Jorge Amezcua

*AnthroMobile*

Recipient of the E. Richard Brown Award for Excellence in Art

My work is an exploration of visual communication, the ancient and continuously evolving technology that revolutionized the way humans express themselves. To illustrate how this technology has evolved, my work shows a link between ancient forms of visual communication and the contemporary forms of our technology’s communication design. I noticed that both ancient and current visual communications share characteristics like shape, form, and alignment and also share the use of tablets as common interfacial elements of visual design. The Ancient Sumerians developed cuneiform script, one of the world’s earliest systems of writing, which they inscribed on clay tablets to record and share information; we continue to use tablets today, but it is now our mobile devices and handheld tablets that record and share our information. I chose to build a cell phone with hieroglyph-like applications made out of clay to express the idea that visual communication is in a constant state of evolution and rediscovery. When reflecting on the development of Ancient and complex writing systems into simplified versions where some of their characters became modified or became obsolete, it became easy for me to see that the same thing happens now with the shorthand texting language and constantly developing social networking applications that we use on our tablets.