

# Sprout



Collaborators  
for an instant,  
Connections  
for a lifetime.

---

ELSIE

ALIX

CONSTANCE

JIALIN





**Growth in the music industry revolves around networking.**

It is how creators come across breakthrough opportunities, learn from other talented artists, and expand their creative outlook.



**But networking for small creators is sparse, or awkward at best.**

Small creators sacrifice attending to this crucial component of their success because it feels tedious, disingenuous, “like a means to an end.”



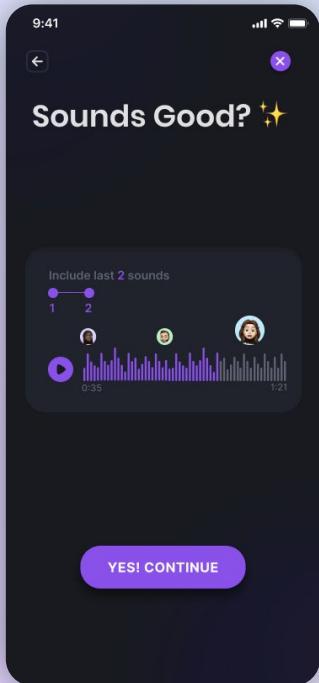
**Sprout enables musicians to grow their network organically,**

By centering connections around short and fun musical additions to each other’s soundbytes.

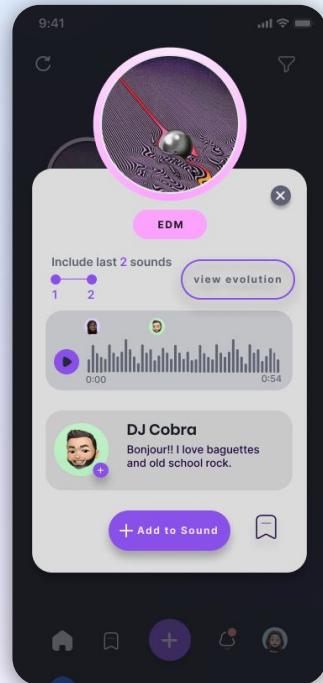
# Tasks



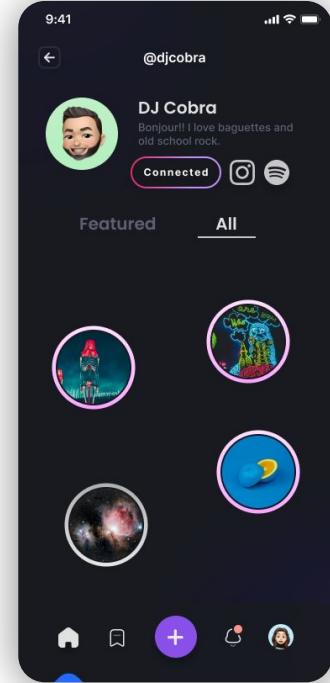
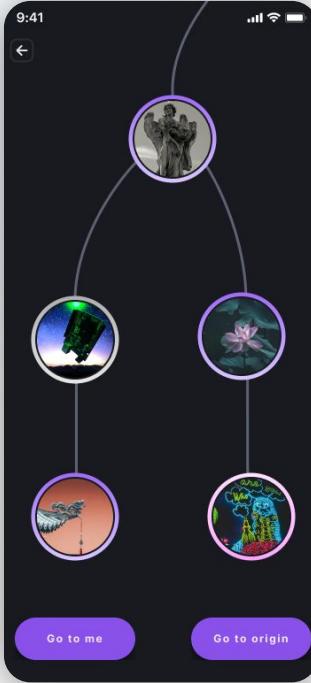
**Post a sound**  
[SIMPLE]



**Add to a sound**  
[MODERATE]

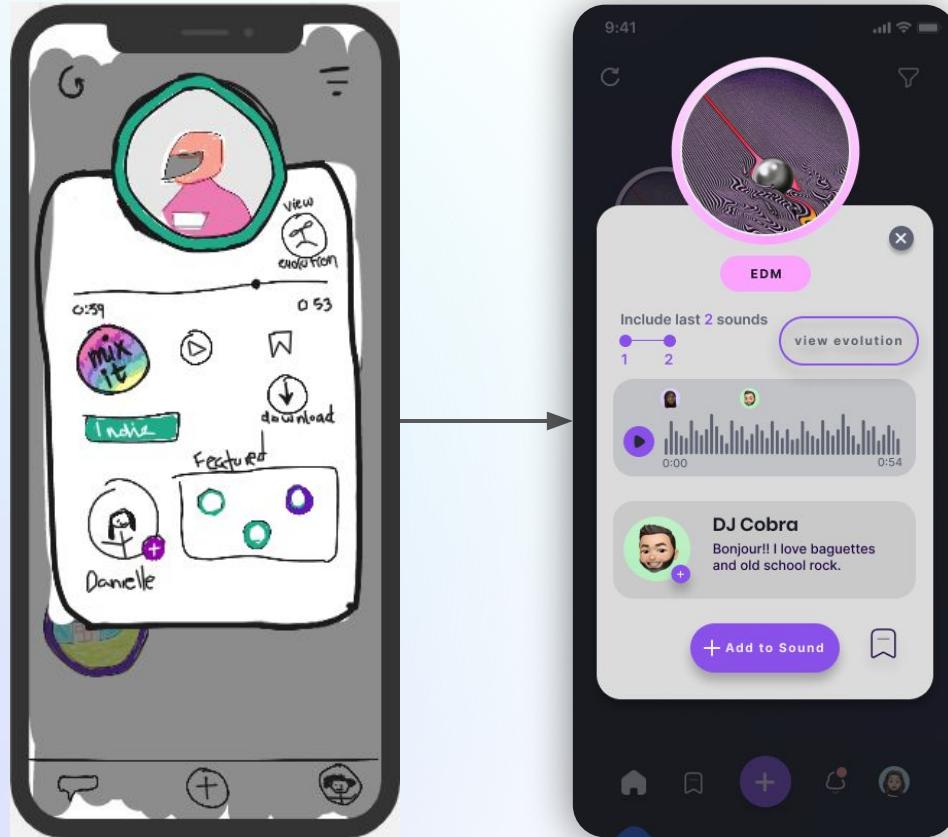


**Track additions to your soundbites and connect with “collaborator”**  
[COMPLEX]



*Major Design Change #1*

## Soundbite Pop-Up





### "Mix it" not intuitive

2/3 lofi testers were confused over "Mix it" meaning. We learned that "mix" meant something very specific in music production.

### Unnecessary clutter

All lofi testers said the page's contents were "overwhelming."

### Train idea → new needs

With new train idea, users would likely want to hear what leads up to their most current soundbite

### Strange tag placement

The genre tag placement was incredibly random in the lofi and didn't make any logical sense, especially because it came after call to action buttons

### "Add to Sound"

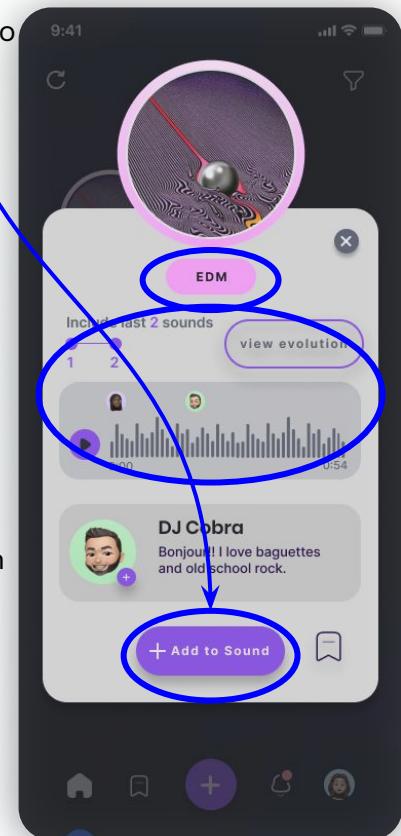
Changed the ultimate call to action button to "add to sound"

### Delete "download"

Deleted "download" button because it was no longer needed with our novel soundbite 'train' idea

