

Hi there,

Thank you for
taking the time
to see my ideas
and process for
this project
—here's how
I started:

BROCKHAMPTON

ARTIST

SATURATION III

ALBUM

15

OF TRACKS

BOOGIE
ZIPPER
JOHNNY
LIQUID
CINEMA 1
STUPID
BLEACH
ALASKA
HOTTIE
CINEMA 2
SISTER/NATION
RENTAL
STAINS
CINEMA 3
TEAM

My mind immediately went to BROCKHAMPTON and their trilogy of albums that they released throughout 2017: SATURATION.

However, I just as quickly realized that this was a combined total of 48 tracks and that was just way too much (maybe I'll do the other two albums another time).

The titles of each track is generally 6 letters each (except for the numbered skits—CINEMA 1, 2, and 3—a two-part track—SISTER/NATION—and the final track—TEAM).

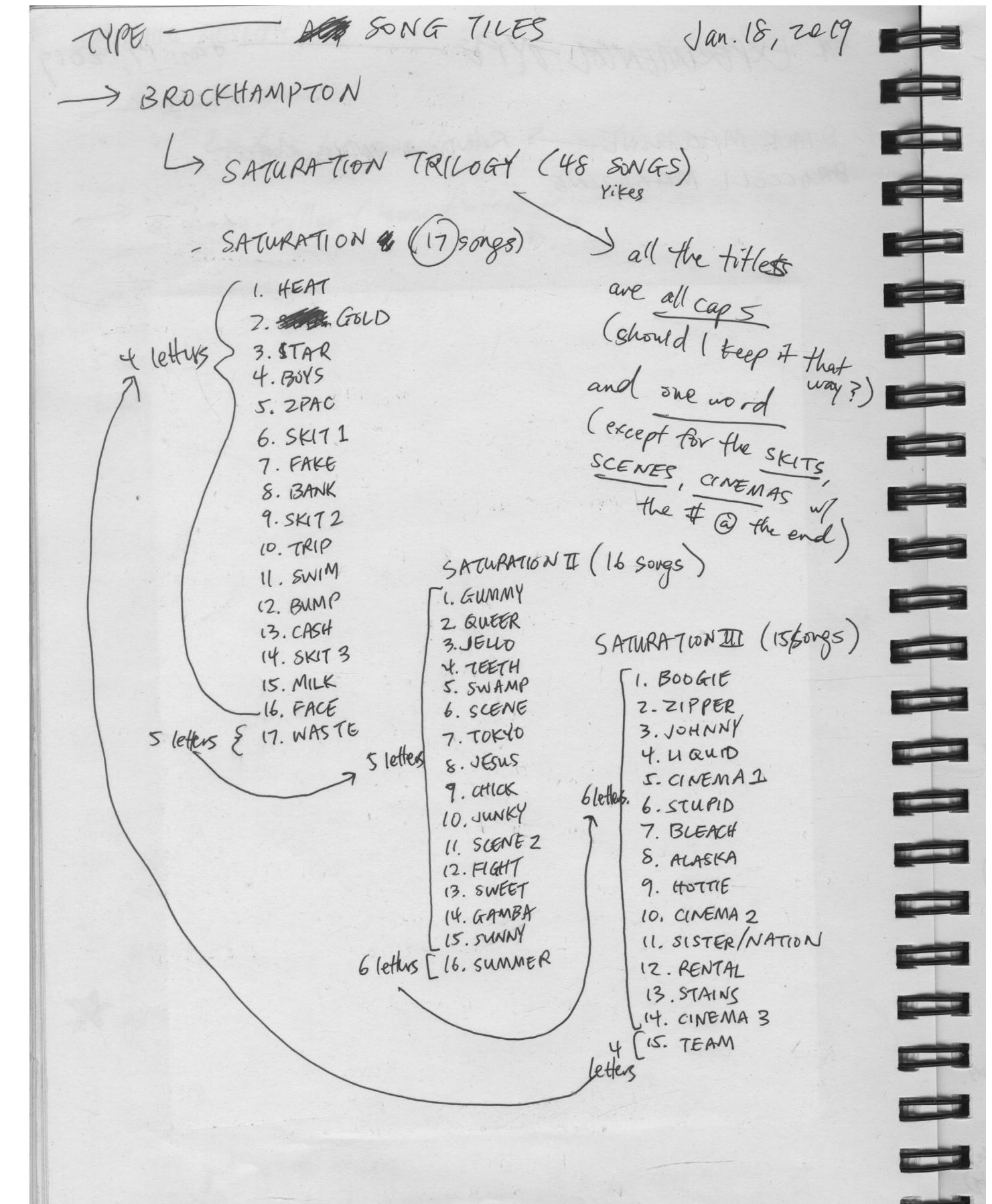
All the titles are also officially written in all caps, so I feel that I'll also need to keep my type all caps.

The titling of the SATURATION trilogy also follows a pattern, and reflects the way that each of the albums are connected to one another through the number of letters of each track. The first album is all 4 letters, except the last which is 5; the second is all 5 letters except the last which is 6; and the

third is all 6 letters except the last which is 4, linking it back to the first album. The last song of the trilogy—TEAM—also ends on a sound sample that's used at the beginning of the first song of the trilogy—HEAT.

Not totally related, but interesting.

SIDENOTE



→ 48 songs is WAY too much and as much as I really want to do it, I don't think 4 weeks is enough time.

↳ TOP CHOICE → **SATURATION III**

- 14 members / 15 (Ameer was still in the group)
- 6 "vocalists" / 7 (12 songs, 3 skits)
- 15 tracks
- ↓
- 11. SISTER/NATION (2 in 1)

BOOGIE

- strong start - energy level → 5/5
- chaotic
- brass/horn
- deep synth
- [Kevin, Matt, Joka, Merlin, Dom]
- aggressive but positive? (maybe not the right word)
- **BANGER**

ZIPPER

- still keeping up high energy
- distorted horn/whistle sound
- siren in bg of chorus
- high-pitched shout
- [Kevin, Joka, Matt, Merlin]
- energy level → 4/5

JOHNNY

- high-pitched voice
- synth + rich beat
- trumpet/horn
- [Kevin, Dom, Ameer, Matt, Joka]
- scratch record
- 90s sounds, digital, distorted
- has ~~2~~ distinct halves, (2nd = Joka)
- energy level → 5/5
- I just went garage w/ my new best friend (in a stitching session)

LQUID

- dark
- energy level → 3/5
- moody
- high-pitched (I was playing rock paper scissors w/ imaginary friends)
- [Ameer, Dom, Merlin, Matt]

CINEMA 1

- Robert speaking in Spanish about - energy level
- soft music, birds + kids in bg
- melancholic, missing family, kinda violent imagery
- mood restart
- distorted high synth sounds
- upbeat, not happy though
- keyboard + guitars
- [Merlyn, Ameer, Matt, Kevin, Dom]
- energy level → 4/5

STUPID

BLEACH

- record scratch
- groovy as fuck
- sad, melancholic
- Ryan Beatty does the hook - the high pitched
- [Matt, Merlin, Ameer, Joka, Kevin]
- smooth
- sharp snare
- doorbell sound
- but the beat is bittersweet
- energy level → 3/5
- 3 sounds
- humanes w/ record scratch

ALASKA

- heavier beat
- darker
- high-pitched synth
- [Ameer, Kevin, Joka, Matt]
- energy level → 2.5/5
- slow beat ramps up into HOT TIE

HOT TIE

- cheery
- faster, snappy beat
- weird whistle sound (kind of sketchy)
- [Kevin, Dom, Joka, Merlin]
- summery
- Juba sings in bridge "I just wanna know where the party at"
- contrast between Juba's singing & other voice
- energy level → 4/5

CINEMA 2

- Robert talks about... depression?
- through a metaphor of missing out on his summer
- reclusive

SISTER/NATION

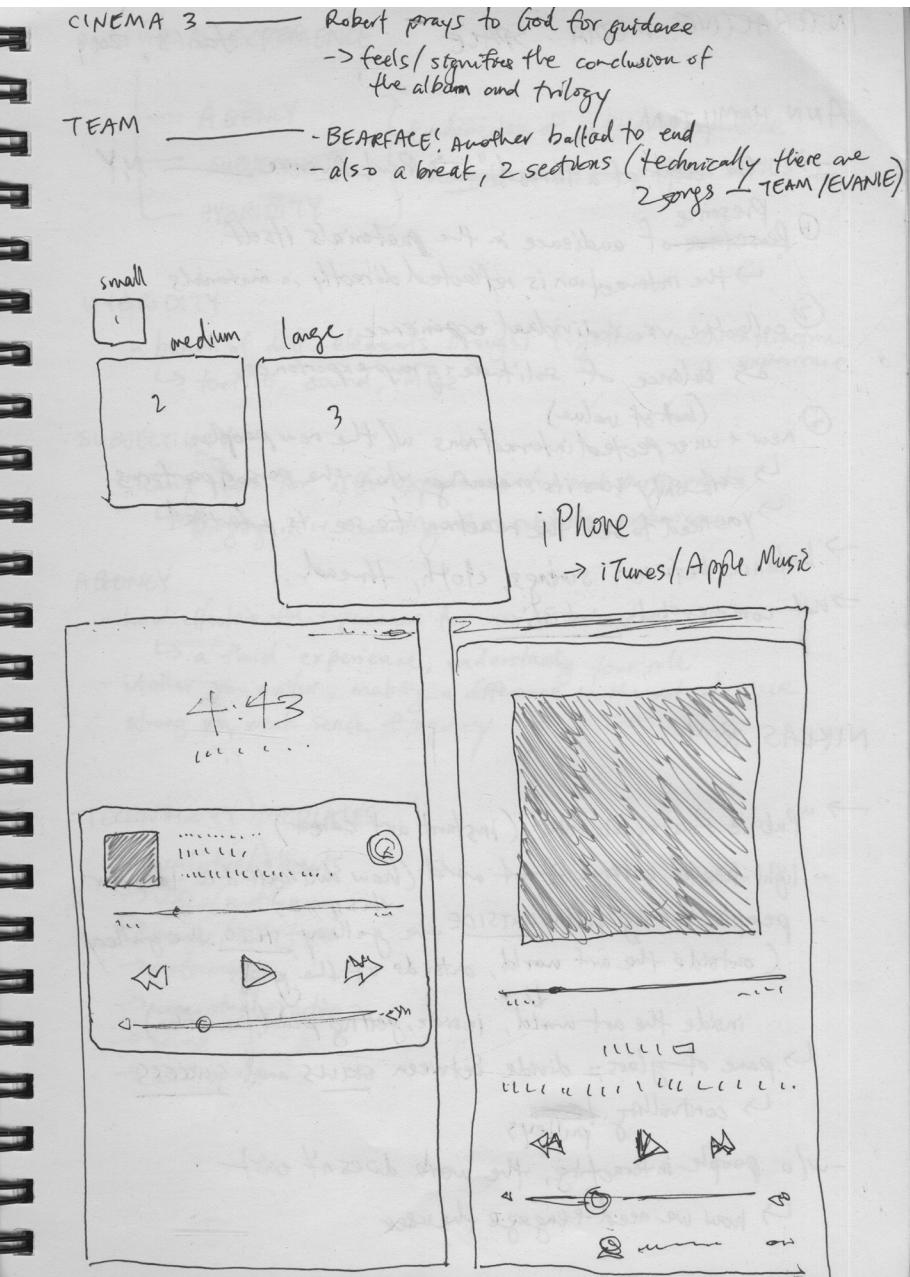
- goes HARD
- dark, deep synth mood stabilizers
- chanting high-pitched voices
- [Merlyn, Joka, (Robert)]
- energy level → 4/5
- ramps up to high pitched verse
- fees, loud, abrasive
- chaotic digital noises
- Juba talks about mood stabilizers
- BUT transitions from SISTER → NATION (beep)
- slower, "emptier", echoey
- more atmospheric, dreamy
- fades out
- [Kevin, Matt, Dom, Ameer]

