

Underground folklore

Cph Gives

Show me the honey

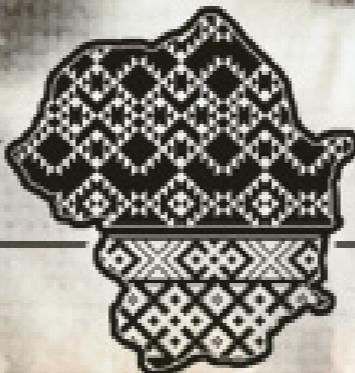


Contact



UNDERGROUND

FOLKLORE



Romania

Bulgaria

"Underground folklore is found in reinterpretations of Romanian folklore songs on modern rhythms. A musical genre that combines elements of hip-hop and electronic music with influences from Romanian folklore." - Subcarpati



From a small country in Europe you can hear a new sound appearing on the music charts, a genre called Romanian underground folklore. This is a sound that combines electronic music with influences from the old and almost forgotten rhythms of Romanian music culture.

If we go back 150 years when the Romanian folkloric music started to define our culture, we'll see that it was under a form of grieving because of too many attempts of invasion from countries nearby. The music changed a little along the way, it wasn't just a reason to grieve but also a reason to celebrate and commemorate our roots, habits and culture. Music became the bridge

between past, present and future, is the language of the soul a language far superior than the spoken one by local or universal message that it carries. Each nation tells to his people through traditional music their history as it was lived by his predecessors. There is no exception for Romanian folk music that through his diversity provides us with clarity and no denying that Romanians lived a cruel past.

The big difference between Underground Folklore and the original Folkloric Romanian Music is that the first one is trying to change the sad essence of the second one, so people will smile when they hear their culture brought back to life.

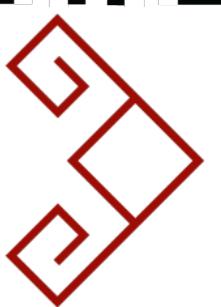
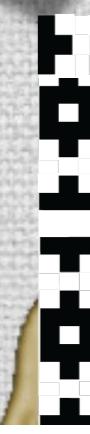
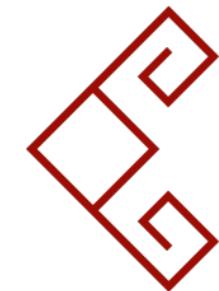




SUBCARPATI

You can say that this genre was "discovered" by accident by Alexe Marius Andrei, also known as MC Bean. He was already a Hip-Hop singer, but he also wanted to follow his passion that was inherited from

