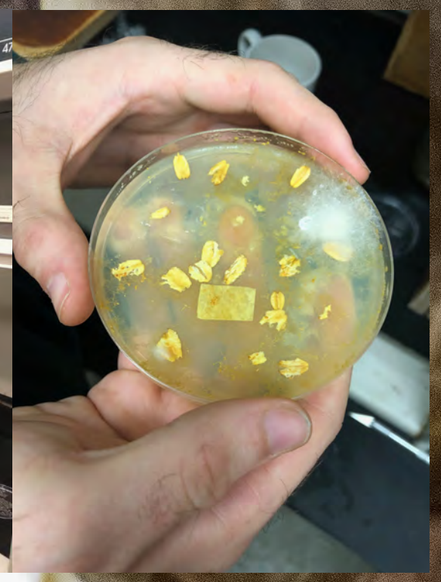
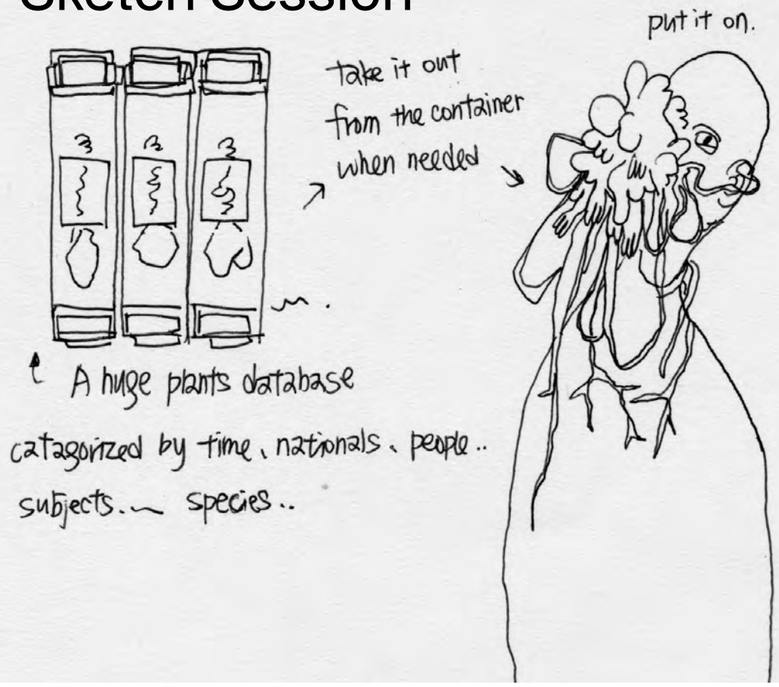
Design In The Posthuman Age

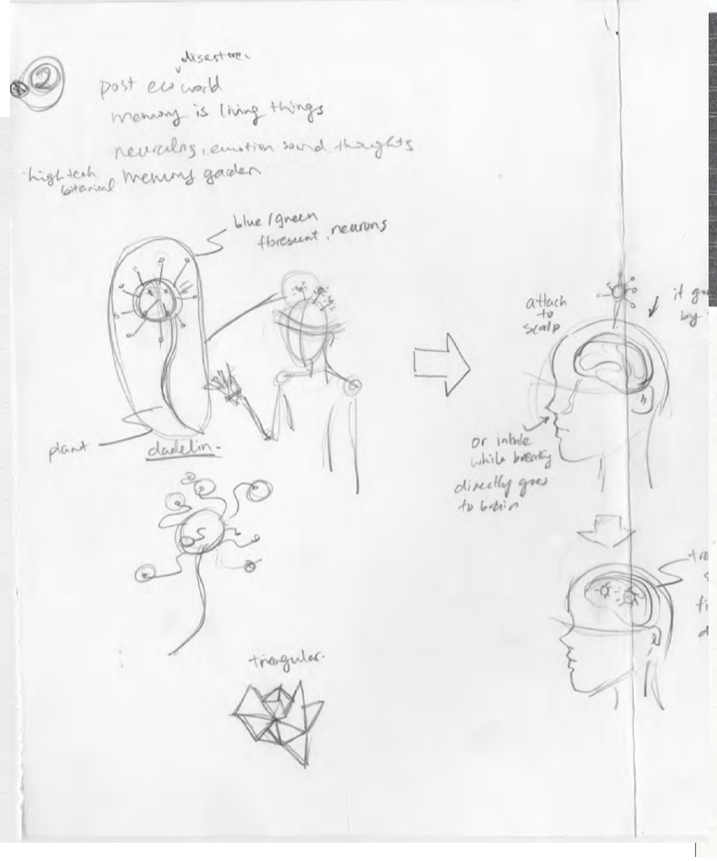
Work Sessions at the RISD Nature Lab

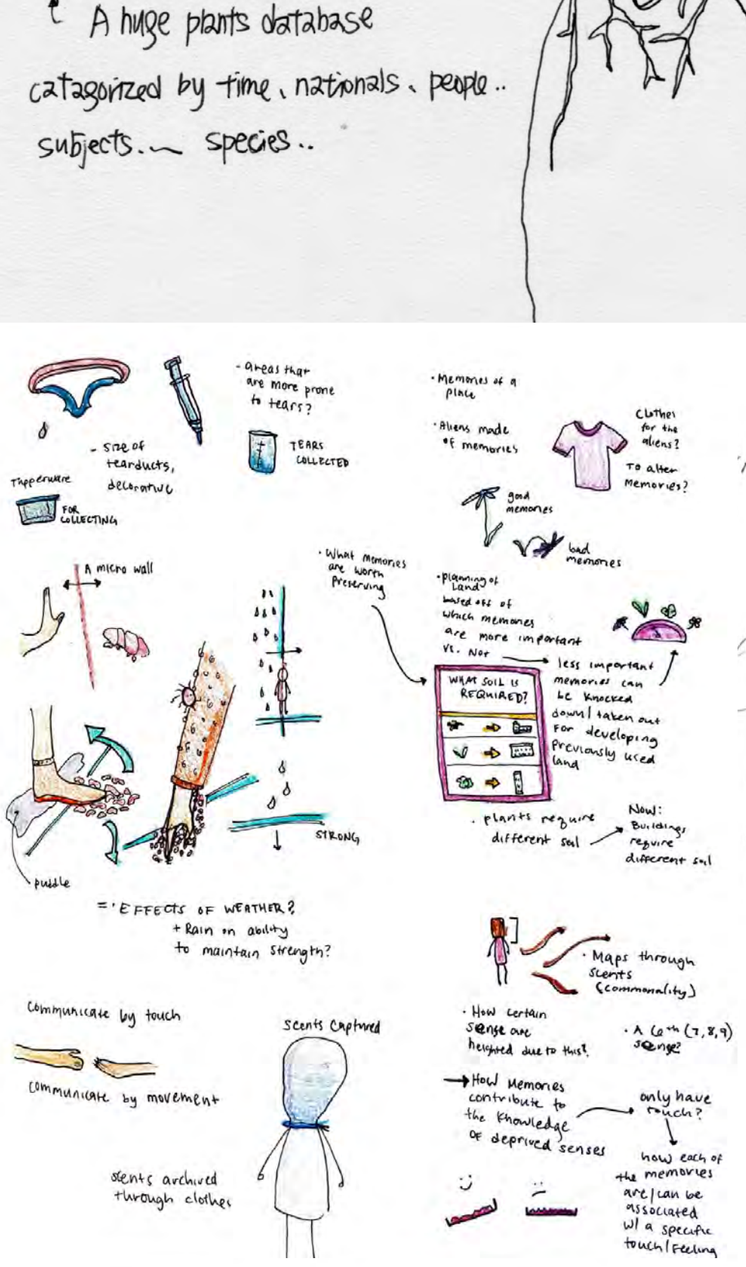


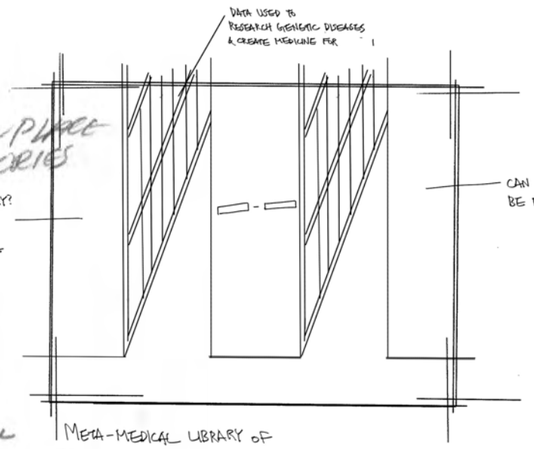
Design In The Posthuman Age

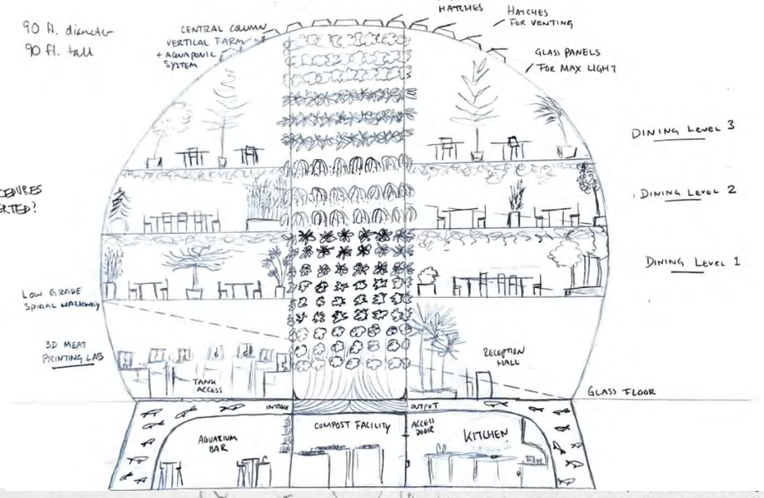
Sketch Session

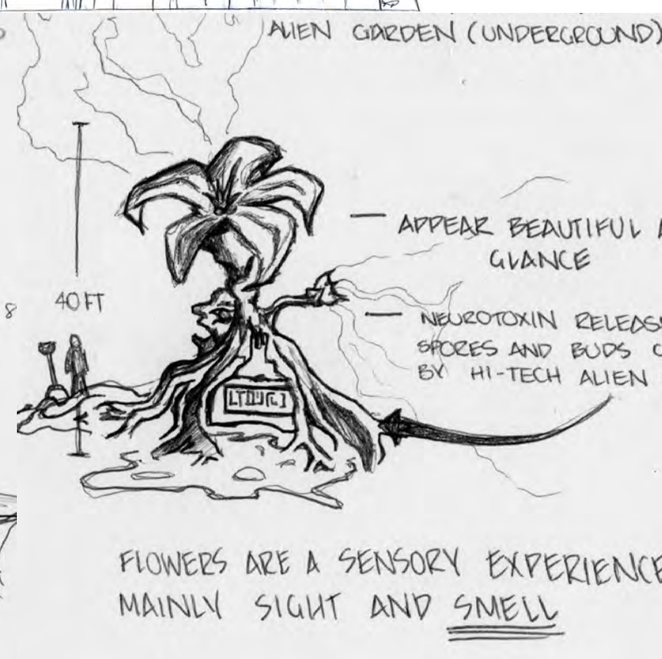












Yimei Hu

Lucrious

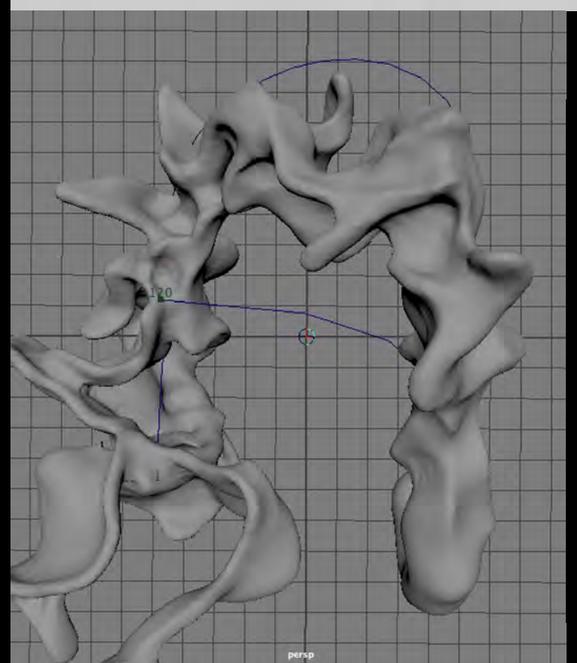
From Marie Antoinette's pouf fashion to the Kylie Jenner Lip Challenge, human desire to follow the celebrity has not changed much disregarding the progression of other aspects of our societies. As technological advancement pushes fashion trends toward further extremes, do we keep following? In 2138, the most-wanted fashion item is LICRUOS - an eyebrow implantation BOQUILLAGE, a luxury bio-fashion company. A pair of LICUROS is composed of 3D bioprinted skin, skeleton, and vascularized tissues. Customers are able to fully customize its shape, texture and color. Every pair comes with a set of implantation tools that is to be used only once. The implantation procedure is surgical and has to be performed in the medical center of BOUQUILLAGE. It is a permanent attachment unless removed surgically.

