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DESMA 101  
Midterm Rewrite

### The Other Mind

(Meant to be a moving, mechanical, 3D piece.)

The Other Mind is about how people in society are peer pressured into doing what everyone else in society is doing instead of thinking for themselves and making their own life decisions. In the artwork, people in society who don't think for themselves are represented by the chickens. Just as humans are intellectually superior to other animals, the man who has individual thoughts and follows his own ideas rather than following what others do is the wiser person. Furthermore, the chickens' heads are fish heads, showing that even the chickens don't have minds of their own. They walk on a conveyor belt instead of walking in whatever direction they want, on their own life path. At the end of the conveyor belt is what is in store for the mindless: the inability to think for themselves. The idea of mindlessness is represented by the man in the box who has only legs and a fish tail for his upper body. Being trapped in a box is a metaphor for being a captive of society - he is under society's control and cannot escape it. He only has the bottom halves of his body and the body of a fish, which don't contain the mind of either because the brain, or mind, is contained in the upper half of the body. He has no mind, not even the mind of a sub-human animal. Another man is upside-down, turned on his head. This represents that he was not expecting to get so pulled in to society's peer-pressure-dictatorship, and now he is too far in and helpless. This references the phrase "to turn something on its head", which means that something is completely different from what it used to be. The man used to be an individual, but after mindlessly following society, he is no longer individualistic. The fact that he is on his head, attached to some big contraption, also leaves him immobile, and hence, helpless, as he is helpless to society's reign over his mind. The head contained in the box looks back at all those on the conveyor belt who are doomed. The head also represents someone who had already been following society for a long time and knows how it brainwashes a person. But he also knows he cannot help the other people on the conveyor belt turn away from society because they will not listen to him, they only listen to society. He is only a head to show that he is now knowledgeable of what happened to him, but he has no body and is contained in a box to show that he cannot help others avoid the same fate. The leader(s) that society follow are represented by the creature that has an animal-like machine head on a human-like torso with a "body" consisting of a wheel and rolling pins for its "hands". The construction of its body represents how truly incapable society's leaders are and that they are not worthy of being followed. The creature is physically incapable in its immobility. It is immobile because of what its appendages are made of - rolling pins and a wheel. Its physical incapability is a representation of its intellectual incapability - that the ideas of leaders are not necessarily good ideas that everyone should follow; people should follow their own ideas. Despite these qualities, there are other people in society who blindly point to these leaders, telling everyone else in society to follow them as well. These "pointers" are represented by the man with a target board covering his vision who is pointing at the creature. Since they point to the leaders, other people in society submissively follow. To extend the idea of the entire piece, its mechanical quality reflects the fact that machines don't think for themselves, furthering the idea that people who follow society don't think for themselves either.