via this material and their inspiration. The material choice is most likely going to be either glass or plastic (3D print).

Once I have completed your object I will either show it to you in person or email you an image. It is then my hope to get your feedback on how successful (or not) the translation is. Honesty will be greatly appreciated at this stage.