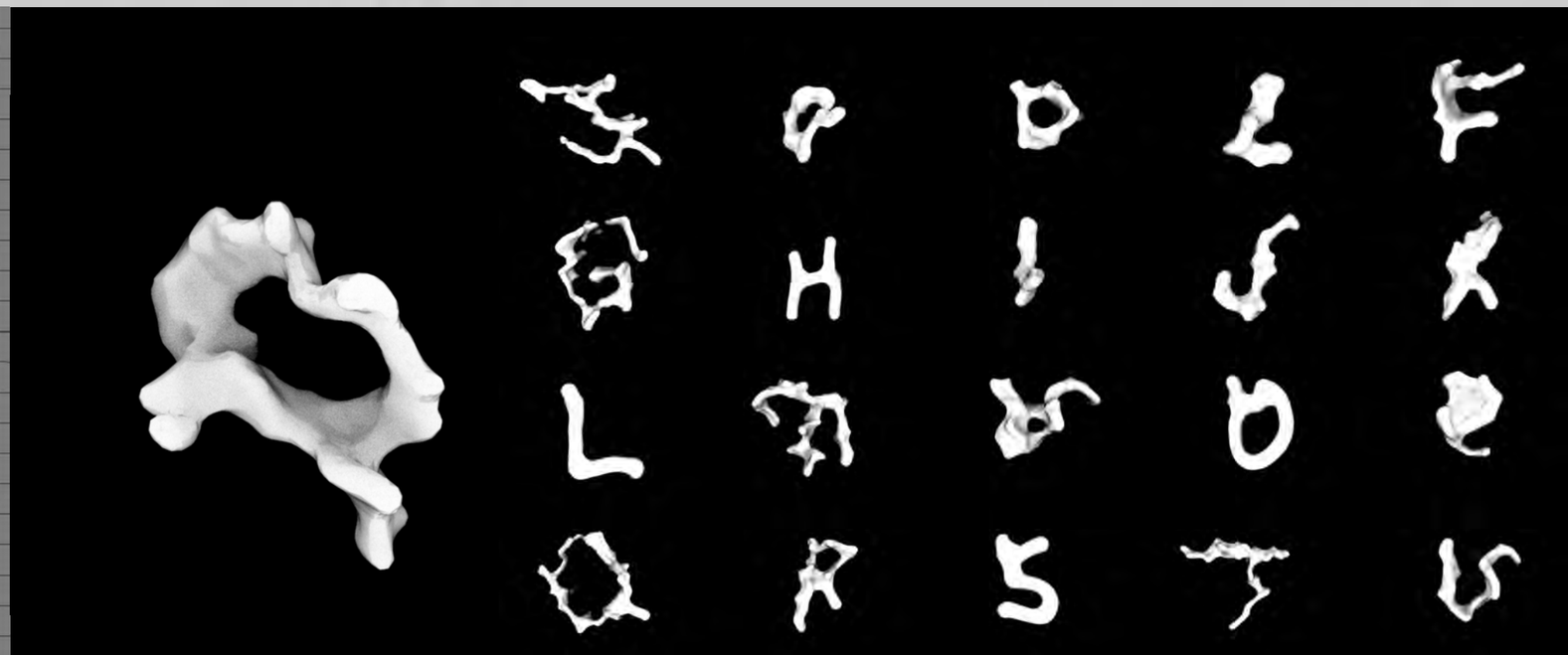
Surgical instruments 3D printed and metalcasted, silicon implants, acrylic box

Stefan Tesliuc

Symbitech

Stefan Tesliuc
Symbitech

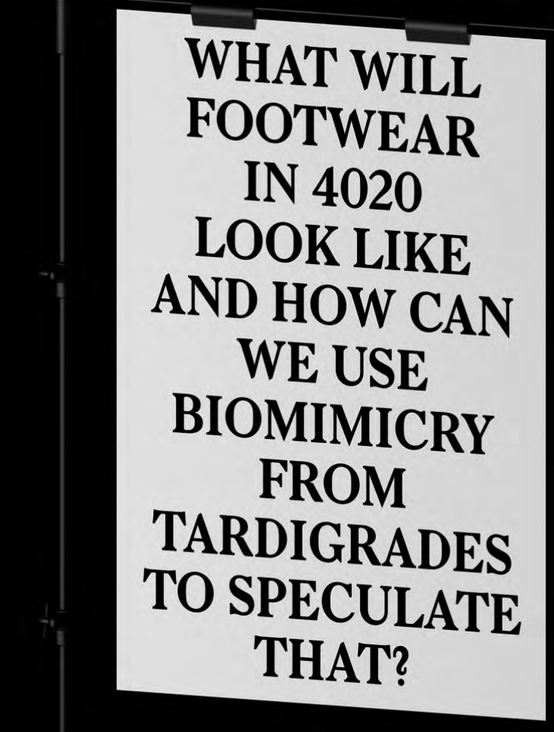


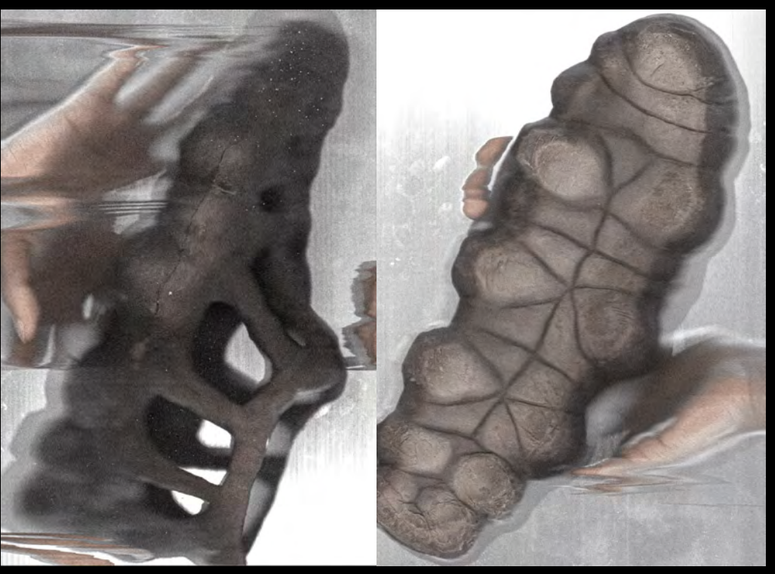


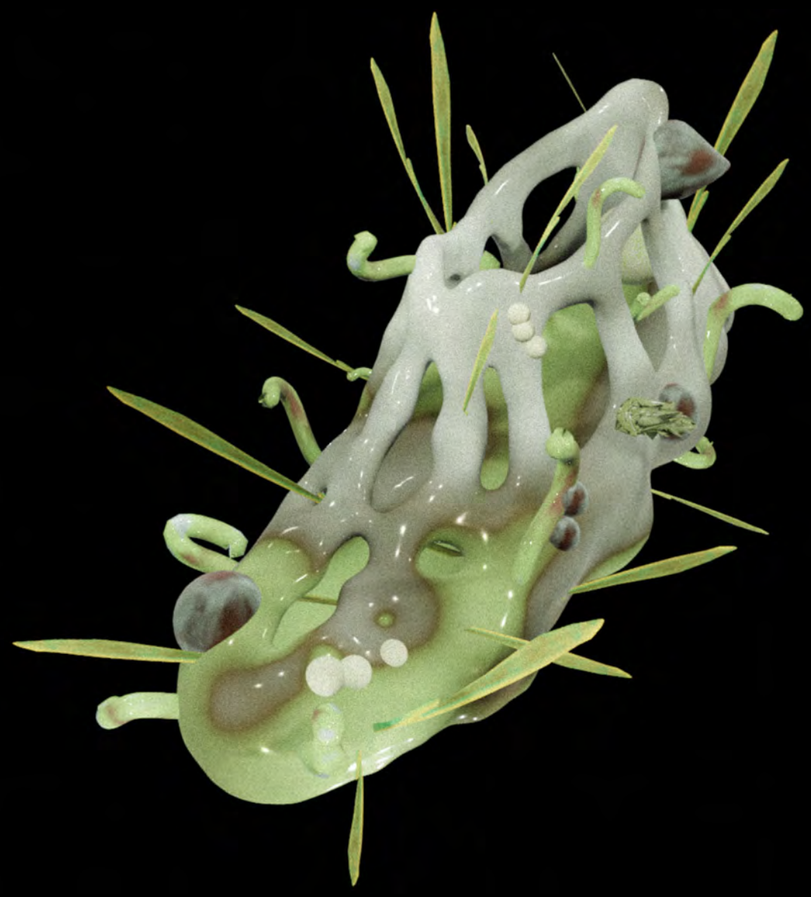
"How can artificial evolution help us form symbiotic relationships with microganisms?"

RISD Nature Lab, slime mold, oats, C4D, video

Sara Park
Tardigradism

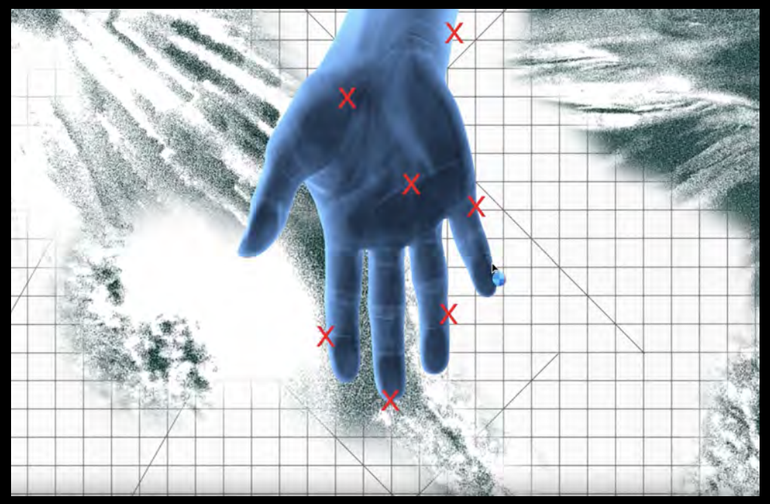


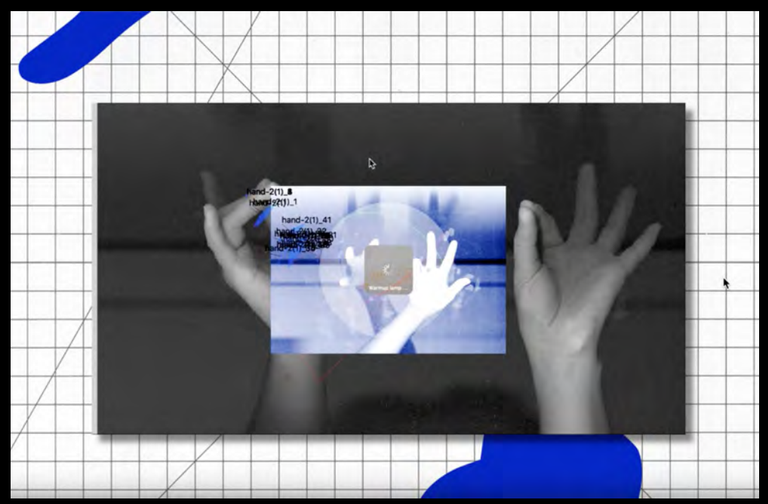


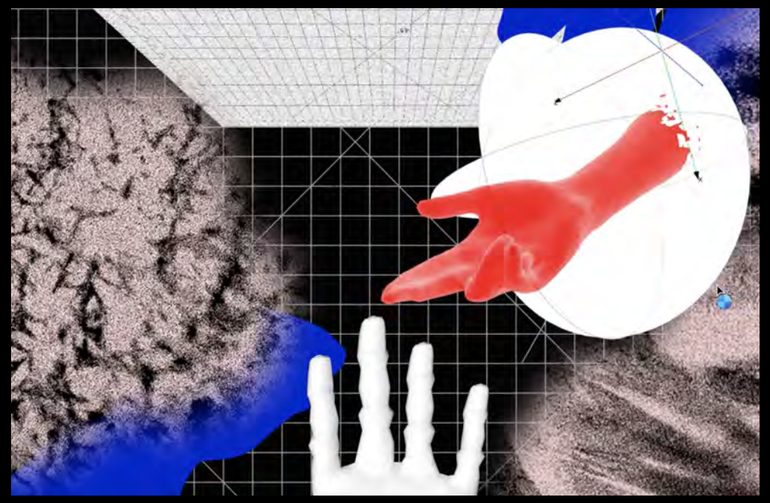


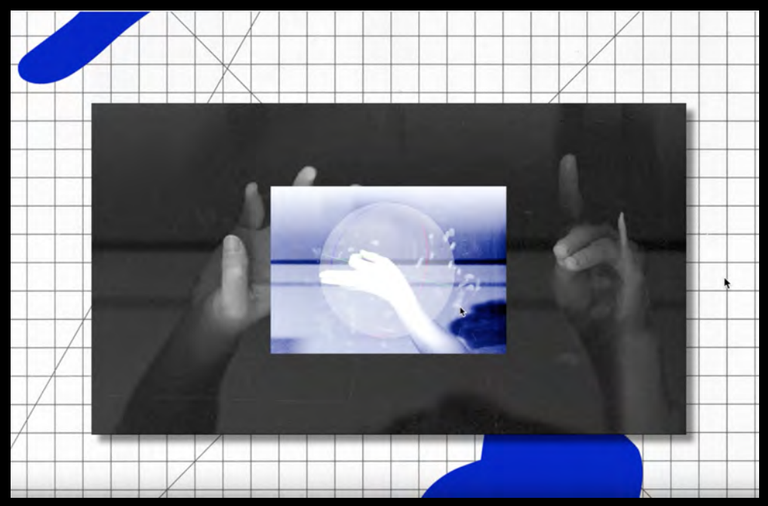
RISD Nature Lab, clay modeling , 3D scanning and printing

