



VAPOR VALENTINE

Vapor Valentine is a **dynamic cloud** that captures and displays the **ever-changing life and light of Times Square**.

The cloud evokes the **intimate romance** of a **natural hot spring** on a winter day. The cloud also celebrates the **technology and interactivity** that define the **collective public experience** of Times Square.

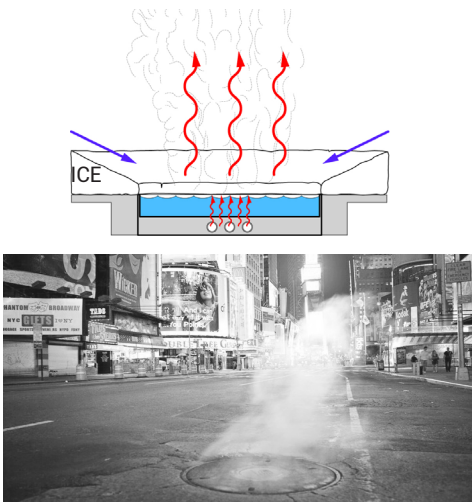
In daytime, **the cloud is a heart-shaped column**. At night, **the cloud becomes a flat red heart** as it rises out of a glowing glass box.

People can interact with the heart through touching and blowing the cloud, through placing their hands on the glass box to affect the vapor inside, and through a custom text-messaging hotline. Text your friend's number to 41-411

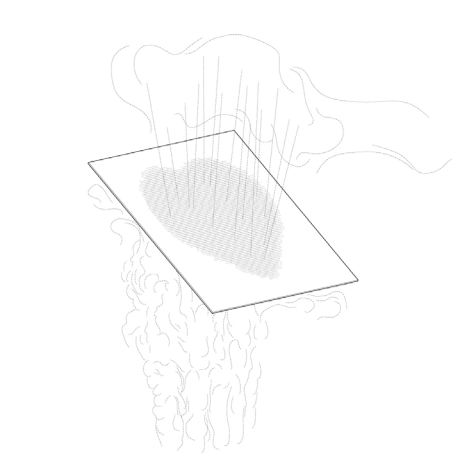
and they will receive a **Vapor Valentine message** on their phone. This will also cause the red heart to blink twice in the rhythm of a heartbeat as a **new type of public display of affection**.

The dynamic cloud is made through the **simple interaction of water, ice, steam, heat, light, data, and human interest**.

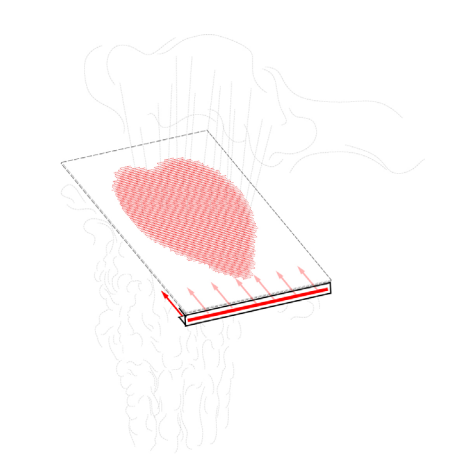
The project creates a **simple, captivating, and romantic effect**. It also offers a deeper layer of relevance in the context of **natural ecosystems, resiliency, and rapid global change**. In other words, the project is a model for design with dynamic systems, design with uncertainty, and design with rules rather than fixed forms -- the same strategies that we believe are required to address the city's and the world's most urgent problems.



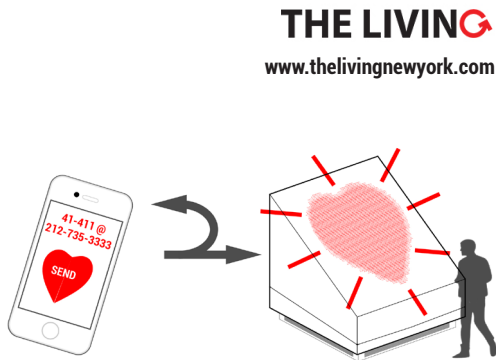
A pool of heated water is surrounded by a ring of ice, and this creates a dynamic steam cloud—water, ice, and steam creating a simple ecosystem.



The steam is collected within a glass prism and vented out the top in the shape of a heart.



High-power LEDs along one edge of the top surface create a thin red layer of light that intersects with the steam and creates a glowing red heart.



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