



MUSHROOM

Interaction Design & Installation Art &
Experimental Music & Projection Art

I use installation art to express my thoughts on the self-consciousness of future human beings, and compare future human beings to mushrooms, which reproduce asexually and communicate through electrical pulse signals. Through sound, projection, lighting and clothing as forms of expression, it shows the coexistence of philosophy, art and technology.

Personal Project: 2023.09 - 2023.12

Inspiration

In the process of growing up, I saw the difference between people around me in **love** and **personal pursuit**.



"If you really love yourself, you should sympathize with your nature and choose the course that it prescribes."

---<Meditations>

Background

The continuous evolution of society and the diversification of culture have led to a constant transformation in people's ideas and attitudes. Consequently, there has been a significant shift in how individuals perceive relationships, marriage, sex, and gender identity.

Early 20th

- Men often see women as appendages, unequal in family and social status.
- Chastity belt
 - Foot binding



In the realm of love, some girls view their virginity as a gift to their partners, while others see love as a **potential restriction** on their freedom (including my past perspective).



So, I envision a world where we break free from traditional norms and embrace self-discovery. These attitudes encourage openness, respect for diversity, and the journey to **uncover our inner truths**.

Traditional family structures and values predominate. Male and female roles are clearly divided.

- Arranged marriage

1970s / 80s

Conclusion

In today's society, people are paying more and more attention to loving their own nature and intrinsic value, and this idea has inspired the trend of self-knowledge and self-exploration. With the development of technology, people began to project this self-knowledge and awareness into various areas, including sex and personal creativity.



1970's International

The Gay Movement at the International level: the struggle for gay rights and social acceptance.



Now

Individual rights and diversity are widely respected. People are more focused on self-exploration, including gender identity and sexual orientation.



The concept of marriage and love has gradually evolved, and people pay more attention to their own happiness.

- Free love
- family planning

1990s

2000s

The rise of digital media and the Internet has changed the way people socialize and marry. Gender equality and gender diversity have become more important.

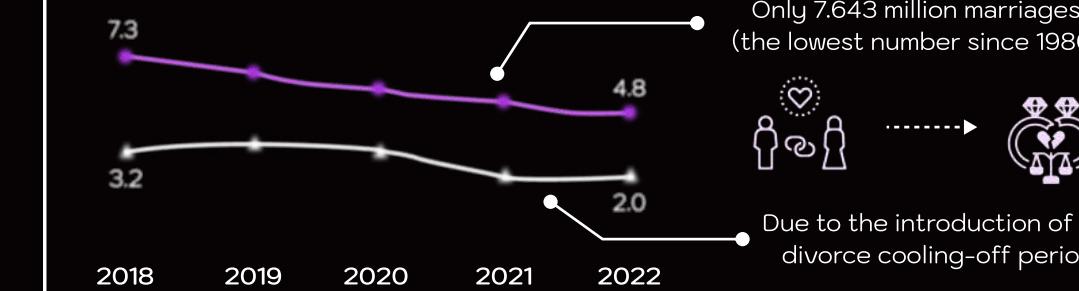
- Legalization of same-sex marriage

Research

Current state of intimate relationships

(Data from the Ministry of Civil Affairs of China "2021 Civil Affairs Development Statistical Communique")

Marriage and divorce rates in China, 2018-2022



Only 7.643 million marriages (the lowest number since 1986)



Due to the introduction of the divorce cooling-off period.

Late marriage and childbearing:

Pay more attention to career and self-development.

LGBT:

Society gradually recognizes their equal rights and interests.

Singleism:

More emphasis on individual independence and freedom.

Unmarried cohabitation:

Be more flexible in your choice of partner.

Together, these trends demonstrate the **diversity** and **transformation** of contemporary intimate relationships.

Only 16.5% of those aged 20 to 24 were married, a record low



Fewer marriages among 20-29 age group, leading to a substantial birth rate drop this year.



Age distribution of registered marriages, 2022

Questionnaire

History of changes in sex

Sexuality has evolved from a conservative past to a modern concept emphasizing equality and autonomy, driven by social progress, cultural emancipation, and sex education.



People in sex

Individual views on sexuality vary, shaped by diverse factors, resulting in a range of attitudes and opinions.

What influences people's ideas about sex?

- Personal Experience: Individual life events mold attitudes toward sexuality.
- Social Environment: Changing societal norms impact views on sexuality.
- Laws and Rights: Legal changes affect acceptance of diverse sexual orientations.
-

What have people become?