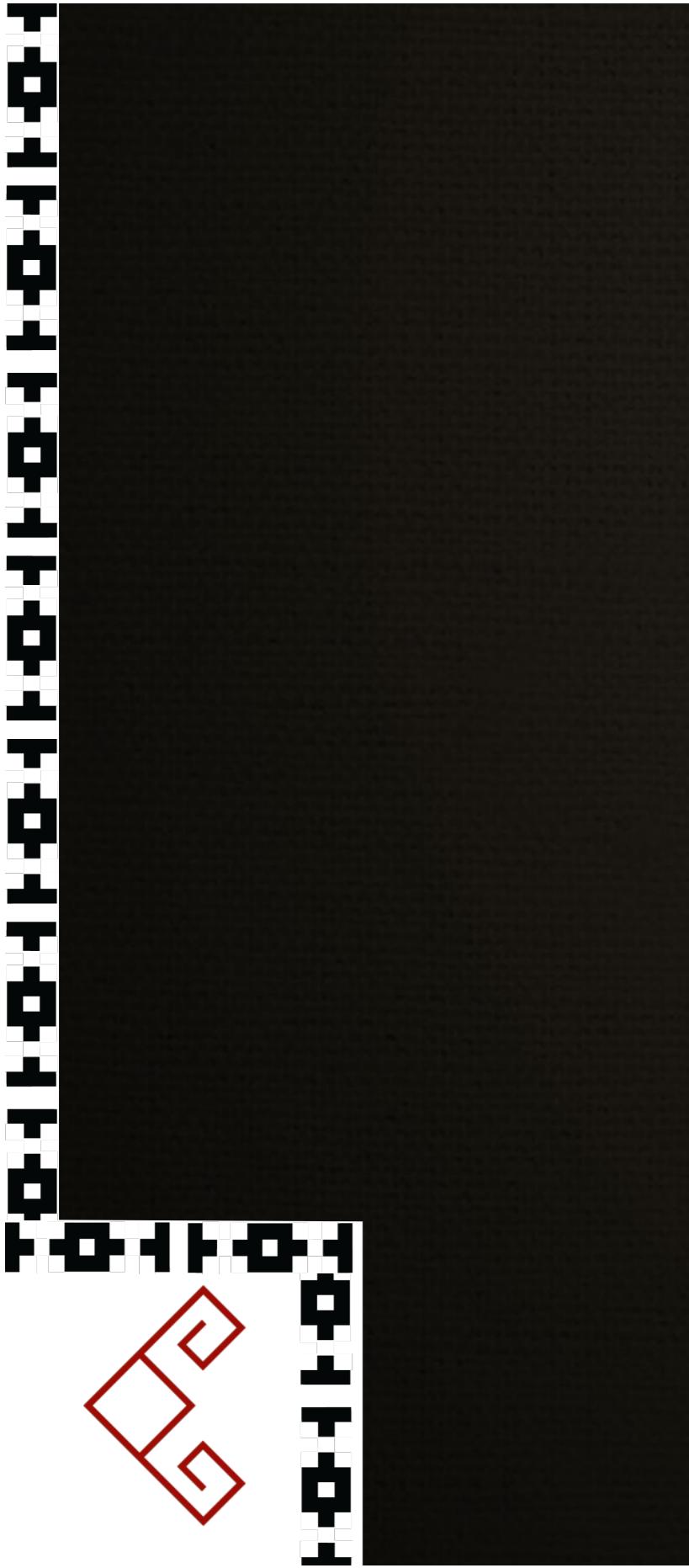
his grandmother about folkloric music. His urge to go back to the roots, to the childhood led to this fantastic project. Originally, he wanted to sing in a folkloric chor, but he didn't find one and after he thought about merging it.



Argatu'



"In my opinion, at this very moment, luck is very far away from Romania, but let's not lose hope." is what Andrei Argatu said in an interview. He is just a 19 years old teenager, still in High School, in Falticeni, Romania. Because Subcarpati have seen the high potential of Andrei and also realised that their goals are the same - "to bring folklore back in a way more modern light" - they have decided to get his name known but recording a song with him and writing his name on one of their albums.





Balkansky





BALKANSKY is an audio-visual art project that combines traditional Bulgarian music with electronic sound and vision. It is realized in collaboration between Ivo Christov and Ivan Shopov. Later on the musical legend Theodosii Spassov joined the project and nowadays, all three of them present the project live all around the world. When the project is presented as a live act it includes music performed by Theodosii Spassov, mixed with electronic sounds and beats by Ivan Shopov and interactive visuals from Ivo Christov.

The music of the project Balkansky mixes original folklore music with electronic music like dubstep, drum and bass and hip-hop. They also have made covers of some famous bulgarian folklore music and have collaborated with different people live on stage and in the studio.

Their live show is different and unique for every place they perform at. They improvise depending on the audience so they can make the best experience for them. The main concept of the visual part is that the images of it blend with the music. This performance has

achieved international fame and they have acts all around Europe and even in Kazakhstan.

