

*Panya Clark Espinal - Clip 3*

## Research and Discovery: The Visual Seduction of National Geographic

The one thread that probably connects a lot of my work is, is really just about intimacy, and intimacy and experience. Like trying to, sort of bridge a gap between something that seems interesting to me, but distant for whatever reason. You know in the National Geographic piece, "Research and Discovery," where I'm making objects from the magazines, from pictures in the magazine. You know there are things that are very seductive, visually, but then you close the magazine and you realise it's just ink on paper and that I haven't really seen these things, I've just been given this illusionistic journey through time and space and I guess there is kind of a feeling of dissatisfaction about that in terms of experience, like real experience. It's information, but it's not experience of that information. So, I mean some of the similar themes have appeared in some of my works elsewhere and I guess, it's, it's always been about, for me, about having an intimate relationship with something and I guess I build that in the making of the work.

There is a whole feel to the magazine which I think, contributes to that feeling of exoticism, like it is brought to whatever is shown in the magazine. And I guess it is in the way...things are photographed, the quality of the print, even

the way the image is printed. And just the voyeuristic quality of the magazine, I mean it's like a museum in the form of a magazine, it's like armchair travelling or you know the popular museum in the sense with all the political baggage that it carries as well. It is the kind of magazine you look at but rarely read the articles. It is kind of a visual journey through time and space and the world.