### Hear 'X' last sounds

We redesigned the sound player to include the option to hear previous additions

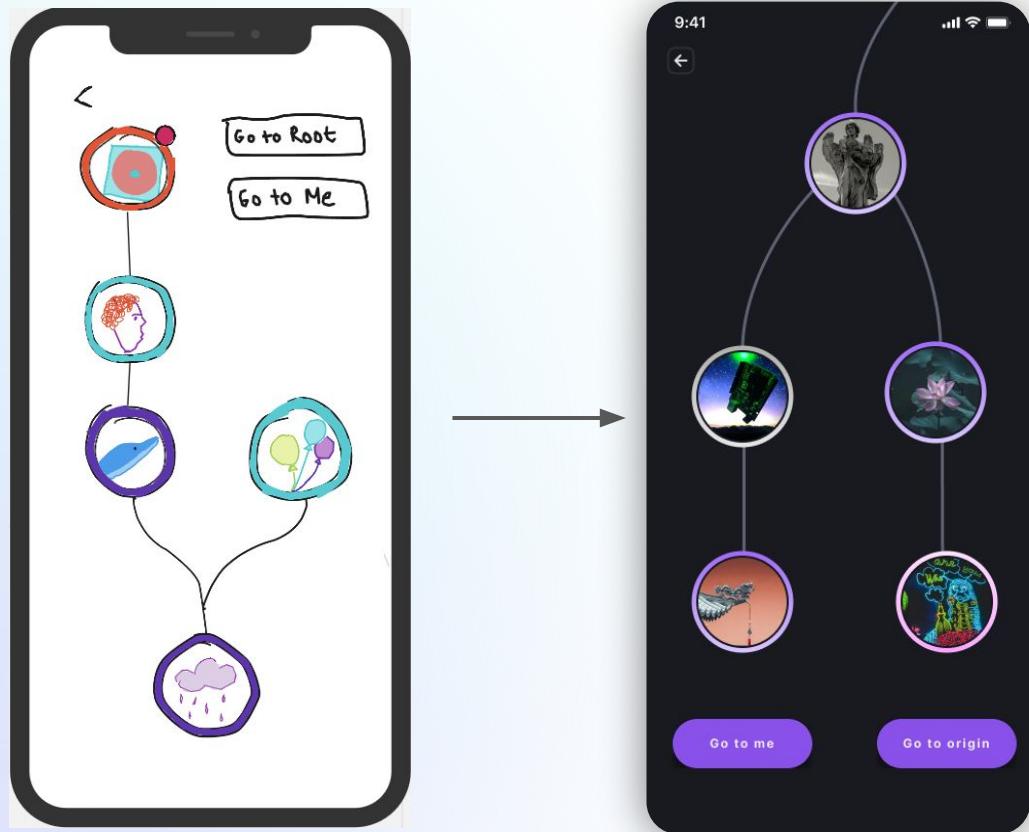


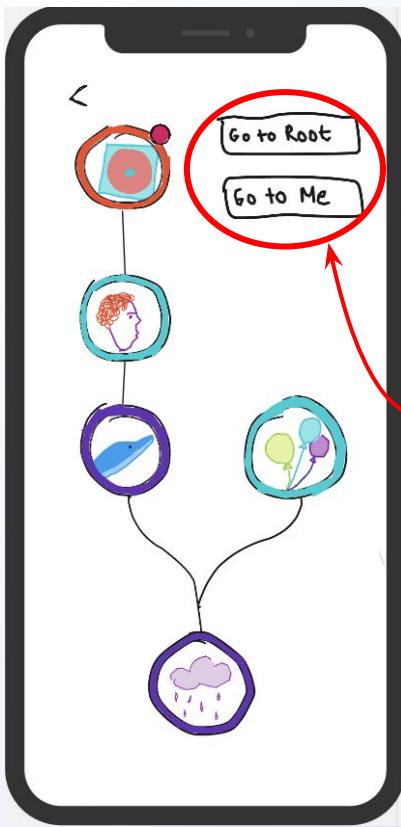
### Tag under cover pic

Moved the genre tag higher up, and added view evolution in a more aligned place.

*Major Design Change #2*

## Sound bite evolution page





## Bottom-up tree concept not intuitive

Many testers and classmates had trouble grasping this evolution screen, likely because it was more intuitive to understand as a timeline instead of a tree.

## “Go to” buttons confusing

The buttons were intended to mean “go to original sound” and “your addition” respectively (in line with “Sprout” plant theme) but none of the lofi testers attempted to click the buttons because they didn’t understand the meaning.

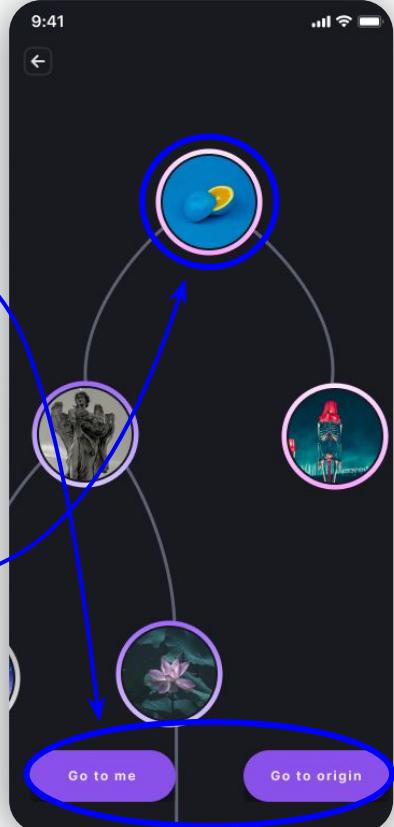


## Top-down redesign

Deviated from the “tree” idea and instead tried to make our design represent a timeline of chronological additions.

## Rename “Go to” buttons

We renamed “Go To Root” to “Go To Origin” and “Go To Seed” to “Go To Me” and moved the buttons closer to the bottom for easier tap access.

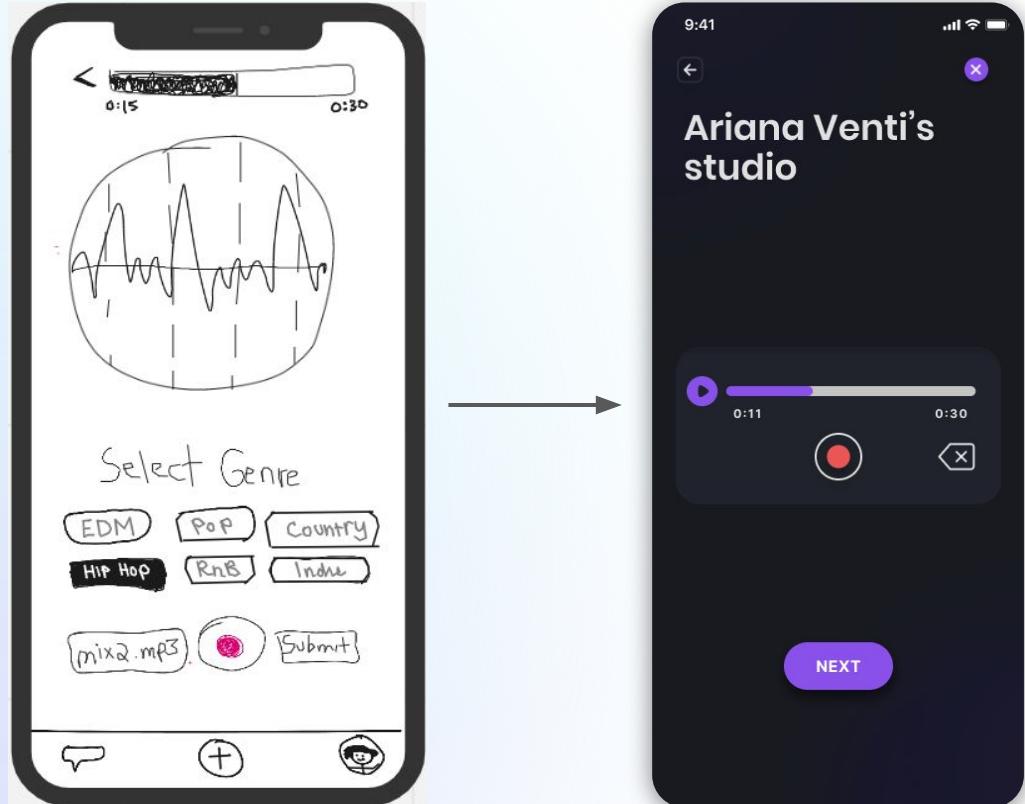


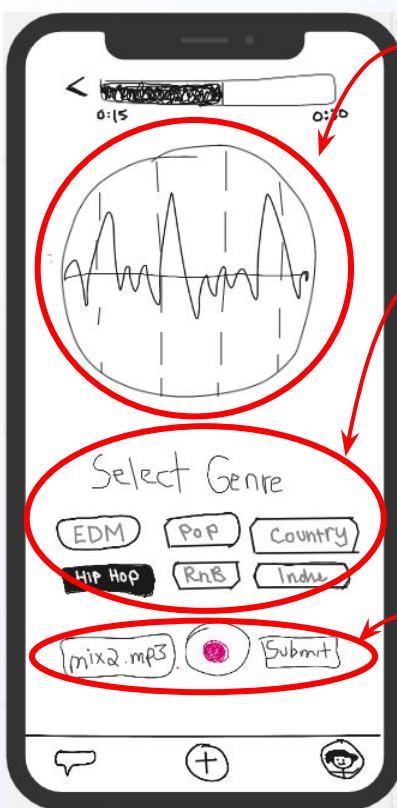
## Delete “Your Sound” bar

Since lofi users were confused about what they were for, especially since we had the “go to me” button.

*Major Design Change #3*

## Posting a Soundbite





### Sound frequency

The sound frequency was unnecessary and took up too much space

### Select Genre

Select genre was above the record button so the users were confused if they were suppose to select the genre before or after recording. It also made the page too crowded.

### Ability to re-record

The record button only lets the users record, but not delete what they recorded.



### Better use of white space

We removed the unnecessary sound frequency UI, leaving more room for white space.

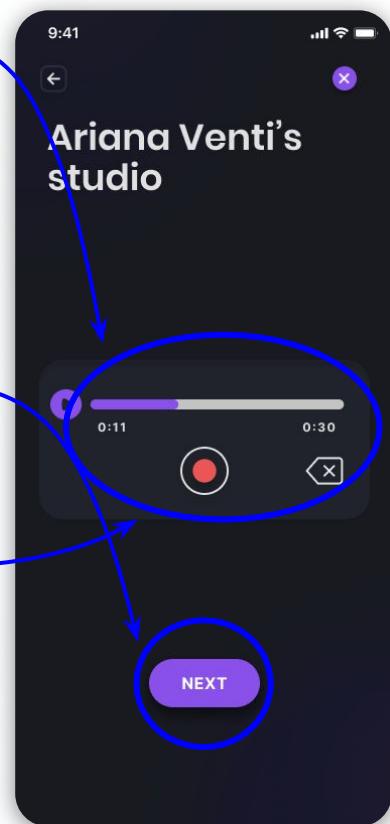


### Divide and Conquer

To make the tasks less confusing we decided to break up each functionality into its own page, guided by a "next" button.

### Trash Option

Users get to delete what they recorded and start over with one tap.