"We have to remember and protect our kin ,our faith ,individuality and sensitivity ,because they are the marks of

our identity. We need not to forget where we come from and the people who have helped us to be the ones we are today. We have to try to forget our fear of heights that hinders us to

fly and to fulfill our dreams. Freedom is the conscious choice of each one of us - his inner acceptance for spirit and infinity. The bigger it is ,the more responsible and

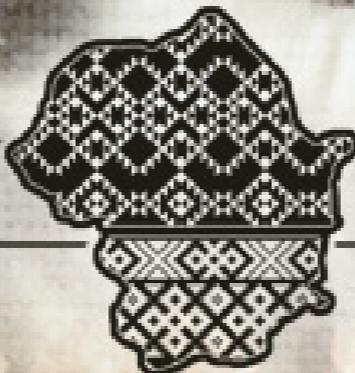
uncompromising we have to be. If we return back to our roots and we find our who we are and where we come from ,we would be eased to make our music interesting for the world around us. I am talking about the bridge between tradition and modernity. This is what we are doing - yesterday





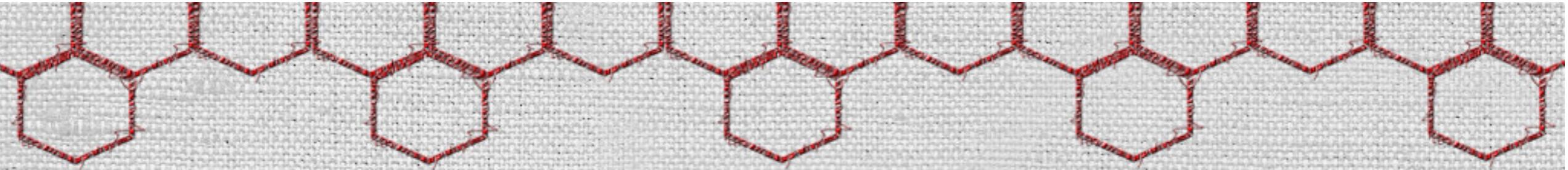
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Show me the honey

Copenhagen, a city full of blue and green oases of all shape and sizes. It is one of the few places in the world where you can go from bustling city center to a veritable wilderness in under 15 minutes.

And while you are sitting in the designated area at the Botanical Gardens, enjoy-



ing a cold Carlsberg, on a relatively warm summers day, you might experience a whole new type of buzzing.

That's because there is a new queen bee in town, a non-profitable association called Bybi, and they are buzzing all over town.

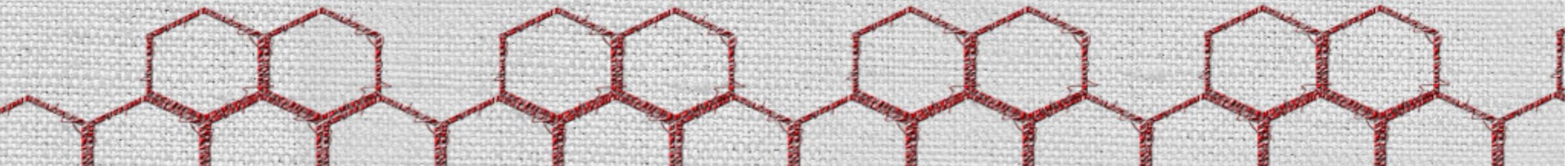
The city bee project brings about 4.000 000 bees to the city of Copenhagen. As terrifying as that might sound these 4.000 000 bees will contribute in creating a sustainable local honey industry. All the while helping nature flourish more, to delight to the

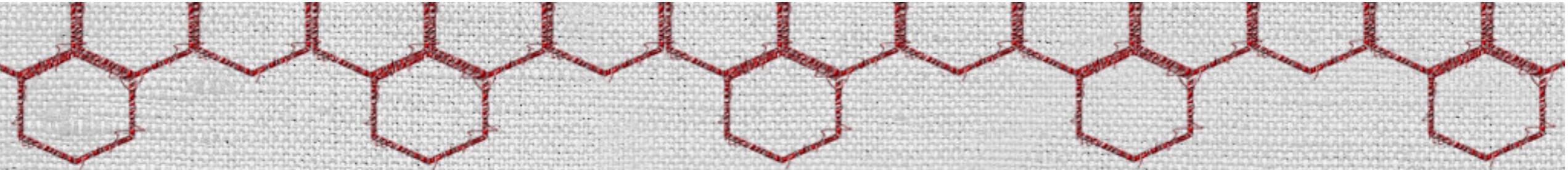
city people the bees and the environment.