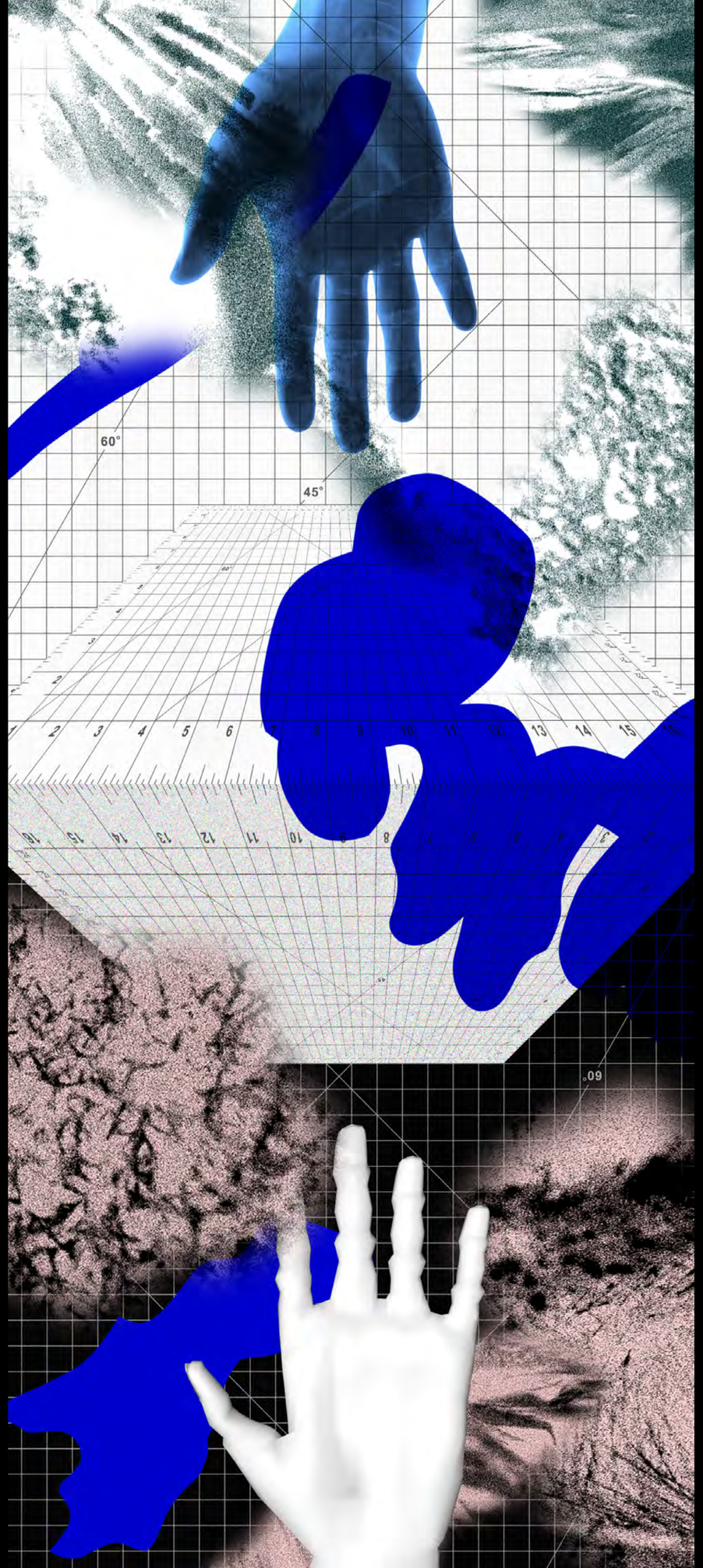
Ji Eun Kim
Sensory Exchange







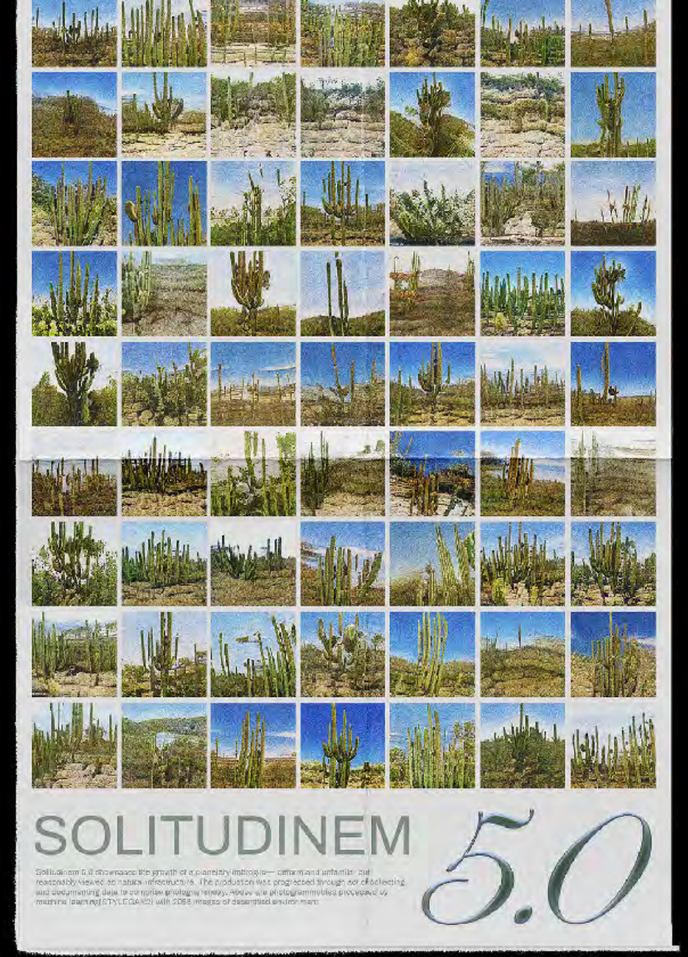


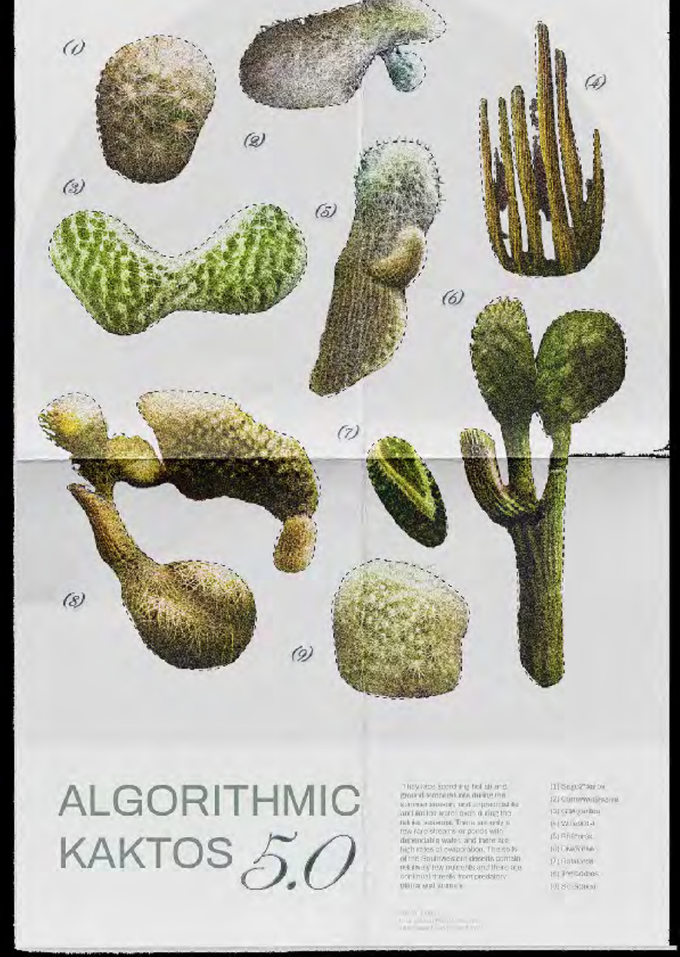


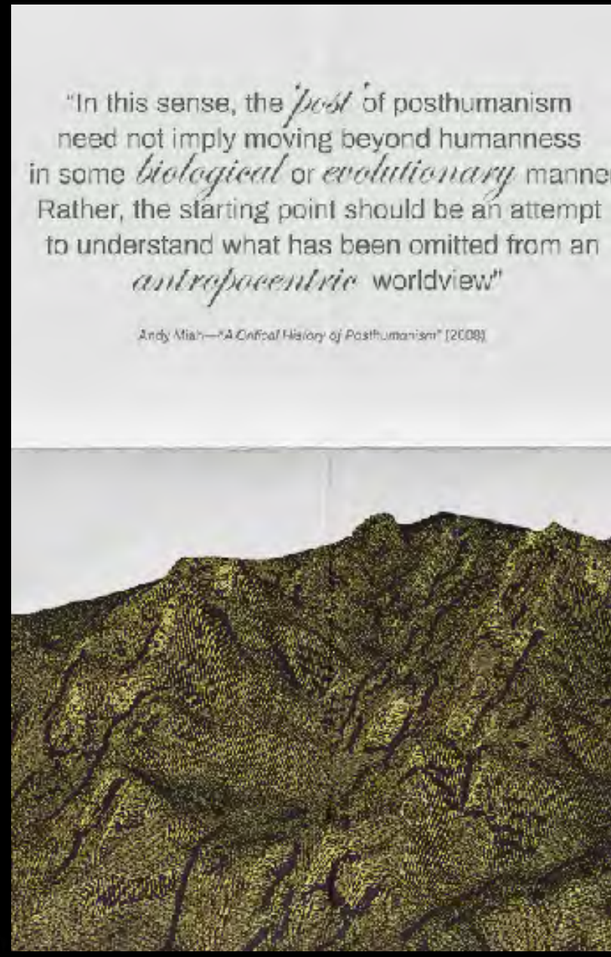
“Biometrics is the technical term for body measurements and calculations. It refers to metrics related to human characteristics. Biologic information equals our personal identity. In the future when there’s no physical body, what will we consider as our “biometric” information? This project explores transference of consciousness through behaviometrics.

