

So maybe, tell me first in your own words, so how you use evernote, and then how you've used memoir and now DayOne.

So I'm just gonna slide to my evernote so I can just have a visual reference. Yeh so Evernote I've been using it for quite a while, and it's quite hard to get your head around the UI and really make it work for you because it's got quite a strange way of how they've set it up. But it makes sense once you get into the groove of it. And basically it's... it's a place for all my thoughts that you know... it's actually a declutter zone if I could call it like that. So everything just goes there, everything that I'm thinking about, everything that I'd like to do, unfinished documentaries, documentaries I'd like to watch. I'm just recording anything that I might need in the future, or any reference point. So that's one key factor that I... then I record, I said in the form, biometric data. So, for example I would record my weight, at specific times, I would record blood test dates and variables. BMI... and I could get a little bit more obsessive and start measuring the size of my forearms and then I'll correlate my diet with a growth or not. Erm... and also it's just a place as a reminder tool as well.

So how often and when do you write on it? On the go on your phone or at your PC?

Generally speaking, whenever I feel like the impulse, whenever there's that spark when I need to write something, I use my phone and write the idea in its raw form, or the thought or whatever it is. And later on in the day, or a couple of days later, I'll pick up all those notes, and start to arrange them and make the thoughts a little bit more consistent and you know... and then filter them and file them.

So do you have a folder hierarchy or tagging system to deal with that? Yeh.

And how much are you writing in these kind of entries...

How much? Let me take a look. So for example, there's a health entry which has to do with the data that I'm recording. I mean it can be pages long, like I have some nutrition stats which I'm keeping which are quite long. But then there's some entries which could be a page short. I mean there's no real consistency in the traditional journaling sense. And that's kind of reflected on how I think, because as much as I would like to get into the ritual of daily journaling, where I even downloaded the 5 minute journal, and I couldn't get into the habit. I tried to set up the notification but it wasn't a trigger. The very behaviour that they try to instil, it didn't make sense to me. But what I like about Evernote is that it's very free, and DayOne as well, there's no real agenda, that you control, what you put in, you know your input.

And besides what you write do you take photographs? Or do you clip things from the web or is it a mix of everything or is it just sort of writing? I would say it's 90% text, I have some images, I also use Scannable, which is a 3rd party app that they developed that scans documents, so it's cool that there is an ecosystem there. But yeh primarily it's text. And I even could, a lot of the times start university work and essays there because I'm comfortable with the format.

So something like Memoir then, you said you used that for a period of time, was that a separate thing, or something connected with evernote.

So memoir - (...) as I was downloading it, I was very excited, because I felt like it was that app that could you know fill that void of capturing your memories in a visual way, because Evernote is very text heavy, and it's optimised for that, whereas Memoir is photo heavy. But I ended up not really using it because it was very intrusive and very automated. So I take a lot of photos of random things I would like to remember, so in University if I'm working on a prototype I might have a 1000 photos of just one piece, and all those photos aren't memories. Or screenshots, or things that people send you over text - but for some reason it just aggregates everything as a memory, and that ruins it. And it also kills a sense of control that is very important to me. I could even tell you exactly how many apps I have been looking into to solve this problem. But all of them are either a) too intrusive, that you don't have any sense of control over your... over what's being called a memory, or their.. the UI doesn't work.

So there was Memoir, there was Carousel, by Dropbox, Tidy, Heirloom, Collect, PictureLife which

is probably the best one, but again, you know, very automated, Timehop, which is a very simple idea, that it takes data from all your social media and your photos and it shows you what happened a year before or two years back. So it's kind of like travelling back in time. Yeh all these apps, they didn't work, so as a result I'm sticking with DayOne because again it's not intrusive, you have control of what's going in. But it's again, it's quite text heavy, I feel like they could have had more emphasis on the visual aspects, you can't have videos or add a lot of data. Which ok, they weren't... it wasn't programmed for that primarily, but it's the best so far.