This project does not only help nature and the urban sustainability it is also a project helping people in need. The bees live on the rooftops of iconic buildings and businesses, and are being looked after

people who have been long-term unemployed, formerly homeless and refugees.

We met up with, Bjørn Ambjørn a formerly homeless man who has been given another chance to feel he belongs. While standing on the top of Bella Center looking out over the city he loves Bjørn





starts explaining how it all started.

Bjørn was recruited from the centre's service users; he was long-term unemployed and homeless.

When he was asked to be part of the program at first he felt like he would not be able to do it, "I haven't been on the workforce for such a long time, and I felt like this task was way too big for someone like me

to handle." But Bjørn decided to give it a shot "I had nothing better to do anyway!" he chuckles about his own comment.

The Bybi have established Scandinavia's first urban honey factory in collaboration with Aktivitetscenter Sundholm. Here people like Bjørn are involved in all the aspects of running the factory, looking after the 4 million bees, and helping provide education to the city children.

Taking care of the bees to Bjørn is an everyday activity, these tasks consists of.....

Asking Bjørn on why he de-

cided to stay in the training program and become an assistant beekeeper the answer was simple; "I felt I belong! The program helped me to add a positive structure to my daily life, it gave me hope and something to get up for in the morning. For the first time in a long time I looked forward to my day, tomorrow"

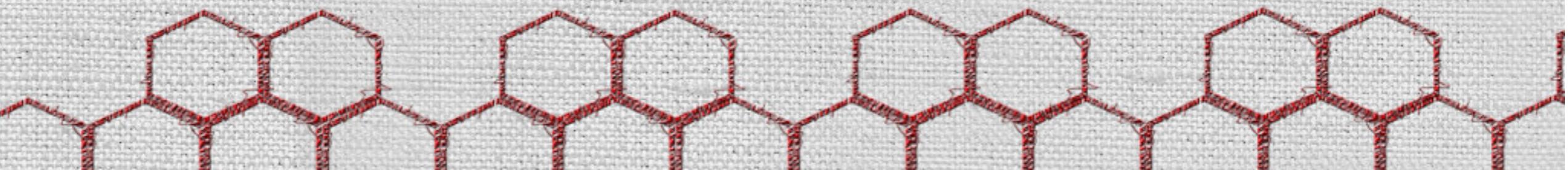
When a formerly homeless person stands on the roof of Bella Center with a beekeepers uniform, bikes around Copenhagen selling honey and teaches children about urban nature, he has "a place in society" again.

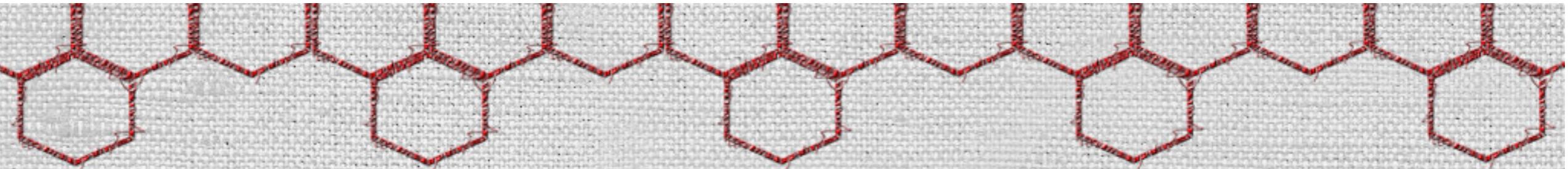
Apart from the difference this made in your life; what does

it mean to you, personally, being an assistant beekeeper?