- Open Marriage
- Multiple Partner Relationships
- Homosexual Relationships
- Asexual Relationships
- SM (Sexual Abuse and Masochism)
-



In philosophy

Through objective analyses, people nowadays have gradually become more conscious of their own feelings and self-awareness, which coincides with some ideas in philosophy.

Francis Bacon

1561-1626



Aristotle

384 B.C. - 322 B.C.



Friedrich Nietzsche

1844-1900



Aristotle emphasised the concept of self-love in his ethics. According to him, rational self-love is a reasonable care for oneself and sees the pursuit of knowledge, wisdom and self-development as honouring and loving oneself.

Bacon refers to self-love in his writings and sees the pursuit of knowledge, wisdom and self-development as honouring and loving oneself. Nietzsche explored the concepts of self-transcendence and self-knowledge in his philosophy. He believed that true love needed to be realised through the knowledge and creation of oneself.

Insight

- These different levels of sexual relationships objectively reflect people's pursuit of self-satisfaction and exploration of their inner selves nowadays.
- But sexual openness is not the same as sexual promiscuity, it's a kind of liberation of the self, a kind of one-way inward exploration.



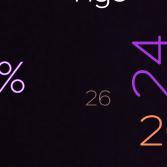
Through the previous research and analysis, I wanted to know what people in my immediate environment were projecting about their sense of self, and I chose to investigate sex as a projection of self-consciousness.

Basic information

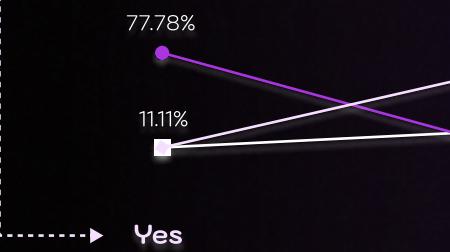
Gender



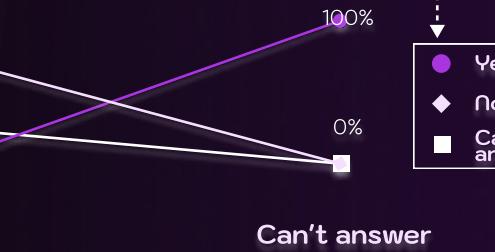
Age



Have you ever had an orgasm during the act of masturbation? &



Have you ever had an orgasm during sex?



Do you fake orgasms and sexual pleasure because you care about the other person's feelings?

Yes

28.57%

No

71.43%

Sexuality with others is both an expression of self-awareness and a constraint on self-love, and the future of humanity should move beyond the confines of sexual reproduction.

Interview

Everyone has a different sense of self and preferences, and interviews were conducted to further understand deeper levels of self-will. Due to the sensitivity of the subject matter, pseudonyms have been used for this interview.



Age 22

“

I am passionate about relationships, I love the **feeling of being loved** and am keen to pass on the love. When it comes to sex, I **don't really enjoy it**, but I will **fake an orgasm** for the sake of my partner's self-esteem. I want my partner to be able to cherish me for giving him **my first time** and I would very much like to marry him and spend my life together.

”



“

I think there are so many wonderful things in life waiting to be explored **besides love**, and when it comes to sex and intimacy, I'm more about **freedom and equality**. I have an **open mind** and enjoy exploring how I can **be happier with different people**. In life, I seek independence and want everyone to be able to **keep themselves in a relationship**.

”

Age 28

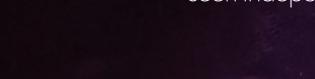
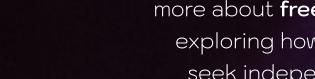


Age 19

”

Although I **haven't been in a relationship yet**, whether it's heterosexual or homosexual, there's bound to be that one person who comes along that we appreciate each other for who we are **on the inside**, and I'm surprisingly **a little grossed out** by the thought of **sex**, and a **platonic relationship** would probably suit me better.

”



Component Development

• Costume installation design



• **Projection & music**

- **Projection**
Brightly colored poisonous mushrooms, life and danger coexist, distorted state mimics the hallucination after eating poisonous mushrooms
 - **Music**
Some mushrooms produce sounds such as electrical pings to communicate, and external sounds that may be heard

Lighting control

- **2 LED & Touch sensor**
After touching the touch sensor, two LED light strips will gradually light up like divergent mycelium, simulating touch and communication between people
 - **1 LED & Pulse sensor**
The pulse sensor lights up in response to the heartbeat rate, simulating the asexual reproduction of mushrooms at maturity by spreading spores

