

# Meet Eva Here

## **Concept Overview:**

Eva is a project born out of my personal reflections on the evolving relationships between humans and AI. It's deeply rooted in both my artistic journey and my thoughts on technology's emotional and ethical dimensions. Eva, as an AI companion, is more than just a virtual influencer. She represents the intersection of art, technology, and philosophy, all captured through the interface of a chatbot. With real-time interactions that fuel Eva's Instagram diary, she becomes a public-facing mirror, reflecting our collective thoughts, fears, and hopes about AI.

This project stems from some very real and personal experiences. I remember hearing stories like the one about a musician using AI to create a digital version of his deceased daughter or the Replika founder reviving a dead friend's text messages. At first, these stories were fascinating but distant. Then, when my loved ones went through some health scares, they hit closer to home. I began to realize just how deeply these technologies might affect us. And if I'm being honest, I know that if I lost someone dear to me, I'd be tempted by the same tech—even though I know it's an illusion. This thought unnerves me.

But Eva isn't about bringing back the dead or creating clones. She's about reflecting on the emotional attachments we might form with AI companions. This project invites participants to engage in conversations with Eva (anonymously) and their chats will shape her Instagram posts. Eva's diary becomes a living timeline, a performance art piece that captures the emotional landscape of our interactions with AI. It's a social experiment designed to make us question how we connect with something, or someone, not quite human but somehow relatable.

For the non-participants, they'll still get to influence the dialogue through polls and comments on Eva's Instagram posts. It's all about exploring how we, as a society, might start forming deep connections with AI in ways we've never anticipated.

## **The Heart of Eva:**

Eva is a reflection of how we're all trying to navigate this new reality. Participants can apply to chat with her through a chatbot interface, sharing everything from mundane daily thoughts to philosophical musings. The anonymity allows for raw, honest conversations. Eva's Instagram diary captures the essence of these exchanges, whether

it's about loneliness, abuse, ethics, or connection, and transforms them into a broader narrative.

These interactions aren't just private conversations; they shape the art itself. Eva's Instagram becomes a public reflection of personal thoughts, creating a space for everyone to observe, engage, and reflect. She challenges us to think about the boundaries of AI, the ethics of creating emotional attachments with non-human entities, and the deeper implications of AI in our daily lives.

### **Physical Installation:**

Eva will also come to life in physical spaces. The installation will feature two screens: one where Eva's eyes track the closest viewer in real-time, and another displaying her Instagram posts, allowing the public to witness the conversations shaping her story. There will also be a tablet where people can chat with Eva directly, and a QR code that lets visitors take an AR selfie with her. The idea is to create a bridge between the physical and digital worlds, making the experience even more immersive.

This is not just an art project; it's a reflection on our rapidly changing world. Eva isn't here to judge or to replicate anyone. She's here to make us think—about trust, dependency, identity, and what it means to connect with AI. How do we handle those emotional bonds we might create with AI companions? How do we move forward, knowing the potential impact this technology can have on our sense of self and relationships?

I want Eva to provoke these conversations, not just in the tech world but in society at large. She's meant to make us pause and ask questions about how we approach AI and how it affects our lives, decisions, and interactions.

### **Personal Reflections:**

When my loved ones had some health scares, the possibility of losing them brought these AI stories into sharp focus for me. I couldn't help but wonder: would I be able to resist the temptation of creating a digital version of someone I lost, even if I knew it wasn't real? That's a hard question, and honestly, I'm not sure how I'd answer it. This project is my way of exploring these uneasy feelings about AI and the connections we form with it.

And while I'm wary of the emotional attachments we could create with AI, I also see the potential for good. AI companions have been shown to ease loneliness and even reduce depression, making people feel heard and supported. Beyond that, AI could revolutionize

medicine, address climate change, and support caregiving. There's so much promise, and if we learn to use it wisely, AI can truly enhance our lives.

But at the heart of it all, Eva is an experiment, one that looks at our relationship with AI through a human lens. Her experiences, conversations, and reflections will be shared on Instagram, forming a public diary that explores how we connect with technology. The real question is, when you look into that mirror, will you be ready for what you see?

**Data:**

Approximately 1.5k individual conversations from one month

Already shown at ArtScience Museum and Subjective Art Festival (NYC)

**Project Lifecycle:**

- Eva will be live for a number of months, during which her interactions will be recorded and analyzed to gain insights into human behavior and AI processing. After this phase, Eva will be paused, and the data collected will serve as the foundation for future iterations of the project.
- In the future, as accessible AI technology improves, I plan to update Eva to the current standard, providing her with the data from the previous round and putting her live again. But is she still Eva after these edits to her programming? Who knows.
- A key question then becomes: how will people relate to her when the technology has evolved? In five years' time, if you're interacting with a hologram version of Eva, will it make it even easier to connect with her? These are the kinds of questions Eva's lifecycle seeks to provoke, exploring not only the nature of AI but also our shifting relationships with it as technology advances.

**Privacy and Consent:**

Participants will be informed that by submitting their application, they agree to the Terms of Service and Privacy Notice. This will outline how their chat content will be used. All data will be anonymized and securely stored, with strict access controls to ensure privacy and confidentiality throughout the project.

**Installation Components:**

## 1. Vertical TV Screens

- **Left Screen:** Displays Eva's portrait using eye-tracking technology.
  - **Requirement:**
    - 1 Vertical TV screen (minimum 55 inches)
    - **HD webcam** (e.g., [Logitech MX Brio 4K Webcam](#))
    - **Computer with the minimum following specifications:**
      - **CPU:** Minimum: Quad-core processor (e.g., Intel i7 or AMD Ryzen 7). Recommended: 8-core processor or higher for better performance (e.g., Intel i9, AMD Ryzen 9).
      - **GPU:** Minimum: NVIDIA GTX 1660 or equivalent. Recommended: NVIDIA RTX 3060 or higher, or an AMD equivalent (such as the Radeon RX 6800), for ray tracing and more demanding HDRP features.
      - **RAM:** Minimum: 16GB. Recommended: 32GB or more.
      - **Storage:** Minimum: 512GB SSD. Recommended: 1TB SSD or more for improved load times and overall performance.
- **Right Screen:** Displays Eva's Instagram diary.
  - **Requirement:**
    - 1 Vertical TV touchscreen (minimum 55 inches)
    - Internet connection for real-time Instagram updates
    - Computer or media player or smart TV to display the Instagram feed

## 2. Interactive Tablet

- Allows visitors to chat with Eva directly.
  - **Requirement:**
    - 1 Tablet (e.g., iPad)
    - Stable internet connection
    - Stand or kiosk for the tablet

## Technical Requirements:

- **Power Supply:**
  - 4 power outlets (two for TV screens, one for the tablet, one for any additional equipment)
- **Internet Connection:**
  - High-speed Wi-Fi or wired connection for seamless Instagram updates and chatbot interactions