"Looking into one of the beehives, I sometimes think about how it's like a tiny society. It makes me think that nobody is expendable and there's space for all of us. I like being part of the project. It helps me believe that there can be a place for somebody like me in the Danish society." Bjørn replies.

Is there a difference in Bybi





honey and all the other honey on the market? This seemed to be a silly question Bjørn laughingly answered. “Oh yes, yes, yes.”

“You can taste the difference, with Bybi honey you can also taste the difference between city districts. Urban honey has all the flavors and the diversity of the city’s parks, gardens, window boxes and the wild areas alongside railway tracks. Honey from Amager will taste completely differ-



“Bees recognize smells like human beings recognize voices. The urban environment is a riot of delicious scents and flavors for a bee. And when the bees feel safe they produce better honey.”

But why isn’t urban honey polluted? Since it is

ent from honey produced in Valby.”

The honey from Bella Center bees won 5 out of 5 for best taste, at the Danish Honey festival. According to Bjørn this is because of the amazing green areas surrounding Bella Center. But it of course also has something to do with the amount of special attention he gives the bees.

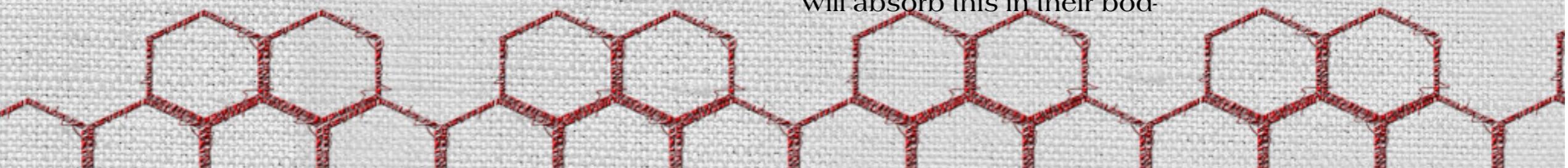
produced in the middle of a city where pollution from cars and other factors do play a role.

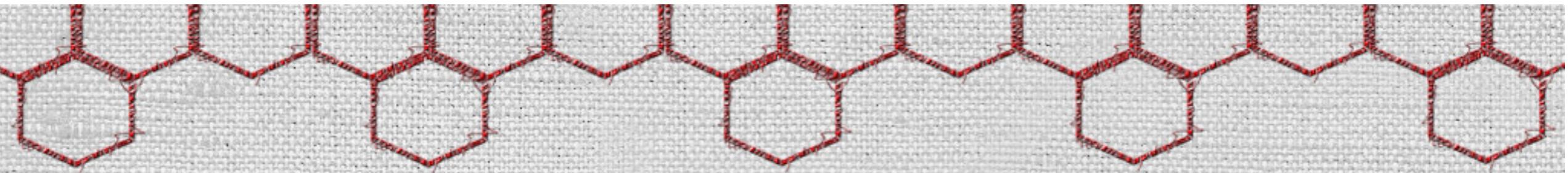
“Urban honey is 100% natural. Some would even say that it is more natural than honey from the countryside! This is because bees avoid polluted flowers, and if they pick up dangerous substances while they are flying around, they will smell bad and be rejected by the guard bees when they try to get back into the hive. Bees that pick up trace levels of heavy metals from car exhausts and other forms of industrial pollution will absorb this in their bod-



ies. It does not get passed on to the honey. In fact, the process of transforming the nectar to honey happens inside the bee’s body, and this acts as a kind of natural filter.”

So what can I do to help? How can I contribute to a project this sweet? I asked Bjørn before he had to rush off to go get more honey. “Plant flowers, everywhere. But not in your neighbours garden if they don’t want it!”





he laughed. "Bees like wild flowers, especially blue and purple flowers, they love those."

Bybi honey can be bought different places around Copenhagen and in some Superbrugsen stores. If you are heading out of town, you can also find a shop in the airport selling honey from the hives at the airport. Or drop by the Skybar in Bella Sky to grab a beer made from the honey from the top of Bella Center.

