**Week 16**

Victoria Modesta is an artist, performer, model, and amputee activist who has garnered attention for her avant-garde approach to art and fashion. Born in Latvia in 1988, she suffered a leg injury at birth that ultimately led to a below-the-knee amputation at the age of 20. This event spurred her to pursue a career in art and music, using her unique perspective as an amputee to create thought-provoking and visually stunning performances.

Modesta's work often explores themes of identity, technology, and the intersection of the human body with machinery. Her performances incorporate prosthetic limbs and other technological enhancements, blurring the boundaries between the human and the technological. She has been described as a "posthuman" artist, a term that refers to the blurring of boundaries between the human and the technological.

However, some may argue that Modesta's work also aligns with the concept of "transhumanism," which seeks to use technology to transcend the limitations of the human body and mind. Transhumanism advocates for the use of technology to enhance human capabilities, such as by using prosthetics to improve physical abilities, or by using cognitive enhancers to improve mental abilities.

Modesta's work can be seen as embracing both posthuman and transhuman perspectives, as she uses technology to blur the boundaries between human and machine, while also using technology to enhance her own abilities and transcend the limitations of her physical body. In doing so, she challenges traditional notions of what it means to be human, and pushes the boundaries of what we consider to be "normal" or "natural."

Modesta's performances are not only visually stunning, but they also raise important questions about the relationship between humans and technology. By exploring the ways in which technology can be used to enhance human capabilities and identity, Modesta's work challenges us to think critically about the role that technology plays in our lives, and the potential for technology to shape the future of human evolution.

In conclusion, while there may be some debate about whether Modesta is a posthuman or transhuman artist, what is clear is that her work represents a bold and innovative approach to art and performance. By embracing technology and using it to enhance her own identity and abilities, she challenges us to rethink traditional notions of what it means to be human, and opens up new possibilities for the intersection of art, technology, and identity.