

A Poetry

of Perception

PREFACE

My project began with the desire to study the process of filming, setting the light. Essentially, telling a story through visual means. I didn't want to make this project purely technical and study only various techniques, so I began to think that it would be interesting for me to research. My sudden discovery was the poetry of my friend, who is also fond of the technical features of the light, like me. It seemed to me, it is a wonderful coincidence that we can combine our knowledge and desires, and she will not be against the main ideas of my project.

So it was Natalie Firsova's poem that became the starting point for my project. The poem has become the main subject of study. It also turned out that music was written in this verse. At the very beginning of my project, it seemed to me that this was a wonderful combination of circumstances and I can make a music video for this whole story. That is, coordinate existing things with your study of the verse. The poem focuses on various color associations, which is why I decided from the very beginning to work with color light. I took various test shots and videos, with different colors and accents, to see how perception works.

After talking with the tutors about my project, they told me that there is such a possibility that I can only get a music video that illustrates the poem itself. I agreed with this statement, although I did not abandon the idea of making a music video for this poem. Looking at my project a bit from the side, I realized that I was delving into an understanding of perception. It became interesting to me, but how do people understand this poem, do they see and feel it like I do?

I thought that perhaps the most universal solution could be to read a poem because when we read, we often lay out all the shades of emotions in our tone, facial expressions.

Человек в пространстве затерялся.

Много нитей прошло сквозь него.

Man lost in space.

Many threads passed through him.

Одни легко и мягко обнимают яркой краской,

Другие тянут вниз и режут душу фиолетовой струной...

Some easily and softly embrace with bright paint,

Others pull down and cut the soul with a purple string...

Нити жизни музыку души слагают.

А человек как инструмент,

The threads of life compose music of the soul.

A man as a tool,

**Невидимой рукой на нем играют и чувствами
пространство заполняют.**

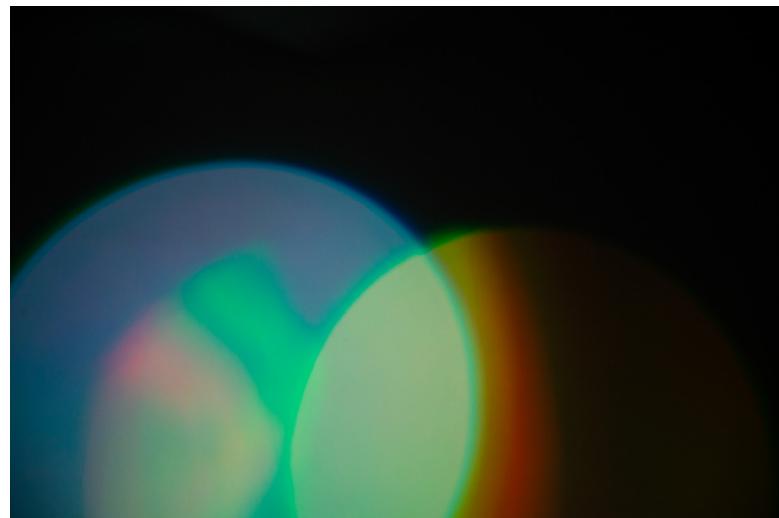
**An invisible hand plays on him and the feelings
fill the space.**

by Natalia Firsova

FIRST LIGHT TESTS

The main factor in the beginning of my project was an interest in studying the work of light on perception. The first step for visual research was to understand how light and pictures work together to create a certain mood of a story.





For the main lightning for pictures, we used two floodlights with rough ray's edges from Aliexpress.

Directed and very expressive light into a face.
Concentration on one lightened object.

