

The goal of this project was to create a product of my research into small kinetic works that work with gears and motors or manual approaches. Although the design and composition of the piece evolved throughout the process, the goal stayed the same. In addition, I also wanted to incorporate drawing into my piece – so the eyes and mouth are drawn on matte duralar and attached to the eyebrows. I set out to print parts for the piece that could be moved together to create motion in the eyebrows of this drawing.

I printed two distinct gears that affected one another. The left one revolved constantly but the right one rotated only when a certain part of the prior gear would move it. As a result, the left eyebrow lowered, rose, and changed angles constantly, whereas the right eyebrow moved less frequently.

I was unable to make the piece autonomous, however the result was still satisfactory because it added a more personal or intimate interaction between the viewer and the face. From this project I learned a lot about gears, how things work, and how to improve on future projects. I hope to continue similar processes and works but with a smoother motion that affects the whole face, not just one area.