# Med-Fi Task Flows



## Post a soundbite (LOFI)

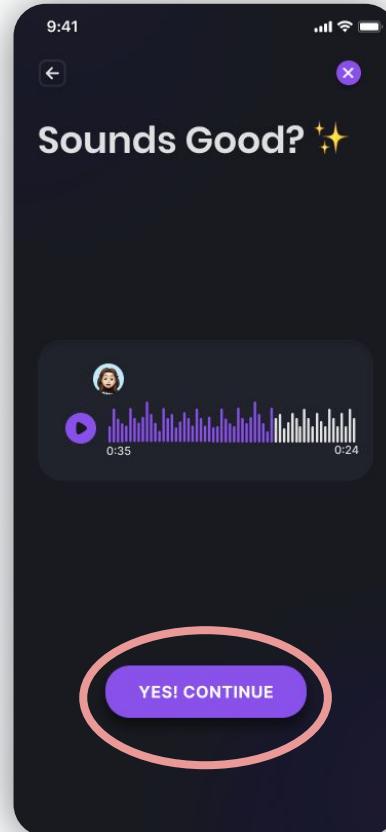
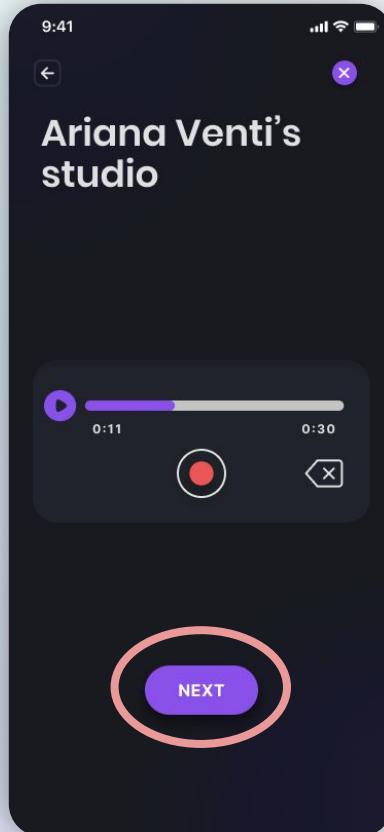
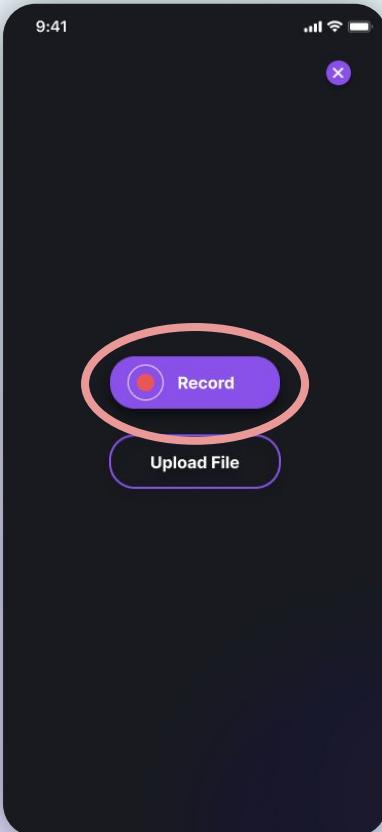
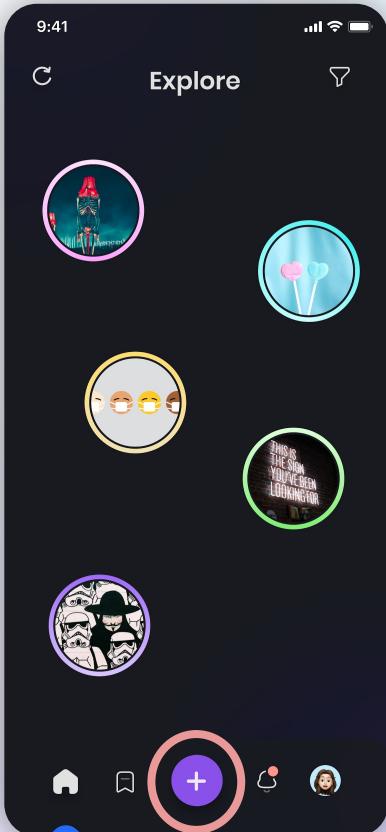
[SIMPLE]





## Post a soundbite

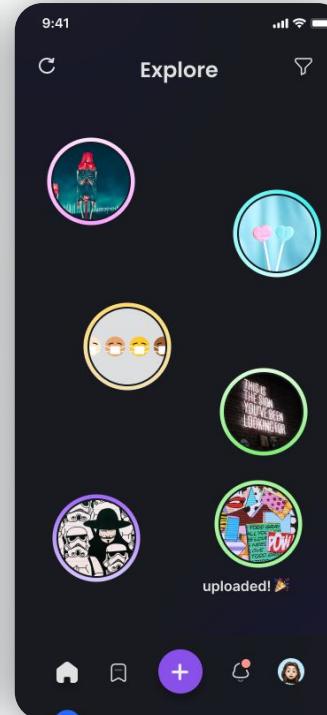
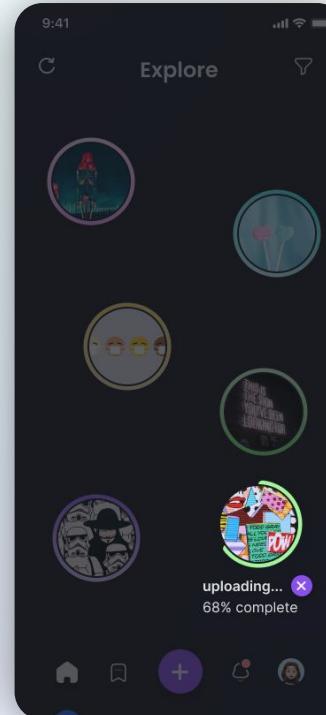
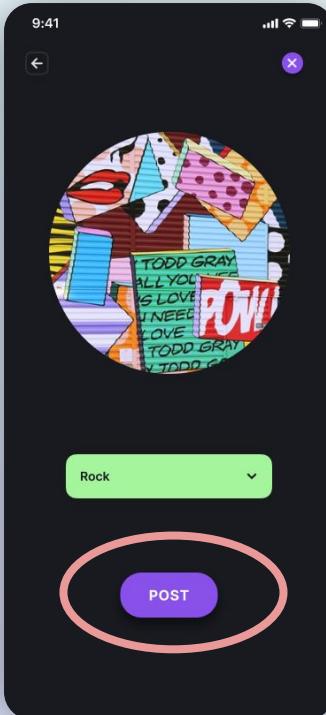
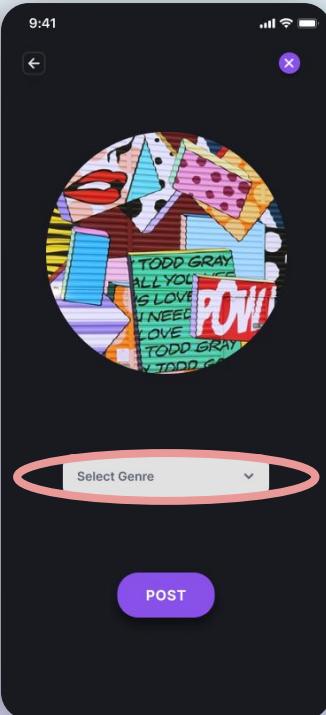
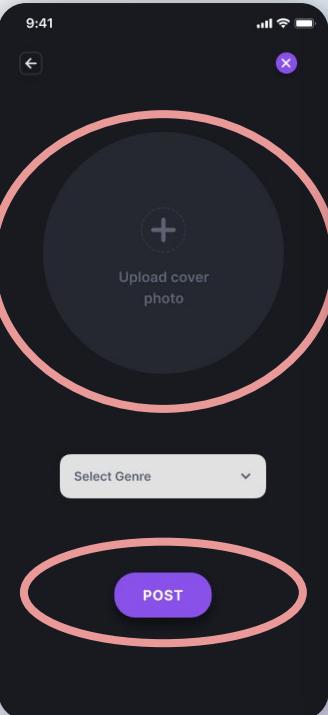
[SIMPLE]





# Post a soundbite

[SIMPLE]





## Add to a soundbite (LOFI)

[MODERATE]





## Add to a soundbite (LOFI)

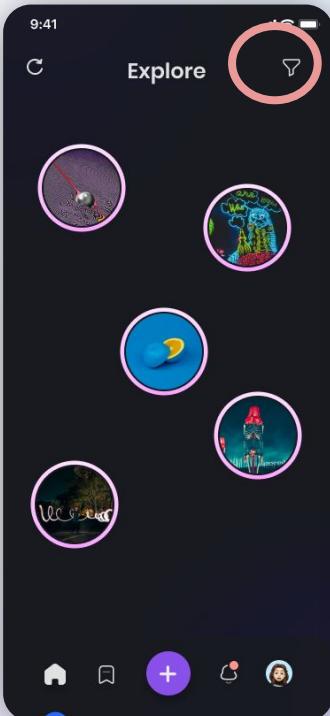
[MODERATE]





## Add to a soundbite [MODERATE]

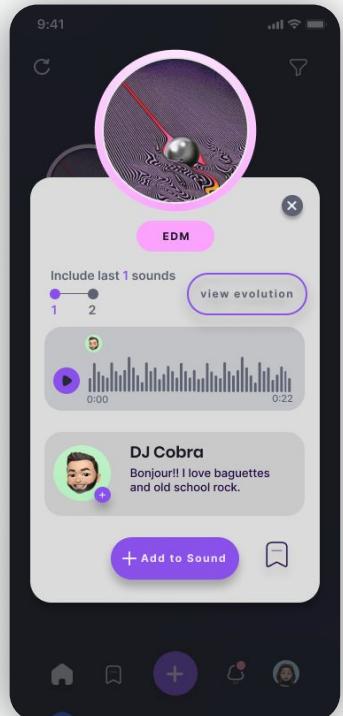
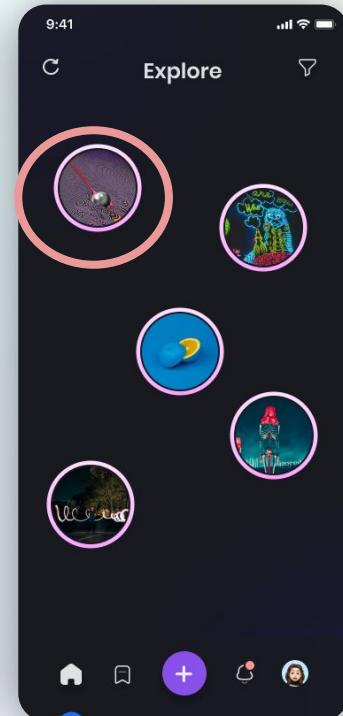
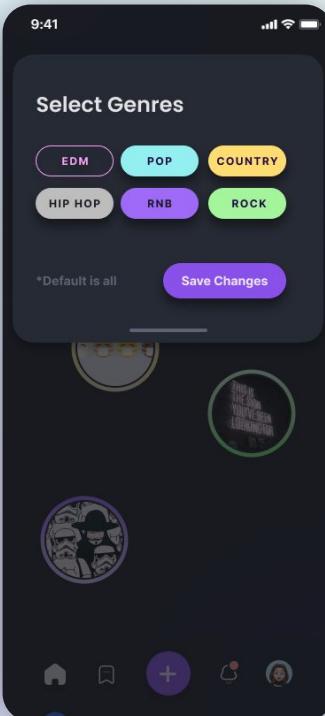
[OPTIONAL]