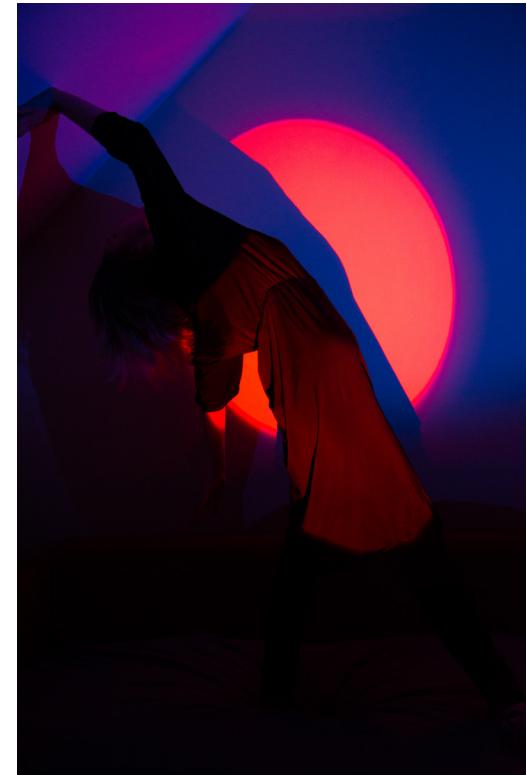
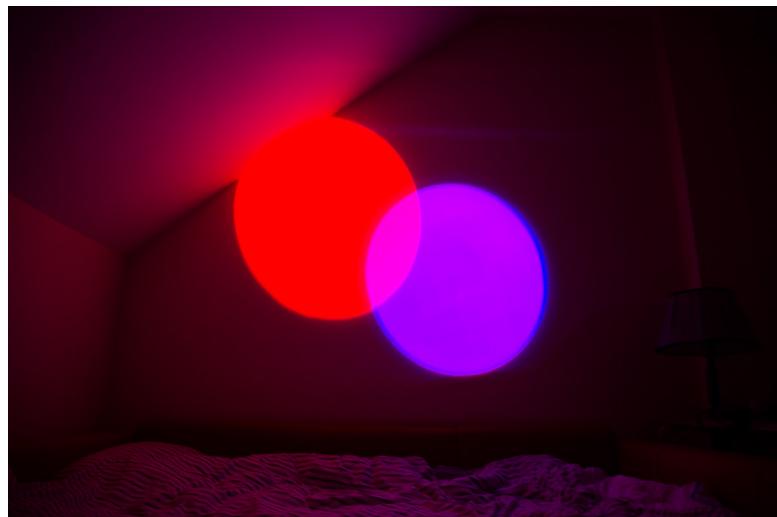






Taking these pictures, my friend and I were just messing around with the word "lost" from the poem.

Complementation of the body in movement with light.



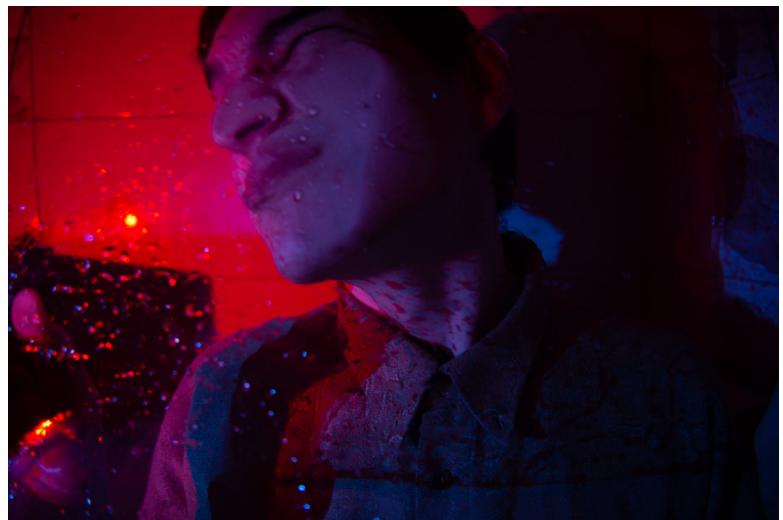
Directed lights of two flood-lights.

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION

The second step was to generate a series of photos that connected to the poem. The intention was to create some sort of emotion in a picture that reflects my vision on an emotional message.

The photoshoot took place in a bathroom as one of the darkest and accessible to water places.





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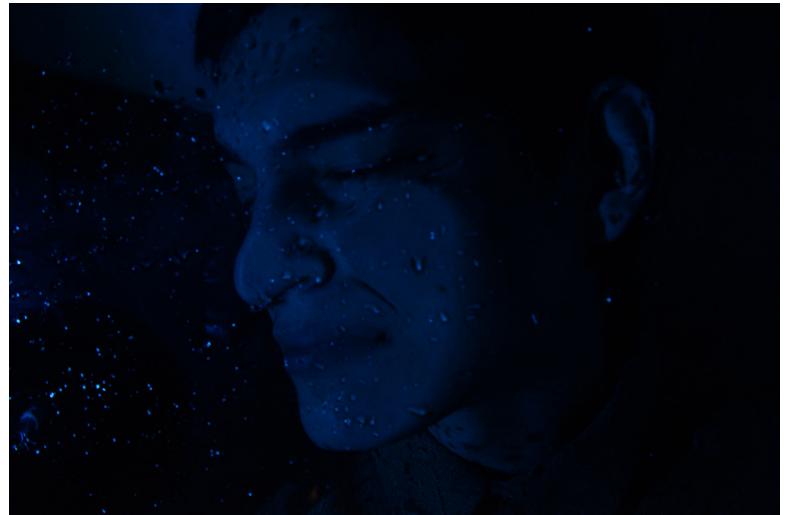