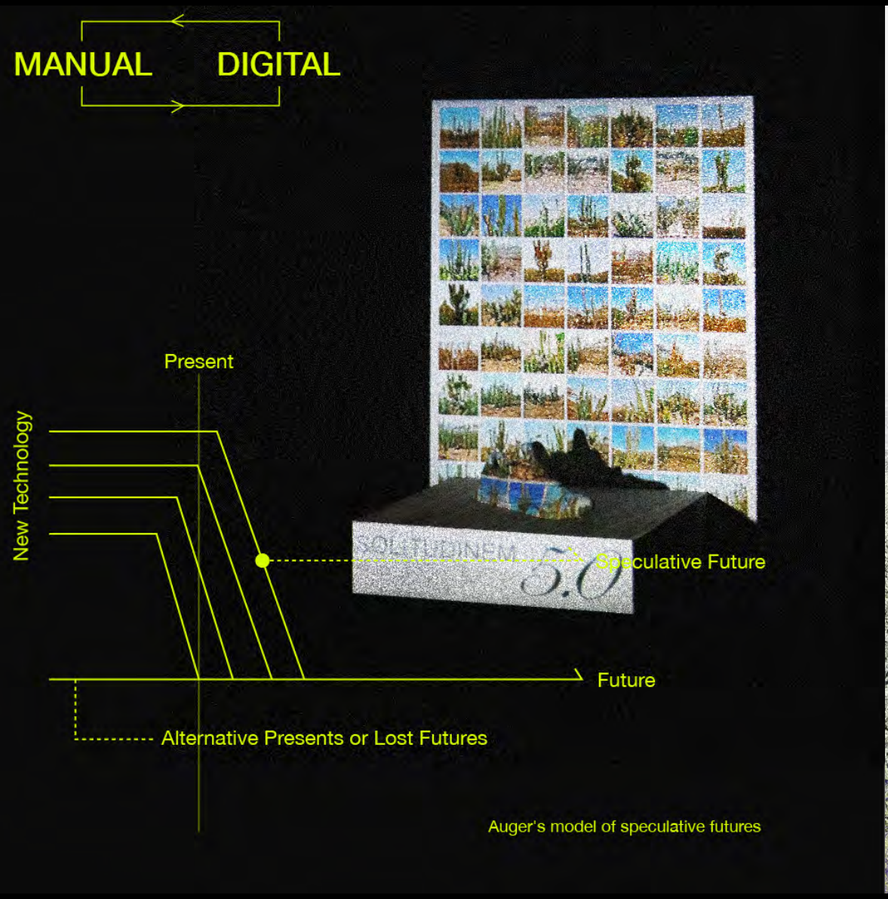
Website

Elyson Park
Solitudinem

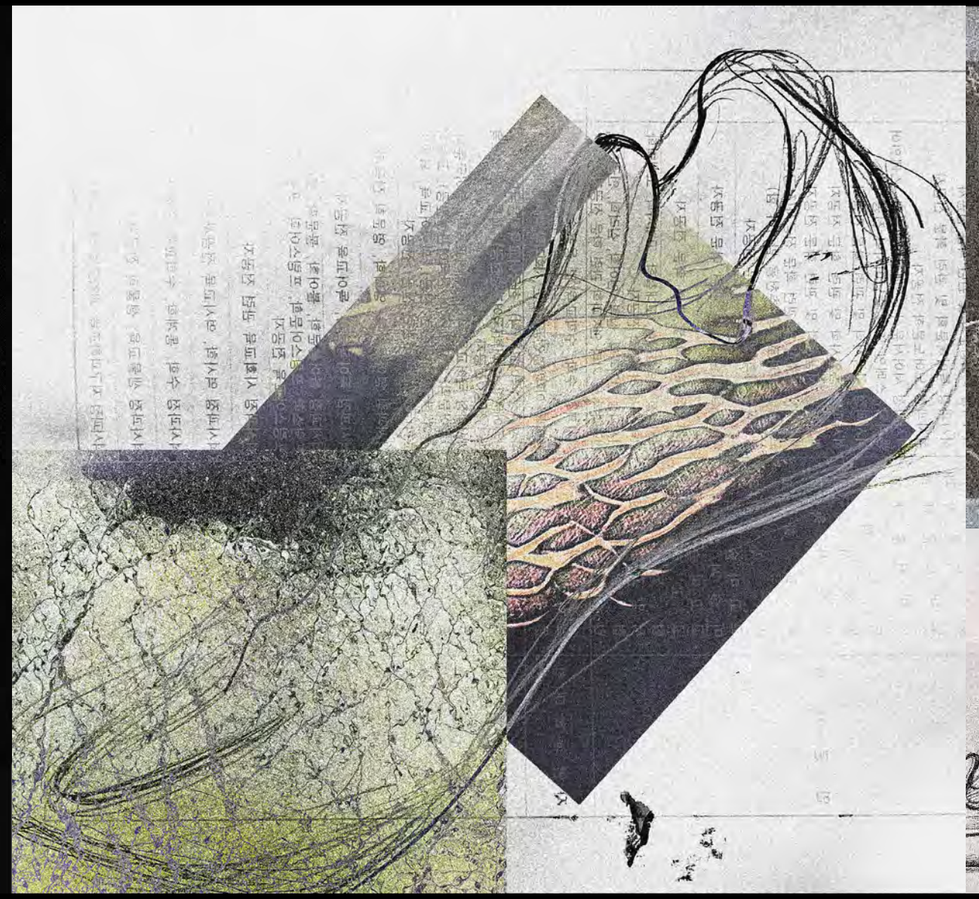






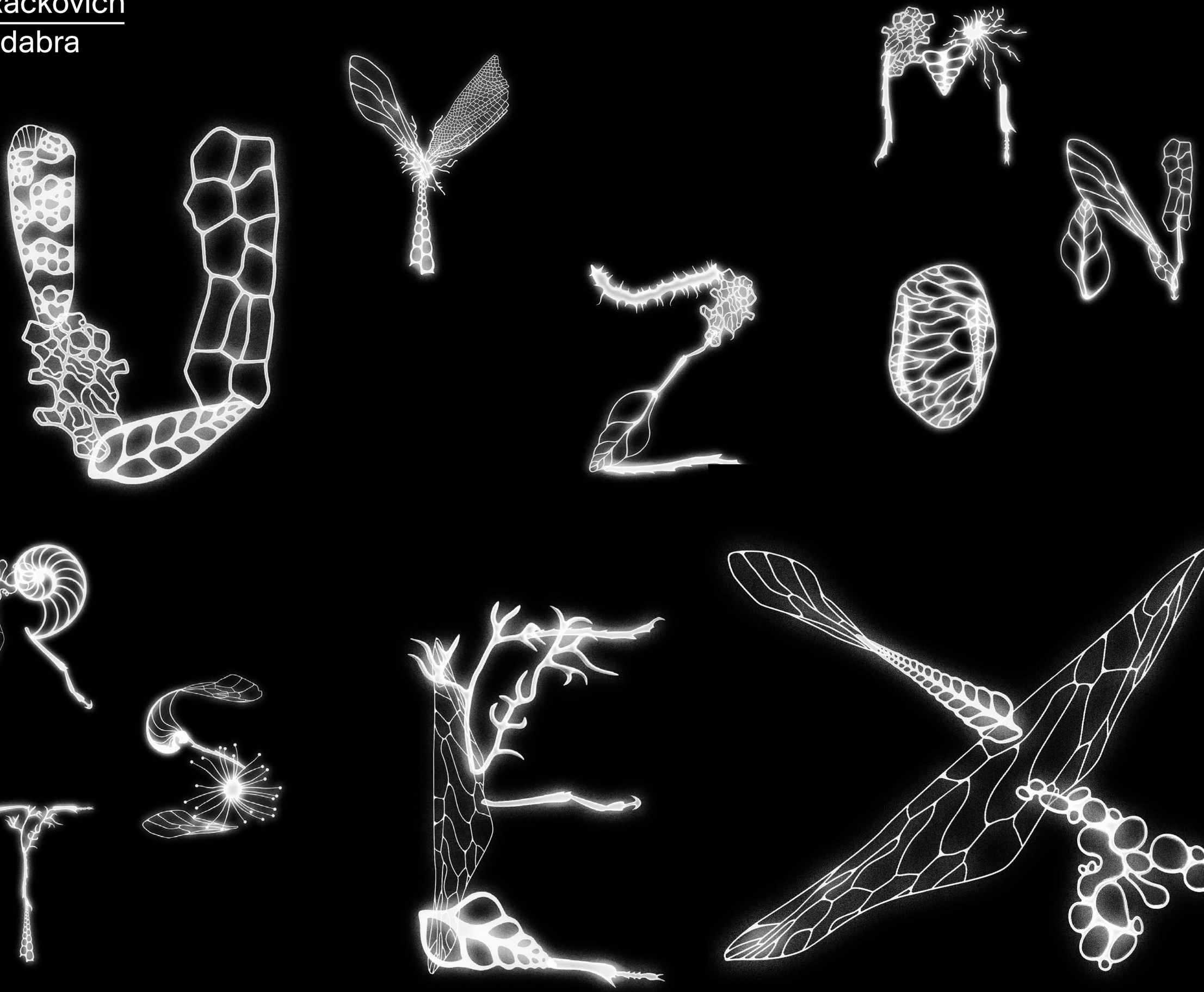


Auger's model of speculative futures



Louis Rackovich

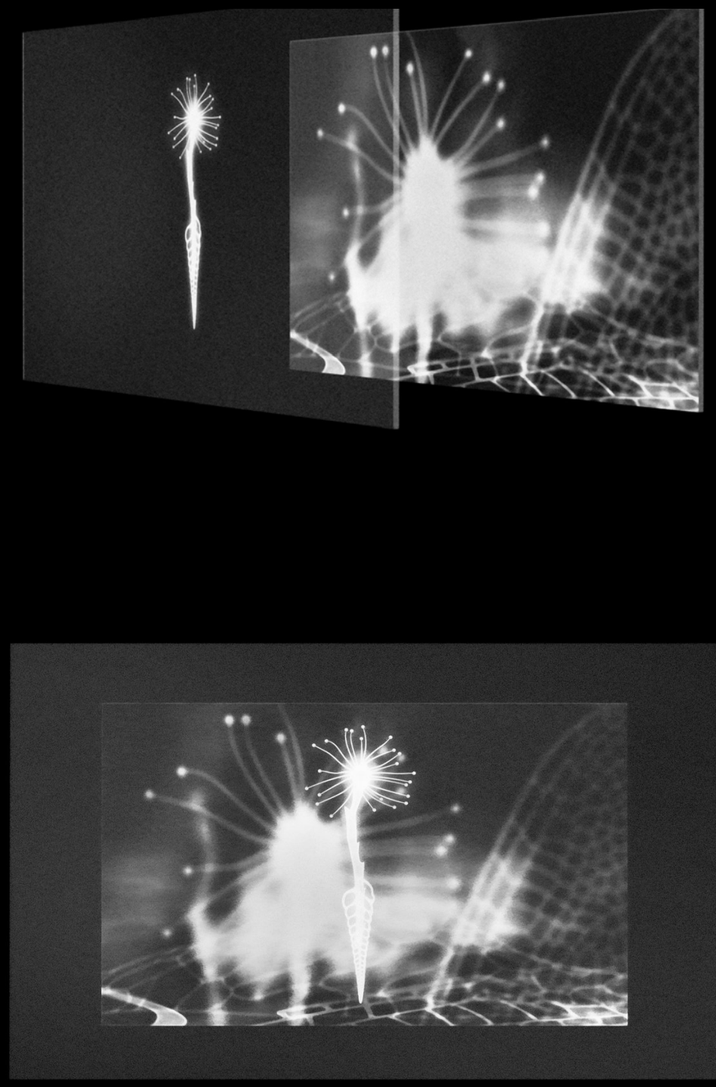
Abracadabra



RISD Nature Lab, video, installation VR

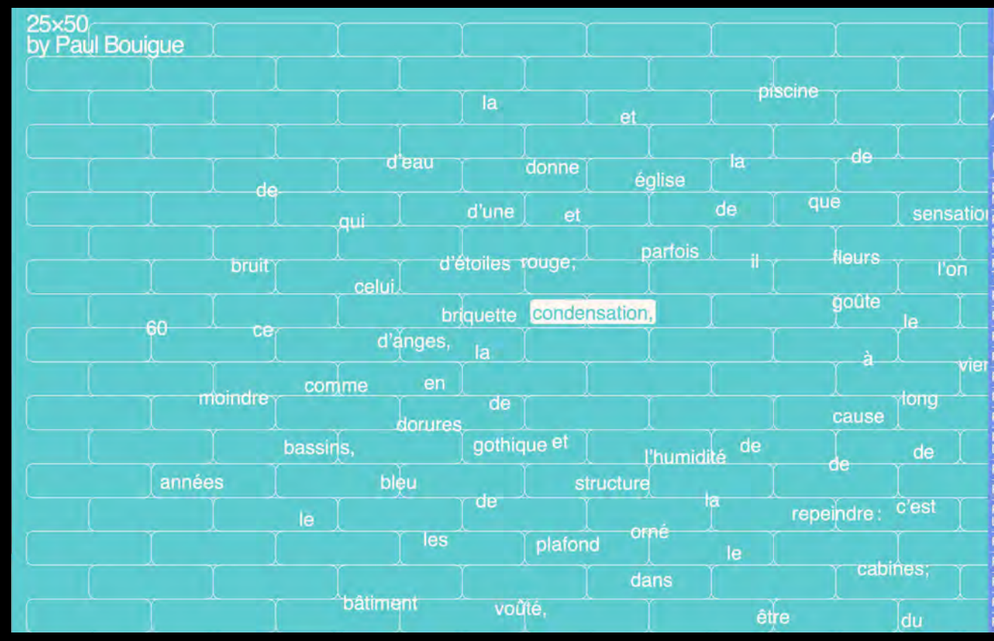
Louis Rackovich

Abracadabra



RISD Nature Lab, video, installation VR

Tiger Dingsun
Reading Machines

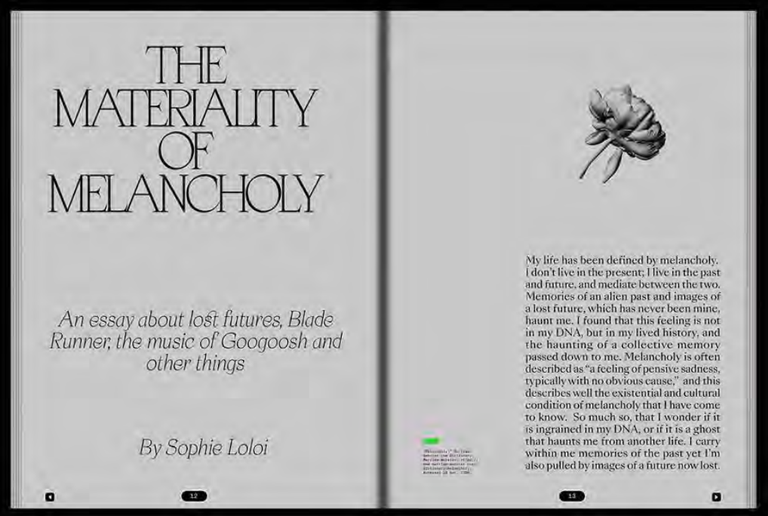


Website, performance

Sophie Loloi

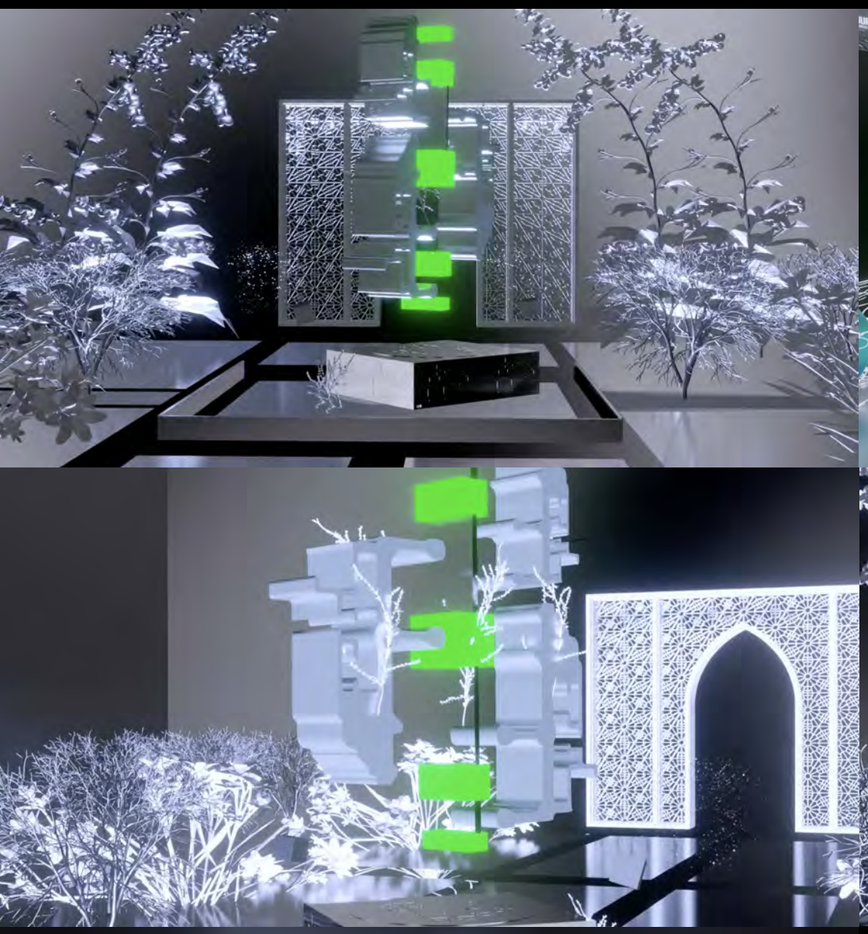
Thesis: Ancient Hyperpresent

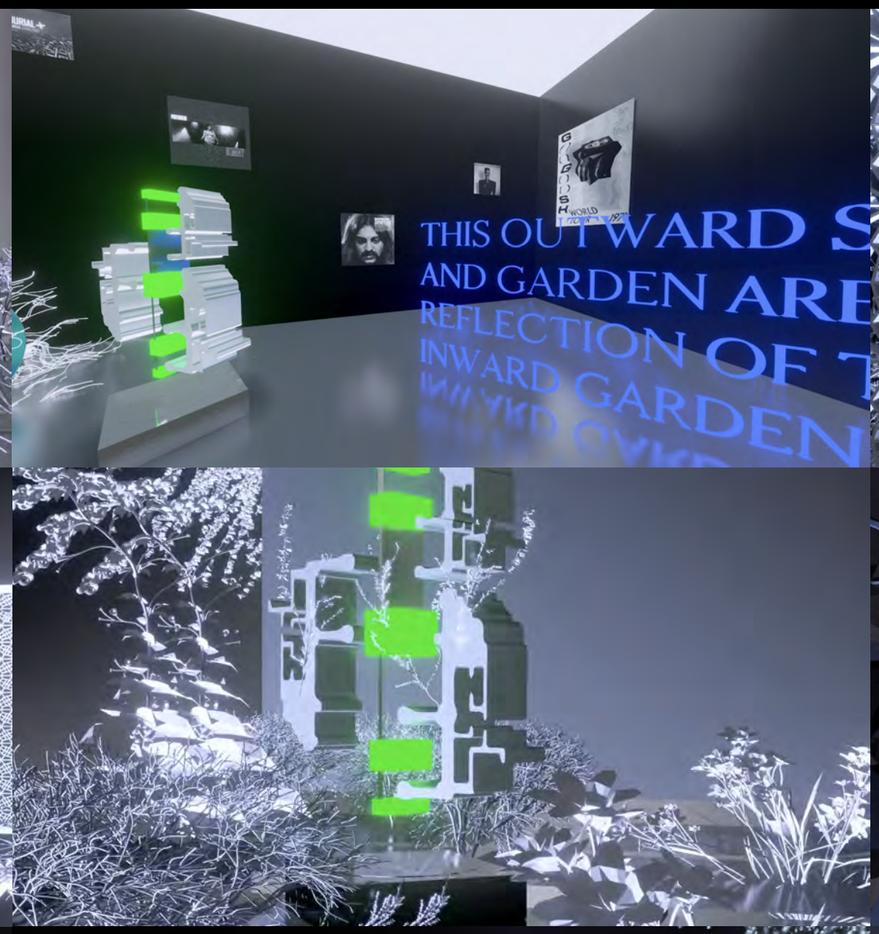
Ancient Hyper Present is a gathering in space, where elements of the past and future come together. A slippage of di screte time periods into one another. History an d deep futures coalesce to address our current ci rcumstances. When you are folded into what I c all the zone, the laws of reality will longer apply. Memories, mythologies and mysticism will sur face. Edges *shimmery* and *reflective*, flourish along chrome-crystal structures, bright with promises of the future; they signify a future tha t may have passed or is yet to come. The ancie nt past and deep future coalesce in virtual spac e.

