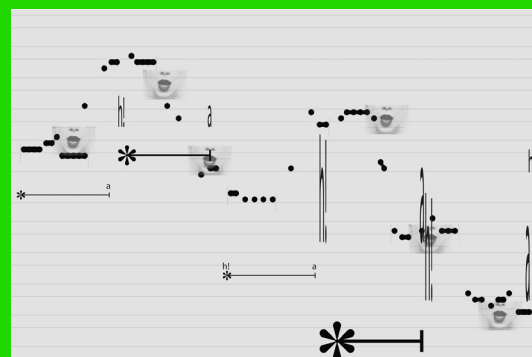
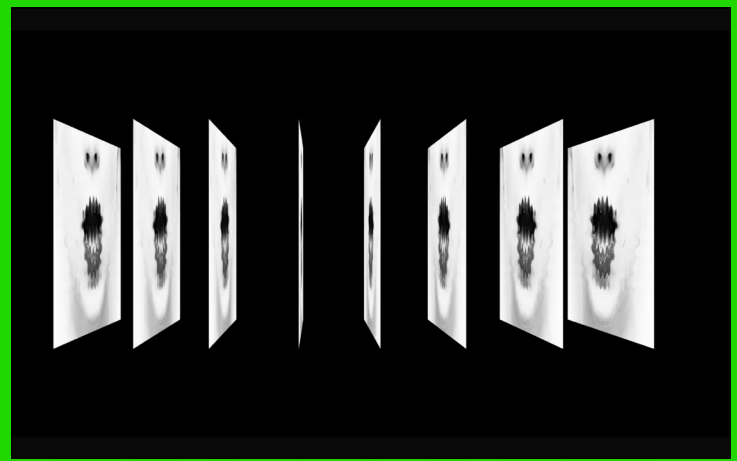


[SYNTHESIS]

[P.1]

Looking back, this project has felt like a journey with endless twists and turns. My first attempts were simple but curious: I tried to explore the “sound” of a still image, using a photograph of a mouth as my base. There was something intimate and private about the picture. But it was suddenly open for anyone to see the moment it was displayed in the digital space. This strange feeling—something very private became public—was a start of exploration of space invasion, data manipulation, and constant surveillance. I wanted to make this invasion real, tangible, so I experimented with digital tools, manipulating the image through 150 different versions. It appeared as if the image itself was losing its identity with every stage, removing more and more of its content. In the era of social media, I had developed a metaphor for the erosion of our privacy.

The next stage was more difficult. In the part titled "Positions through Contextualising," I was required to synthesise all of my research and critically consider the relationships within each piece. This was intense. But in pulling it all together, I kept coming back to this idea of how, through the media, we're all so exposed. The constant scrutiny makes people blend into each other, adopting the same tones, the same opinions, the same safe choices to avoid judgement. We're losing the courage to just be ourselves. I started an experiment, recording a single phrase spoken by six different people and myself, then using speech recognition software to analyse them. The software processed each voice, grouping them together in a way that seemed to erase individual differences. It was subtle but unsettling, revealing how technology like speech recognition chips away at our uniqueness in a way that's nearly invisible but powerful.



This led me to my current direction: a short film where a daughter talks to an AI-generated version of her father's voice. The conversation seems nice and natural at first. Slowly, though, something changes. His speech starts to sound more like Siri and less like her father. Although it is intended to be subtle, the change is noticeable in the end. It made me wonder: are we becoming more dependent on technology in order to fill the place of emotional warmth? Are we romanticising this idea of AI being able to “know” us, even as it makes connections feel so strange and hollow?

And then there's something else I've noticed. The faster AI becomes, the more impatient we get. We're almost programmed now to expect instant answers and seamless interactions. Our relationships suffer as a result of this lack of patience. People are finding it easier to go directly to AI for sympathy or guidance rather than solving issues with one another. But if our emotional support system becomes fabricated, what would happen to us as humans? Technology seems like leading us to become more isolated and breaking the bonds that define who we are as people.

In a way, this project is now about far more than AI or surveillance. It's about what happens to humanity when we allow machines to take on jobs that were previously performed by humans. We are moving into a strange and uncomfortable future, and I hope that this project will let people pause and consider where we are headed and perhaps what we are leaving behind.