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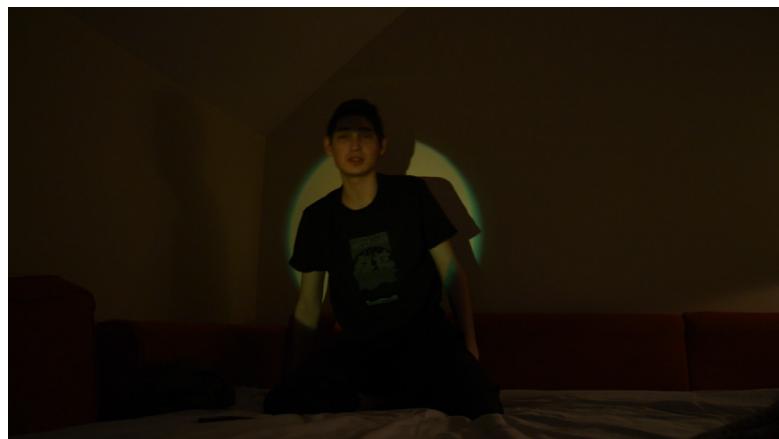
From my perspective, the point of a poem is very dark and sad. I tried to express it with this collision, cold lights.



VIDEOMAKING DECISIONS

The creation of a video series was to explore how light reacts in the action world. How differently we treat photos and videos with similar techniques.





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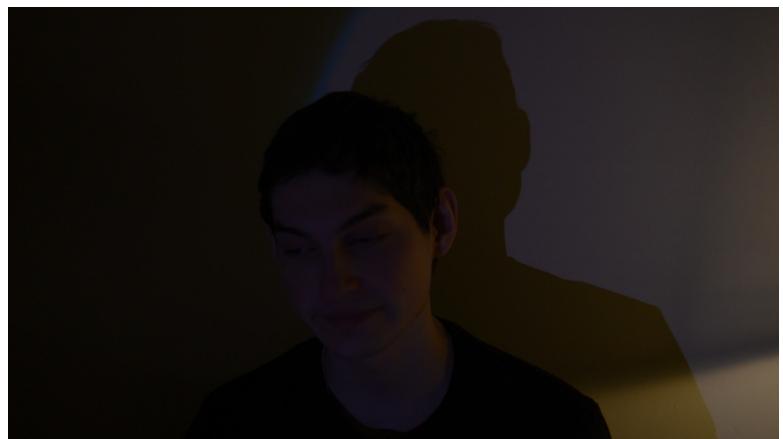
In these pictures, a model was suffering from the light because it is too bright.



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One of the differences from the photo is to keep light near your model. He moves a lot and light should (not always) move with him.



