

The Camera Roll Project

So, what is this?

I think 20-somethings are really interesting and often aren't credited as such. Young people are dismissed a lot as photographing everything instead of living it, taking too many selfies, and so on. In my experience, our camera rolls are actually filled with just the stupidest, most wonderful shit. There's also a fascinating cultural discovery there: photos used to be such precious, expensive things and a camera was a luxury. Now, our phones have better cameras than ever and we mostly use them to take photos of the wifi password on the back of the router, ugly triple-chin selfies taken to send a friend, and screenshots of takeout orders as evidence X owes Y \$13.28.

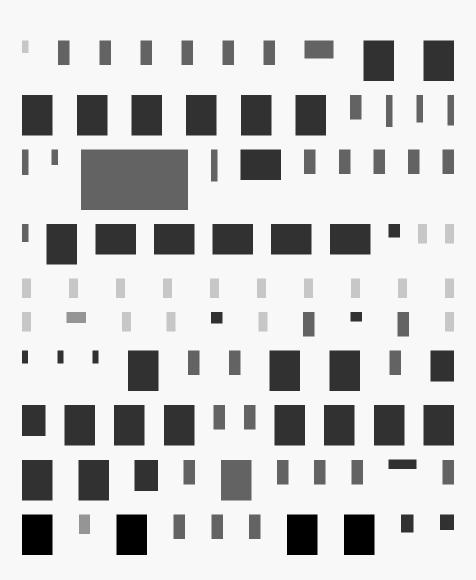
I asked 11 people to send me the last 100 items in their phone's camera roll, whatever they were [one caveat: everyone was allowed to not send any private photos they didn't want to so long as I still received 100 total]. I also included my own for comparison. This book is what I found out.

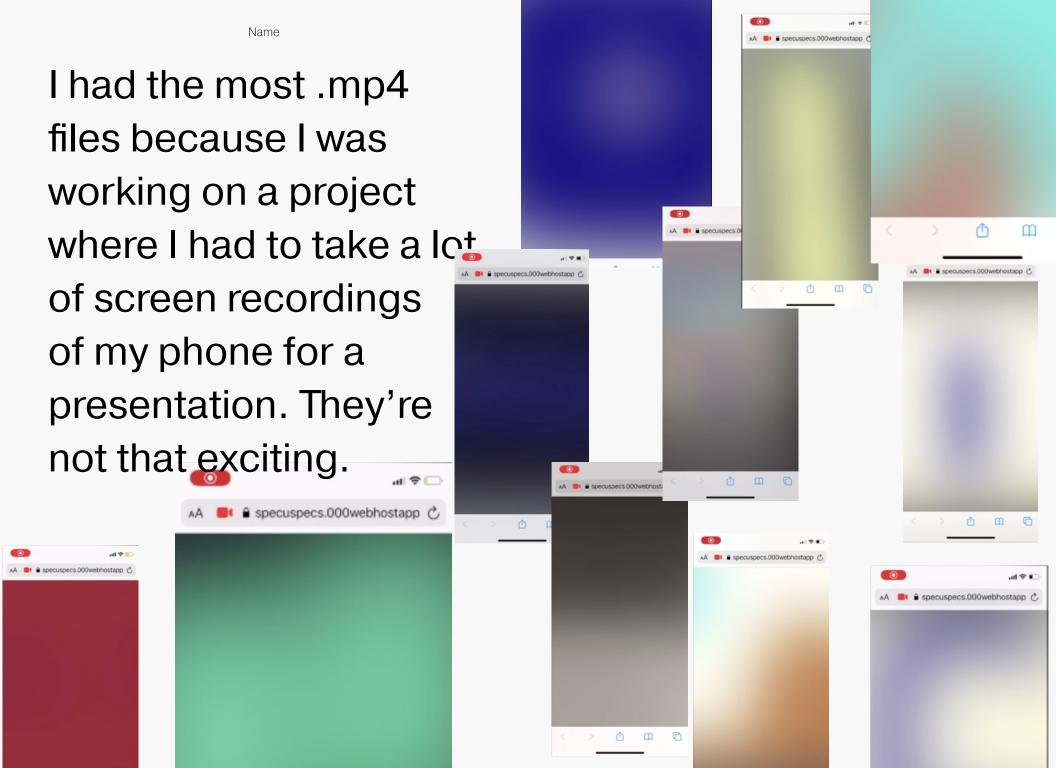
01 Lila 02 Carly 03 Tara 04 Trevor 05 Adele 06 Claudia