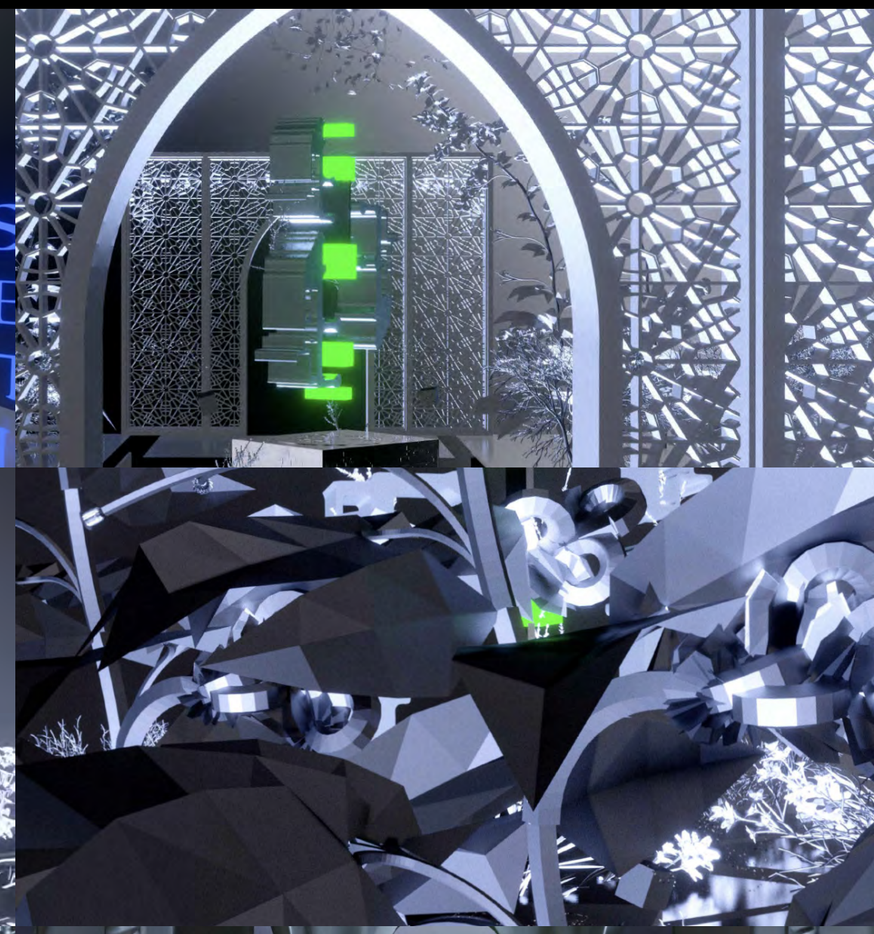


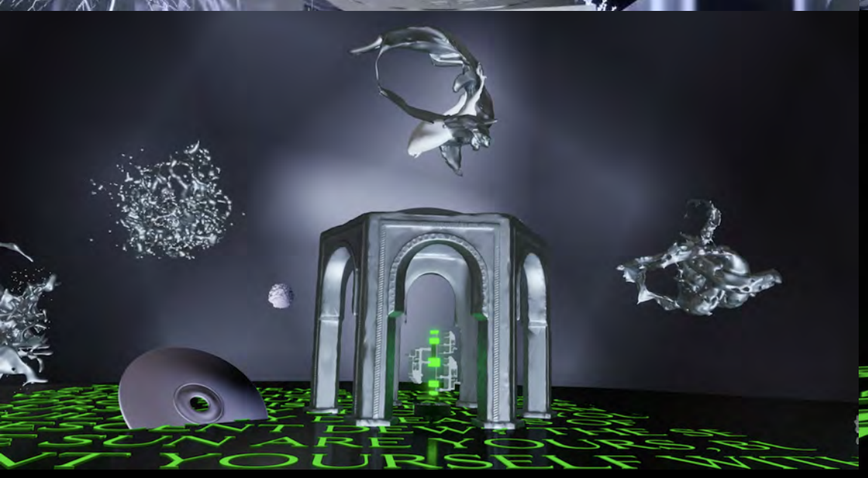
Sophie Loloi

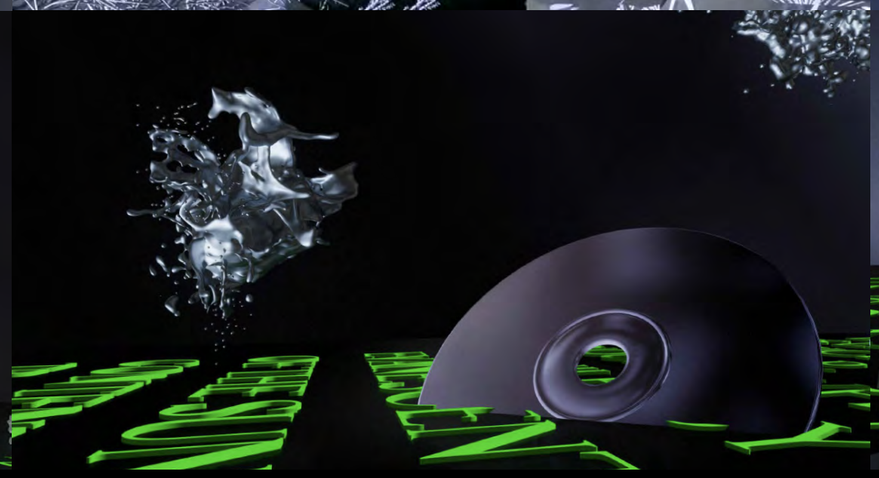
Pardis Garden—a virtual memory palace

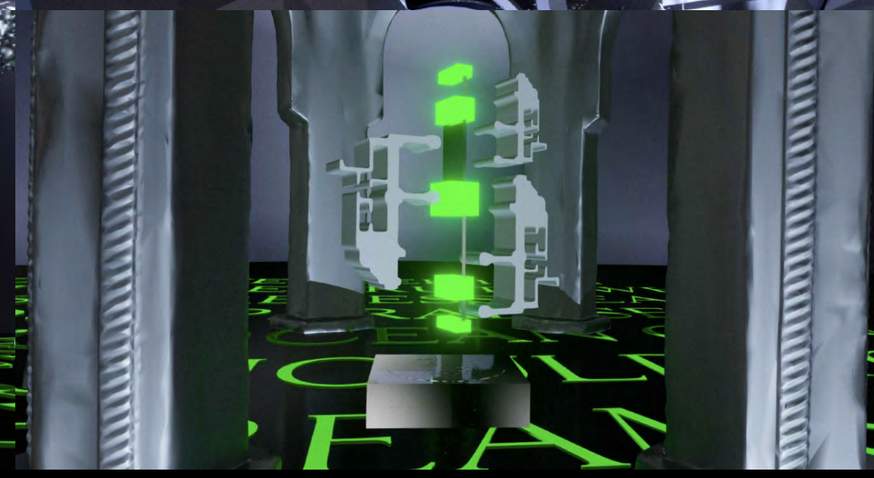






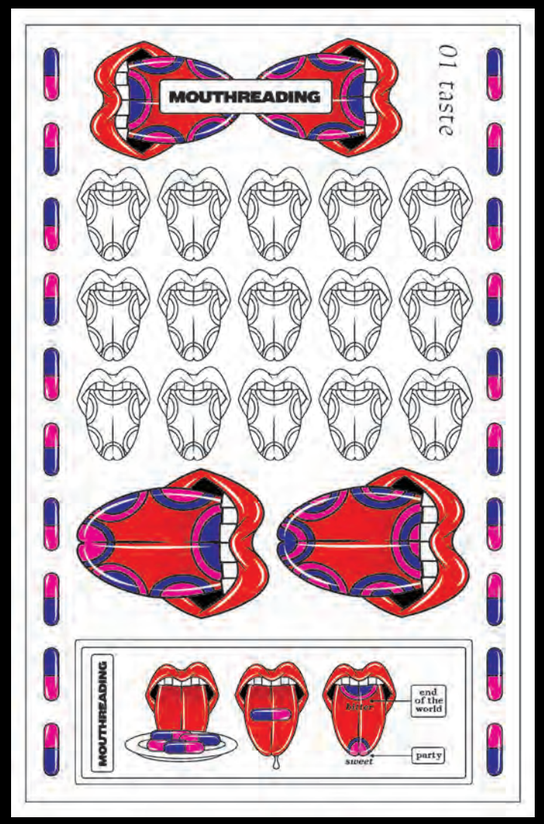


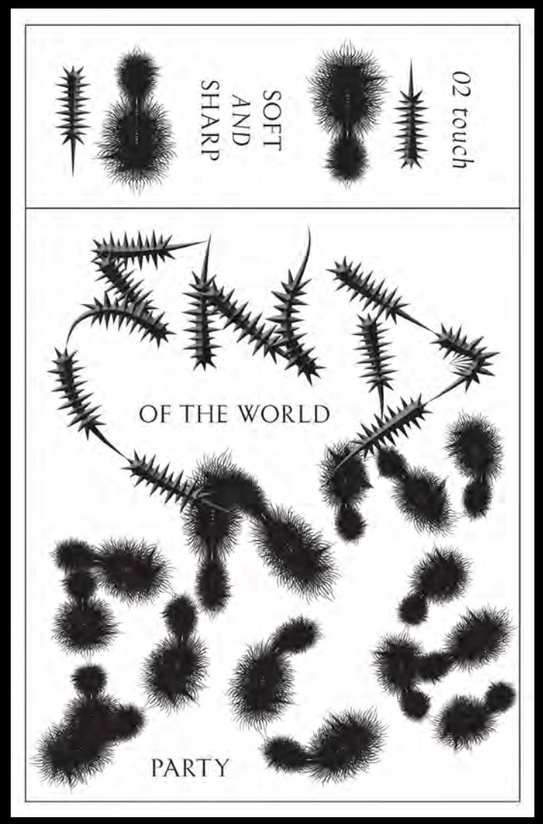


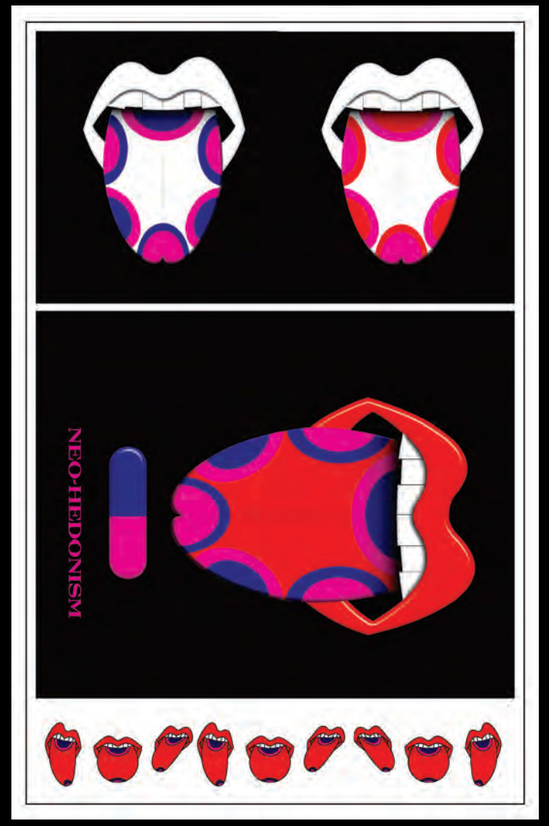


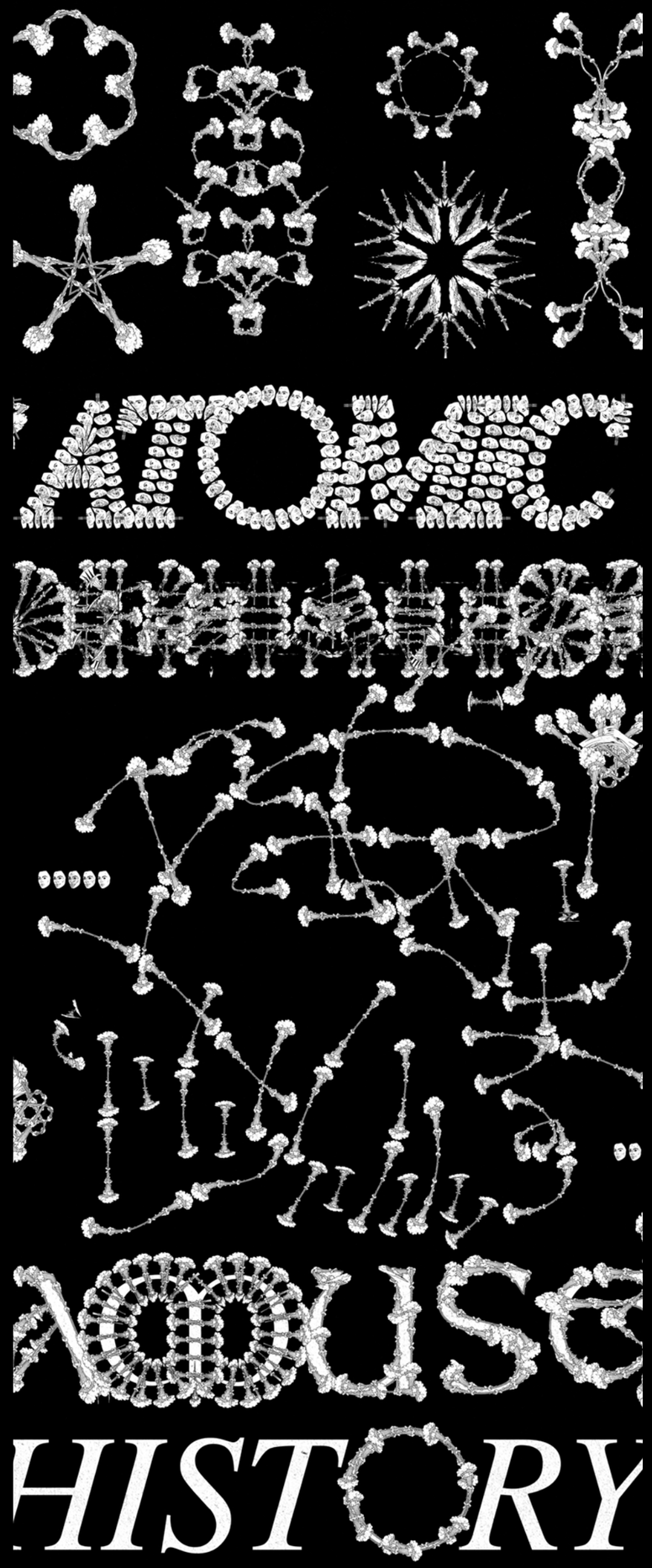
Nick Konrad

Neo-Hedonism/Atomic Beauties







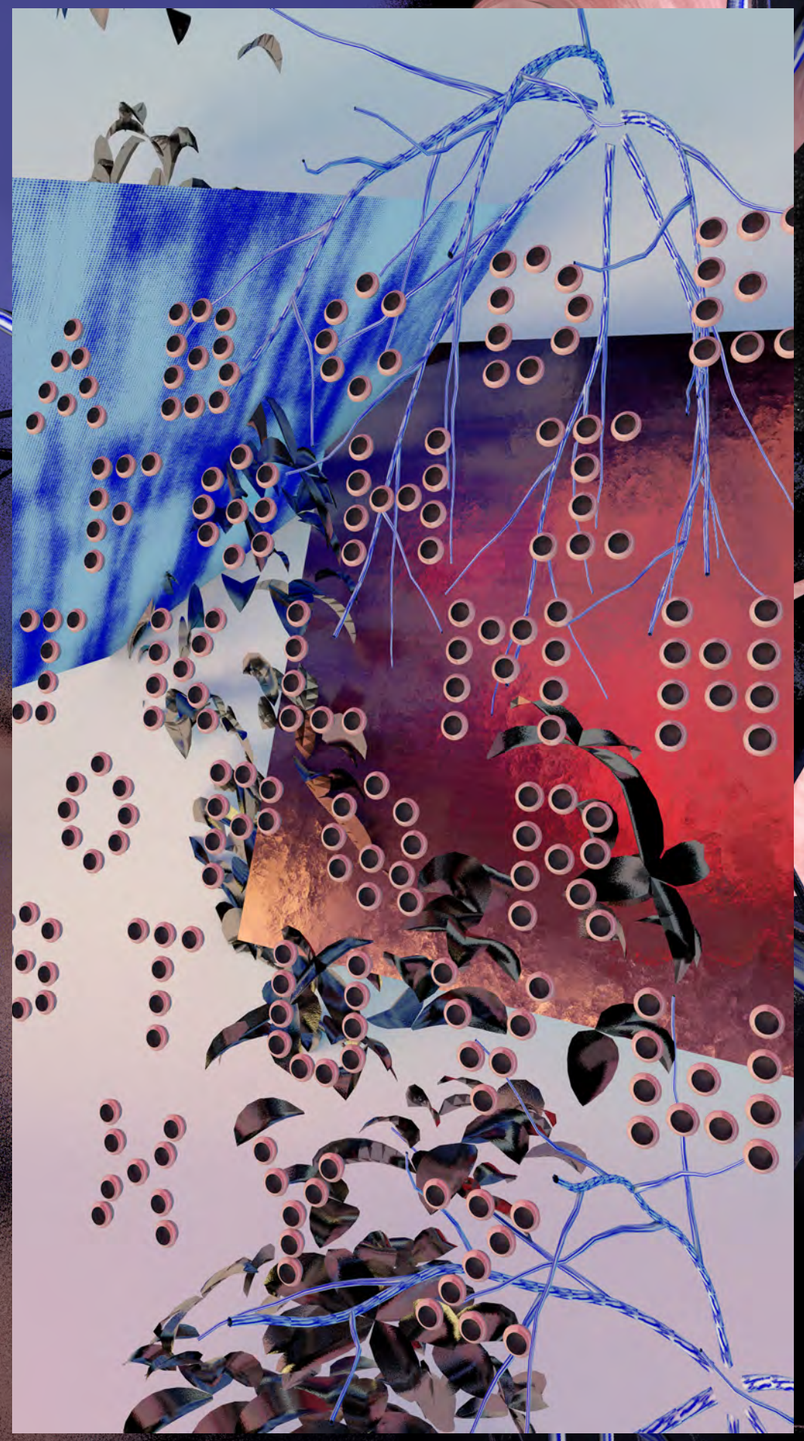


1. Neo-Hedonism—A Manifesto is a speculative project that explores the aesthetics of sensual dematerialization and serves as a guide to the party for the end of the world. 2. How do we envision complicated futures? What are the new forms of truth-making? Atomic Beauties envisions the futures that are informed by emerging technologies such as deep fakes and are bound by troublesome histories of the technological discoveries of the 20th century.