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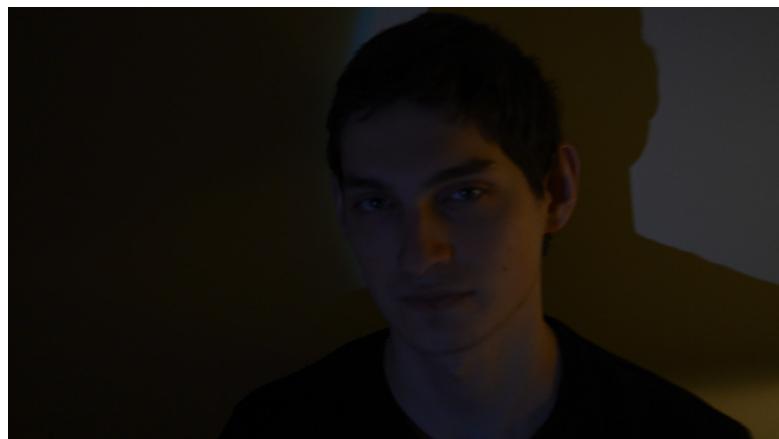
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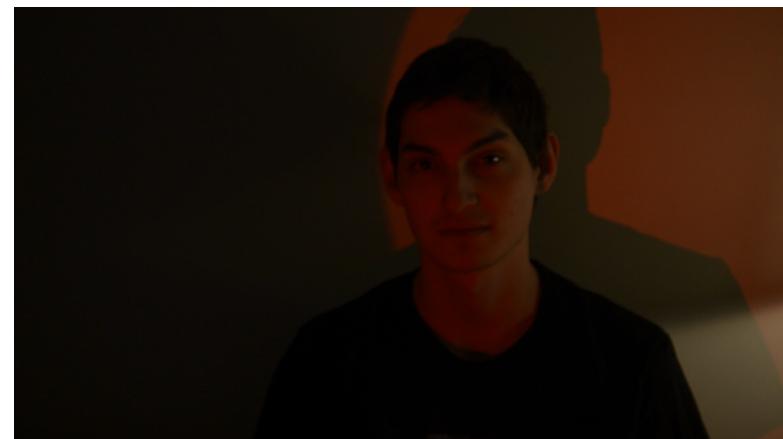
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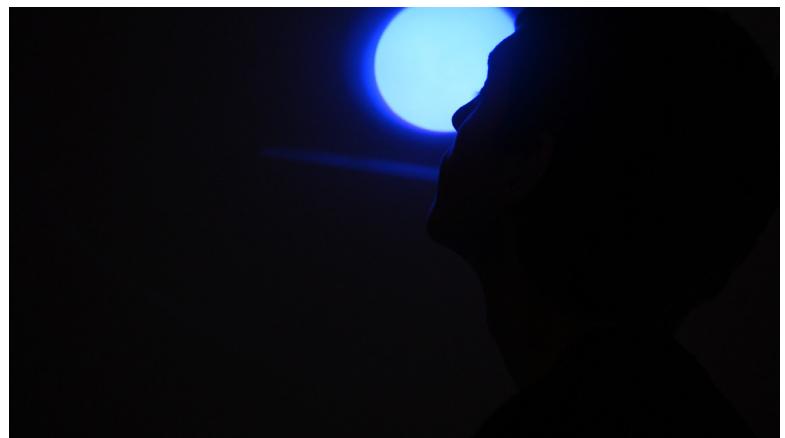
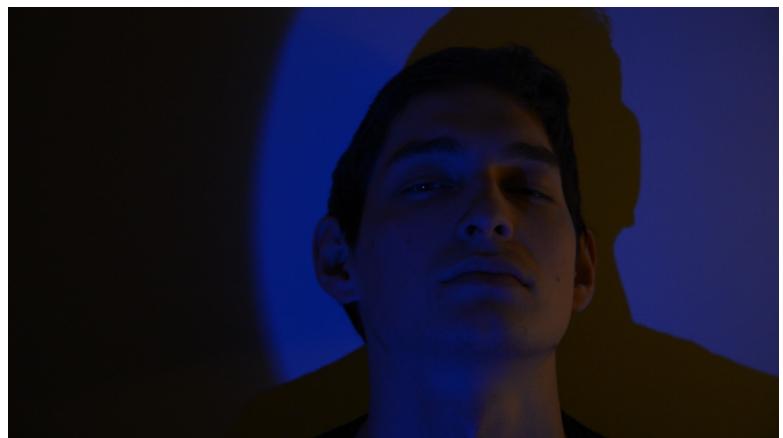


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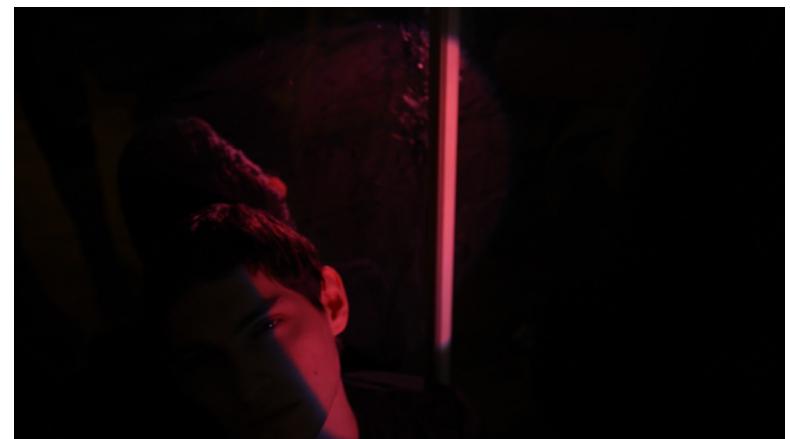
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The light can be a tool for creating a story in a video.