[OPTIONAL]



[OPTIONAL]

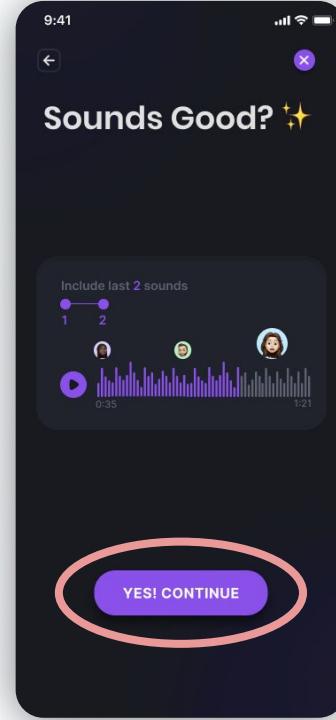
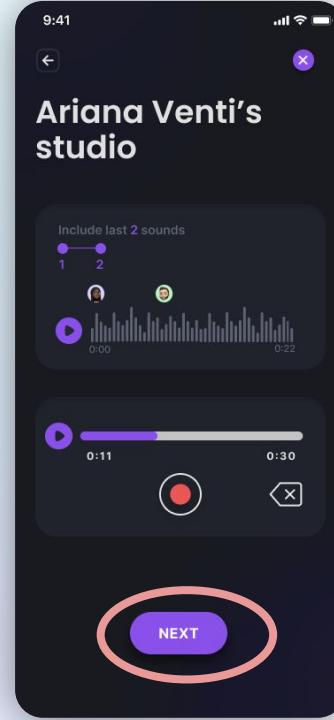
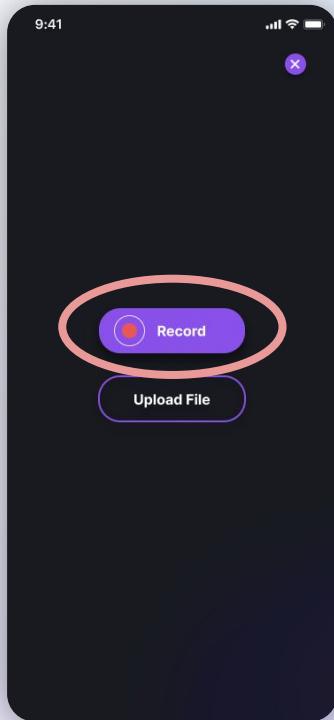




## Add to a soundbite

[MODERATE]

\*SAME AS 'POST A SOUNDBITE' TASK EXCEPT PLAYBACK AVAILABLE

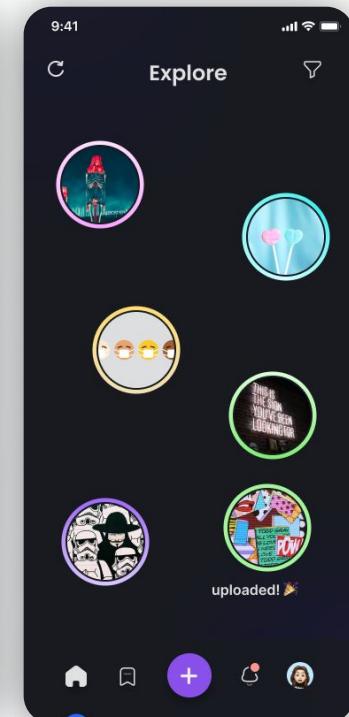
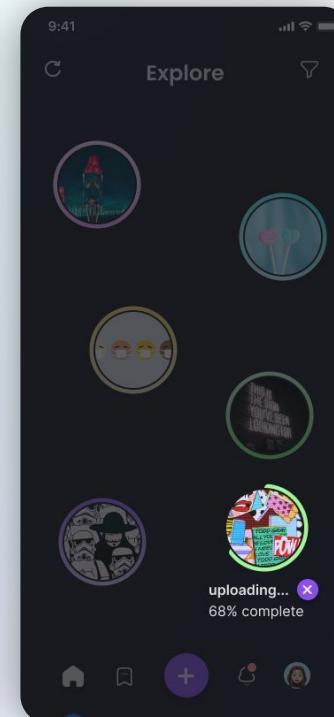
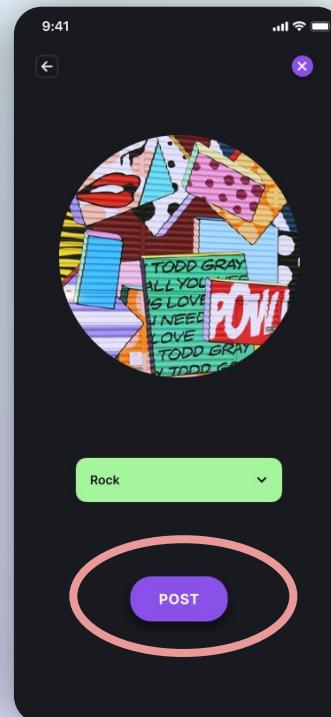
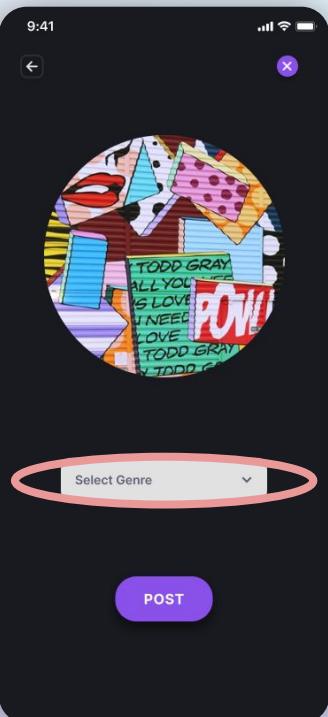
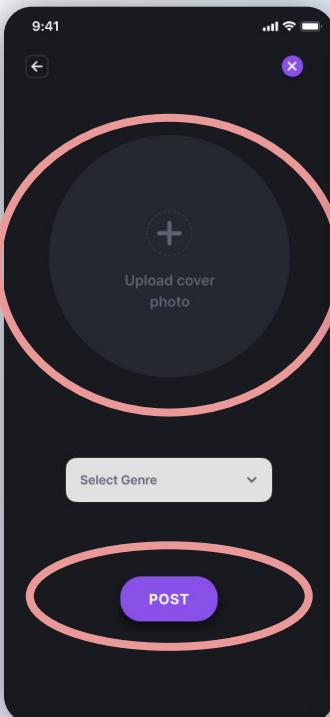




## Add to a soundbite

[MODERATE]

\*SAME AS SECOND HALF OF [\[POST A SOUNDBITE\]](#)





## Track additions to your soundbites & connect with a remixer (LOFI)

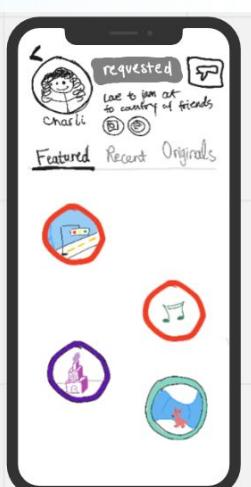
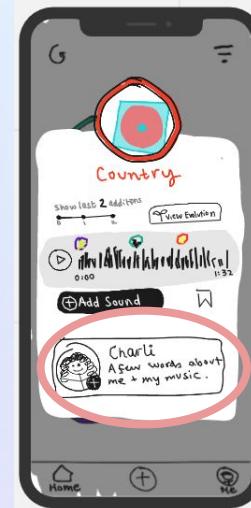
[COMPLEX]





# Track additions to your soundbites & connect with a remixer (LOFI)

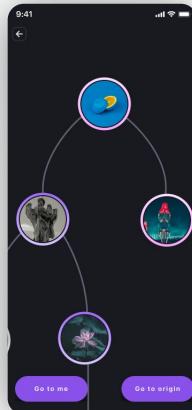
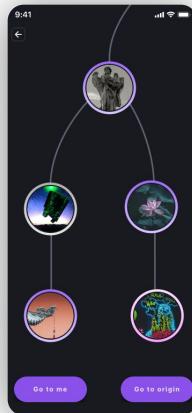
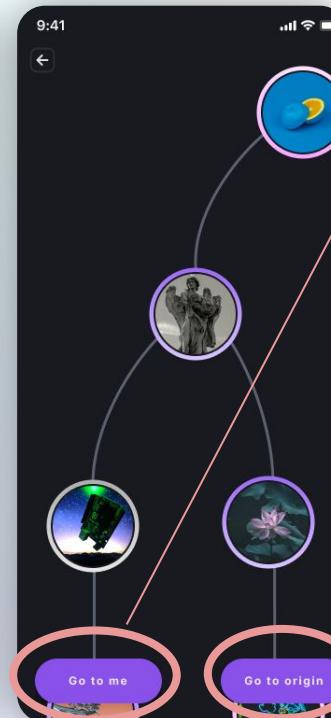
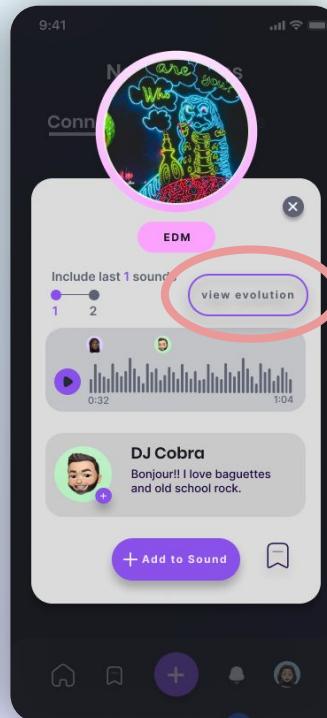
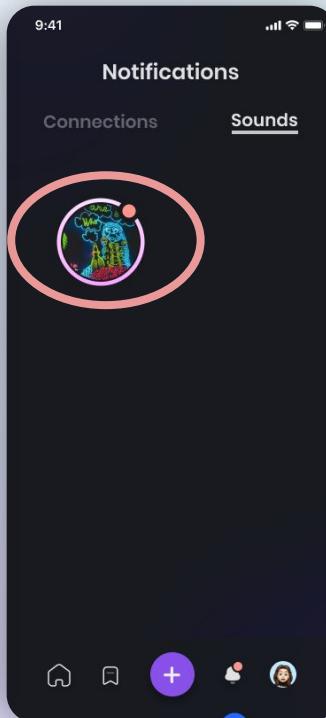
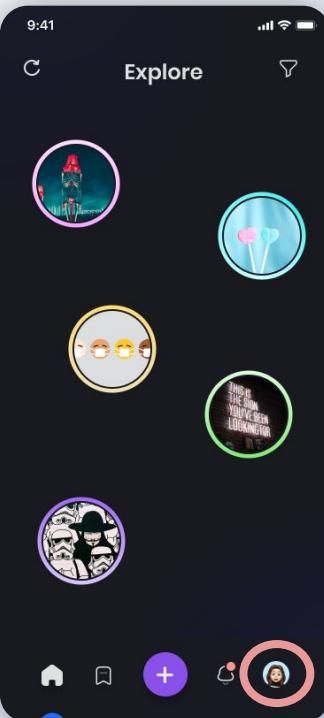
[COMPLEX]