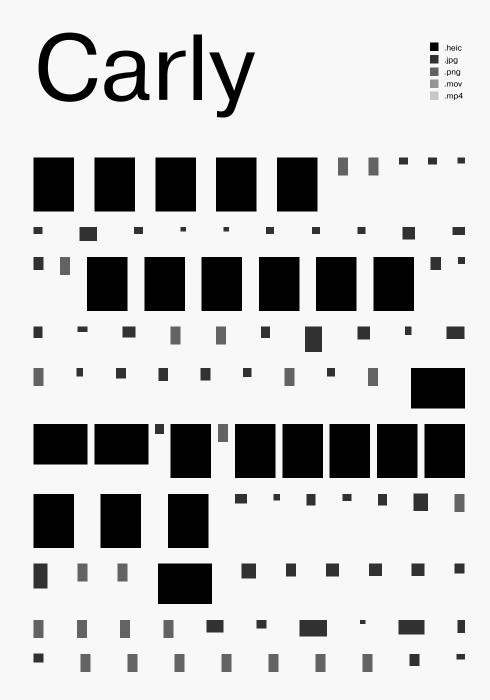
07 Anna 08 Thomas 09 Sam 10 Rebecca 11 Arin 12 Katie

Lila





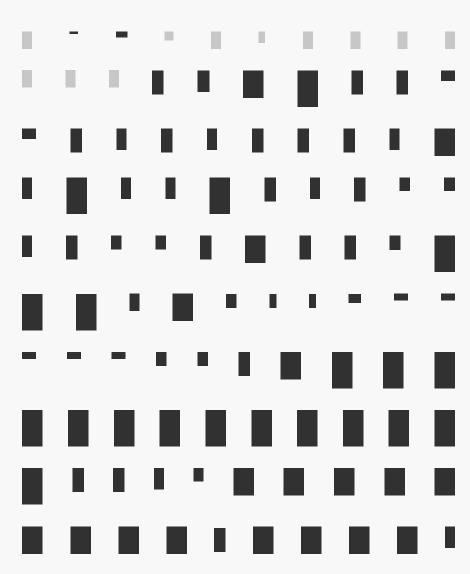




Carly came through on the kind of photo I was genuinely disappointed there weren't more of - screenshots of her phone's lock screen. Two were of texts, two seem to be accidental.

Tara



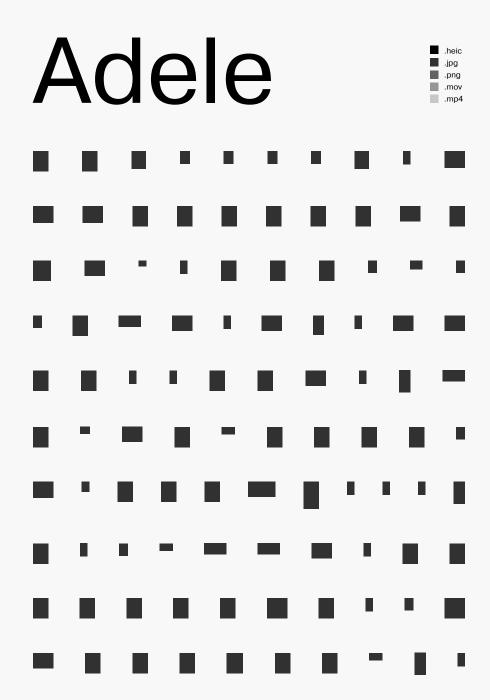


Tara had a lot of images of herself, but almost none were selfies they were screenshots someone else took of her on FaceTime, sent back, and she saved. Meta.

Trevor .mov .mp4

19

Trevor had the most embarassing photos/videos of other people, for better or worse. Including of me. Thanks, Trevor.



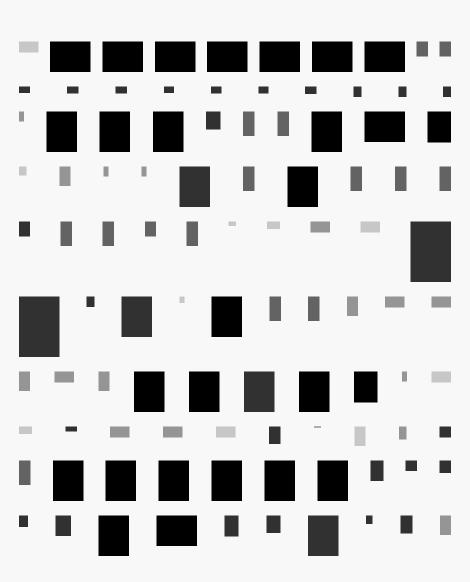
Adele had - by far - the highest percentage of photos that were a) taken by a phone and b) were of people. We love a social queen.