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Info for infographics:

Bella Center helped bring 600.000 new bees to the city in 2011.

The bees produced 210 kilos of honey



20 visits from Bybi's assistant beekeepers ensured the welfare of Bella's bees.

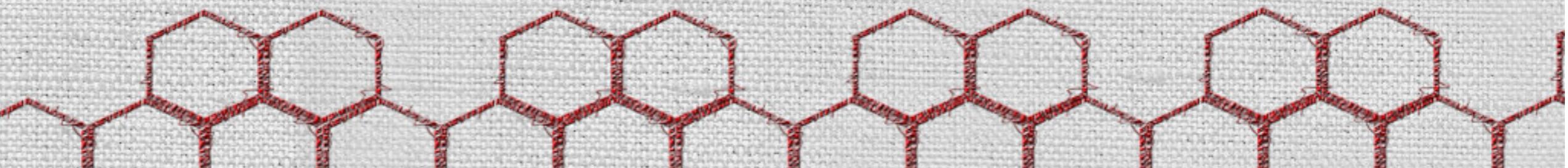
In total, Bella Center helped secure 1.959 hours of training for Bybi's assistant beekeepers.

Bella Center's bees made over 925.680.000 visits to flowers around Bella Sky Cromwell during the bee season of 2011.

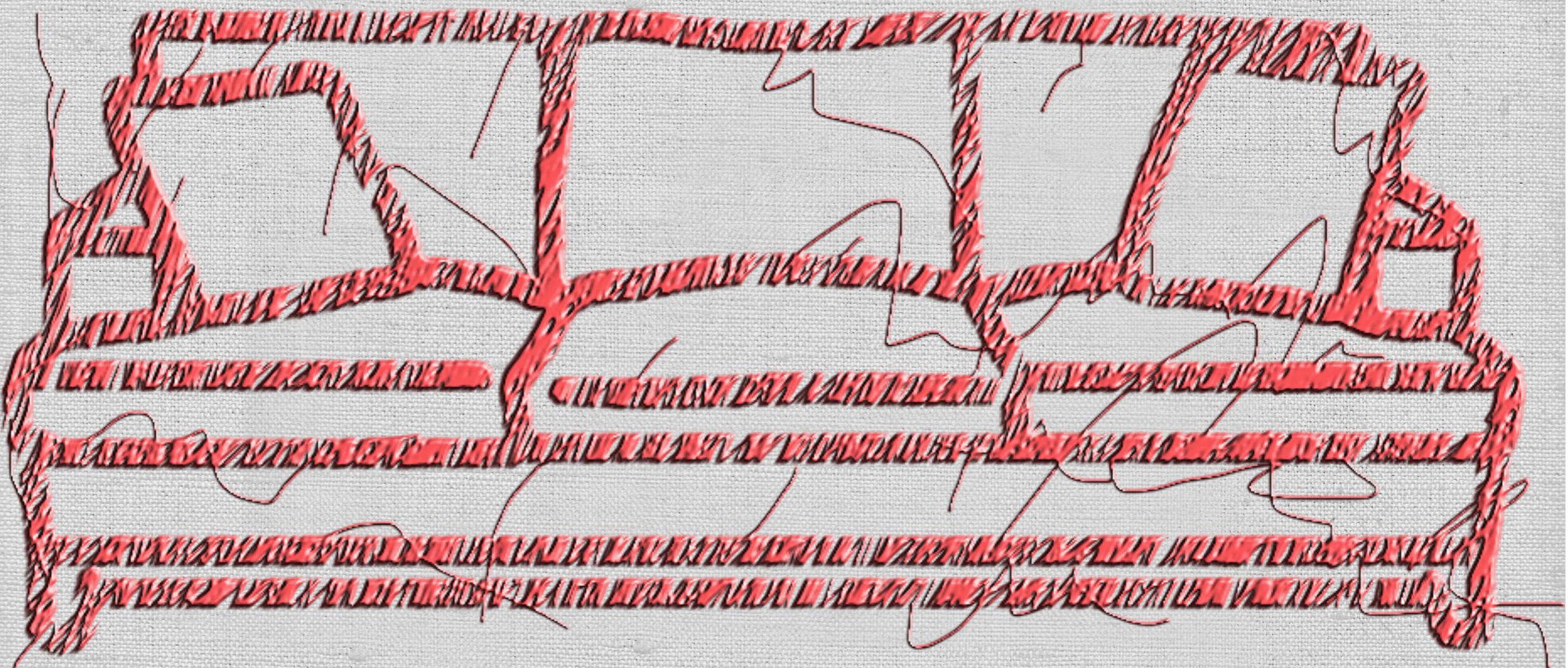
For each kilo of honey the bees produced, they flew 144.000 kilometres – that