You said a lot of these things they were too automated... is there a level of automation that you would want or that would be helpful to you?

Erm yeh, I mean, automation is important because it helps you get into the groove of the app. So a lot of applications that I downloaded, you had to manually add each photo, and that, the UX of that is just.. it kills it already. So where does the balance lie? I think you lose the balance when the app starts determining what a memory is or when that app starts determining what photos matters. You know I have thousands of photos on my phone, but there are only about 20% of those that actually matter that actually have a sentimental value, that trigger nostalgia. So the automation that matters for me mostly could be about location, or things like DayOne does, which are very subtle, where tracks location and the weather and the time. Which are data points which aren't intrusive, but they can paint an interesting picture, to trigger.. right, because isn't that what journaling is about? It's about triggering emotions from the past, at least that's how I view it.

So until there's an algorithm that can determine whether a picture is a memory or just a whatsapp photo from some random conversation, I'll have to be in control.

So it sounds like something quite important to you... how much sort of time are you prepared to spend, you know investing in sort of recording and creating these sort of memories for the future? Yeh that's a good question. As a result of my frustration with all these apps, I was thinking of going onto photoshop or inDesign and starting to make my own pdf document which would be photo based, with some text description and a title. But I'm not willing to spend so much time to you know manually manoeuvre each photo and each text and create that document. So that's why I would like a platform that could you know... this kind of the layout and the.... Yeh that's the kind of automation that I would like? But in terms of time and investment, I haven't invested a lot of time, because I haven't found an application that I feel, you know is gonna pay off it's dividends that it's worth it to invest in.

And DayOne... how long have you been using DayOne for then?

So DayOne I downloaded a while ago, but... and I just experimented with it, but I left it to the side, and recently I downloaded it on my phone. And now I'm just experimenting with it, but I like it because it's very simple, it's very intuitive.

And you're using that alongside Evernote, or is it for the same purpose, or is it replacing it in anyway?

Erm... I guess it's working in parallel with Evernote, on DayOne it's more about thoughts and creating a visual diary or timeline. Whereas Evernote is more about collecting data, more about ideas and development, it's more serious. And DayOne is more about creating a story.

And do you feel when you're using DayOne... are you quite aware of the story you're creating or are you just putting things into it and thinking that one day it will be a story, if that makes sense.

Yeh it's too soon to tell. But I definitely think that looking back on photo collections, you do get a sense of story. A cluttered sense though unfortunately. It definitely starts to build up, but the more you invest in it, the more value it has to you right?

And when you record these things, how do you actually look back with Evernote? How often do you look back at old notes, or do you decide to look back at other things? How often would you decide to do something like that, and on what occasions?

Unfortunately it's alike the same phenomenon when I take photos, I spend more time taking the

photo than I do looking back and reflecting. Erm... but how do you want me to answer that? In terms of hours? As a ratio of me to typing to looking back?

No... say something like what would be a trigger to make you look back, what sort of thing would cause you to look back at something you had written before?

Very often a trigger would be a new submission and where once upon completion you had all these different triggers within that, that could send you to that loop. So maybe I wrote an article, a note on some material, and then it has related notes or recent notes and that will trigger me to go back. But very often, very rarely rather I don't just click evernote and look back. Unless for example I'm trying to remember specific thing.

But you wouldn't say you ever experience a sort of nostalgic mood and decide to sort of browse what you've written? it's always maybe connected to something you're already doing, or it's something specific. Do you ever just feel nostalgic and want to look back at what you've written?

Erm... no. Because nostalgia is a very strange and you know ambiguous kind of feeling if you would call it that right? And I don't really know what triggers it sometimes it can be a smell that triggers it and it's difficult to capture what I'm trying to think back. But I wouldn't say that nostalgia is a trigger, often nostalgia is a result of looking back.

When you do look back at things, do you ever delete or edit any of your entries?

Yeh, if anything isn't relevant enough or I'm not gonna look back on it, I'll delete. No, I just like to have a very clutter free workspace.