Book, posters, video

Annaka Olsen

Cyber Type

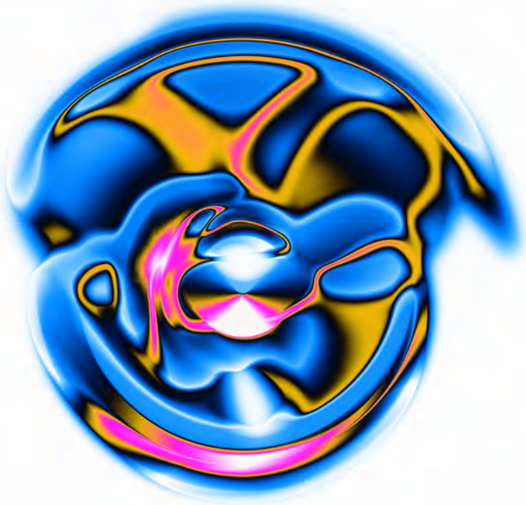


Throughout the semester, Annaka focused on developing VR spaces as a feminist tool for intervening into male virtual architectural systems of power. By inventing immersive, intersectional feminist worlds, these new spaces function as localized, peer-to-peer feminist virtual networks that do not mirror its male progenitor. As part of her MFA thesis research, Annaka also created methods for human and non-human co-authorship by employing machine learning algorithms in her writing.

Cinema 4D, machine learning, peer-to-peer network

Jonna Mayer

Loop Quantum Gravity Design Methodology



"G"
Visualized From
The Perspective Of
A Black Hole

"Q"
Visualized From
The Perspective Of
A Black Hole

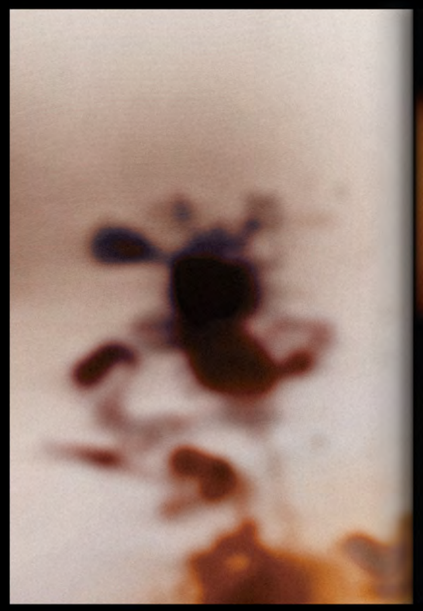
"R"
Visualized From
The Perspective Of
A Black Hole

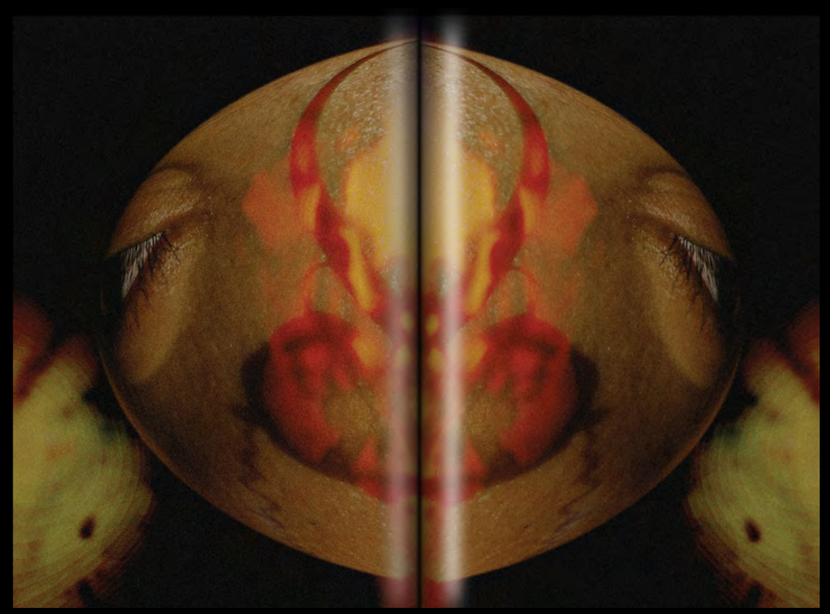
"If I were a black hole, I would suck in all that was around me with absolutely no filter. I would take in everything, all objects and mass, I would absorb all the information and all the conversations. I wouldn't have any care for who was allowed inside me, no filter—good or bad. I would slow down everything in my surrounding, like a powerful yet hyper calm blender machine. I could be small or large but either way I would be *heavy*."

Typeface designed from a perspective of a Black Hole

Jonna Mayer and Nick Konrad

Nip Magazine

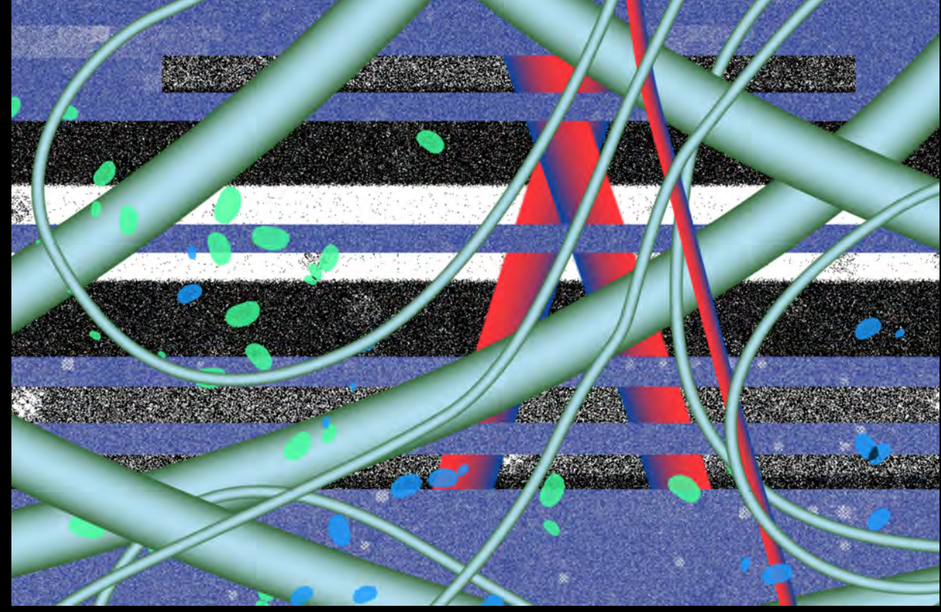


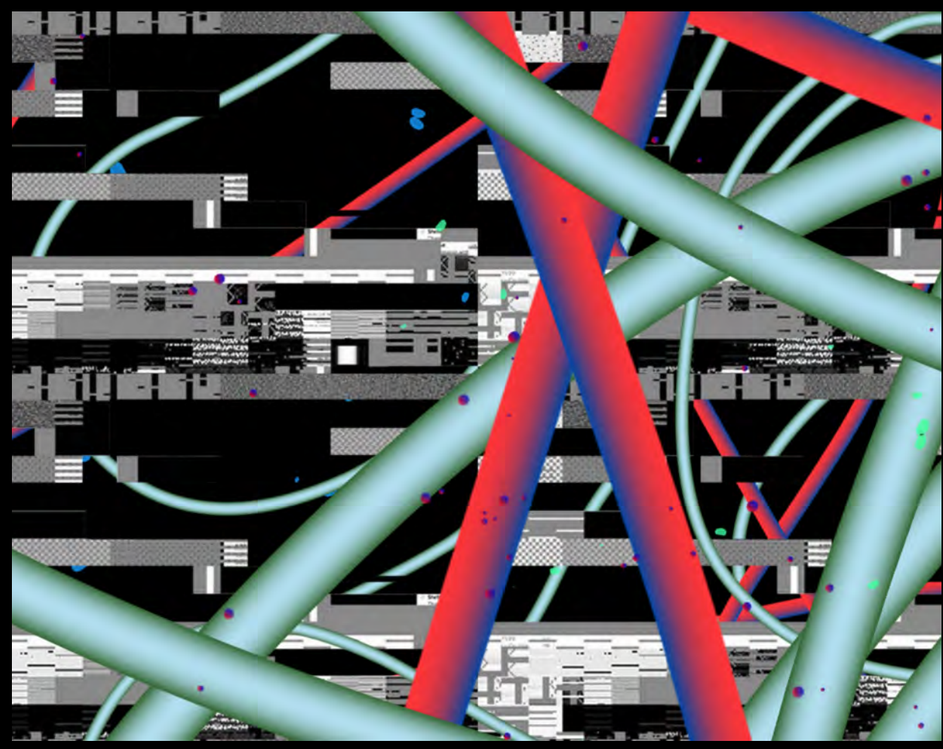


Nip Magazine is a platform for investigation the changing concepts of gender and identity through body modification. It invites designers, artists and writers to create work around a possibility of constructing ourselves through DIY biohacking.

Magazine, 8.5x11in, 64 pages

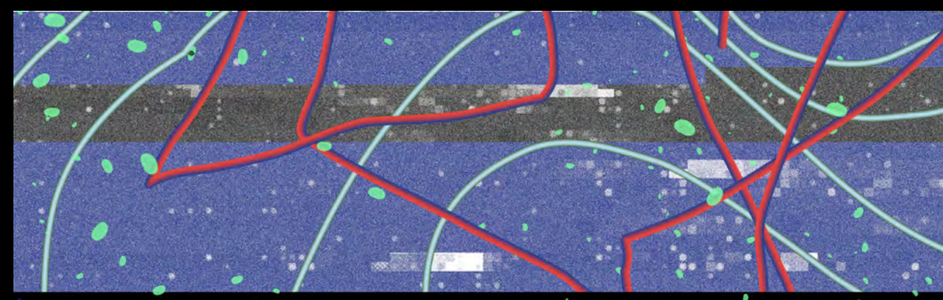
Ji Eun Kim
Sensational Influx





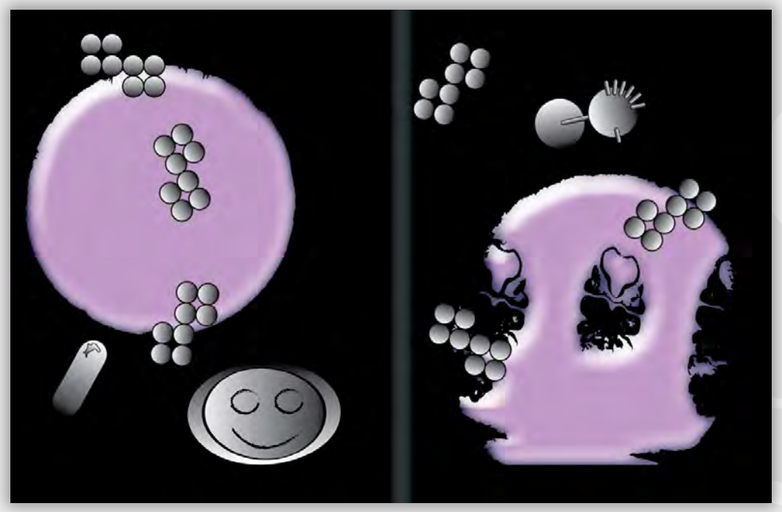
“Sensational influx is an instrument that generates a set of audio-visual compositions derived from histological samples found at the Nature Lab. Each computer key is linked to a specific image and sound creating an interactive audio-visual experience with every keystroke. This project imagines a near future scenario when machines will take on algorithmic analysis and mimicry of sensibilities that are unique to living entities. The instrument serves as a platform for non-verbal communication between the human, organism and an algorithm.”

