

According to Dr. Whittle, a diagram is an artistic visual language that communicates with the reader to better illustrate whatever point the artist is trying to convey. However, depending on artistic intention of the diagram, the meaning of message/vibe can change from readers to readers. Artistic sketch of the diagram can give unique feelings to its readers as well as giving direct information (meaning).

Dr. Whittle, borrowing the words of Arakawa, discusses it right away when he talks about art and science that “If you want to become an artist, you have to become a scientist first.” What he means by that is art and non art are essentially similar in a logical matter but different in terms of aesthetics and components. Diagram for art can have less information and less layers (or the opposite – have massive amount of information and layers) while diagram for non art have to be directly logical (scientific) regardless of the amount layers.

The relationship between diagrams, maps, and networks is that they are all methods of communication that link our society together. They all contain information (for example maps contain information on locations while diagrams are essentially information itself) and are used to communicate with people. In other words, these three features all exist and are created to interconnect people.

What I find interesting about maps is that we do not normally think of maps as a method of communication but simply as a GPS or a navigator. Since everyone carries a cellular device nowadays, it feels as if mapping apps such as Google Maps are only served as tools to get users wherever they need to go.