# Track additions to your soundbites & connect with a remixer

[COMPLEX]

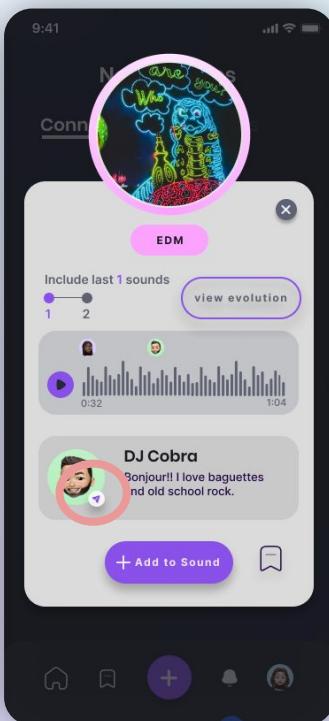
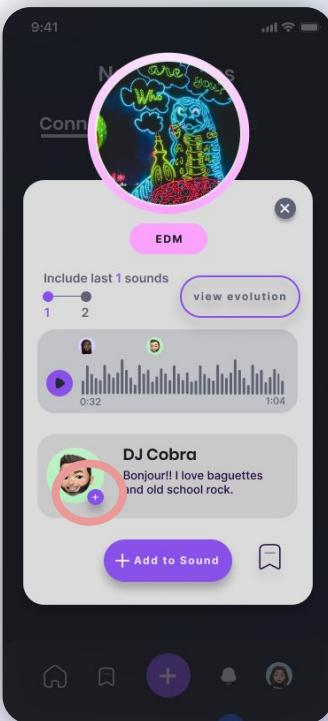




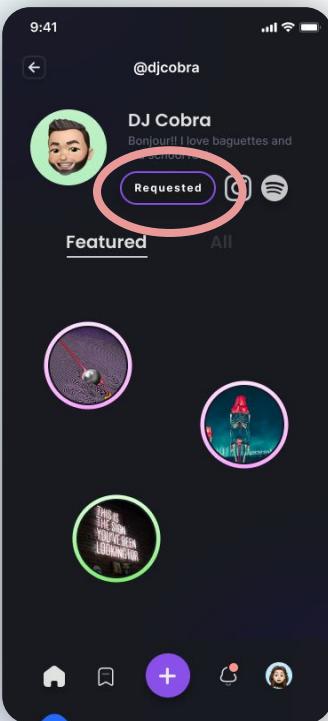
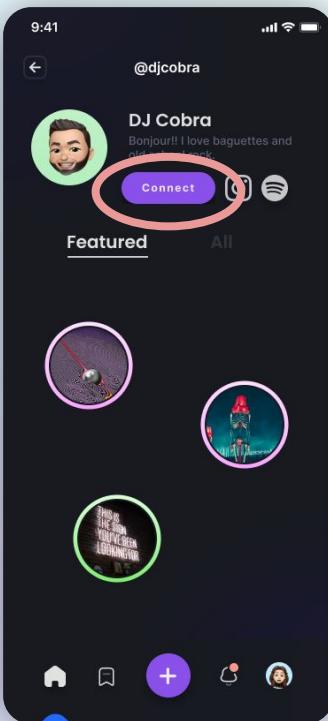
## Track additions to your soundbites & connect with a remixer

[COMPLEX]

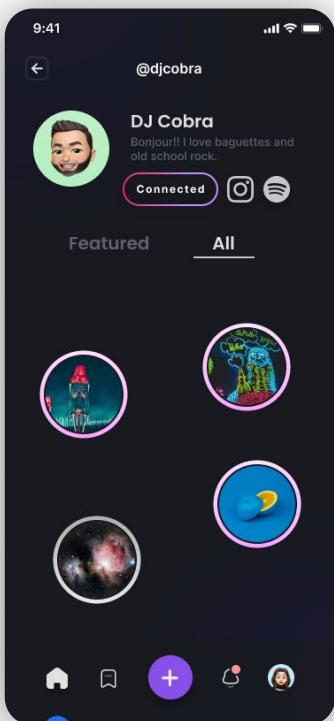
[METHOD 1]



[METHOD 2]



[ONCE USER ACCEPTS]



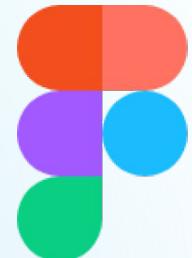
# Design/Prototyping Tools

## Pros:

Figma and Miro both offered collaborative environments for development which let all of us as a team work together efficiently. All applications had snap-in-place grid systems which made alignment easier. Figma's component feature also helped with the DRY (Don't Repeat Yourself) process.

## Cons:

There was a steep learning curve to using both applications, especially Figma. However, once we got deeper into the development, we became more comfortable with the process.



# Figma

[Designing components and prototyping]



# miro

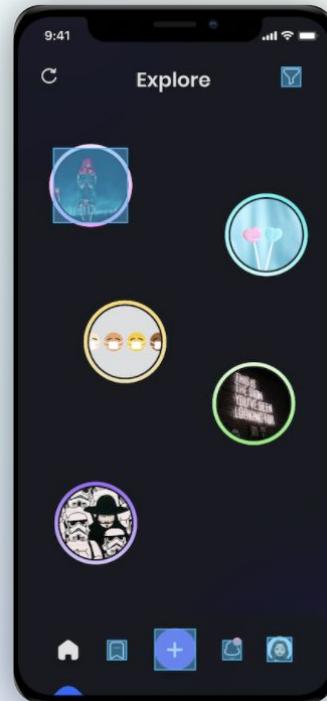
[Mapping out task flows and brainstorms]

# Limitations/Tradeoffs

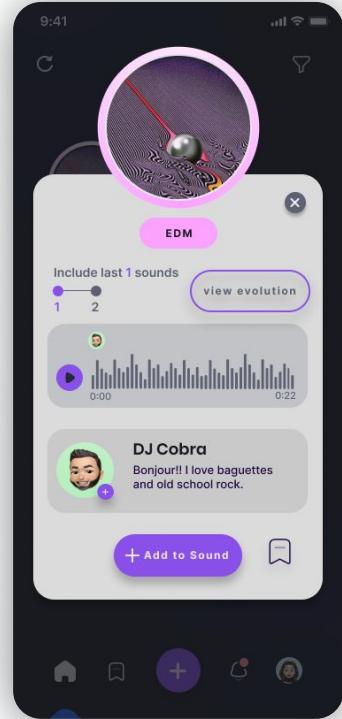
Not all soundbites and buttons are clickable due to the numerous permutations and different screens we would have to design.

Users were unable to upload their own musical creations. Instead, they had to step into a simulated experience with certain hardcoded soundbites.

In addition, we don't have a way to play the audio from a soundbite yet; however, the ability to toggle between the previous 'x' last sounds is possible.



[Only the top left (pink) soundbite is clickable]

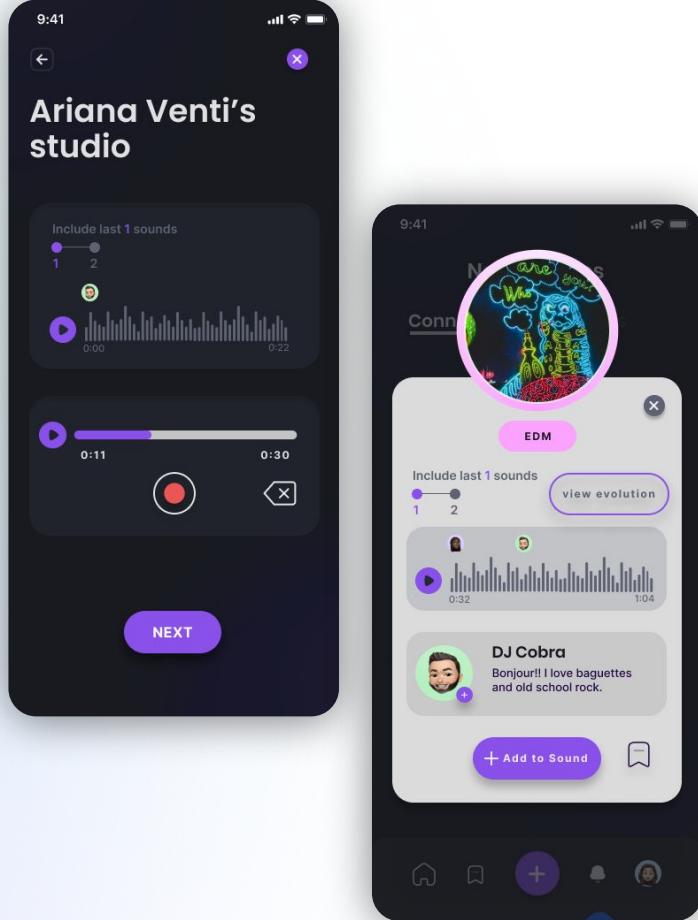


[User cannot play audio of soundbite]

# Wizard of Oz

*Wizard of Oz:* When the user clicks “upload file” or “record”, the interface skips to an already uploaded soundbite on the next screen, instead of allowing the user to actually select a file from an upload pop-up or record their own soundbite. This is because all phones (Android, iOS, etc.) have unique files in their system and different upload processes based on their operating system (Android, iOS, etc.).