• Costume installation design • Sketch



Digitized by srujanika@gmail.com

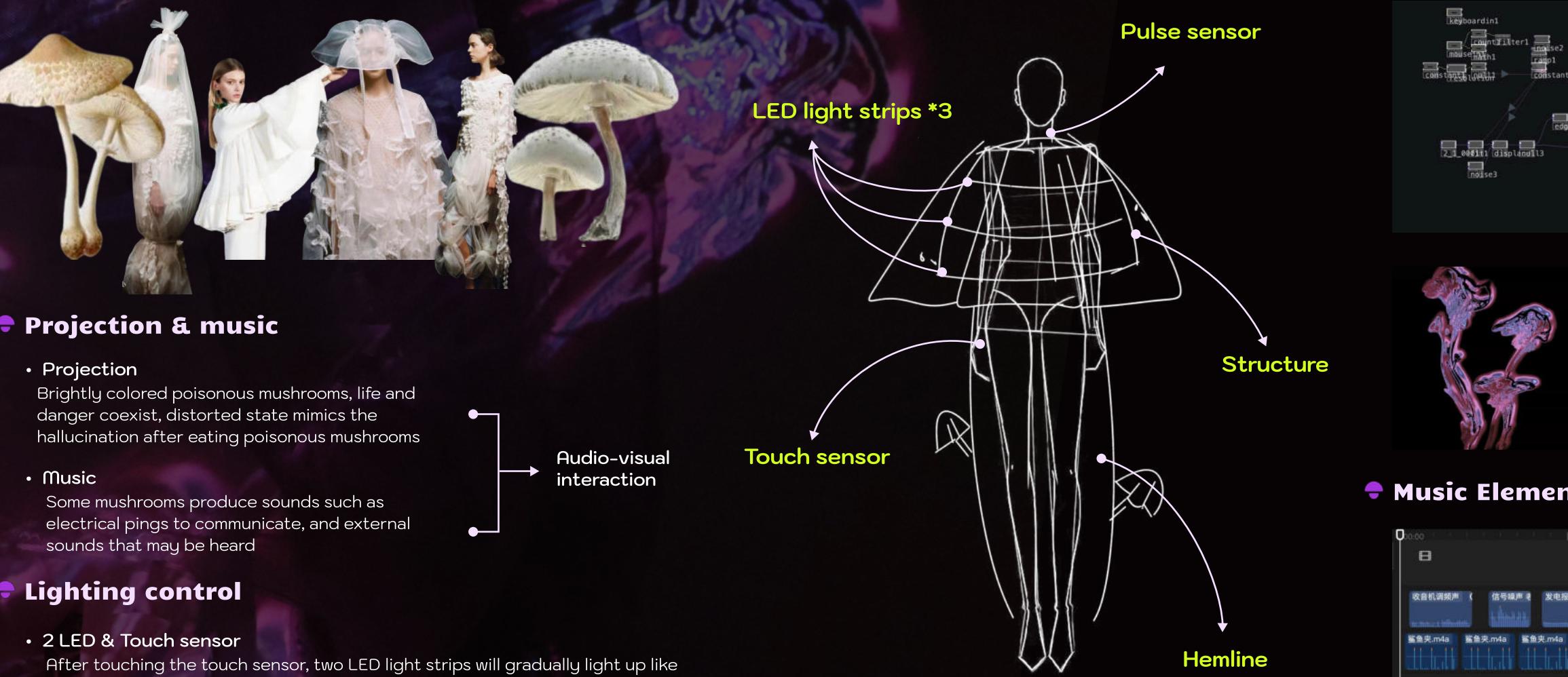
A collage of images. On the left, two large, detailed mushrooms with brown caps and thick white stems are shown against a dark background. To the right, three fashion models are displayed. The model in the center wears a white, bell-shaped dress with a lace hem. The model on the right wears a translucent, ruffled, and layered garment. The model on the far right is partially visible, also in a white, textured dress. The overall aesthetic is ethereal and nature-inspired.

- **Music**
Some mushrooms produce sounds such as electrical pings to communicate, and external sounds that may be heard

- **Lighting control**
- **2 LED & Touch sensor**
After touching the touch sensor, two LED light strips will grow divergent mycelium, simulating touch and communication between organisms.