RENTAL

- opens w/ white noise
- groovy, bouncy beat
- synth bass
- [Kevin, Dom, Matt]
- energy level → 3.5/5
- happier than most songs
- Matt's ~~voices~~ singing (beautiful!)
- record stretch @ end (use BLEACH)

STAINS

- Matt's singing (again) → also Juba's
- energy level → 3/5
- whirling synth, slower beat
- rounder / softer beat
- [Ameer, ~~Ashley~~, Matt, Joka, Dom]
- moves into higher energy w/ share ("be there any minute I'd be on it in it baby")



I started by listening to the full album and writing down some quick thoughts about the sounds and the band members that perform on each of the tracks.

DESCRIPTION

I still hadn't made any good connections between the songs and any visuals, so I continued brainstorming, picking at the lyrics.

DESCRIPTION

EXPERIMENTAL TYPE

Jan. 19, 2019

↳ sad, depressed, reclusive, summer shmoood. An apologetic Summer Repent

("Summer, lo siento")
↓
Summer, I'm sorry

CINEMA 2

Kevin Attacat/
lau simpson

Summer was also the name of "Helmet Boy's boyfriend in the "Billy Star" 22-min visuals video

→ what ~~is~~ am I sorry for? what are people sorry for

→ collective energy (chaotic production energy)

→ "grungy" → they recorded everything in just one of the rooms in the house they were all living in

Being in the shadows? off to the side?

ALSO: All the titles are 6 letters except for TEAM (and the "CINEMA"s b/c they're numbered)

BL
EA
CH

→ looking @ all skits, including outside of SATURATION II

* Robert prays to God → wellness for his family
(Amen) → to get out of his darkness

C2. Summer, I'm sorry / to friends

C1. We're almost done guys, we're almost done

C1. "blast" — "Gunpowder (and accidents)"
— "planes that fly over my house" — "cigarette"

C3. "humble servant" — "feel weak" "feel powerless"
"pray for hope"

↳ "better future" "better life" "love and kindness"

C3. "Some say that the sky gets [darker] just before the [light]"

the light + shadow of the surface of water

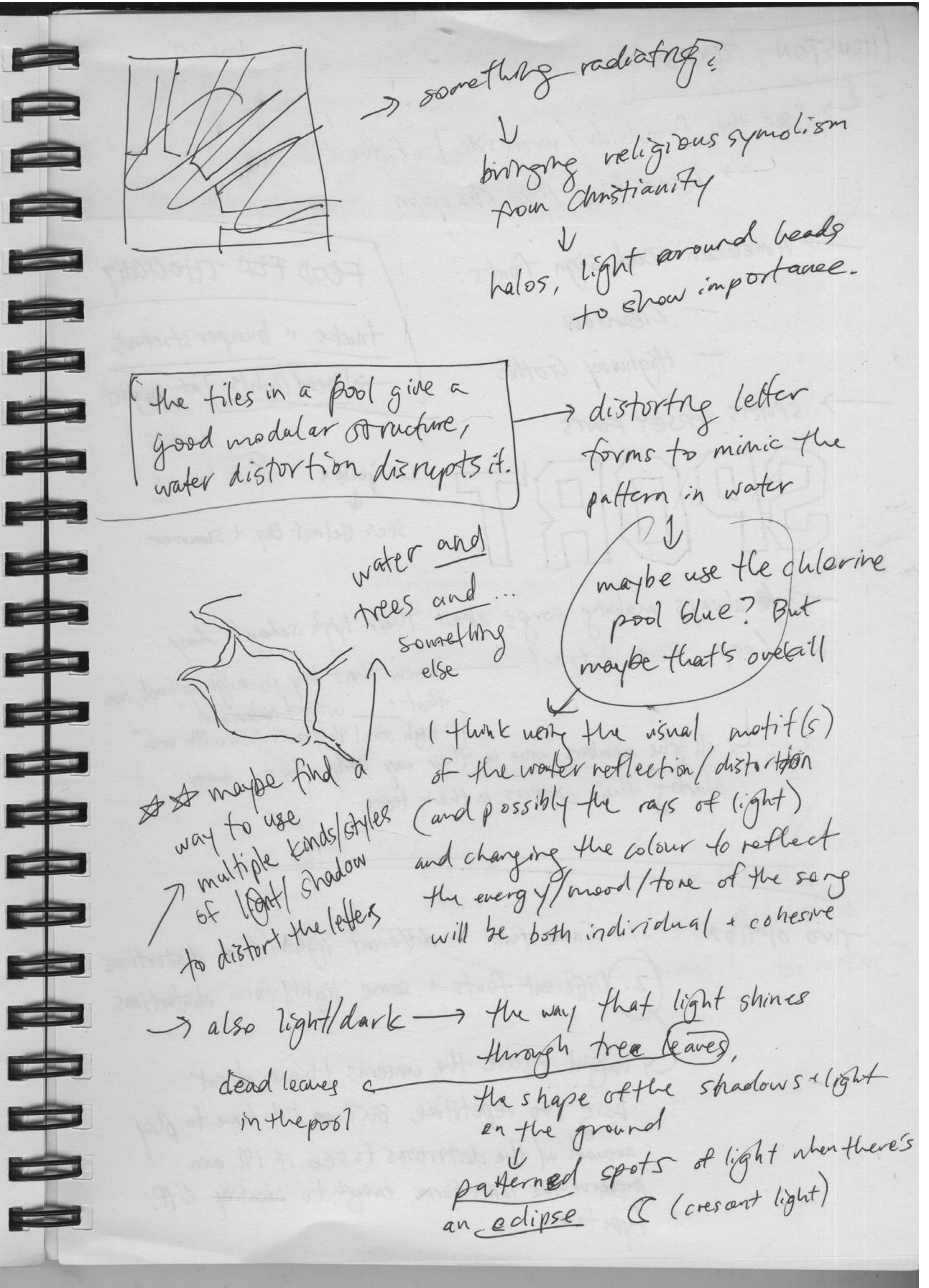
summer + reclusiveness

water [pool?
lake?
beach?]

hiding in the shadows

but also still looking for light

hope



After going through some tracks—mainly the skits, including the ones from the other albums—I started latching onto some visual motifs and themes. Everything mostly came down to "Summer", and being a recluse, sad, and wanting to redeem oneself. I started looking at pool water and water in general to capture this. Being at the pool with your friends in summer is fun and social, but water also fits in with some religious symbolism, being baptized; rebirth.

DESCRIPTION

HOUSTON, TEXAS

↳ "see the [roadside/wrong side] of the 45"
↳ RENTAL, Matt Champion

→ American road sign fonts:

- Clearview
- Highway Gothic

→ SPORTS JERSEY FONTS

SPORT

→ always making songs about their high school day
(esp. Kevin Abstract)

↳ knew that boy in high school, man
that wasn't awkward
high school they ain't fuck with me
all the members were in their very early 20s, many
starting their careers in their teens.

TWO OPTIONS:
1. Same font + different light/ form distortions
2. Different fonts + same light/ form distortions.