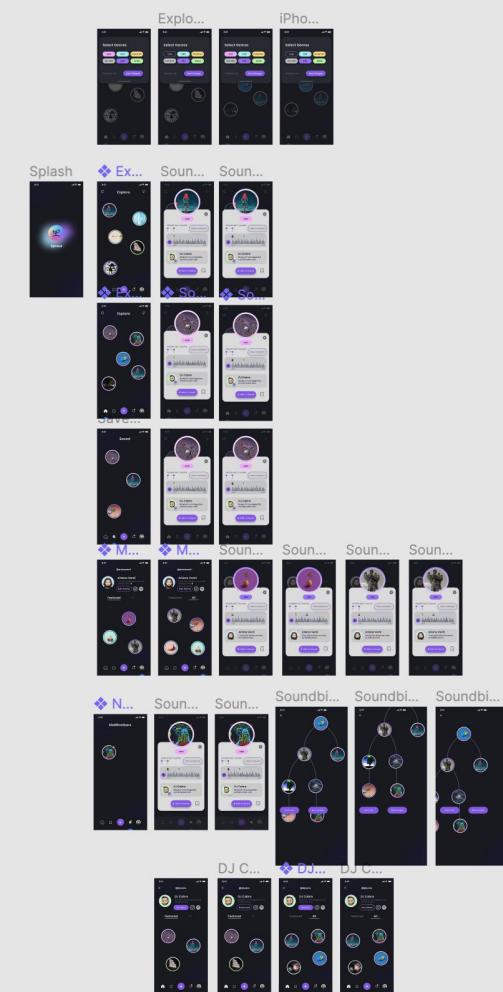
*Hard-Coded Features:* We currently have no real users or database to store user uploads and provided information about each soundbite. Thus, we hard-coded everything related to the soundbite (itself, pop-up page, updates tree, sound playback util), as well as their “user-provided” information (creator, cover photo, genre, etc.). We also hard-coded filtering options, as it may be too complex to allow users to submit/tag their soundbites with any genre they desire.

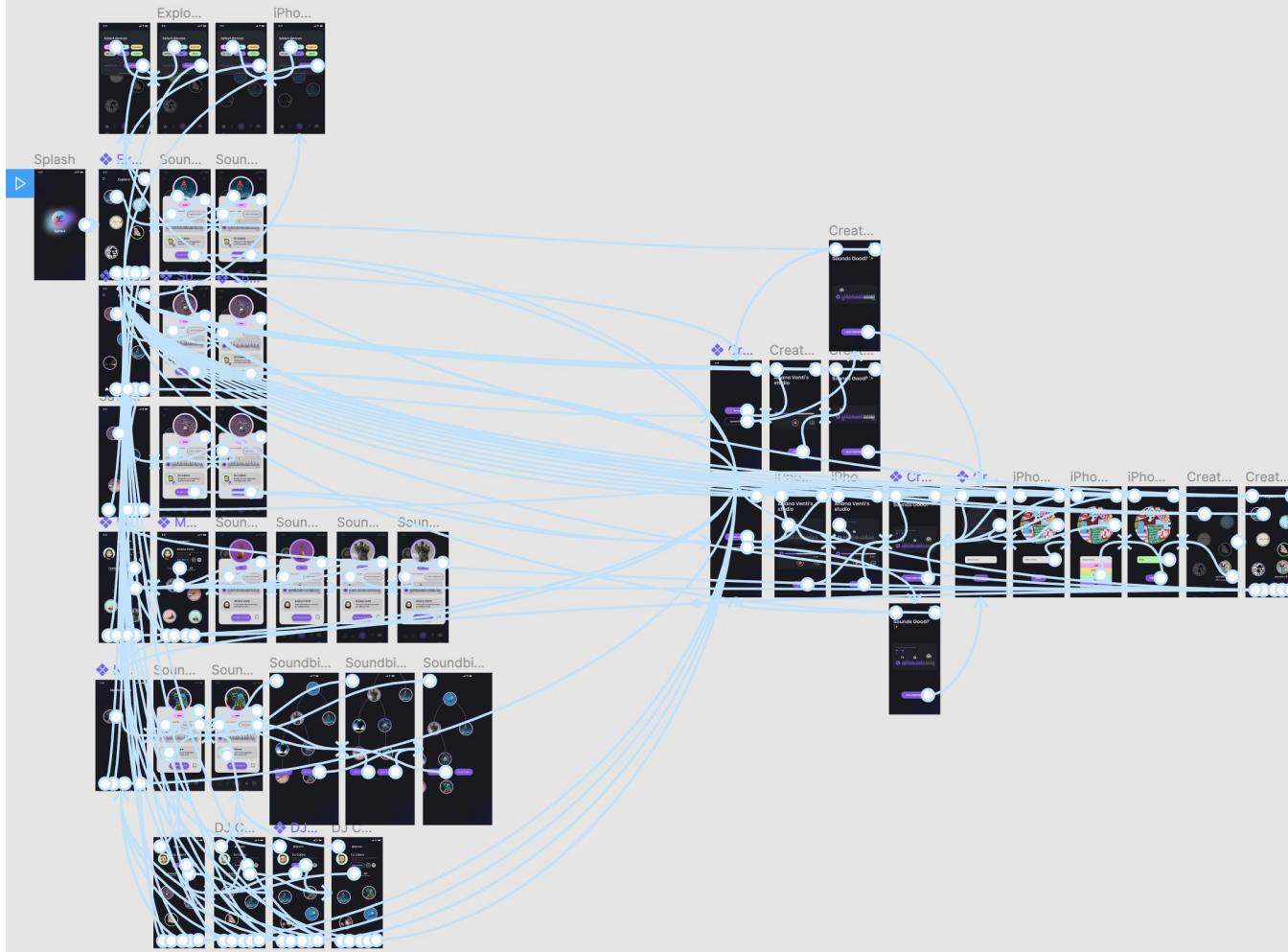


Figma Med-Fi  
Prototype Link

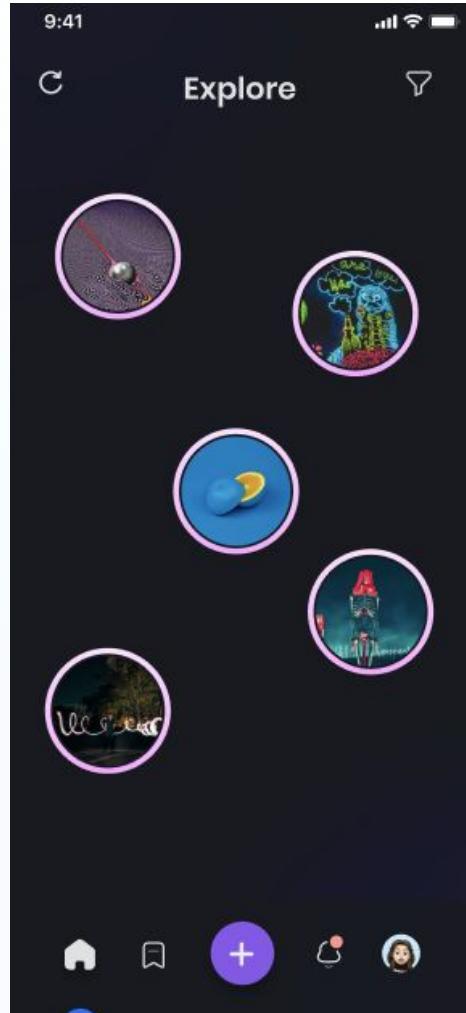
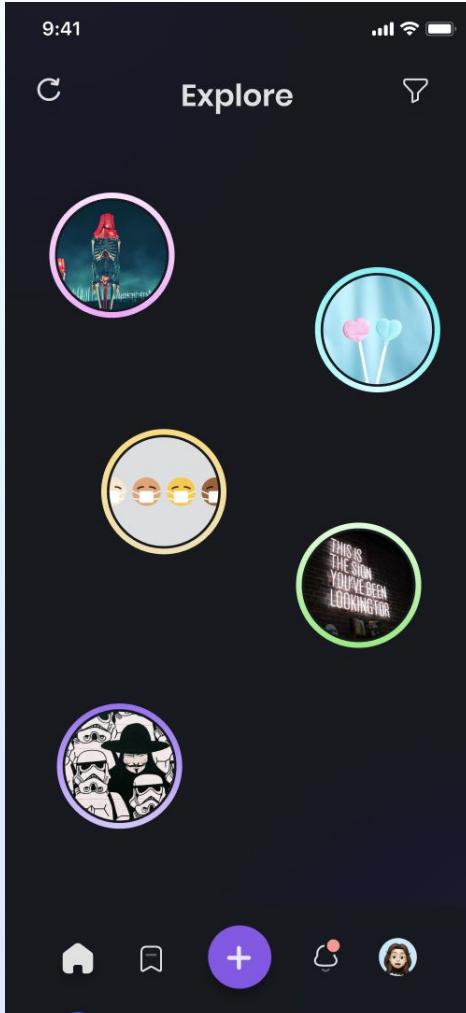