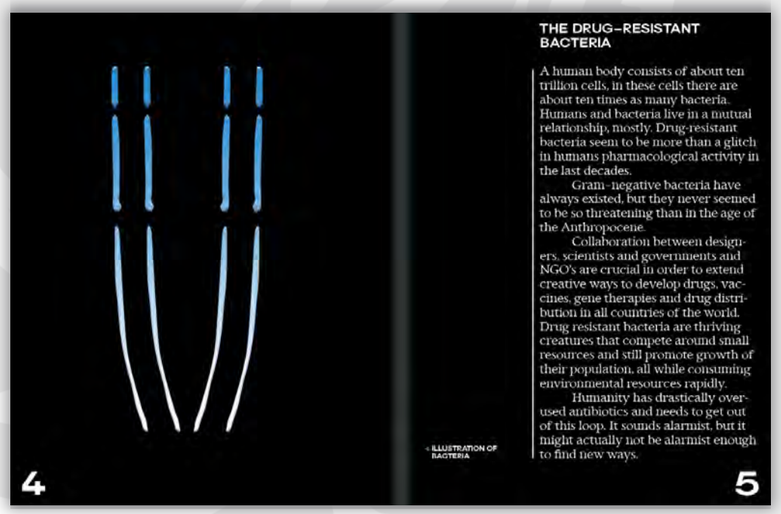
Javascript Interactive Keyboard, Sound

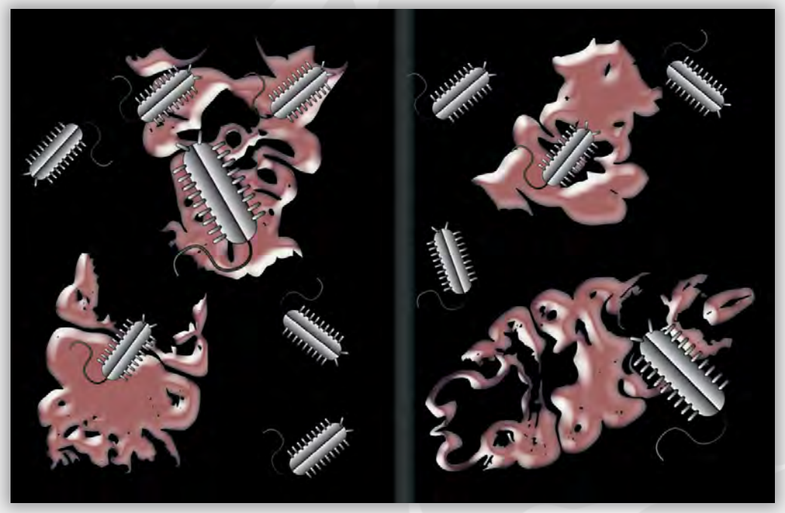


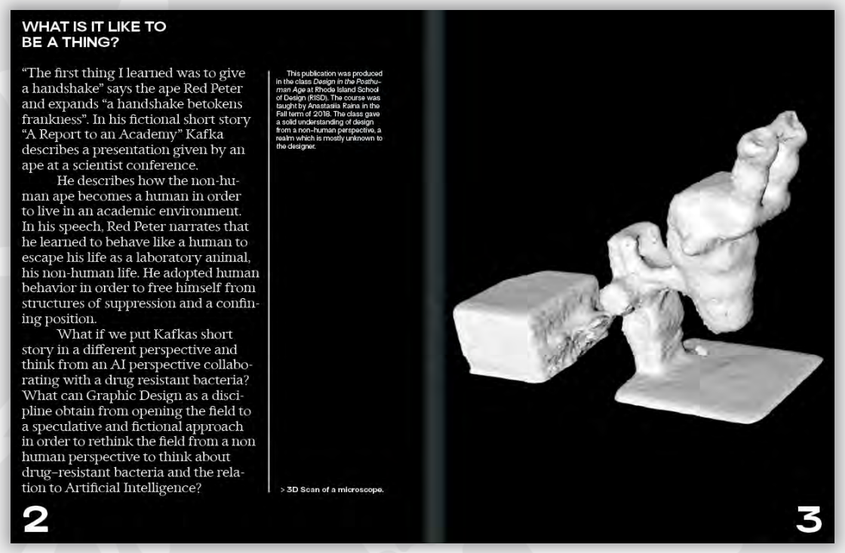
Tanita Wensky

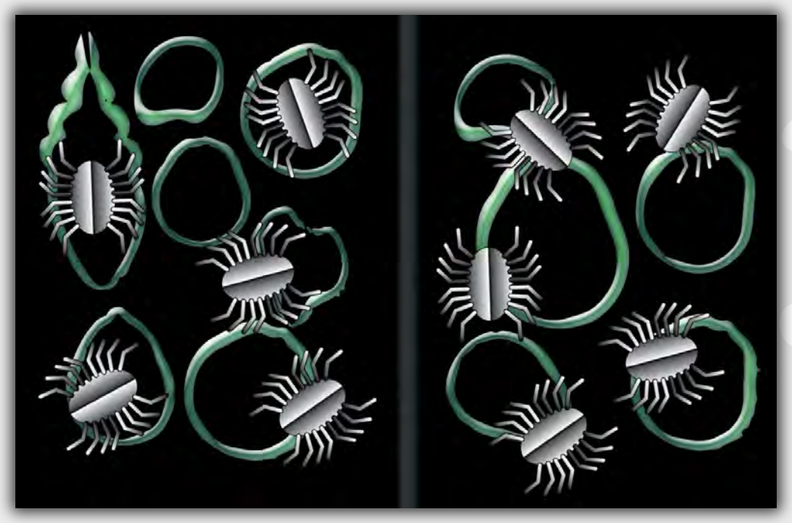
Posthuman Collaboration









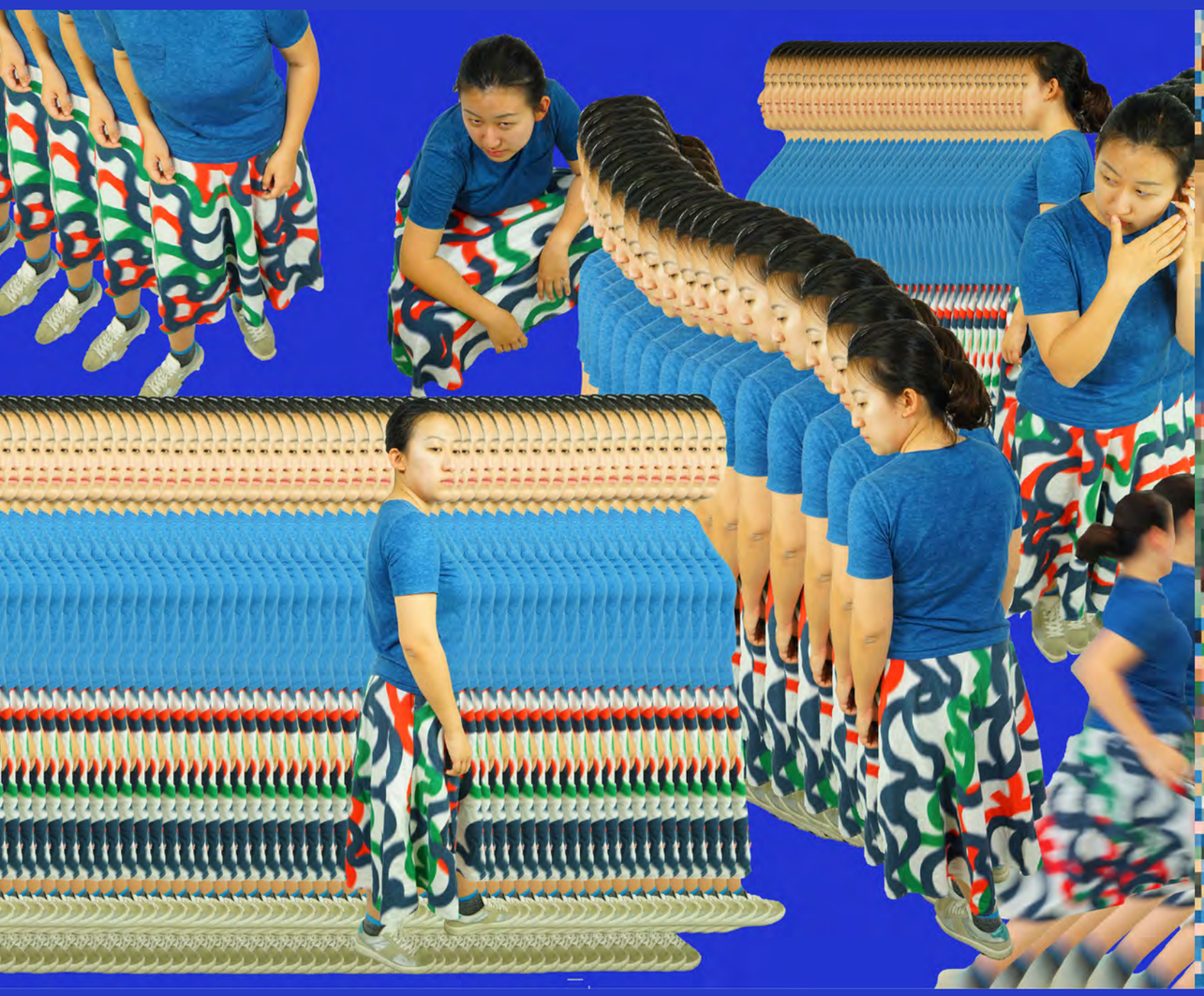


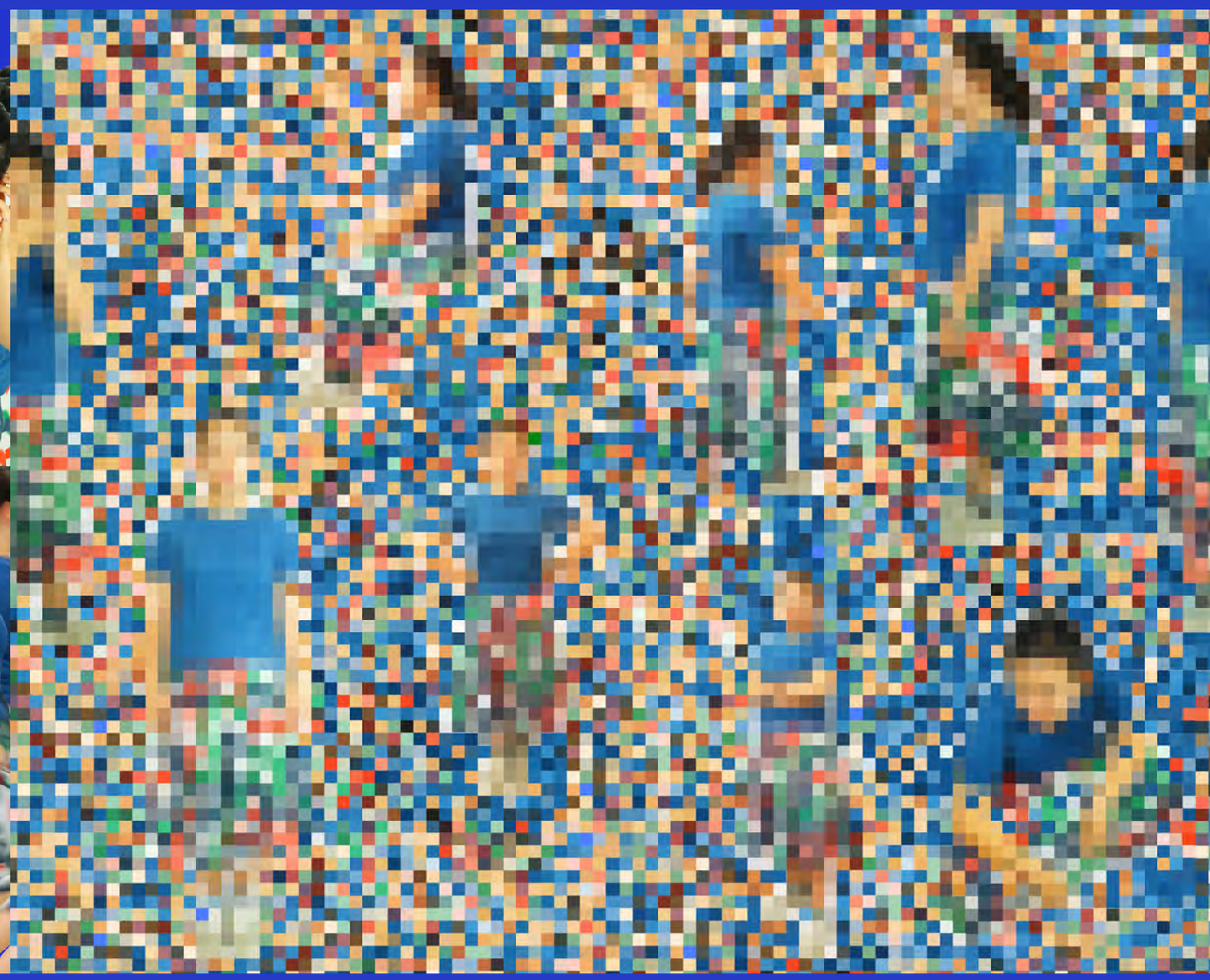
For this project, I imagined a world of biological and technological singularity, where both bacteria and AI function beyond human understanding. What does collaboration between drug-resistant bacteria and Artificial Intelligence look like?

Book, 8.5x11 in, 42pages

Ningjing Sun

Null—Pixel Me





“Pixels work together through combinations and permutations. A 256x256 pixel RGB picture has 16777216^256 possible scenarios. Yet only one of them makes up an accurate representation of your face. With a few pixels replaced, you become another person. With a few more, you become pure noise. The reality is segmented into a grid, with each pixel carefully calculated, governing our judgment of reality.”

Book, 11x14 in, 98pages

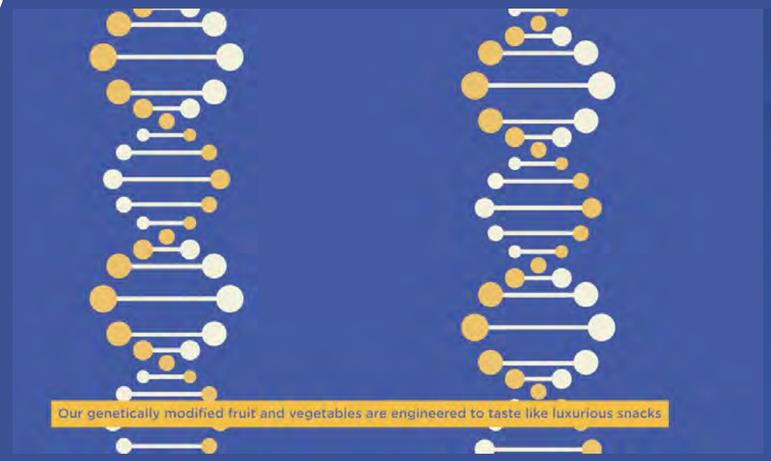
Ningjing Sun

Archaeolinguistics

“Ancient languages of which we have no written evidence have been explored using a process of comparative reconstruction. But can we create a visual reconstruction of prehistoric languages? In this project, I created a physical archaeological dig with fossilized creatures that resemble letterforms. This piece is accompanied by a speculative sound piece, vocalizing the extinct hybrid language.”