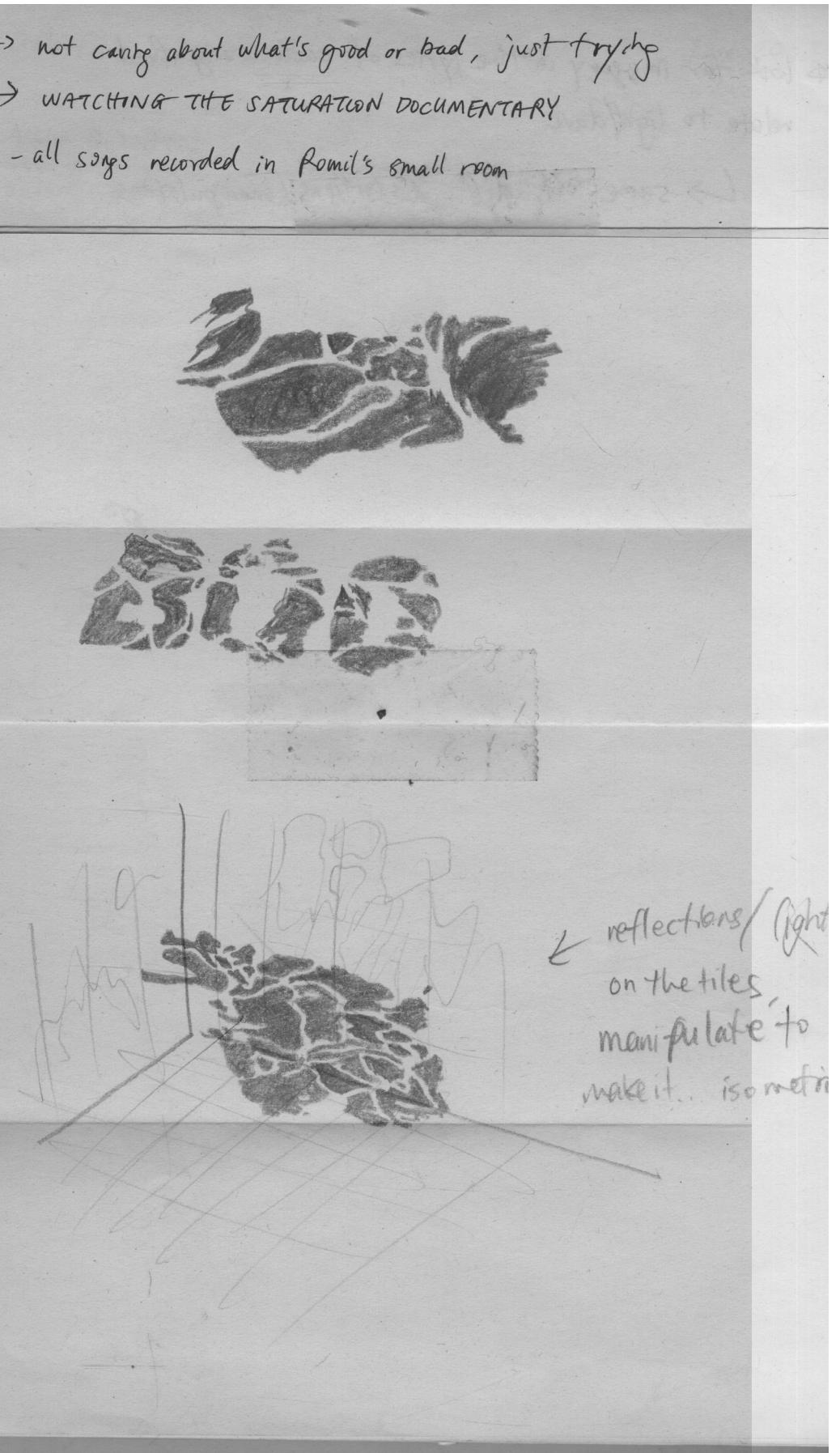
→ might resolve the concerns I have about
being too repetitive BUT I'll have to play
around w/ the distortions to see if I'll even
preserve the letterforms enough to identify diff.
typefaces.

JAN 20

not caring about what's good or bad, just trying
WATCHING THE SATURATION DOCUMENTARY
- all songs recorded in Romil's small room

FOOD FOR THOUGHT
trucks + bumper stickers
→ headlights at night

→ jocks
see: Helmet Boy + summer



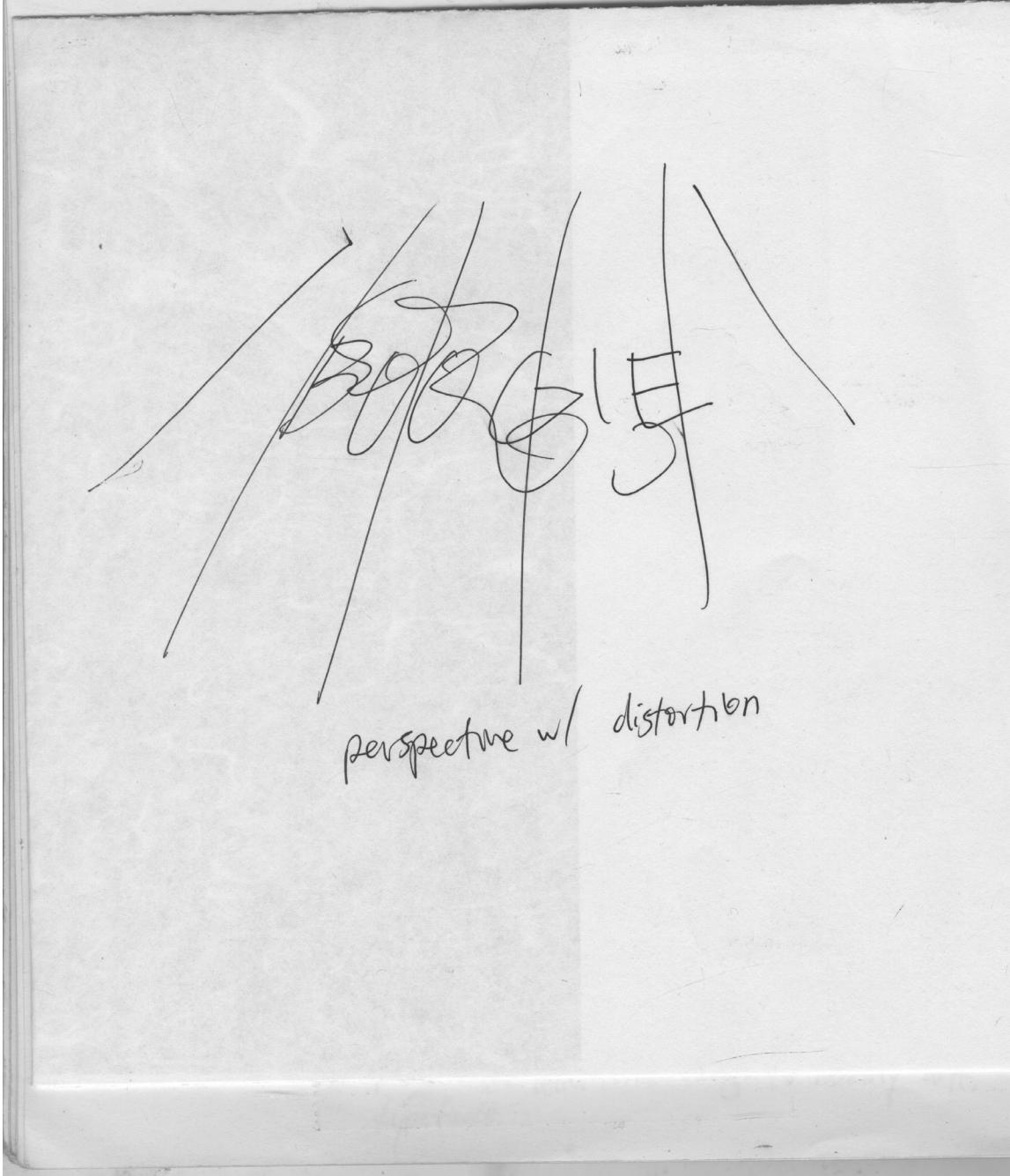
I thought about some other options: road signs, high school sports/varsity fonts, bumper stickers. In the end, I felt most attached to the idea of distorting letterforms with water, or maybe capturing that feeling digitally.

I knew that I'd be somewhat limited because I wouldn't be able to do this in an actual pool at a large scale, and at a small scale water tension is too high to get the more highly textured look of pool water.

DESCRIPTION

* look for imagery in the lyrics of each song that relate to light/dark

↳ same font, diff. distortions/manipulations



~~EXPERIMENTAL TYPE~~

BOOGIE

→ look @/ for light/dark motifs in each song

ZIPPER

- doba - monocle, telescope

JOHNNY

- Kevin - "when I imagine myself on acid"

PROBLEM: on the songs w/
many of the boys their
verses are usually about
diff topics

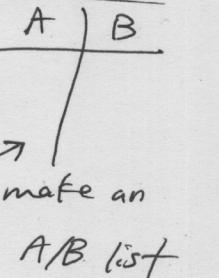
↓
So how to
extract ONE visual
motif for each song

THIS

AIN'T IT CHIEF!!!

KEY WORDS / KEY... THINGS

- unaccepted
- growth
- isolated
- (driving? → necessary to get to work but also leisure)
- redemption
- reputation
- depression
- resilience
- Houston + Brockhampton Factory
- new-found success
- boys being boys
- boys loving boys
- boys being introspective
on their actions, feelings, + personalities.



There were two main options I was considering for how I would approach the idea of distorting letterforms: the first was to use the same distortion (probably water) for all the tiles but use different fonts and/or colours, and the second was using different kinds of distortions (maybe emulating the shadow and light of tree leaves, car headlights, etc.) but use the same font and possibly colour.