Additional  
prototype  
screenshots



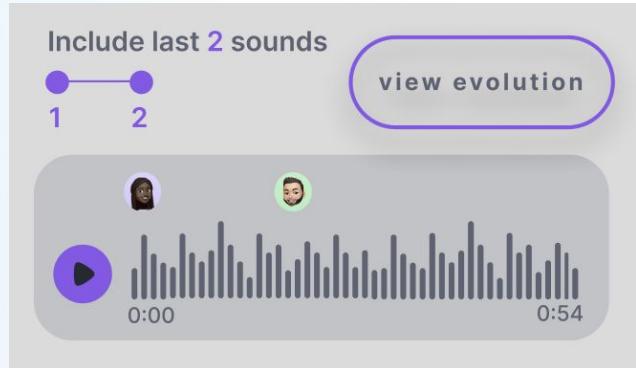
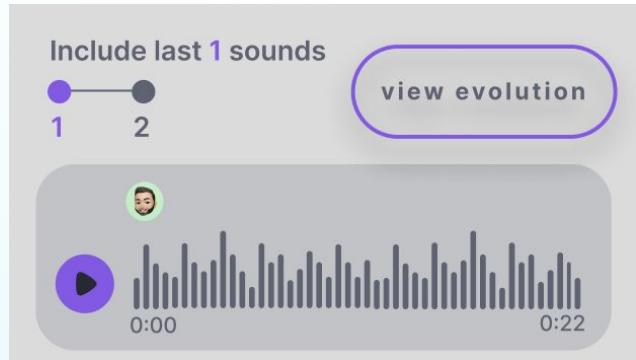
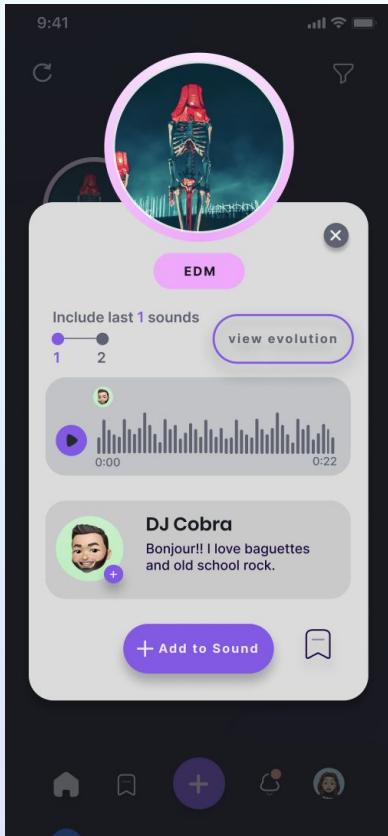


# Splash Screen & Explore Page

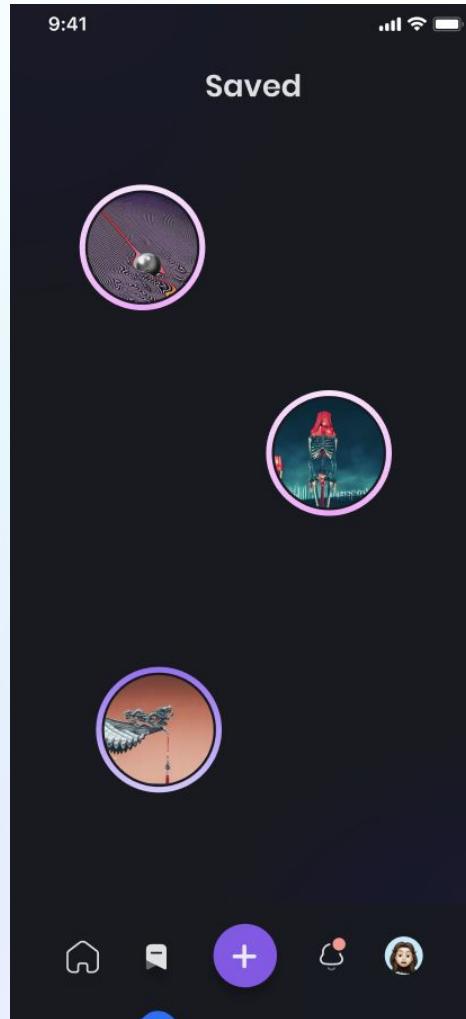


# Sound pop-up

Enables playback listening, important for musicians when adding to sound.

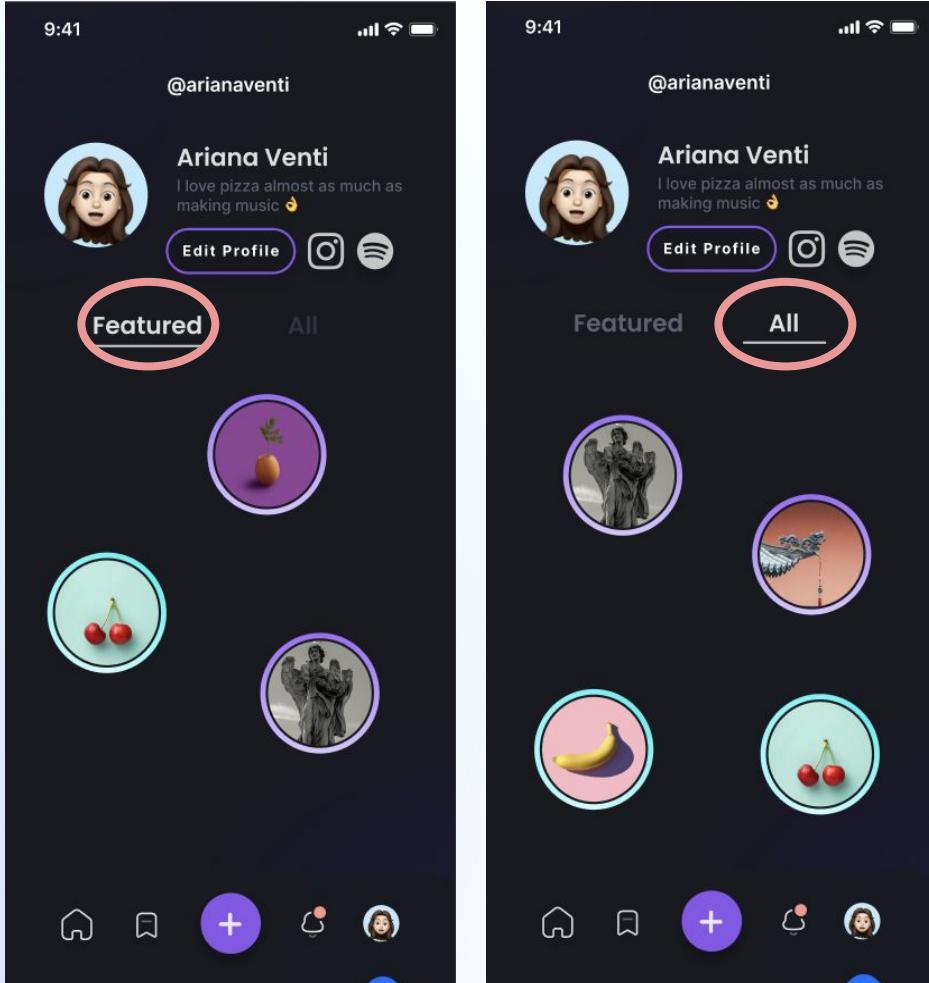


# Saved soundbites



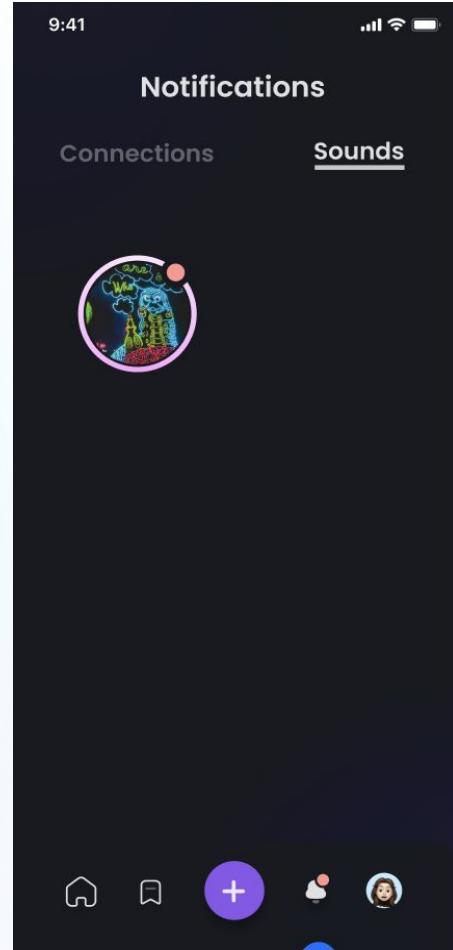
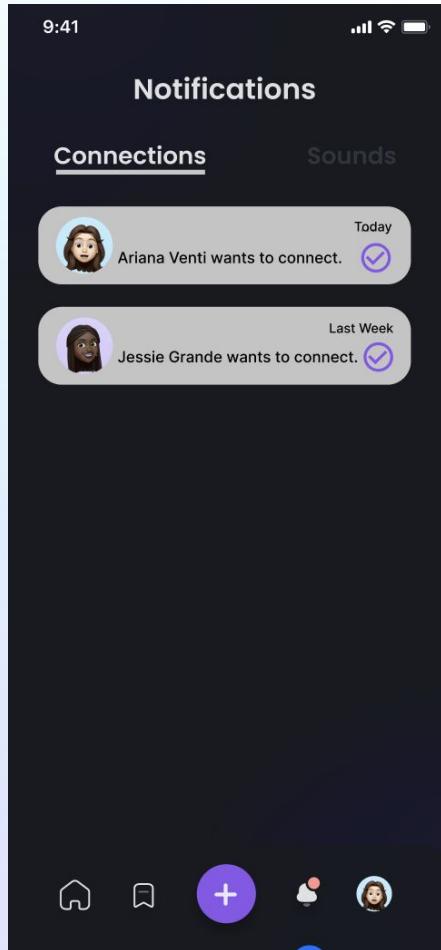
# User Profile:

Allow the users to scroll through their soundbites



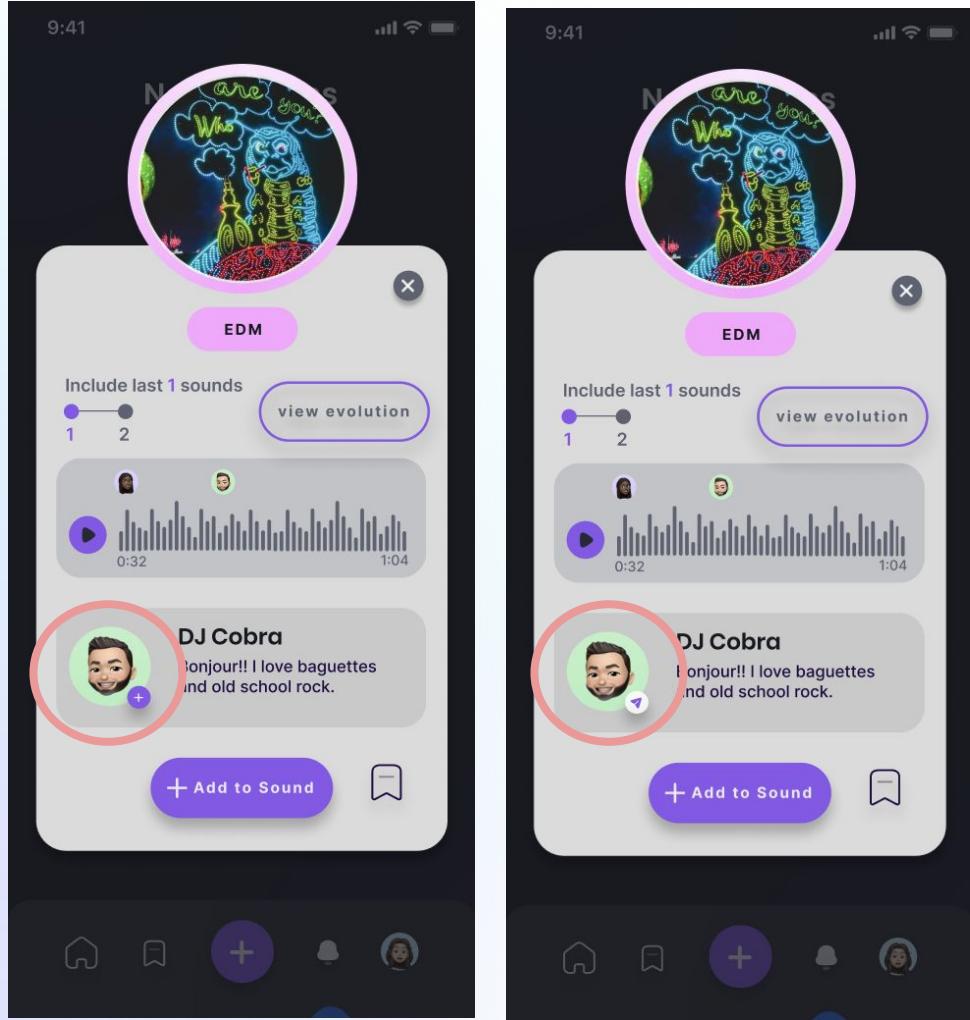
# Notification:

Separated soundbite updates from connect requests for easy viewing; sounds with new updates are indicated with a red dot



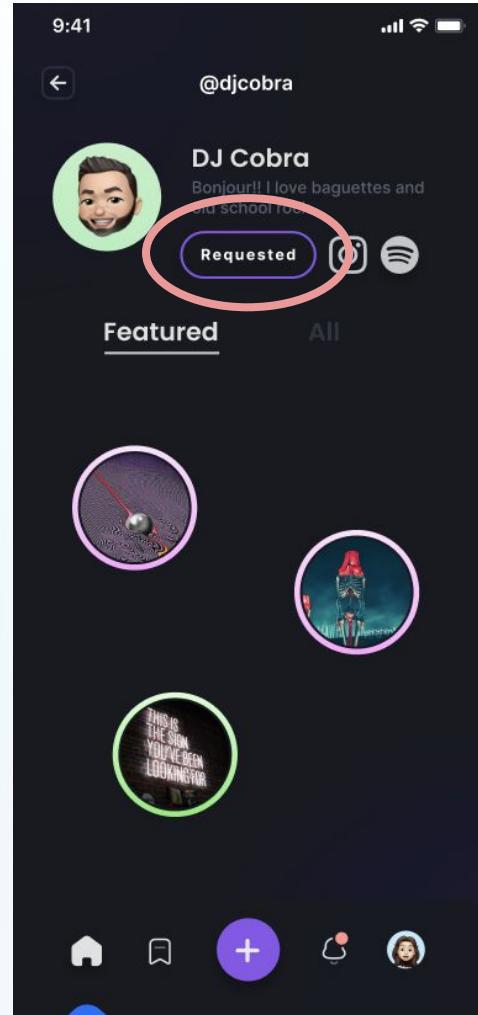
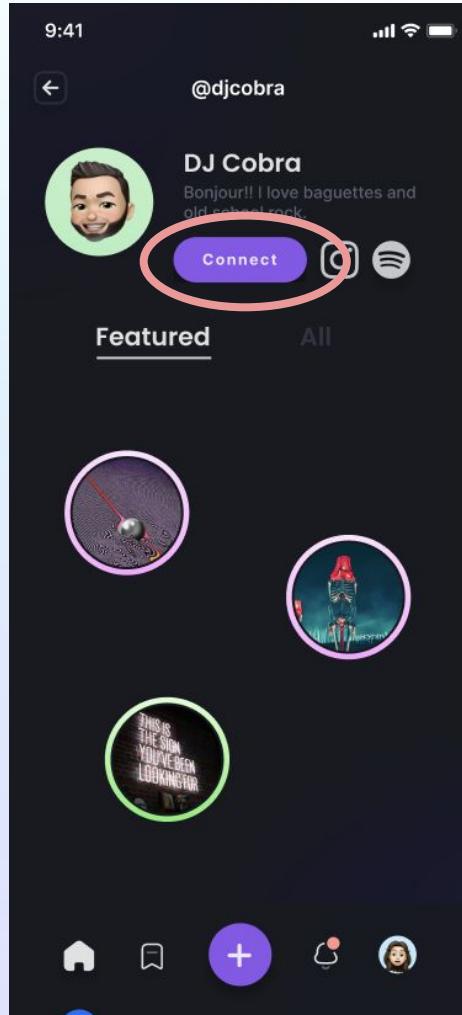
# Connect with other user:

The newest contributor's profile is displayed on soundbite pop-up; can send connect request using the + button



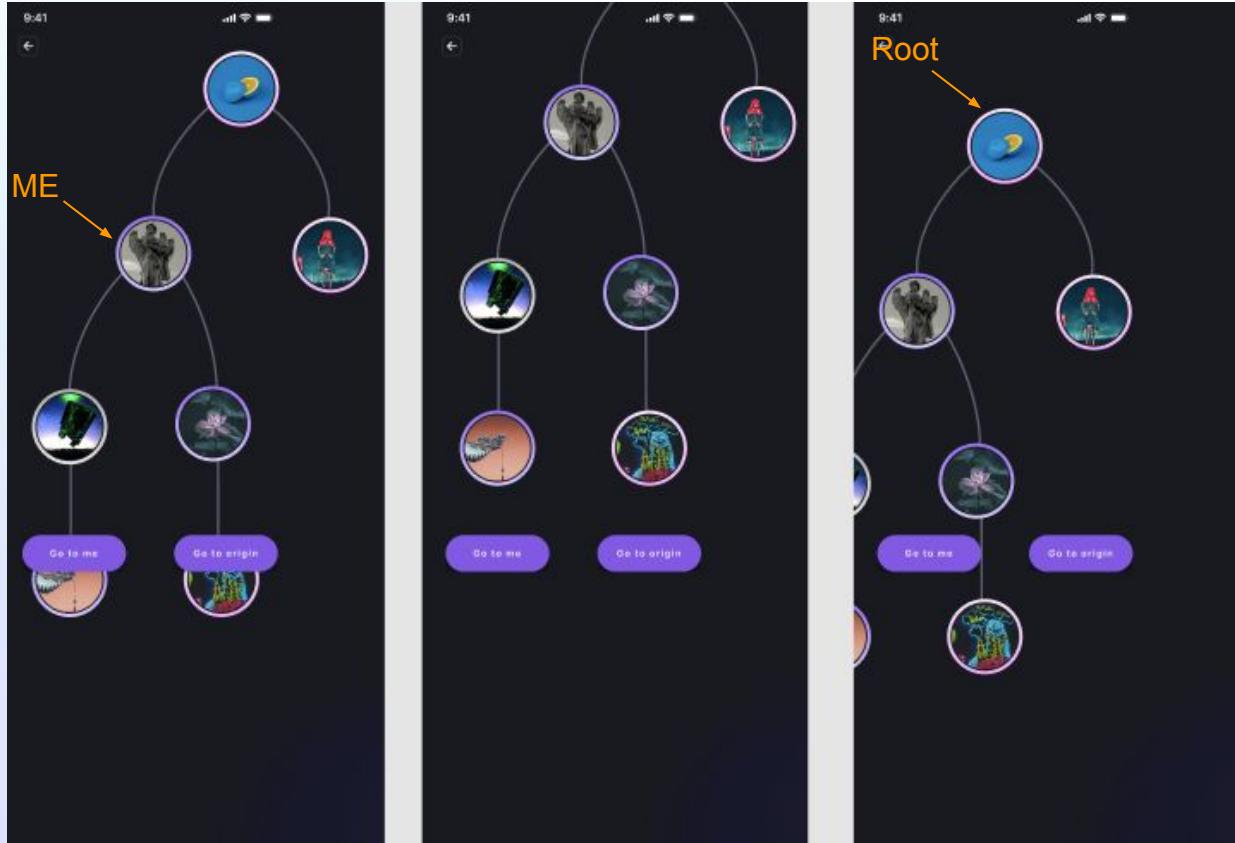
# Connect with other user (alternative method):

Navigate to user profile and send connect request from there



# Evolution

(with scroll to reduce cluttering)



"Go to me" view

Initial view

"Go to origin" view

# Appendix Links

- Miro Workspace
  - [Updated sketches](#)
- Fimga
  - [Prototype Designs](#)