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Cyberpunk
Final: Artist Statement
May 5, 2023

For my final, I chose to make a visualizer video for Ben's song *arch odyssey*. I chose to compile clips that I have collected over the past year and have never used. All of the clips are things that I have filmed on my camcorder. The clips of the fetus and the red silhouette of the man's body are from a project I helped another film student with last year. For the fetus, he bought a small baby toy and we hung it from a clear string in a fishbowl filled with water. On the back of the fishbowl, we put vaseline to simulate a womb type setting. We shined a red light behind the back of the fishbowl so that it would look more flesh-like. The red silhouette was a cut out of a man with a red light shined through the back as well. The clip I used of the man tapping on another man was from a music video I filmed. I was color correcting the video and in the process, the clothes were solo'd and I took a video of that part in the color correcting process.

For my video, I wanted to start talking about biology and technology. I used videos of very real things but then edited them so that they would look more manufactured. An example of this would be the driving videos which capture very natural things like trees and people but are almost hard to make out in the video as the shapes get pixelated a little and the colors shift from their natural colors to abnormal bold colors. There's also another clip of a spine which I felt looked very interesting with the different layers which added new lights and lines on top of it.

I was also very inspired by glitches and digital media for my video. This is my favorite realm of the cyberpunk world and something that I had never explored visually before so I definitely wanted to do it for this project. I also felt like this song was perfect for these kinds of visuals which is interesting because I don't think Ben was picturing these visuals when he was making this song. I know that Ben discussed his favorite style of cyberpunk being the noir style. He liked the more desert, empty world visuals from noir styled cyberpunk and that's the exact opposite of the style that interests me the most and that I used as inspiration for my visuals.

I also wanted to experiment with layers and different colors in my video to create a feeling of living in a constructed world. I didn't want it to necessarily feel cluttered but I wanted it to feel like every item had a story within itself and they were all built together to be in one big machine. An example of one of these moments would be the beginning of the video when I have three clips layered. One of them is the red silhouette clip, the other is a clip of a nightstand with a digital clock, and the other is a clip from inside of a car with a digital clock. The two clips with the digital clocks layered I feel compliment one another.

I would like to work on this video more and work on the colors. I would like to make the video less dark and make some of the colors more vibrant as I feel like that matches with my visual interpretation of cyberpunk more than the current version of the video does.