Claudia

Claudia's 100 were all .jpg format. All of them. Curiously, there was still a wide range of how the images were made (saved, screenshotted, or taken).

Anna



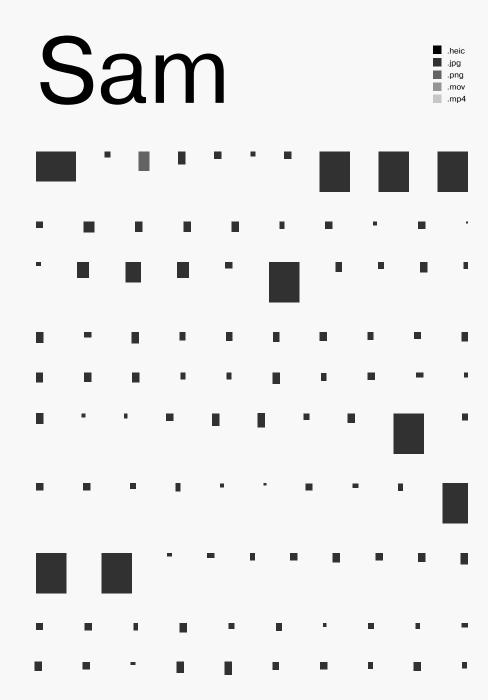


31

Anna had a lot of photos categorized as "of someone else" but nearly all were images sent to her by a client, for her to edit.

Thomas .heic .mov

82 out of the 100 photos Thomas sent were 'work related.'
Specifically, they were photos of his paintings.



All but 9 of Sam's were work-related or a reference image for an illustration.

Section Name













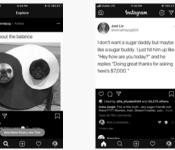












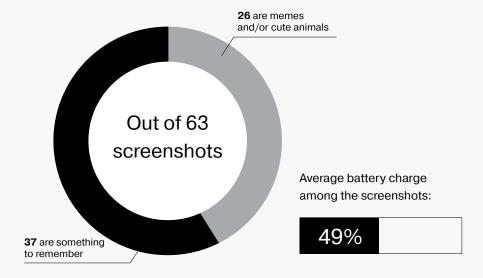


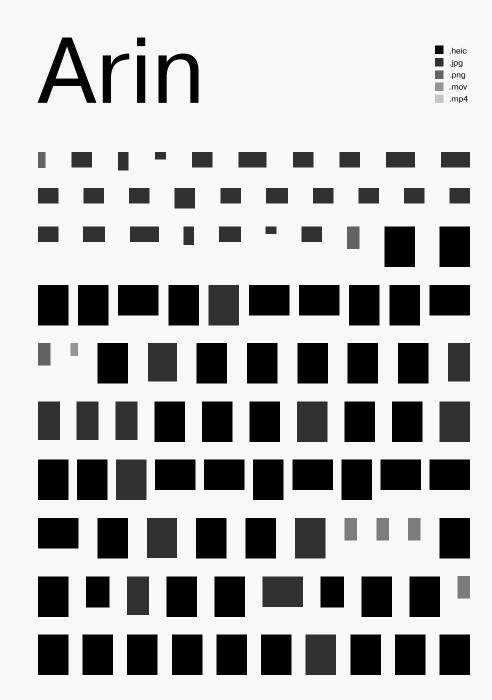






Rebecca had my favorite selection of screenshotted memes, sampled here for your enjoyment.





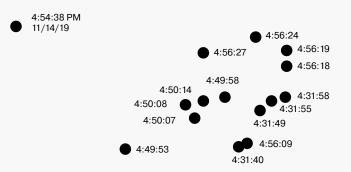
Arin's photos were the only ones that had location metadata:

West Hollywood

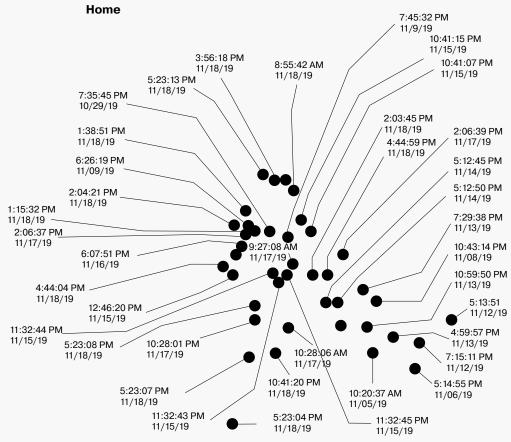
4:26:44 PM 11/10/19

4:19:11

Eagle Rock



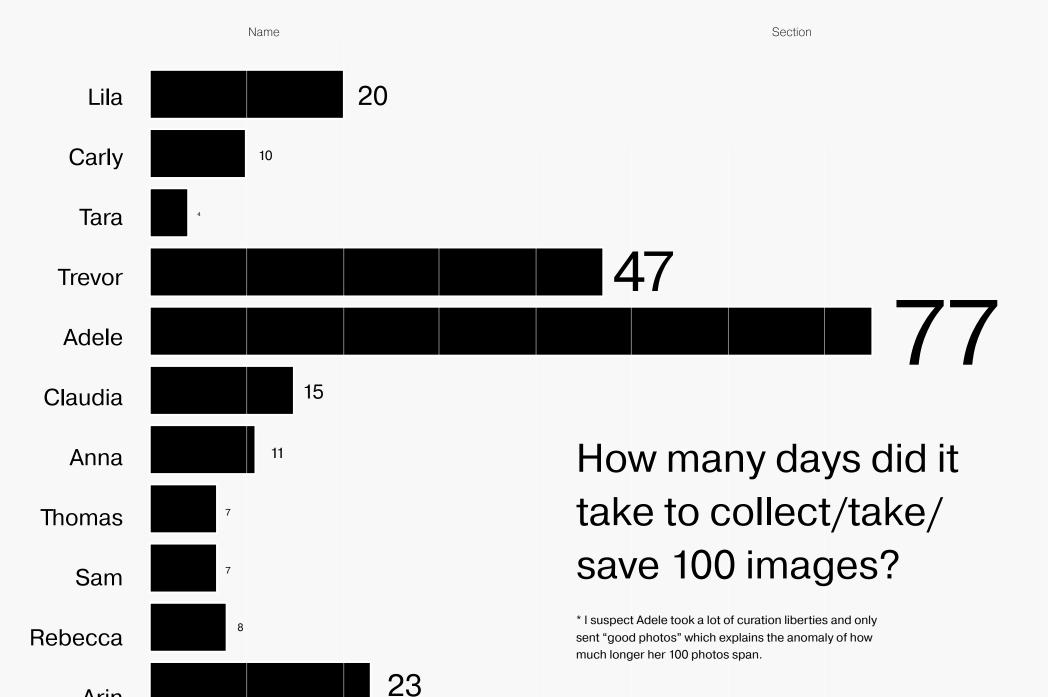
Mid City



Culver City

8:13:45 PM 11/05/19

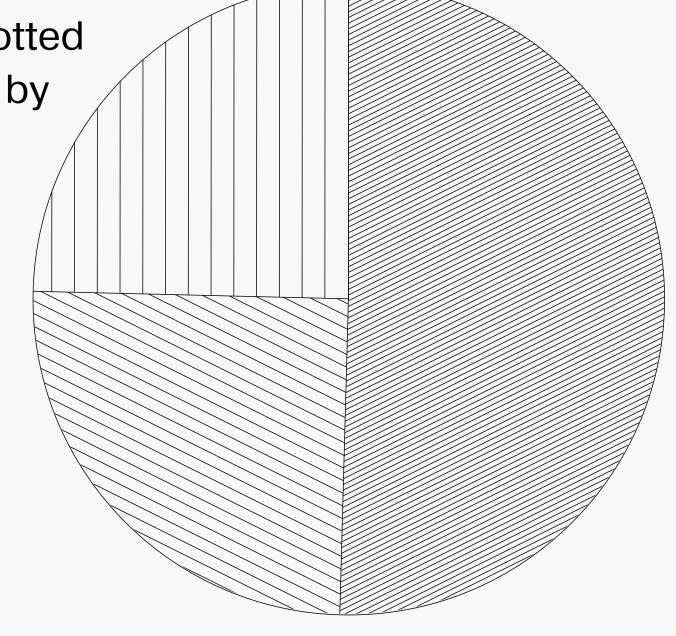
01 Type 02 Content 03 Days 04 Time 05 Place 06 Color



52 53

Arin

Were the images saved/screenshotted or actually taken by the phone?



555 Taken

274 Screenshot

271 Saved

Lila Carly

Anna

Thomas

Tara

Sam

Trevor



Rebecca



Adele





Claudia

Katie



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Name

Name

Name