However, once I started to look for different motifs

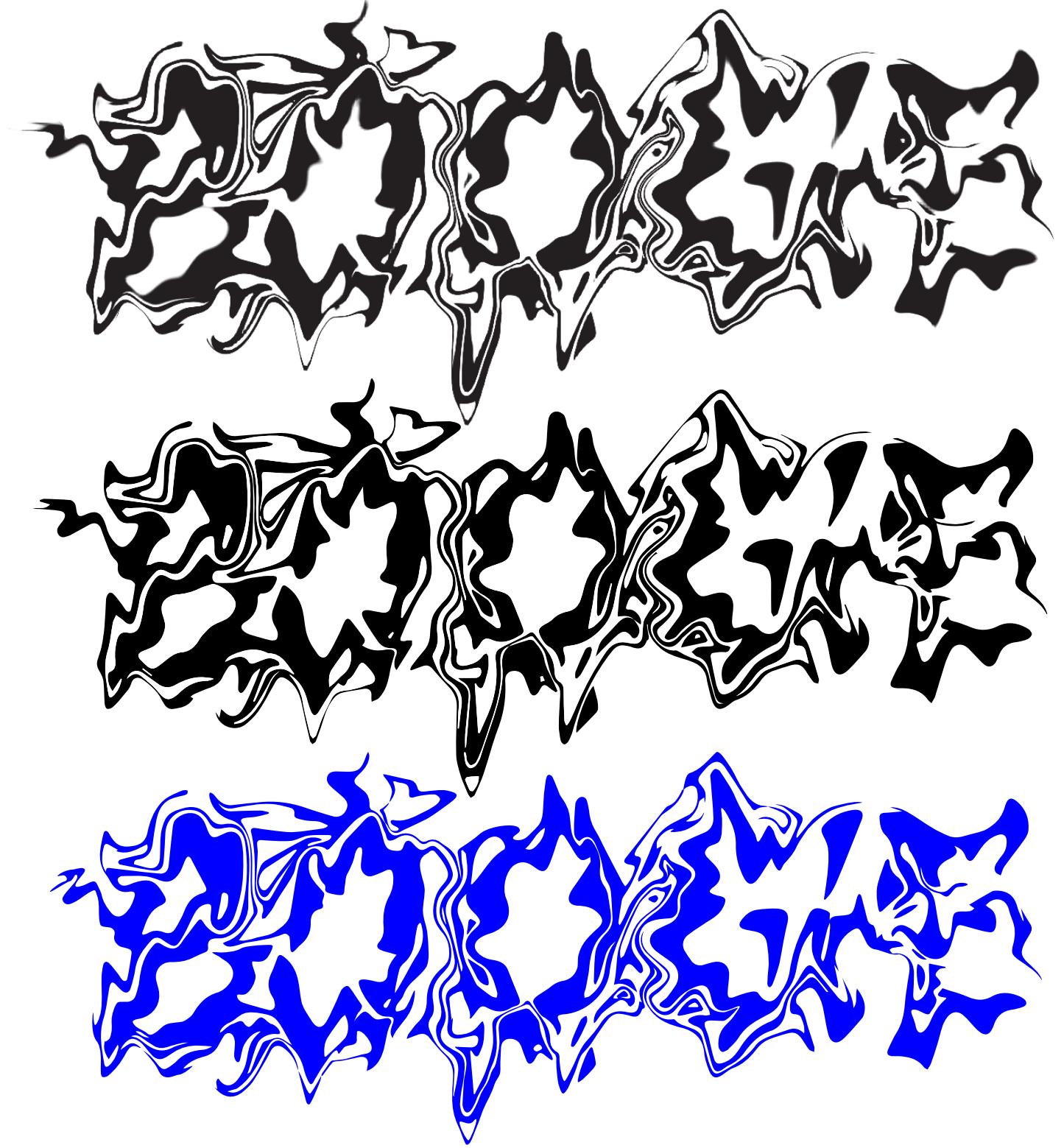
DESCRIPTION

within the lyrics of each song that related to light and dark, I quickly realized that there weren't always strong themes that led through each track. Especially because there are usually many performers on each song, it's hard to summarize all their diverse verses through one person's lyrics. So, I decided to just start exploring what I could do with water and type.

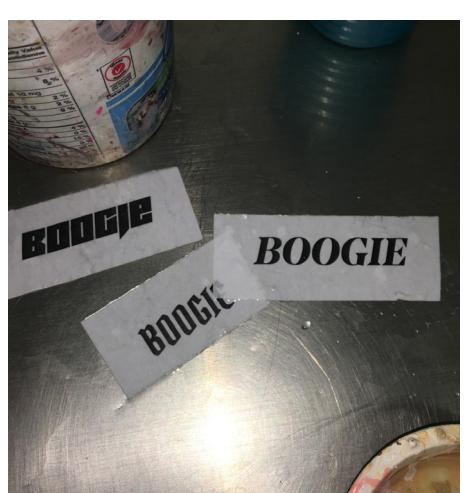
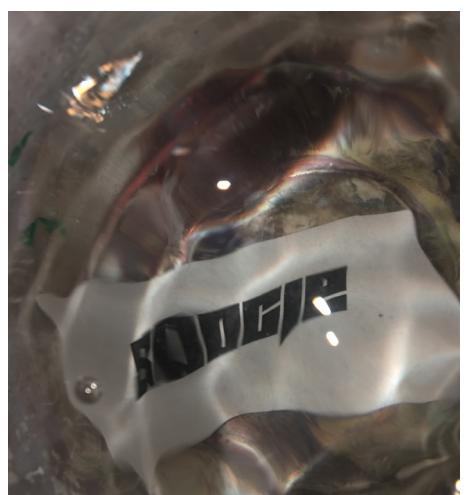
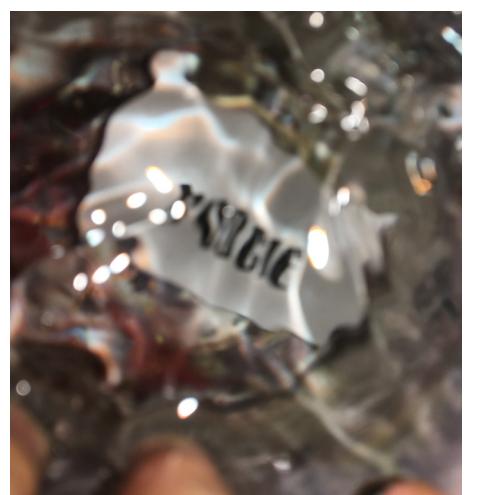


BOOGIE

NOT LOVING IT



1. TRIED TO DISTORT IT IN PHOTOSHOP
2. HATED IT
3. MADE A MESS WITH THE LIQUIFY TOOL IN FRUSTRATION
4. STARTED TO MORPH SOME NEW LETTERFORMS WITH THE MESS
5. INTERESTING? BUT I DON'T KNOW IF THIS IS "IT" FOR THIS PROJECT

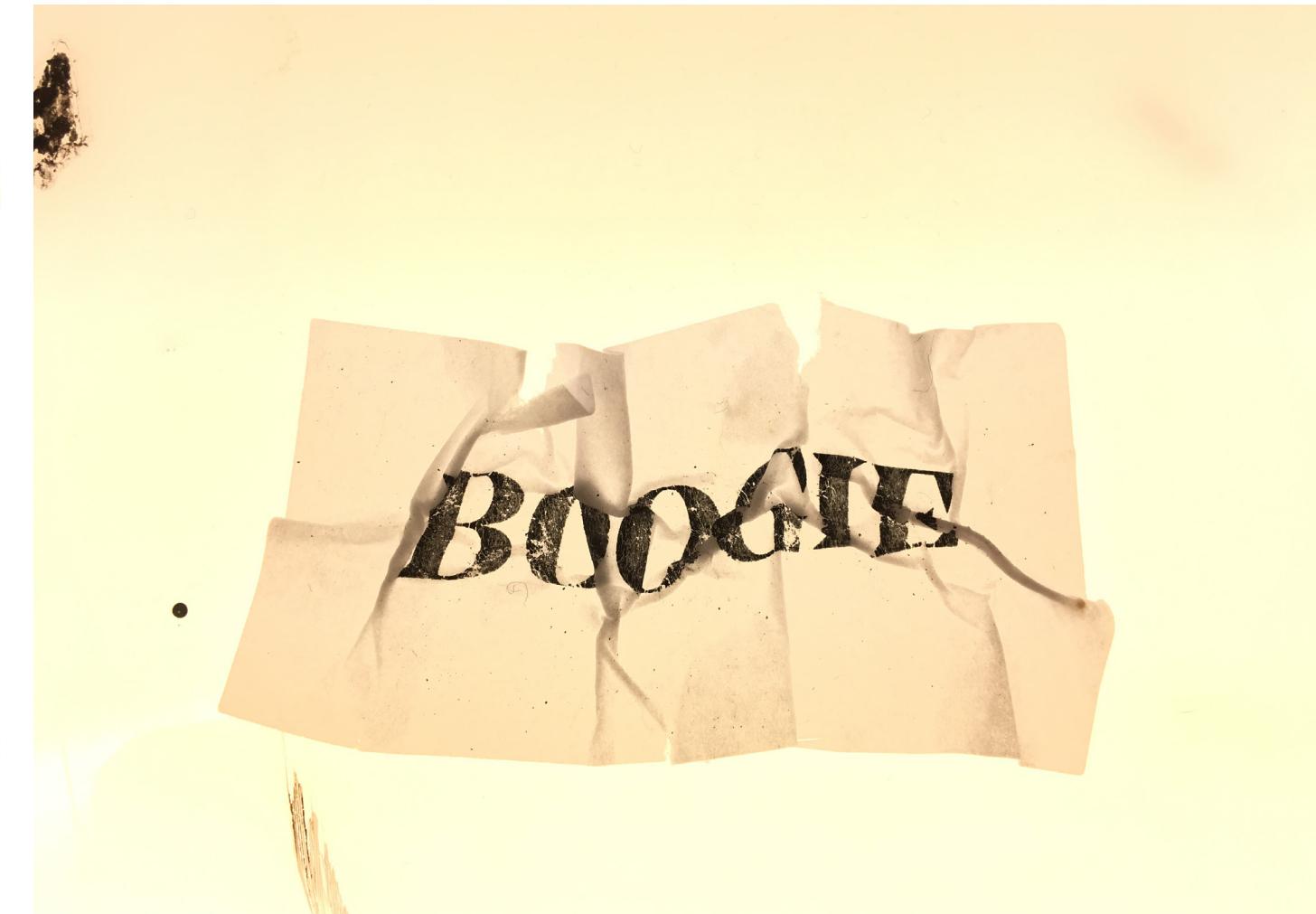
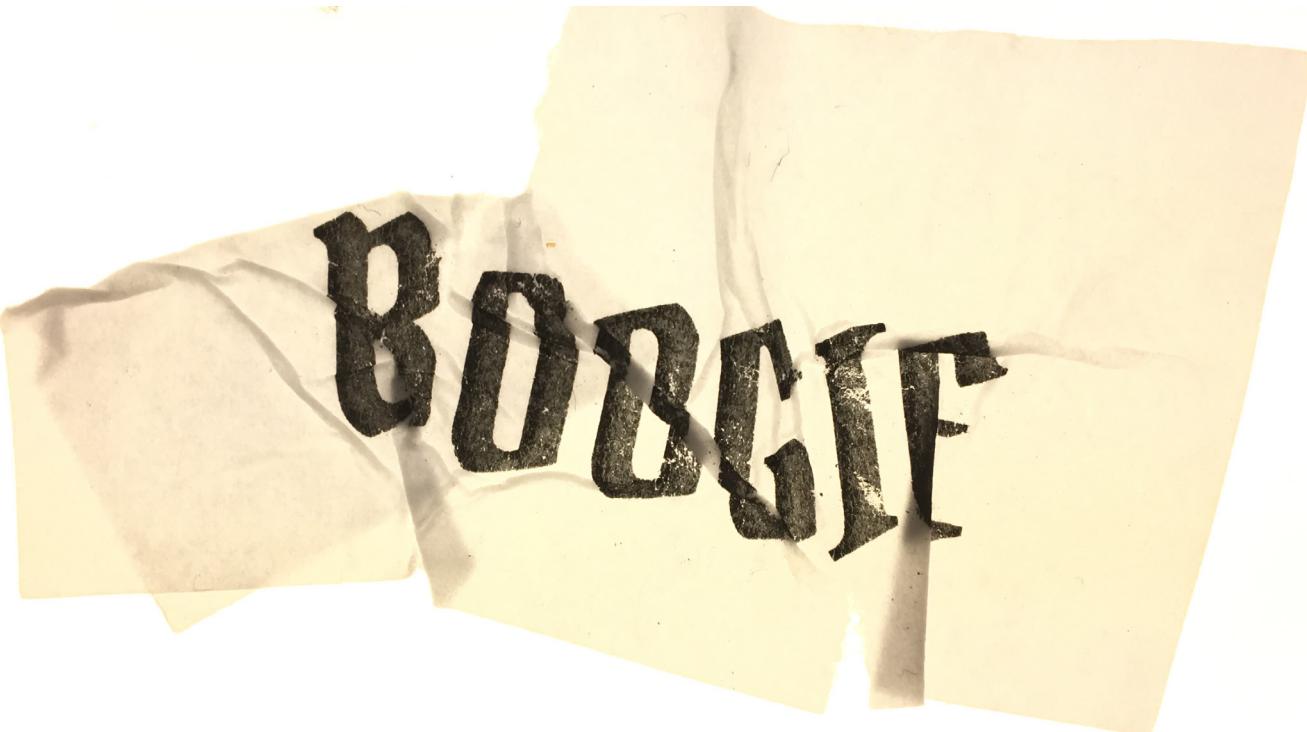