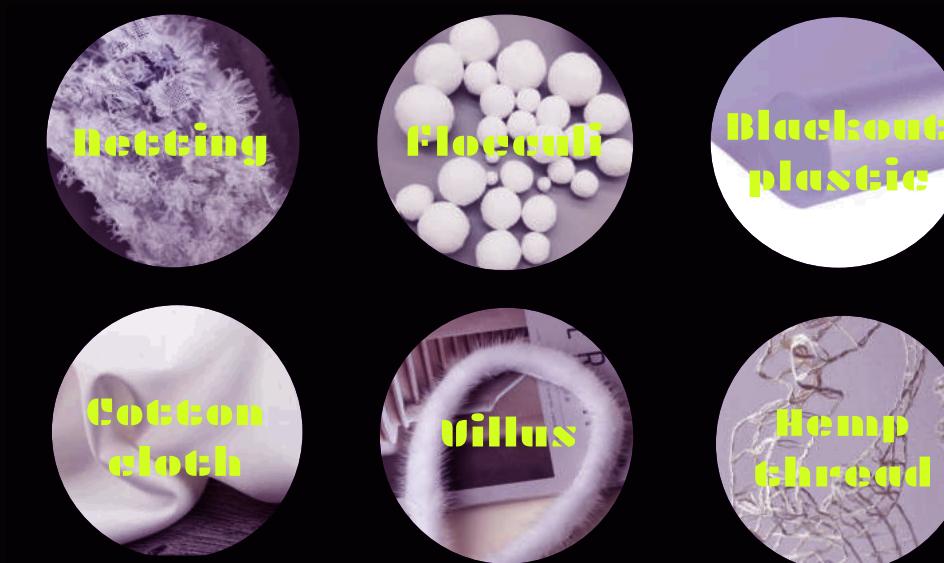
- **1 LED & Pulse sensor**
The pulse sensor lights up in response to the heartbeat rate.
asexual reproduction of mushrooms at maturity by spreading spores.

• Costume installation design • Sketch • Visual



- **1 LED & Pulse sensor**
The pulse sensor lights up in response to the heartbeat rate, simulating the

• Costume installation design • Sketch • Visual



e Codi

The image shows two side-by-side screenshots of the Arduino IDE. Both windows have the title 'Arduino Uno' and show the same code for a 16x2 LCD display. The code uses the LiquidCrystal library and includes functions for displaying text and graphics. The right window shows the code with syntax highlighting, while the left window shows it in a monochrome font.

```
sum11101ino
1 // LCD Pin Definitions
2 #define RST_PIN 2
3 #define E_PIN 17
4 #define D4_PIN 22
5 #define D5_PIN 23
6 #define D6_PIN 24
7 #define D7_PIN 25
8 #define LDB 13
9
10 #include <LiquidCrystal.h>
11
12 LiquidCrystal lcd(RST_PIN, E_PIN, D4_PIN, D5_PIN, D6_PIN, D7_PIN);
13
14 //lcd.setBacklight();
15 //lcd.backlight();
16
17 //lcd.setCursor(0,0);
18 //lcd.print("Hello, world!");
19
20 //lcd.setCursor(0,1);
21 //lcd.print("This is a test.");
22
23 //lcd.clear();
24
25 //lcd.setContrast(0);
26
27 //lcd.setBacklight();
28
29 //lcd.backlight();
30
31 //lcd.setContrast();
32
33 //lcd.setBacklight();
34
35 //lcd.backlight();
36
37 //lcd.setContrast();
38
39 //lcd.setBacklight();
40
41 //lcd.backlight();
42
43 //lcd.setContrast();
44
45 //lcd.setBacklight();
46
47 //lcd.backlight();
48
49 //lcd.setContrast();
50
51
52 void setup() {
53   lcd.begin(16, 2);
54   lcd.setBacklight();
55   lcd.setCursor(0,0);
56   lcd.print("Hello, world!");
57   lcd.setCursor(0,1);
58   lcd.print("This is a test.");
59   lcd.clear();
60   lcd.setContrast(0);
61   lcd.setBacklight();
62   lcd.backlight();
63   lcd.setContrast();
64
65   //digitalWrite(LDB, LOW);
66   //delayMicroseconds(1000);
67   //digitalWrite(LDB, HIGH);
68   //delayMicroseconds(1000);
69   //digitalWrite(LDB, LOW);
70   //delayMicroseconds(1000);
71   //digitalWrite(LDB, HIGH);
72   //delayMicroseconds(1000);
73 }
74
75 void loop() {
76   if (Serial.available() > 0) {
77     getLine();
78   }
79 }
80
81 void getLine() {
82   String line = "";
83   while (Serial.available() > 0) {
84     line += (char)Serial.read();
85   }
86   if (line == "L") {
87     digitalWrite(LDB, HIGH);
88   } else if (line == "D") {
89     digitalWrite(LDB, LOW);
90   }
91 }
```

卷之三

Outcome

