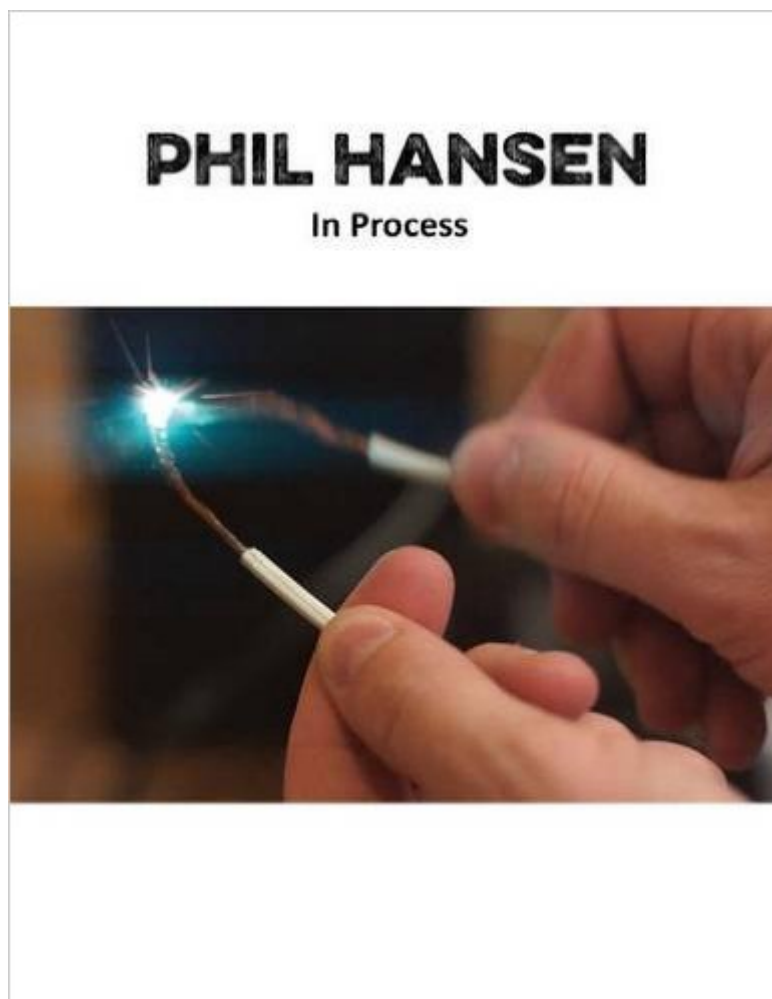


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# Phil Hansen: In Process



## Synopsis

Phil Hansen on paper?! For the millions who have viewed his art creation videos online, it's hard to imagine a Phil without the soundtrack and signature burst of action. Yet the printed medium brings out an intricacy in his work that is easy to overlook in the glitz of video. At the core of that intricacy is the fragment. Fragments in the whole, the whole in fragments. Macrocosm and microcosm. These 32 pieces show Hansen's synecdochic cerebrum at its playful finest across an exotic palette of media, materials and techniques.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

As an art educator operating with new educational standards there has been much discussion on the emphasis of process beyond product. Which sometime feels like we are sending our young students the wrong message because it is the end result that we put so much judgment into. Coming to student shows and viewing the products throughout our schools is how the community of fellow educators, parents and family members view our programs. How can we involve the process so the community sees the deeper meaning of our students work? I love that Phil Hanson's work bring that accessibility of the making process being as important, if not more so, than the product. By including the process he brilliantly brings a deeper connotation to his work. I find his innovative approach of using historical processes and reinventing it to fit his needs of expression to be so relevant to teaching my students that it is not process versus product but great process makes great product. The process of making is another layer of significance; the two cannot be separated in creating meaningful art. I highly recommend anything Phil has had his hands and mind on. His videos, this book his art are an extension of his creative virtuosity.

I wanted to love this book but it didn't quite hit the mark for me I would give it 3.5/5 as it left me craving more information about the projects that Phil has worked on. I admire and love Phil's work so much I wanted to know more about the thought processes and the designing process that went into each project. I have followed Phil as an artist for quite a few years now and am amazed by all of his art projects and will continue to follow his next adventures as an artist. This book covers the following: Artists Statement Series of works, Name, medium and size Goodbye Art introduction 5 of his 23 projects have more detailed pictures with name, medium and size, there is also some small pictures of the other works Art Happening introduction 6 of his 16 projects have more detailed pictures with name, medium and size, there is also some small pictures of the other works Background information about Phil So all in all there are only 4 pages of text, this is more of a photo book than an information book that shows the amazing art that Phil has created, I still love all his work but would have loved more information on individual projects, something more to read. The art in this book is incredible and I love the ones where there are pictures of the process he has undertaken to achieve the desired results I was given this book for free in exchange for my honest opinion.

In viewing Phil's art, one realizes as so often is true in life, that it is not the destination but the journey that adds real meaning to our endeavors. Along the way we may find it sometimes, very frustrating (like having the worms crawl out of your desired shape), many times especially cathartic (like spitting food and being able to call it art), but always truly inspiring, with everything you've learned along the way in the making of your own masterpiece. It brought to mind a poem from the Greek poet Costantine Cavafy's "Ithaca"; "When you set out for distant Ithaca fervently wish your journey may be long, full of adventures and with much to learn.....Ithaca gave you your fair voyage. Without her you would not have ventured on the way." Phil's art and book, PHIL HANSEN In Process, provides the impetus to an active imagination, inspiring many a young and aged mind to keep at it, to, "seize the limitation" (in the words of a great artist), with the realization that each final piece is a masterpiece in it's own right. My grandchildren love the book, IN PROCESS, and to quote my ten year old grandson, "This is really weird but, in the really coolest way." They understood right away that it can be cool to color outside the lines. I am an avid and sometimes totally unaware doodler. If I have a pen and there is an empty margin, I am soon all over it, having filled it with some silly doodle or silly words, so, I also truly enjoyed, TATTOO A BANANA and I have, tattooed a banana, Need I say more?! Phil's art, especially this book, encourages the imagination that is behind

every piece of successful art.....It inspires us all, young and old, to "embrace the shake", and allow it to spur us on. Thank you Phil for a wonderful ride! I am looking forward to the next journey with you. Brenda Loney

Phil Hanson: In Process Phil Hanson's artwork and processes invite the questions, "what is an artist? And what is art?" • Exploration of new or unexpected mediums in itself does not make something art, anymore than commenting on culture or society does. Craftsmanship is often involved (but not always) and Phil has that in spades; everything he produces seems to be meticulously thought out and executed---even his self-described less-than-successful pieces. Going through Mr. Hanson's book, In Process , seeing the broad reach of his inquiries and his ability to stimulate in the viewer (and in himself) new conceptual attitudes for approaching the complexity of the human experience I was struck with the thought: Artists are victims, victims of abbreviated thoughts, lost epiphanies, the unsustained narrative. They can't really tell a story but certainly they can add value, add shades and tones and nuance to the human condition. They write the stuff you read between the lines. They trade in lost epiphanies---which happen all the time, you know, stream of consciousness and all that---things come and go, slide right past you. But the artist sees them, recognizes them as they slide right past and, like the ethnographer, he makes a record. But the story is written by someone else, the artist is never credited, his role is connecting the dots. His thoughts are abbreviated, focused on the minutiae and macrotae between the lines. So there the artist stands, a victim of personal vision, unable to tell a story but completely capable of pointing out the matrix of consciousnesses that make a story and life accessible. And Phil's work does just that and does it with originality, compassion, humor, and boundless energy. Check it out!

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