And how do you do that? Do you set aside some time to declutter things?

Yeh definitely... I can share with you later a screenshot of my desktop. Which is basically, it's got 3 files, University, Projects and Temporary. So temporary is where all the clutter and bullshit goes. And every now and again I'll just sieve through and filter it.

And within evernote then, it sounds like you've got a lot of work related ideas and thoughts, how much of what's in evernote kind of a personal journaling, and how much of it's work related. OR is it hard to separate the two?

It's about 60/40 I would say. 60 work, 40 personal.

But within evernote are they quite separated or do they end up mixed up?

Erm.... They are.. no they're quite separate within their individual notes, but a project could either be work related or personal.

And so thinking a bit more maybe about some of your motivations about why you're interested in recording these things? How did you start keeping a journal? Did you ever keep diaries when you were younger? Or is it just when you started using Evernote? What was the motivation to begin?

Ok, so there are two key motivations I would say. One, it's just a new behaviour of decluttering, if I can show you... If I can show you... I will... show you how my desk looks like, which kinds of reflects this mindset... so I've got a lot of post-it notes, a lot of pieces of paper, which so this behaviour is just a way of me to declutter my mind I guess. Because often I panic or I stress out with thoughts that are lingering, I dunno, I'm sure you could relate as a PhD student. It's the process and the behaviour of writing things down, creates a sense of calm because you know that they're there, you don't need to worry about them, at any time you could revisit it. So that allowed me to focus on things with better accuracy and more how can I say, with more concrete thinking I guess. So one part of it is decluttering my mind.

And the second part, the second motivation is something that recently happened, when I just had this urge to start recording my life, but recording seemingly insignificant moments, just recording moments, just to capture them, because I've often, often you can feel nostalgic about a moment as it's happening. So that's the trigger, and often I would say that for a lot of people they often take a photograph or write something down, not so much to revisit it, but to get a sense of closure a sense of satisfaction from you know, I've collected that moment, I've locked it in, and somehow it's not lost. Which is you know a false reality, because it is lost. But yeh it was just this feeling

that I find it's important for me to collect these moments, whether that's having a meal with friends, or something more grand like going to concert or a gig. Just, even the very ritual of recording it matters. Whether or not I look back I guess I'll have to deal with later on.

But in that respect, the recording, and the fact that you're making an effort to do that is as important as the fact you might look back on that to you?

Yeh.

And how does it make you feel, that experience of capturing something, can you maybe describe what that's like?

Yeh... I feel, first you get a sense of security that it's there somewhere and that you can revisit it. And that gives a sense of closure I guess. Then you... No I guess fundamentally that's the biggest feeling, just by taking the feeling I feel like I somehow captured the essence of what's going on. And then text matters as well, because often a photo, while it can trigger different emotions, you often might forget why you took that photo, or what's the bigger insight that you have. But... yeh the biggest theme is capturing your life, capturing fading moments, without feeling the sense of loss or how they... I don't feel like I explained that well.

(Don't worry about it). How do you feel like, you talked before that things that grabbed your location and the time of it, and these were useful triggers, when it comes to capturing that moment, do you feel then that a photograph and text is enough, or would you like, or technologies that go ahead and capture more of that moment. What reflects a moment for you, is photographs and text enough for that?

I think video is the best trigger, because it captures sounds as well, and it captures a moment, it captures many frames within a moment, so you get a better idea of what it was. So video for sure is the better medium, but it's a much harder medium to deal with from a technological aspect. Which won't be an issue later on as HTML 5 is getting better and what not. But... no I think yeh, a photo and some text, related text, can definitely put you back in it. Often I think... and the quality doesn't matter, just the mood of that photo can be a portal to that moment. But a big part of these photos is that you're capturing the moment or the memory that you want to capture. It's like what Kahneman was saying about experience vs memory. If you've seen that TED talk?

