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Conceptual Statement

For this assignment I was really intrigued by the idea of images representing something familiar, similar to signs are representative of something familiar to the person reading the sign (Chandler, 24). What I wanted to do is to show that there isn't necessarily "originality" in music anymore. Many people are well aware that most pop songs use the same chord structures however many don't know that similarities between songs can surpass genre, decade, and even country. So what I made is something that looks very similar to any music player one would own such as iTunes or Spotify and had it so if you click one song, another – very similar sounding song – plays.

In addition to playing a different song, the images switch. Going from the copy of the song to the original. For instance, I used the most popular example between Vanilla Ice's "Ice Ice Baby" and Queen's "Under Pressure." When one clicks on "Under Pressure," the images switch and suddenly they are listening not only to Vanilla Ice's song but also seeing the Vanilla Ice album cover where the Queen album cover once was. Other examples within the interface show similarities between foreign songs and popular top 40 hits that nobody would expect to be related but yet sound extremely similar.

By switching the images while the audio clip is playing, I aim to disorient the user. The interface is meant to look familiar as to make the user feel as if they are in control and are aware of what is going to happen. However, if they were expecting to hear one song,

they end up hearing and even seeing another song where the song they wanted used to be. Once the images switch, however, they remain switched. I kept it this way in order to – after the disorientation – have the user listen to the *actual* song they were expecting. This way, they can connect the pieces together and hear the similarities between the two songs they probably did not expect to be similar.

Works Cited

Chandler, Daniel. "Semiotics for Beginners." *Visual Memory*. N.p., n.d. Web. 20 Jan. 2016.

Hopkin, Keith. "That Song Sounds Like." *That Song Sounds Like*. N.p., n.d. Web. 25 Jan. 2016.