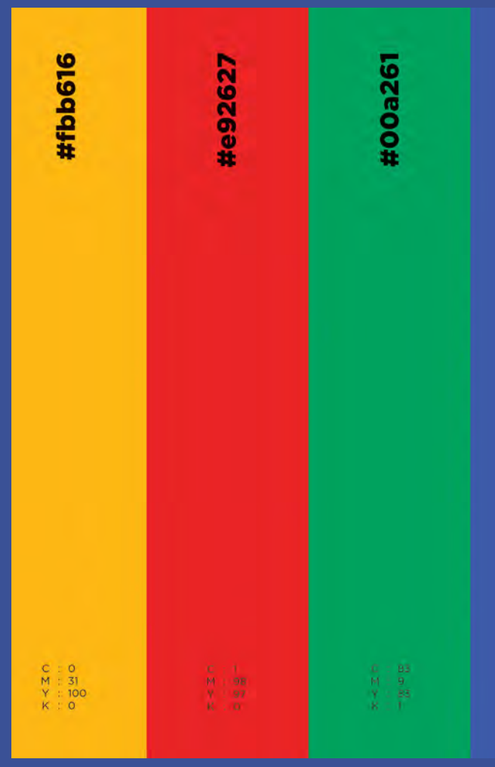
Wax, wire, soil, sound

Lena Park (MICA)
Syntheseed



syntheseed

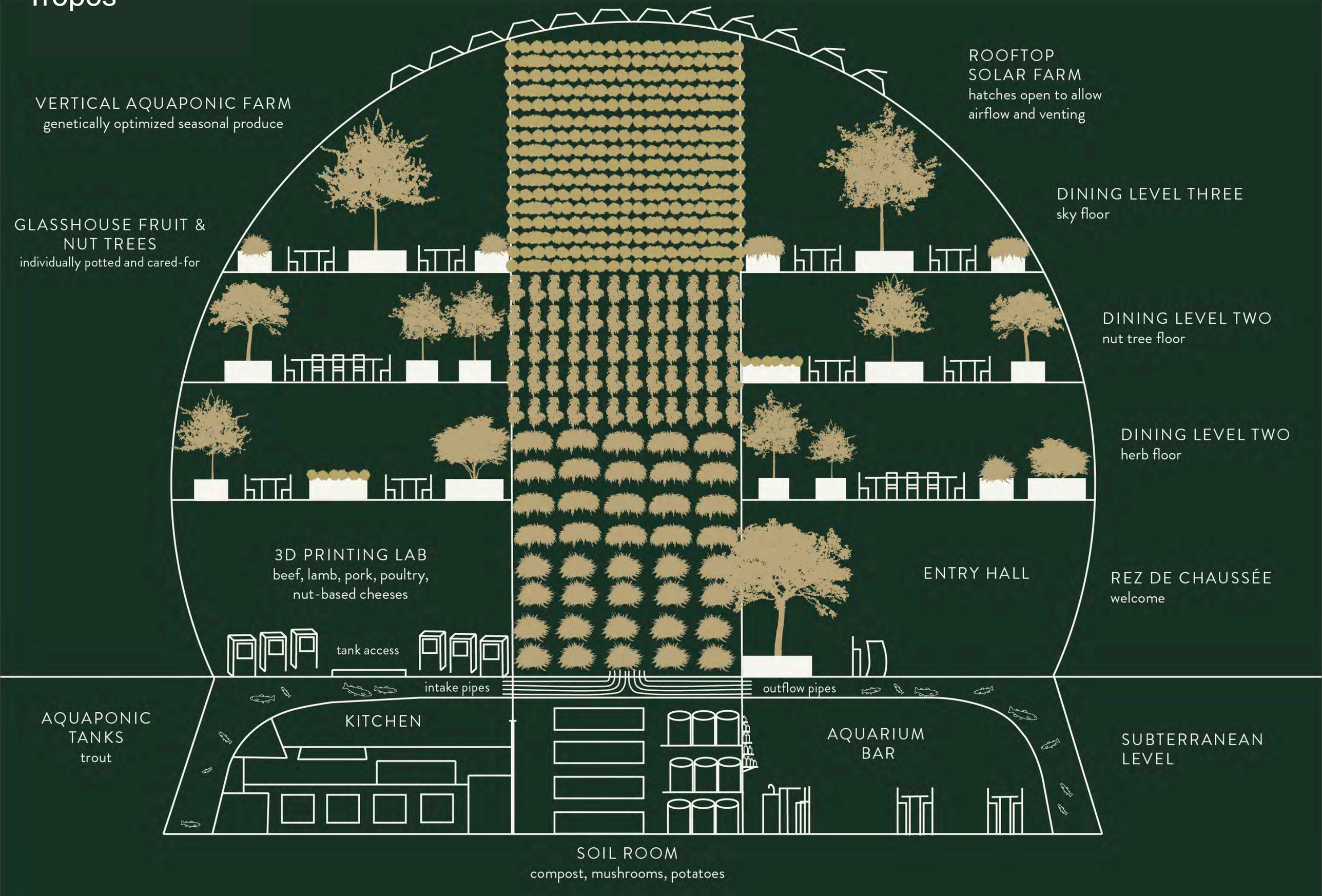
FRAM-GROWN SYNTHETIC



Have you ever thought about eating chocolate cake all day long without gaining weight? Do you crave pancakes? Do you want to eat more hotdogs?

Let's explore the new food world served by Syntheseed. Our genetically modified fruit and vegetables are engineered to taste like luxurious snacks. At Syntheseed, we put the flavors you crave into nature's bounty without compromising nutrition.

Madeleine Page (MICA)
Tropos



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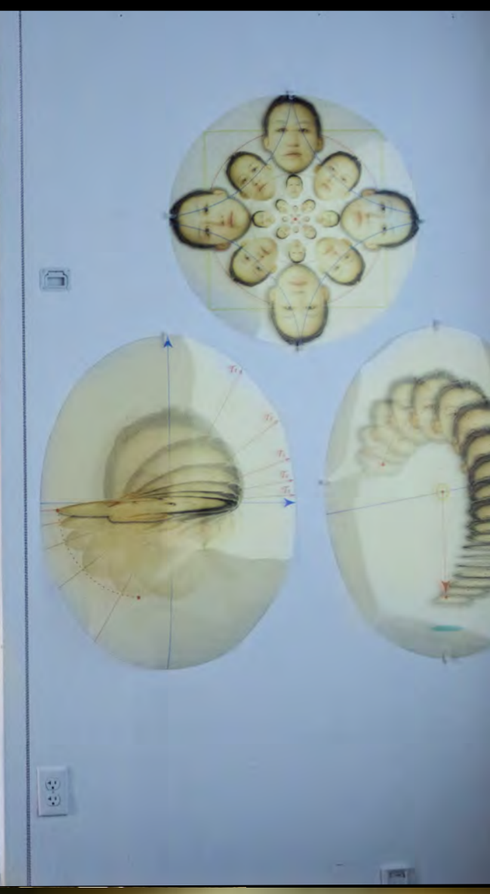

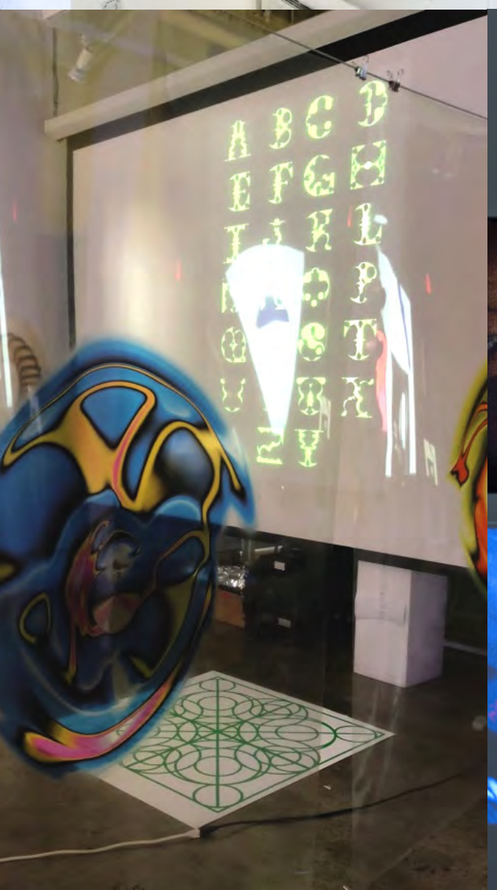

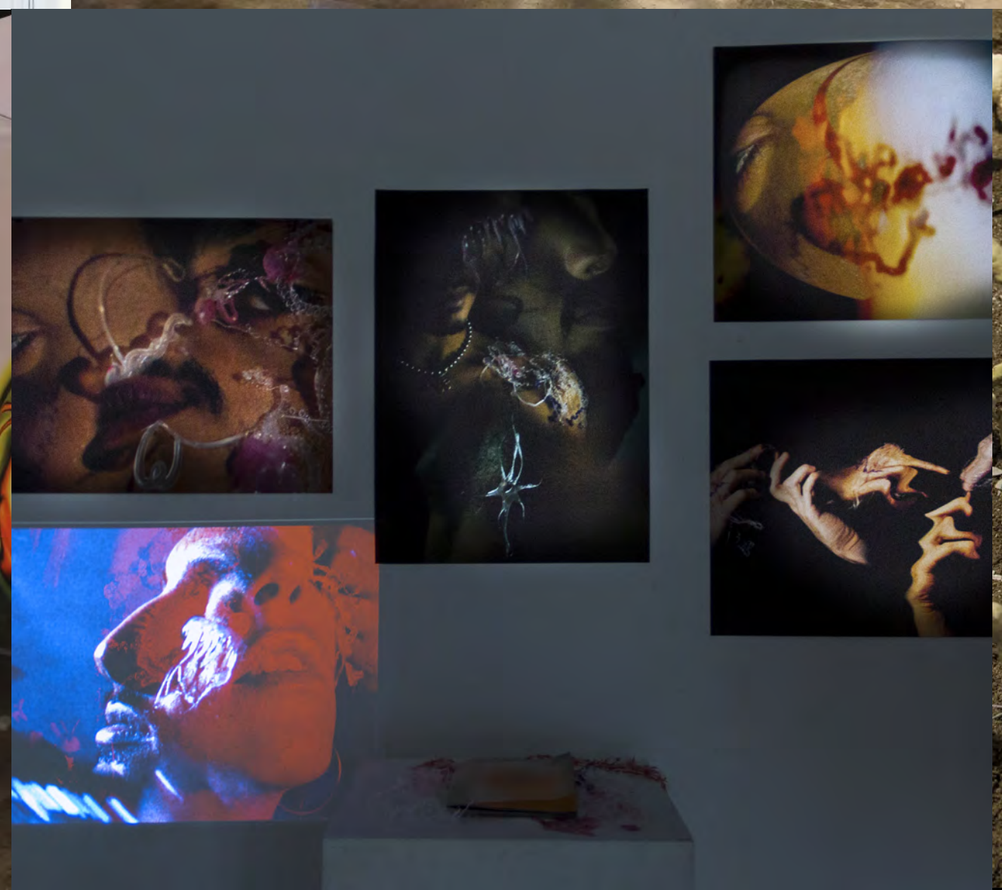

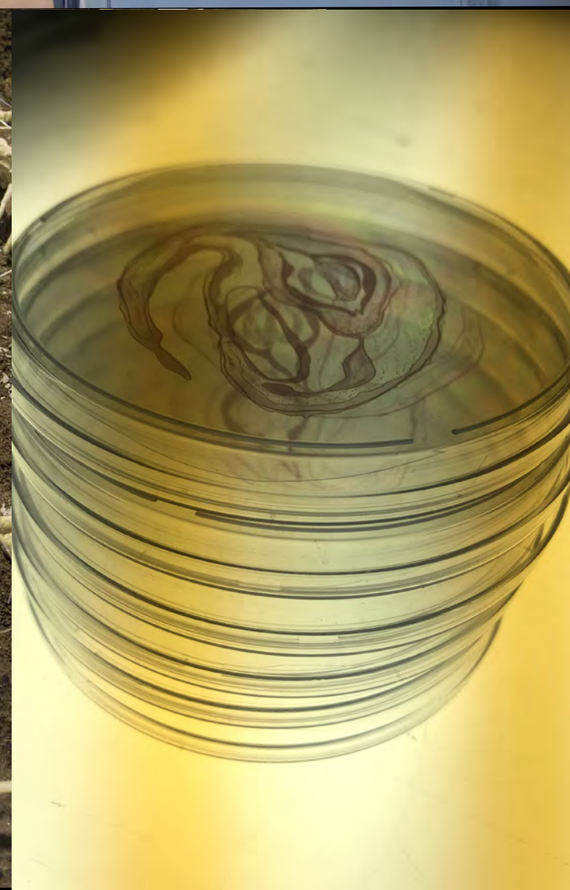
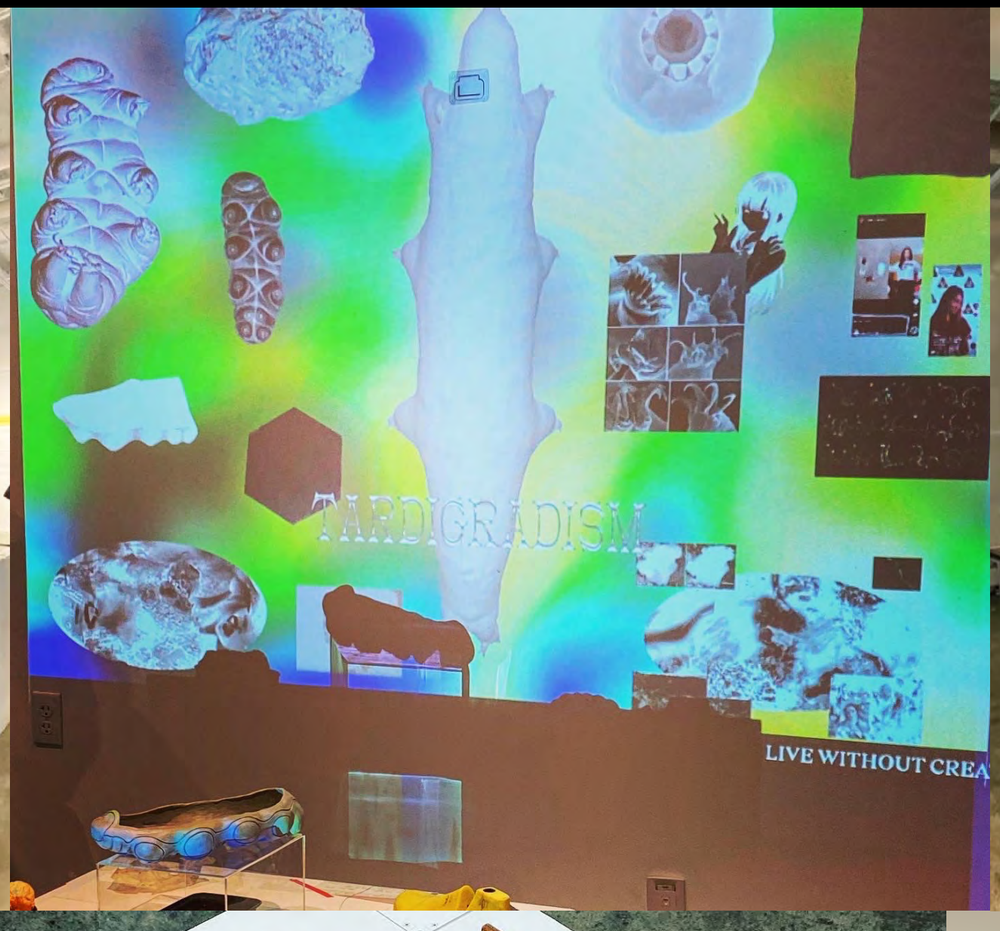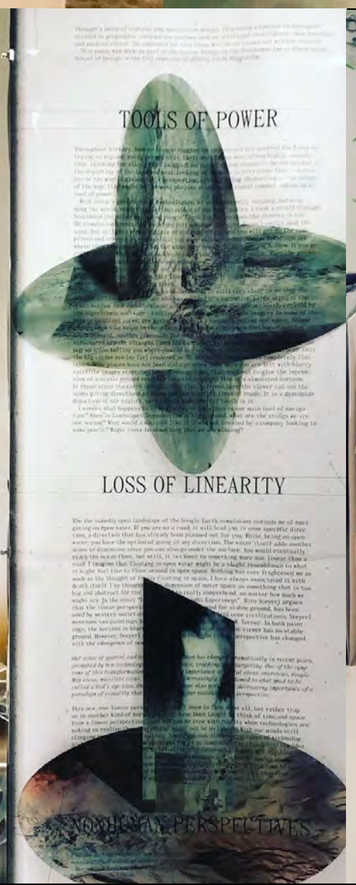
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