Who was it sorry? Daniel Kahneman, who is a behavioural psychologists... That name doesn't ring a bell.. He's talking about this juxtaposition between the experience self and the memory self, and how the experience self is driven by current affairs and the memory self is driven by the memory of certain things. Obviously he's explains it really poetically and beautifully. So yeh, a big part of it is that since I've taken the photo, I've captured that moment, and I've framed it the way I wanted to. And you know our memories are fading grey matter, so the way that you capture a moment might not be the reality of it, but the way you have captured it, can trigger that nostalgic reason why you took the photo in the first place.

So it's kind of clear - you're talking a lot about photographs, and then you've sort of got your stuff in evernote, but you said evernote is mostly text - and you've tried a lot of these apps for storing your photographs - what is your solution for storing and looking back and annotating your photographs at the moment.

I don't have a solution unfortunately! my fortunately solution is basically this (shows hard drive) - storing all my data in folders in sub folders, which are completely dead. All my memories, it gives me a sense of satisfaction that they're there, but I can't really interact with them.

And you're sort of hoping that something will come along.

Yeh, yeh. But, I mean the incentives and the motivations of capturing x on evernote, or y on DayOne or photos are very different, and DayOne and photos are more about introspection and looking back, while Evernote is more about current thoughts, more about things to do in the future.

The more I do this this study, I realise that journal keeping is a really diverse practice. It's got this whole range of uses.

Yeh, I think because you're looking back. At least on evernote, at erm.. at a growing list of data

that you're adding on to. So with DayOne, you're looking back but your adding things that happened in the past. So you're adding to this timeline, while on evernote, it's still things that happened in the past, but you're building on these ideas.

So you said in Evernote as well you record some sort of biometric data, so what does that do for you? What do you get from recording that?

So this is where... I'm just going on to the note, this is where the QS kind of part leaks into it. So recording this biometric data has to do with different experiments that I'll do. So for example, I might change up my diet, and I'll start by taking a bloodtest, and then measuring weight, so diamterers of different muscles, and then after 3 months, I'll go back. So it's just recording, I dunno, creating correlations between experiments and what impact it has on something specific. But this data is also about recording key variables. So blood tests, I'll record how many hours I slept, or what quality of sleep that I had, or sometimes what I'm eating. Because often these things will influence the results, and I'll forget about them 3 days later, or how I slept.

But is there anything that's nostalgic about that data at all? Or do you imagine it in a few years time you might look back at the diameter of your arms and think oh how big they were, or how small they were. Hopefully how small they were!

Is it purely practical or are you recording it with an awareness that you would like to have this information as well for the future?

Yeh that's a very good point, I never thought about the awareness of that that will be there in the future. And I think that's something that I could look forward to, I think that's interesting. But yeh, currently it was purely yeh, practical, purely current. But definitely, now that you raise my awareness, it would be really cool to see all these data points and see how I was thinking then.

So your kind of using Evernote at the minute for like a lot of different things - but at the same time, you said DayOne does something for you, and your photos do something else. Do you imagine you kind of want things all in one place, or do you want sort of separate apps or separate places for different kinds of emotions and practices. Do you know what I mean? Do you want everything in the one place...

No I wouldn't mind if everything there, if it all made sense, if it had a good UI, most importantly it had some either encryption or some sense privacy. Because again that's a big issue with all these apps, that my more important journaling, important notes i keep, or important files, I keep them on encrypted storage, encrypted drives that I keep. I don't trust my sensitive data on evernote or DayOne or anything like that. So for sure I would love if there as a single place where I could have this sensitive information as well as everything else.

And how do you... so something that's more sensitive like that, you mean you kind of write it on a word document and put it on an encrypted drive, you wouldn't write that in evernote say?

No... I just put it in a txt file.

Is that something you start writing and think 'ah actually it should be here' or do you intentionally think I'm gonna talk about something more sensitively now?