TOOK A BUNCH OF PICS (THERE WERE A LOT MORE
THAN THIS, BUT HERE ARE SOME HIGHLIGHTS)

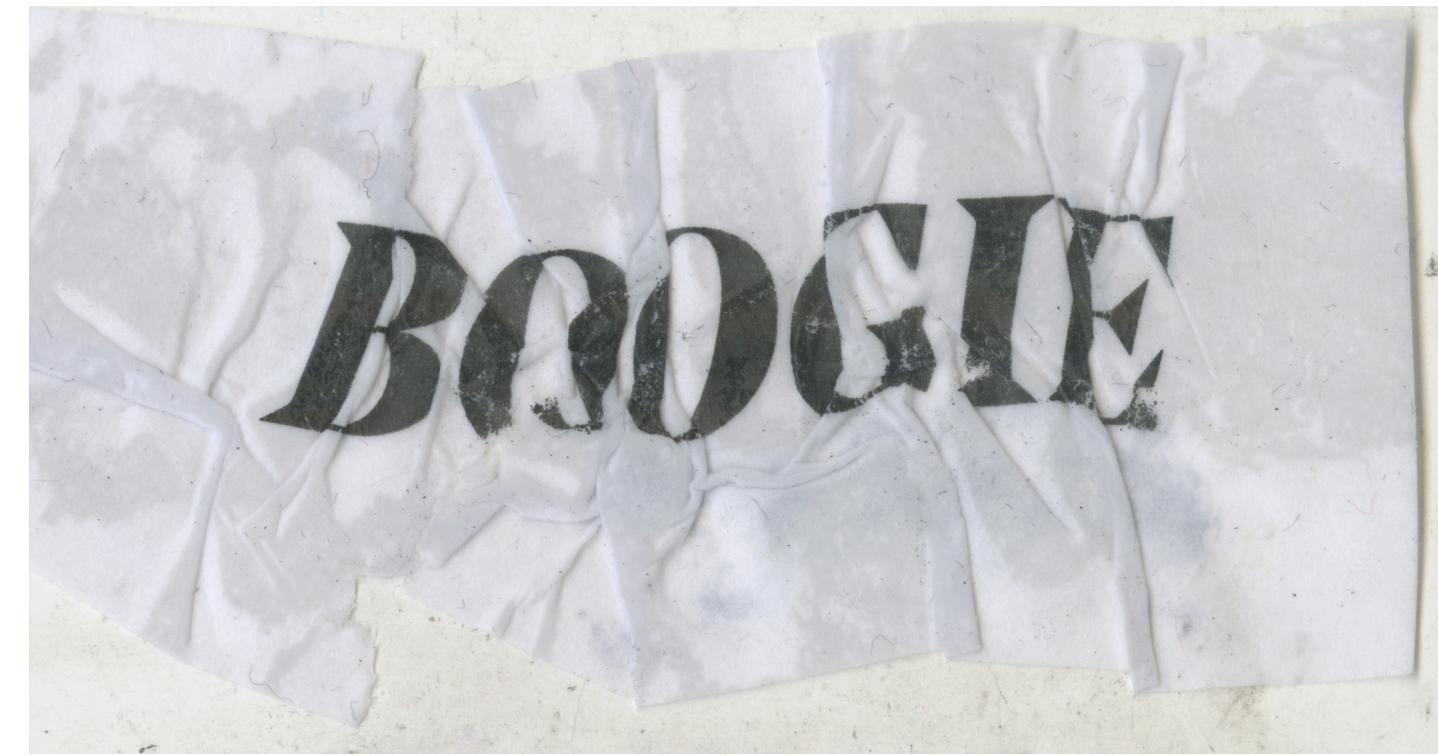
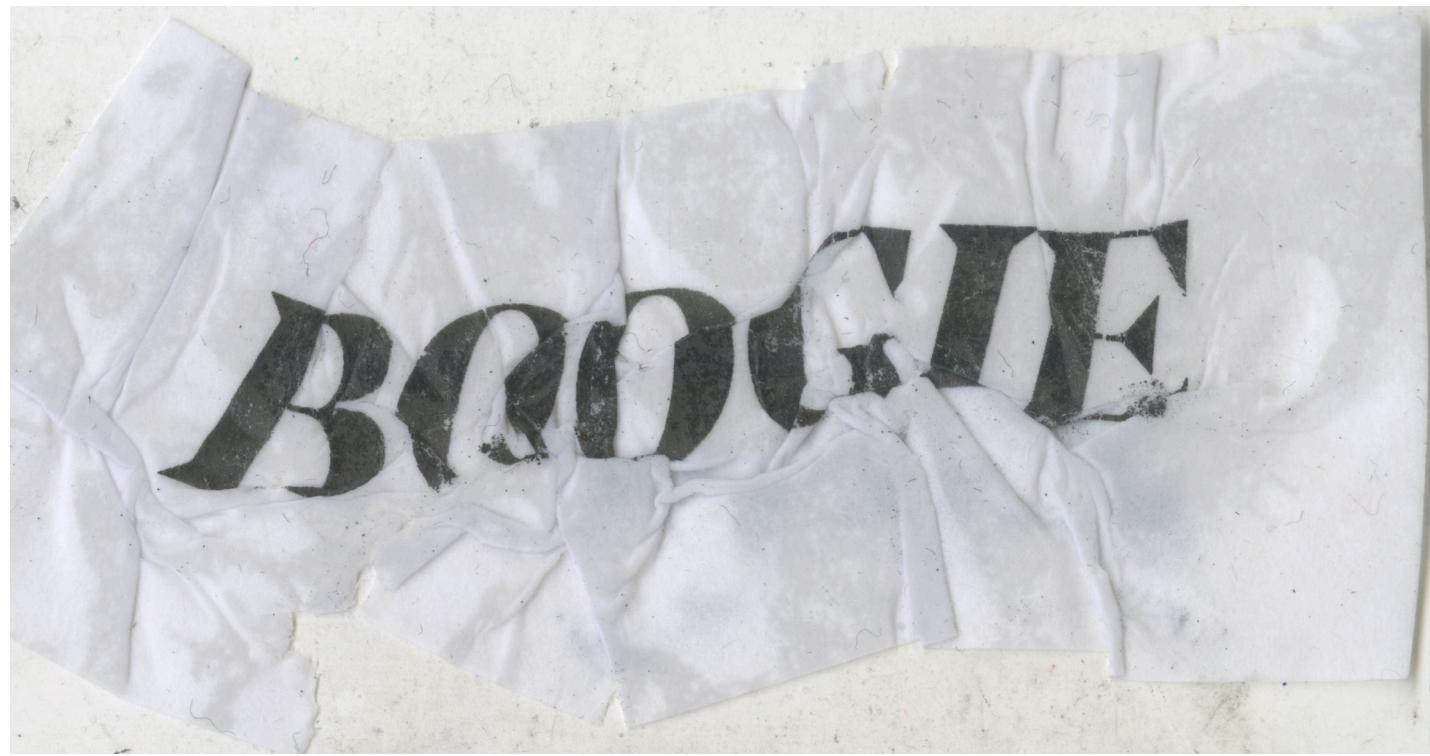
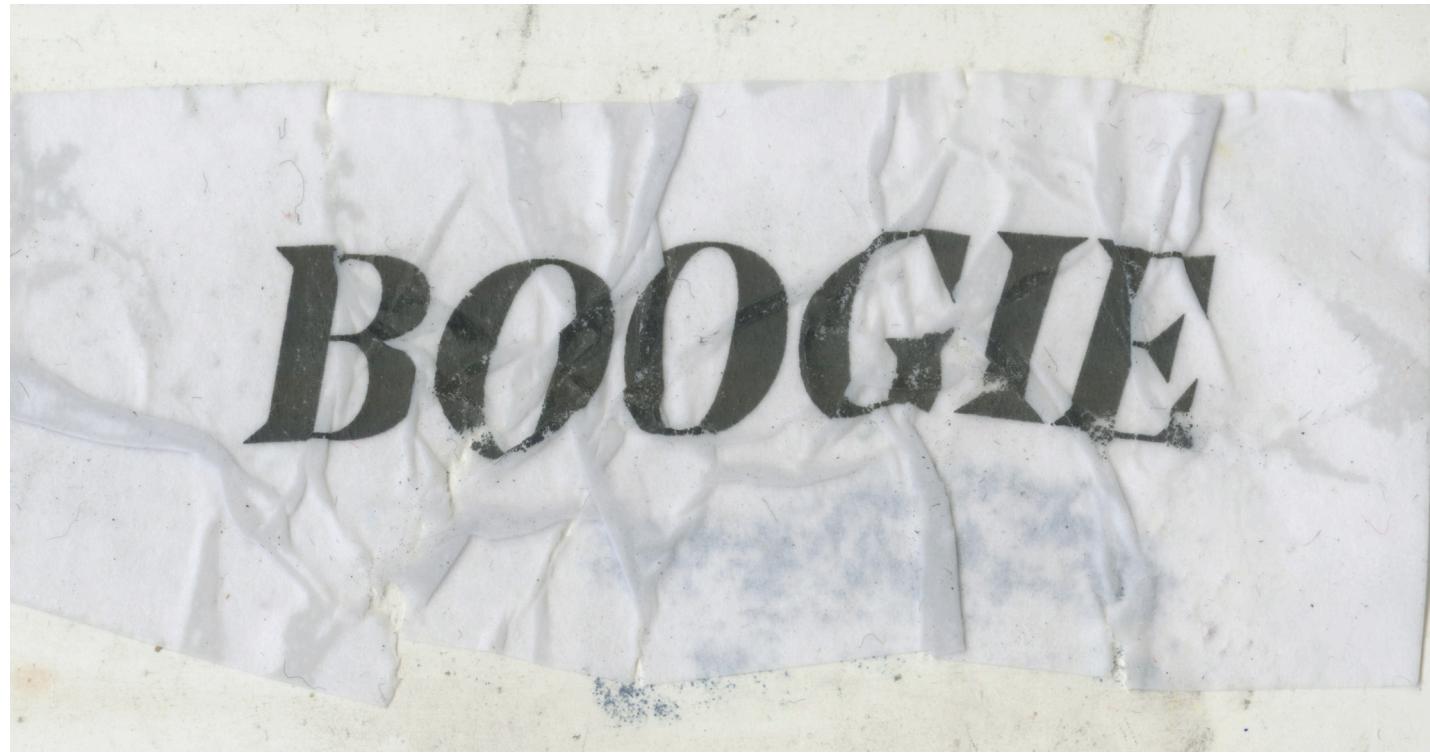