is more than three times around the world!

These are from Forening til Hovedstatens Forskønnelse, Uffe Elbæk's "Et andet Skema", Food on Film 2010, and Social Innovation Europe 2010.



CPH Give



CPH Answers

So, you're new in town and you're looking for a new bed, the next big event, or maybe just snooping around for an offer on your favorite ice-cream. Where do you go? The answer is clear – just go to Facebook!

For a couple of years now multiple Facebook groups have been springing up, offering multiple services. From some people giving away their old stuff, to others who happened upon that special offer at that new pizza place where you could get in line for free pizzas. What's not to like? Best thing about these groups are that they are made moderated and operated by real people, not faceless companies.

While some of the groups may differ in what their core idea is about the message is clear: we the many people of Copenhagen want to help you: the one who might have just moved to Copenhagen from far away or the student who just moved into the city to be closer to his studies, you even might be down on your luck and missing some essentials.

Knep mig det er billigt (Fuck me that's cheap (created by Frederik van Deurs and Jonathan Kiilerichin in 2009)) told us that they created their page because:

"The dream was to create a Facebook page for people like ourselves: where people can help each other save money and have fun at the same time. We rounded 10.000 member in September 2013 and a year afterwards we had 26.000! It's crazy!"

The rules at Knep mig der er billigt are that here you can post where to do your groceries cheap (as in post where you found something special or an amazing price). And where can you hit the town for cheap etc.





When you move out...

GIVE!

Lets have a zero waste move-out!

There are many positives and a lot of negatives as well. Sinne from the group Gratis ting København (Free stuff Copenhagen) wrote us: "The worst part about this group is when people have put themselves in line to an ad and don't show up to get their stuff. It makes me as a giver that I'm wasting my time and it ruins the experience for others that want these items. The best thing about this is that you get rid of the things that you don't but in a good and sustainable way, whilst helping others. I believe that this swapping society, which is slowly evolving, is something real positive, we are using our resources in a waaay better and strengthening our human relations. Ps: I've only tried to give, never receive".

Louise from the same group writes: "This group has made a large difference for me. This fall I was divorced and was without money and no furniture. I have received all kinds of things from beds, shelves and lamps to help moving from people I don't know. I am inconceivably happy for this and am overwhelmed over the support I've received. In my everyday I'm very conscious about the recycle philosophy, and don't throw many things out if it can help others, if it's the neighbors, some random person in the group or an immigrant from Syria. It's amazing to give".

So should you ever find your way to Copenhagen we at CPH Answers would strongly recommend joining many of these groups, even if your visit to the capital of Denmark is a short one. It could end up showing you a whole new side to the city and all of its small side streets while even saving your hard earned money. Every day is an adventure so why not utilize these groups to spice your adventure up?

Here are some links to the pages we've talked about, have fun!.

Free your stuff Copenhagen:

<http://tinyurl.com/n5gjyঠ>

Free things and events in Copenhagen Area:

<http://tinyurl.com/ndyfnhz>

Knep mig det er billigt:

<http://tinyurl.com/nf3rrc>

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