Yeh there is that intention. And it has it's place in a difficult to access folder which I need to type in a very long password, and then I need to go through different folder and find... and which you know... it's just it's distancing itself. Just for the sake of security, maybe it's because I'm paranoid.

Why are those things important for you to record then in the first place? Again is it the recording that you get a lot out of or are you recording it because you know that some day that might be something you want to look at?

I guess because it's a mixture of things.. Within these encrypted volumes there will be important... how's it called in the UK - national insurance number? So I would important data like that, or my passport. So there is one aspect which has a practical function. But then there is another one which is introspective, you know self-reflective, which I would like to look back on.

And that's more kind of like a typical diary that you might hide somewhere?

Yeh, exactly like that.

The other stuff that you have, do you ever talk about it with people or share it with people... that you record things in this way?

Yeh yeh, often I'll be that weird guy who just take a photo of friends hanging out, just to capture, just to capture. And I, you know, people would find that a little bit intrusive, and I get that, but I don't post anything on Facebook or on any social media. I mean my Facebook profile is completely blank. I've unfollowed everyone, it's just there, for utility, for people communicating over university. So whenever I take a photo sometimes I need to say something I dunno... that will warm people up to the idea that I'm just taking this.

So what do you say? How do you justify that?

Yeh it depends on the context right. In some context I'll just try to sneak it in secretly. But I'll just say - 'guys I'm just gonna take the photo, I'm just gonna capture this' and that's it.

Do you have a sort of audience in mind? Do you imagine you're gonna show this to someone, or just your future self? When you're writing, who are you writing to?

I'm writing to me, or the version of me in the future, or the version of me tomorrow. And the reason I stopped being active on social media is because I realised that I was writing to an audience and that it is you know, it's not introspection, it's just what's the right word, I dunno it's kind of self-indulgent right? So yeh, the audience is just me and that way I can be a lot more honest, and a lot more critical and open. But the minute there's a possibility that someone might see, you know the content then, the tone changes completely.

You said you've been doing this for a year or half or so? Have you done that constantly? Or have you had times when you've not written as much, or lost interest in it? Or is it something you've been motivated to do really the whole time?

In the past I would write in notebooks, but not in diaries, in just notepads. But I stopped doing that because... (laughter) I had left it out and my mum started to read it. And I was like I need a safer space for my thoughts, so slowly I started to get into making it all digital, but the motivation was always there, but motivation doesn't last. So sometimes I forget to build on to this, but I'm getting better with it for sure.

And it's now something you do pretty much everyday or every week?

Yeh Evernote, I probably use it every week or every other day.

If you could pick out a couple of interesting examples or experiences of things that you have recorded that you think are interesting to you and you would be happy to talk about?

Let me just literally find something for you. (30 seconds looking)

I guess something... that may or may not be interesting, depending on the audience, is a file I've got called places to visit. And it's under my reminders notes, and it's just a list of about 15 things which was much larger in the past, of different, whether it's museums or bars, clubs, different places in London, or in England rather, but specifically, in England but more so than London, that I'd like to check out before I leave. And something's that cool on Evernote is that you can go back in time, and see how a note was, in the past. So you can have a sense of progress I was. So that's from the standpoint of recording thoughts and things to do.

What are those notes like? Are they a few sentences or a place name?

I can send you a screenshot, which you will see... it has all my reminders here, it has to do with books, tasks, secondary, things to watch. You'll just get a general feel of what that's about.

And that's just something you're adding to all the time?

Yup, adding or taking away. Depending on whether I've completed the task..

But you're always curating that?

Yup, it's in flux.

Then I have one which is called daily habits, which is kind of a reminder of things that are important. You know, daily habits that matter. So, you would be exercise, nutrition, supplements, stretching, meditating, reading, playing music, keeping in touch - different. Habits or... it's a good trigger to remind me of things I need to do. But I guess you might be looking for a journaling

aspect?

Yeh if you've got something like that?