As I was taking my photos, I realized that the soggy papers also made some interesting distortions when crumpled.

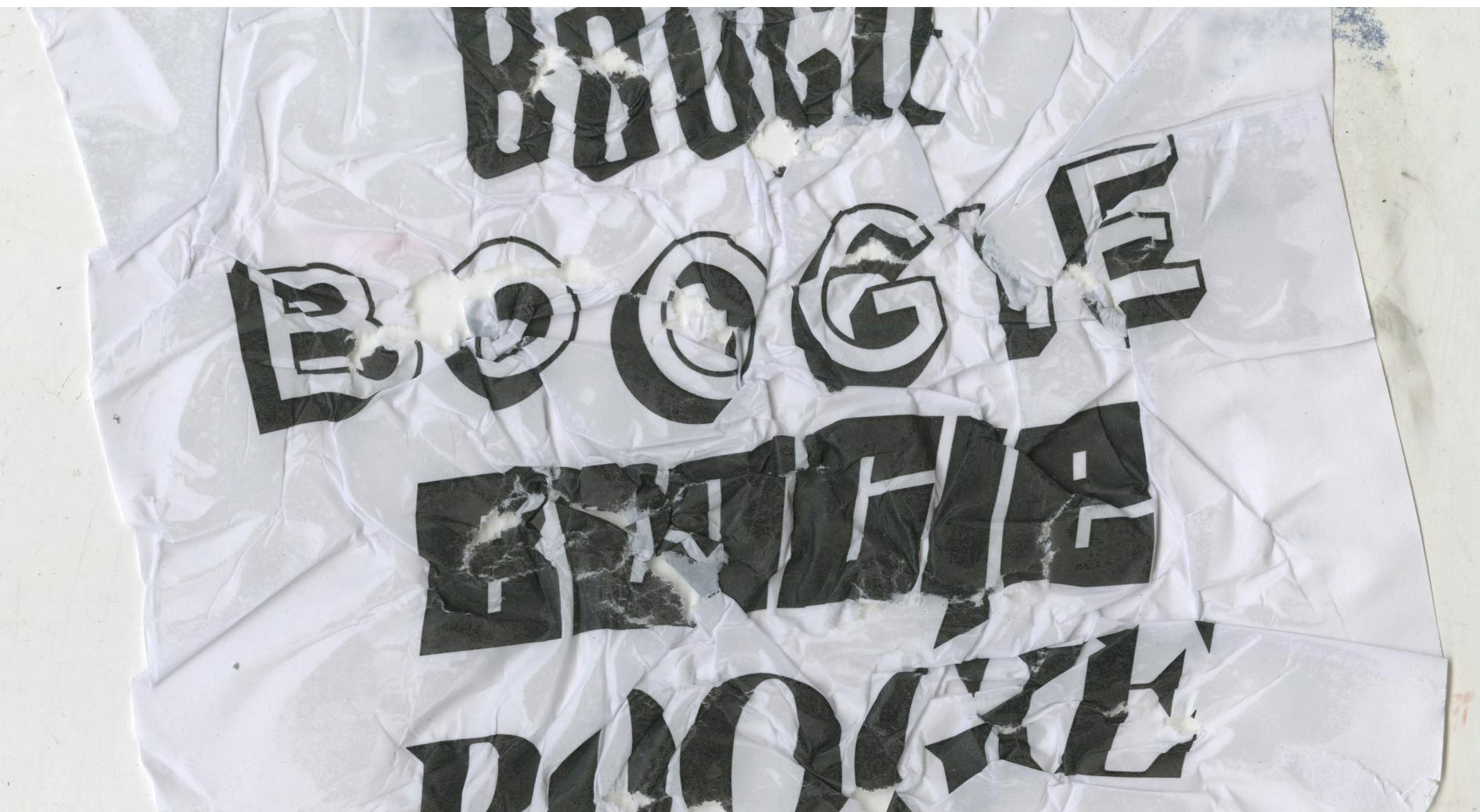
THOUGHTS



LOOKING AT HOW IT
LOOKS WHEN BACKLIT



SOME SCANS



SOME MORE SCANS

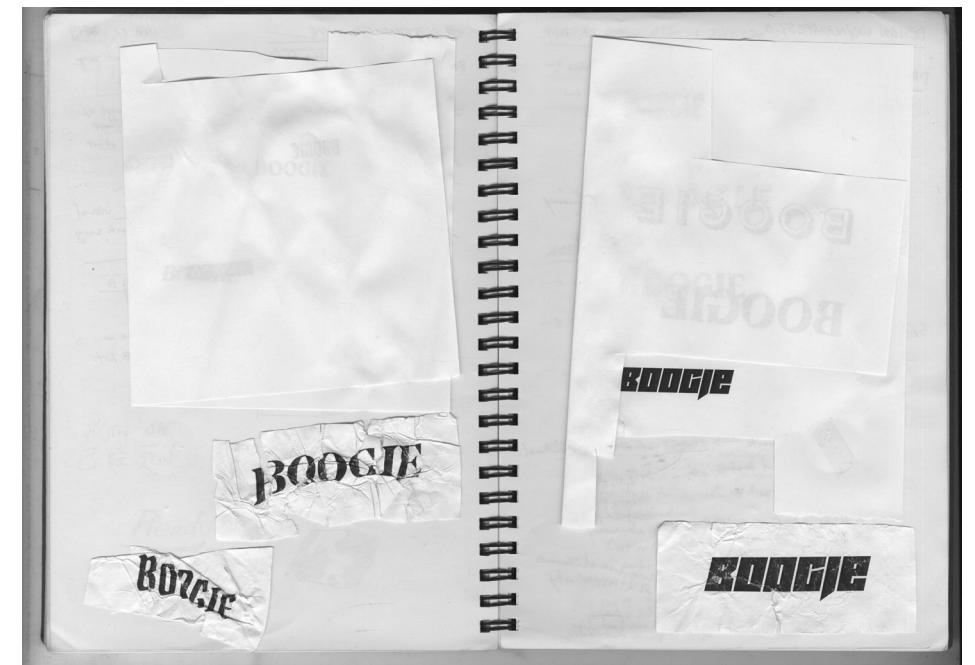


I began drying and rewetting the paper, and as I was doing so I realized that because this was printed with laser, the paper stayed damp while the letters resisted the water.

So, I started to blot my papers with a paper towel to pick up the letterforms.

THOUGHTS



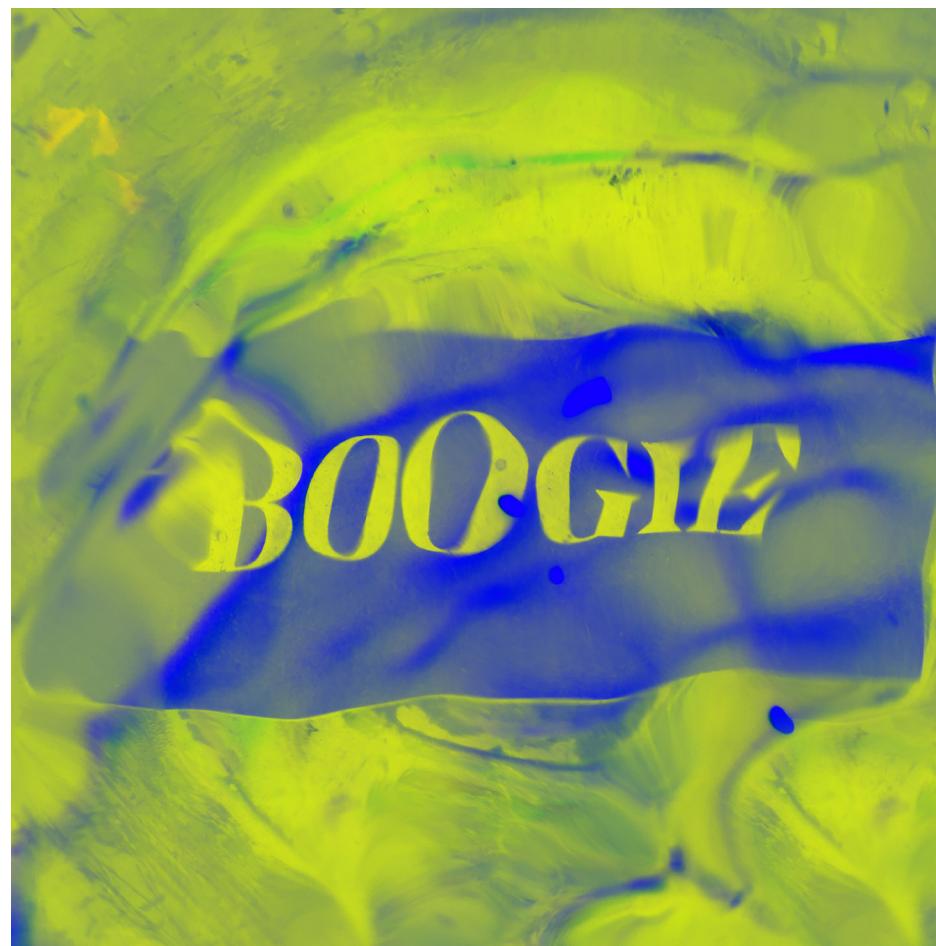


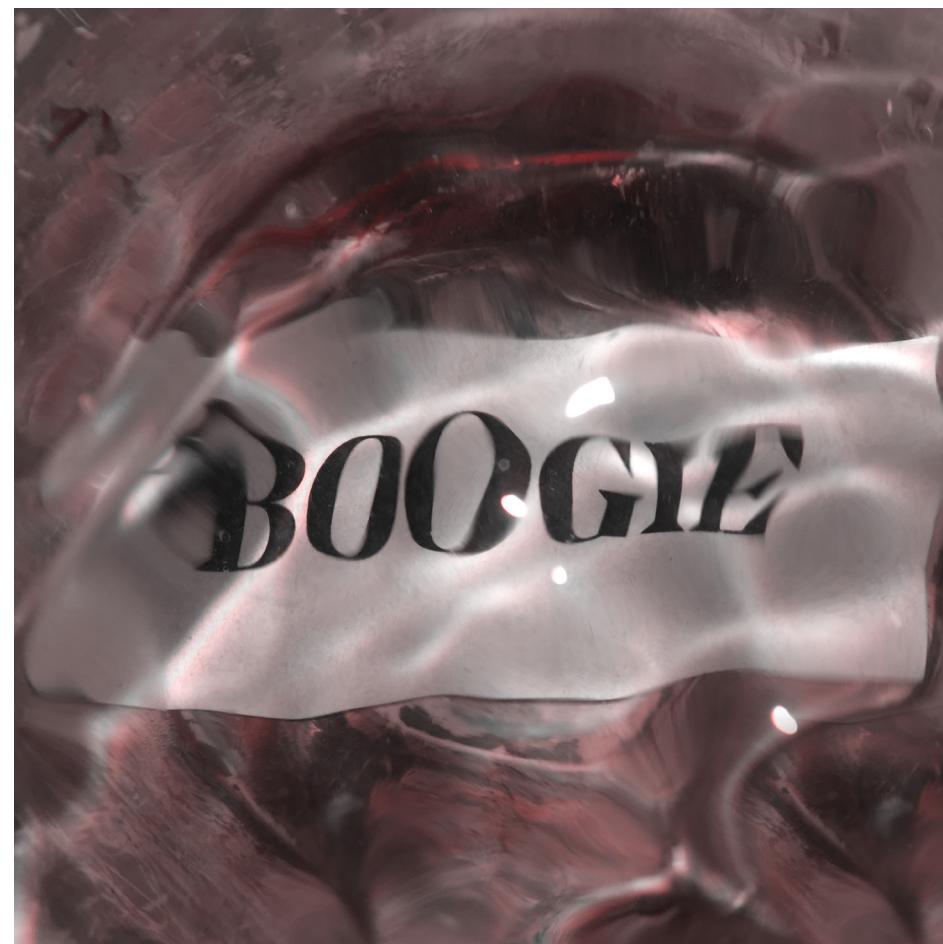
The leftovers from my analog experiments with type and water.

DESCRIPTION

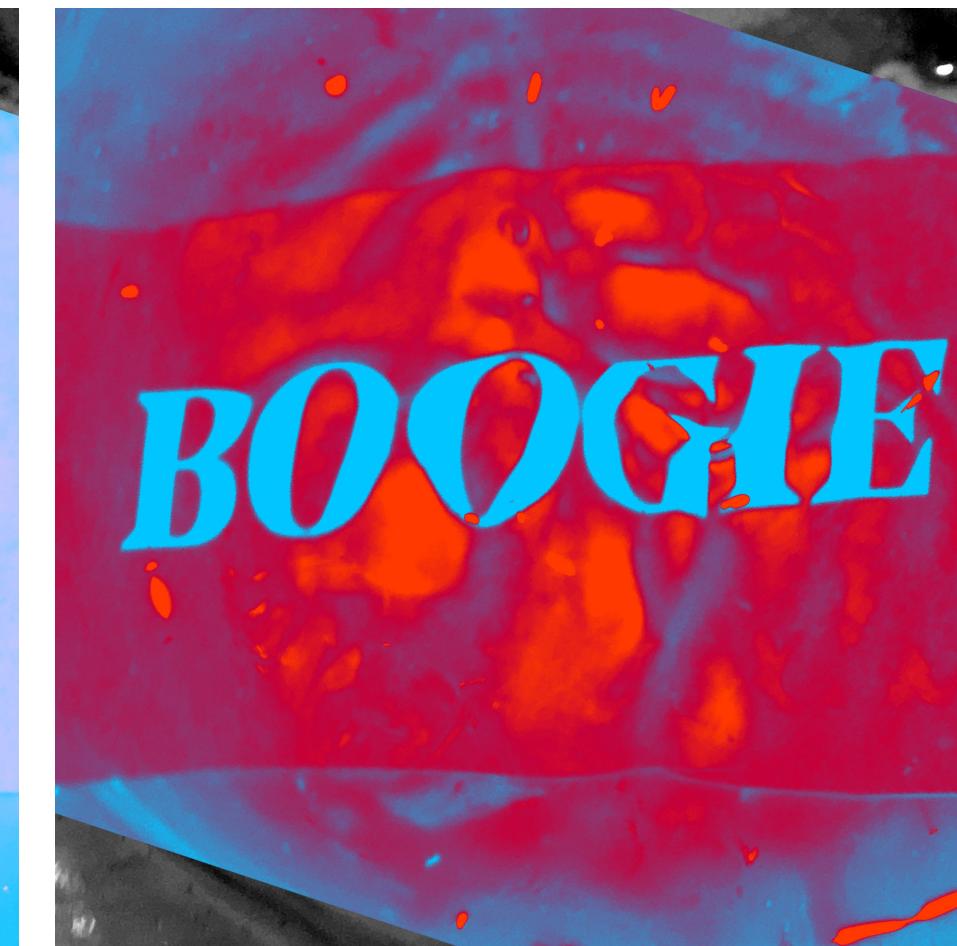
Finally, I brought over some images from these tests and here are the things I've made so far. I mostly played around with colours and have yet to tackle composition, but I tried exploring with an RGB colourspace since the format is digital and won't be made for print.