Erm, yeh I do have some. Yeh ok, so there's this moment... erm... which again I just called that moment on the bus, and it might, it's probably not all interesting. It was just a.. it was a funny moment that felt like it was worth recording but, I was sitting on a bus going home I think from uni. And the bus was pretty much empty, it was me erm - i was sitting near the back of you know the double decker buses in London, sitting up the top, at the back end, and there were two people on the bus with me at the top tier. And there was, practically on loop, you know the automated speeches that buses have. And you know there are different functions, and it was just on loop saying 'please give your seats away' you know something along the lines of the bus is full. And it was just on loop, every.. just us 3, sitting up there we all kind of turned and looked at each other and started to laugh, and it was kind of a cool moment. But you know... no one would really get that?

And you just recorded that there on your phone? Or you came home and wrote about it?

Yeh I can - I'll just read out - moment on the bus in bold - announcer please give your seats away, and it just, I don't know it reflects... it's very to the point.

And it's just that tone, really to the point and then that's enough for you then to remember the thing you want to remember? Yeh.

And like - so things like that - these sort of little nostalgic moments almost with sort of interesting mundane things - where does that sit alongside all this other stuff you have in evernote? Do you have a lot like that or is that a bit more unusual?

Erm - yeh this is just a small note within a note, which is under miscellaneous you know. So it is kind of unusual. So there is a place for it, where these thoughts can exist - but it's in a minority.

That sort of mundane stuff - do you think they're important to remember?

I mean guess - I'm calling this moment mundane because it's not like a great story with a great punchline or a great build up, it's just a very personal moment that I felt was cool. It's an interesting way of seeing how three people who wouldn't interact did. And under that context. But, I generally don't collect mundane things - it goes against the whole clutter mindset. **Do you think you would remember that otherwise? Or did you just remember it when you saw that there?**

When I asked you to look through - what sort of feelings did you have looking through all of your sort of stuff there? What does it feel like to look back I guess?

Try not to find anything embarrassing! **Ha, besides that?**

Erm... I guess it wasn't so significant, because it's just like there are three notes in a collection of I dunno 50 notes that have this kind of mood or tone - but looking back? I mean yeh I completely forgotten I had written that, and it definitely triggered it, but getting there wasn't a substantial experience, because I'm just looking through text files and notes within notes, it's not something profound like using time machine on a mac. Where you can go back in time, and the way they've animated that, gives you a sense of time travel. This was just me flicking through different portals. It didn't give me a sense of stuff.

Do you have a good sense of everything that's in there? Or is there a lot of stuff you've forgotten you wrote about?

I guess 90% I remember - I remember not specifically what I wrote down, but what's the theme, and what's the title of a note. And I'm glad that i don't remember everything because that's why I use it right? But I guess something else that would be quite interesting is a move log that I have, where I have a really long list of things that I've - you know, living in London, you move 100 different houses, you know you're an urban nomad. So you know I have logs of how I've moved and what stuff I've collected, which now have a nostalgic tone. Whereas a couple of months ago when I was doing the moving they had a practical, a functional tone. **So they were just lists of stuff you had to move and remember to take, and now they've become something more..** I'll take a screenshot. **Yeh, there's something interesting about the fact that you can intend**

to take a photograph and think this is an important moment, and there's other things like that which have a practical use or just something you scribble down, and come to mean a lot more than they initially set out with is something really interesting about that...

What you've got in Evernote there - how does it compare to other recording and self-tracking that you do, as something to have and to look at?

How does it compare... **Or how does it compare to the diaries you've kept before?**

It's just a lot more, a lot more layered I guess. Which is great, you know, I think that I can reorganise my thoughts and organise different things I collect in a very synchronised... very - I feel for some reason with Evernote that my data is safe there - no really. And it's also that I don't have any very sensitive information there. But compared to everything else? Yeh Evernote is the best thing yet? **Yeh I'm a big fan as well.**

Is there anything you feel that's missing from it? What other stuff would you like to be included in it?