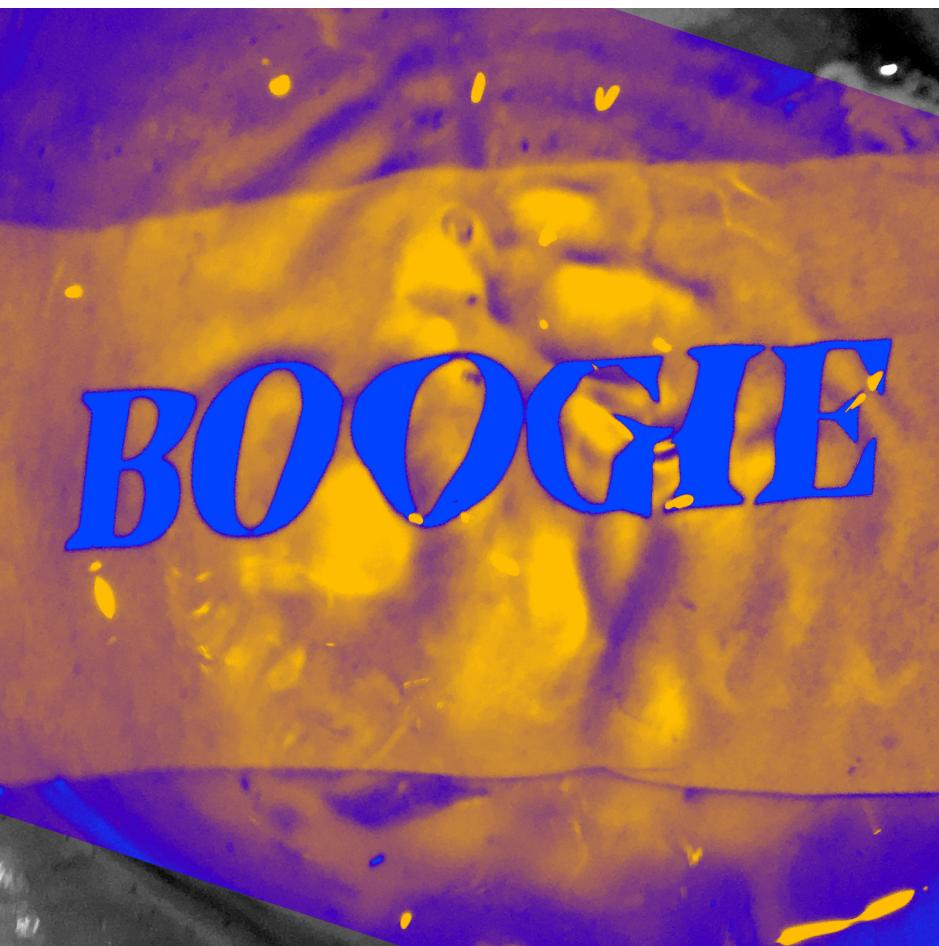
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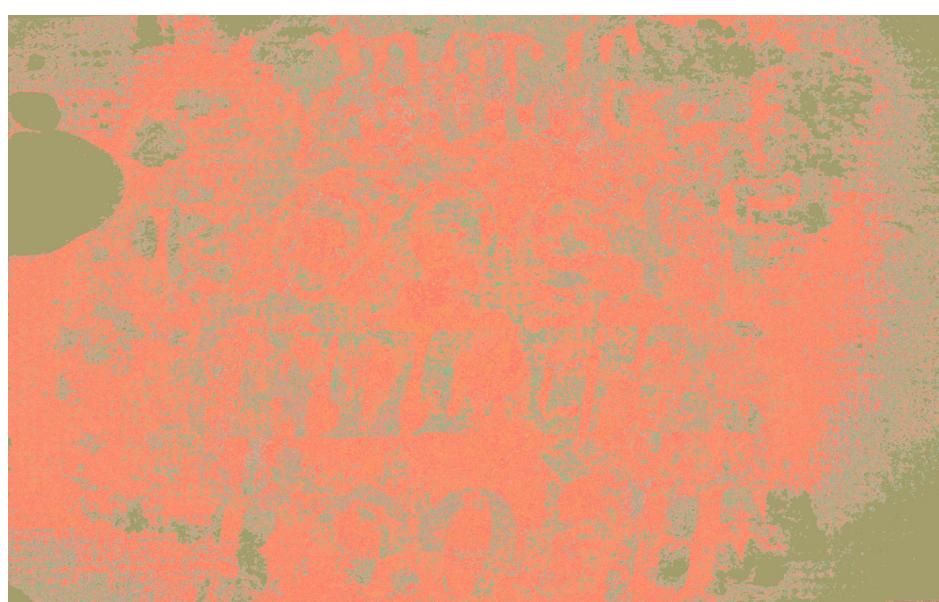
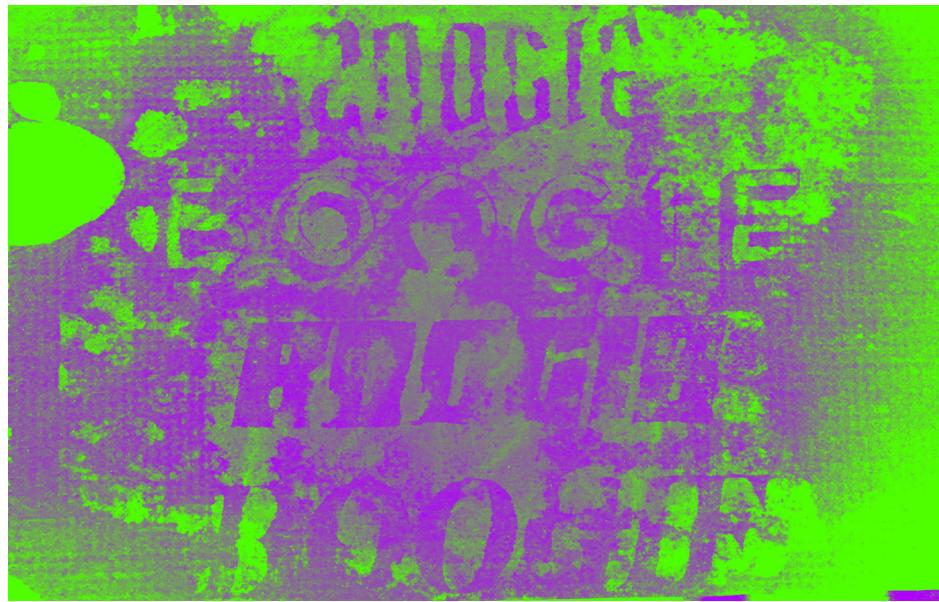
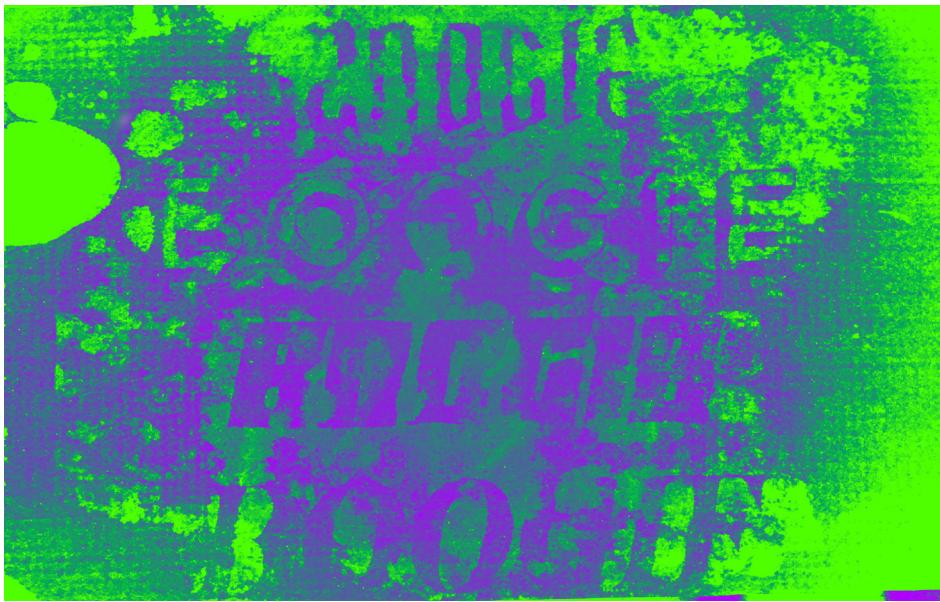


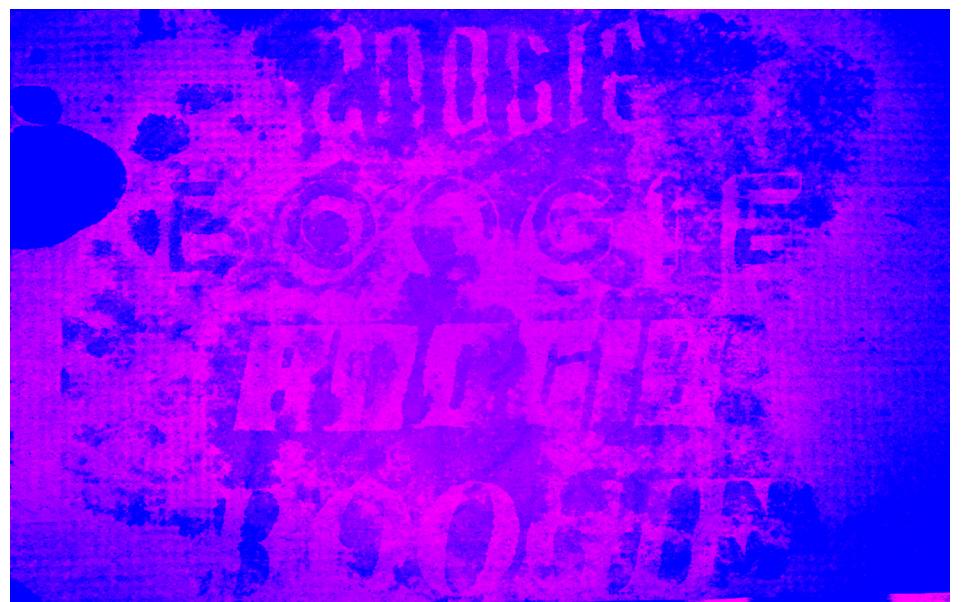
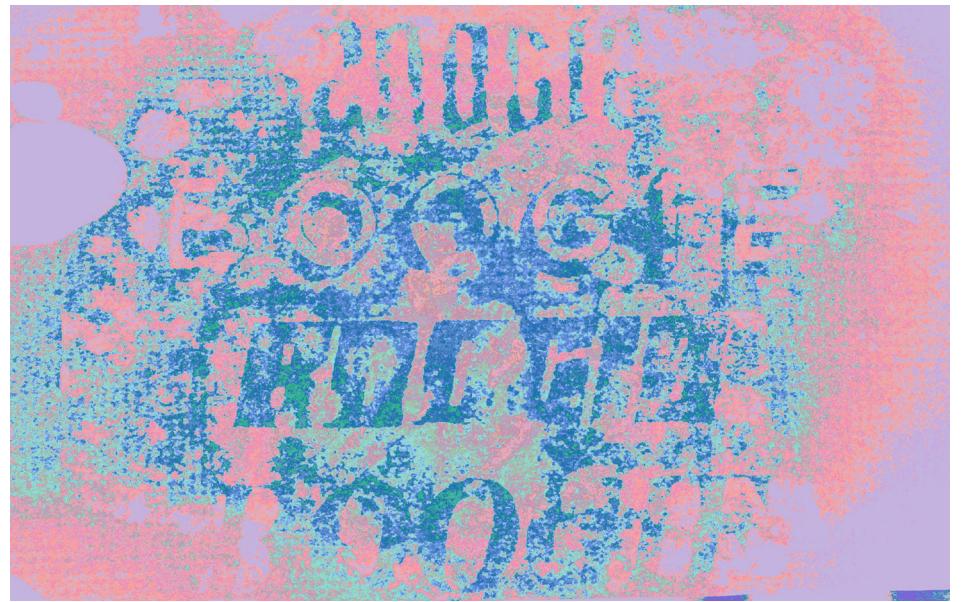












Thank you!