I'd love if there was a plugin that you could start adding your photos, that had the evernote feel and UI and this erm intuitive interface where you could browse your photos as well. At which point I guess it would get a lot heavier. But ideally that's something that I would like.

And in terms of other data, in terms of say your location or the weather or health and biometric data - is there other stuff like that that you would like included in it that's not there at the moment?

I mean, you can track your location as well right? **With evernote?** Yeh if you add a submission over your phone you can enable locations, I dunno about weather. And I dunno, and maybe it would be nice, but it depends on the context as well. Because when I'm writing down an idea or a thought or with something with University I don't care where I took the note, or what time it was or what the weather was like. Because those aren't data points that interest me relative to the information or they won't trigger an emotion. When I write down an idea - I want that. But when you're writing down a thought, there's a lot more to the picture, but maybe I'm being shortsighted, maybe it would be interesting.

It sounds like you're quite - so some people kinda just want to capture everything - you sounds like you're quite thoughtful about the things that you do want to capture and the things that don't matter so much to you?

Yeh, definitely, I mean even though, the motto of Evernote is capture everything right? **Yeh I mean all of these apps, it's all about capture the moment, take it with you?**

For me it's about capture everything that matters. Because ultimately, how much time - I'm thinking that even now where I'm a student and lets say I have time to mess around - let's say I do - I don't spend a lot of time looking back, so if I'm gonna spend time saving moments, it make sense to save the moments that matter, because you know it's an investment that the future me isn't gonna spend a lot of time filtering through clutter and bullshit.

But how do you reach that point where you kind of know what matters? Or how do you know what's going to matter in the future?

Erm.... I guess you just have to make a decision and a factor in how you can interpret it in the future right? But again that's always the most rational or the most effective thing. Because sometimes a very insignificant note or photo can trigger a very strong emotional response. So I'm not going to count on impossible things, so I'd rather play it safe and count on impossible moments. But I don't want to spend, you know waste too much time deliberating over what I'm gonna save or not - if I feel like a moment matters, I will. And I will look back. But if there's a moment of doubt I just won't.

Final question - not an easy question at all - you know - 10 years time, 15 years time... how do you imagine you might look back on this sort of stuff? Do you think it will mean anything to you? How do you imagine looking back in the future?

Yeh, that's very difficult because I'm trying to imagine what interfaces we'll be using to look back, and maybe you know - putting my stuff on evernote is a waste of time, because I might be using...

because even in 5 years time maybe we'll be using Oculus to look back at our photos. At which point organising and filtering everything perfectly is a complete waste of time when the medium that we're using is completely different. So it's very difficult to predict, in a way that our parents wouldn't be able to predict that the photos we take, they'll be able to see them through this weird digital medium. And yeh I often think about the experience a photo album gives you versus a digital album. And you know what are the pros and cons in how it filters out? And a big part of that is that photo albums are curated right - you think... you've got a limitation of space, and you've got to really think about which photos are worth using up that real estate let's say. But in the digital domain, there's you know - a photo is x amount of MB and you've got 1TB storage, so you might as well throw all that shit inside and see what happens.

It's interesting to see how previous generations were looking back, and in a big way they curated their history right, because you have a choice of whether or not you're going to use certain photos or or keep certain documents. But now, especially with people very into social media why would anyone want to keep that post from 2009 on some bullshit thing that you wrote - and the memory of you doesn't reflect that person right? (interference) I guess that we've created behind ourselves is this abstract far removed idea of how we were, but if you look back on Facebook and see exactly what we were posting, what photos - what interactions we were having, you get an honest glimpse of that weird person that you were.

Do you feel like you're curating a lot of things now in the way that you're recording?

I guess that at the moment I'm just collecting the data, and waiting for a tool that will allow me to curate it. I was looking into developing a tool, but as much as I looked into the reality of it and the investment and the money that you need to create an image hosting service... you know.. and again the market is so saturated. It's crazy to.. I guess what interested me in this research was you know what came out of it...