I asked my friend to associate color and emotion that he thinks is more suitable in the frame.

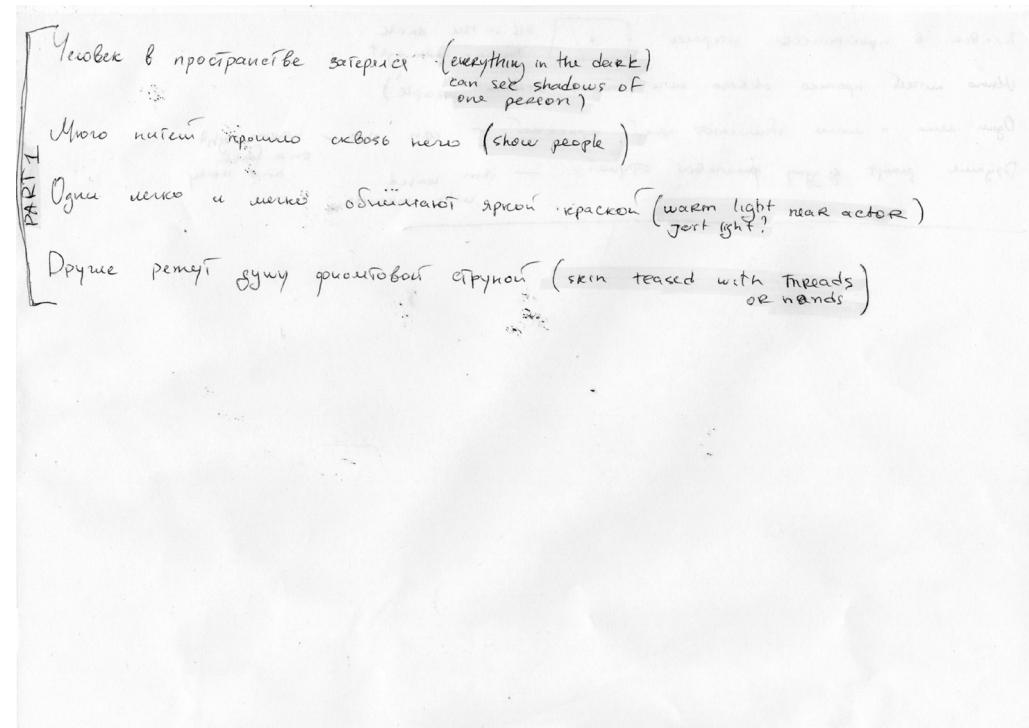




CINEMATOGRAPHIC VIEW

I wanted to create something myself to look at this poem more clearly and from different angles.

The first line and the third line of a poem were the opposite in mood so I took them to illustrate it in video format. The lostness in the first line is so even that I wanted to show it very clearly using early experience in light samples.

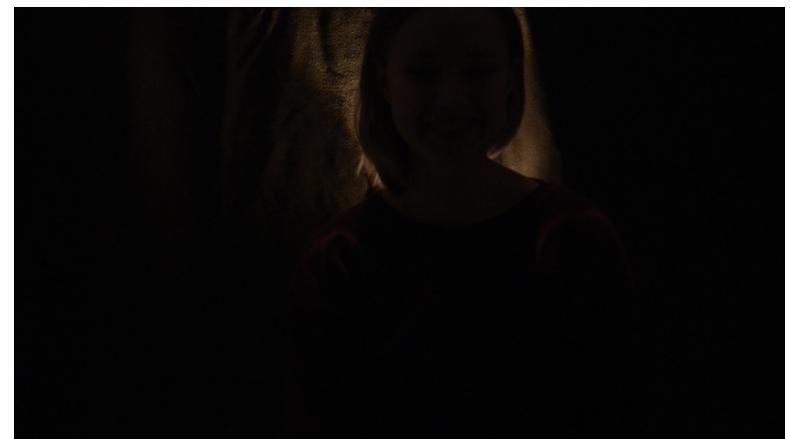




In the beginning, we wanted to test the frame on me to not disturb our actor.

Here we tried to set the "Man lost in space" line. This color of light didn't seem for me right. The lost effect for me was something less clear and warm. Warm light established something cozy and nice and I didn't want that effect.





When we erase a personality by not showing shapes of a body it reflects the first line when the author says "man" instead he or she.



Human hair against the light doesn't look good, so we considered that and removed it.

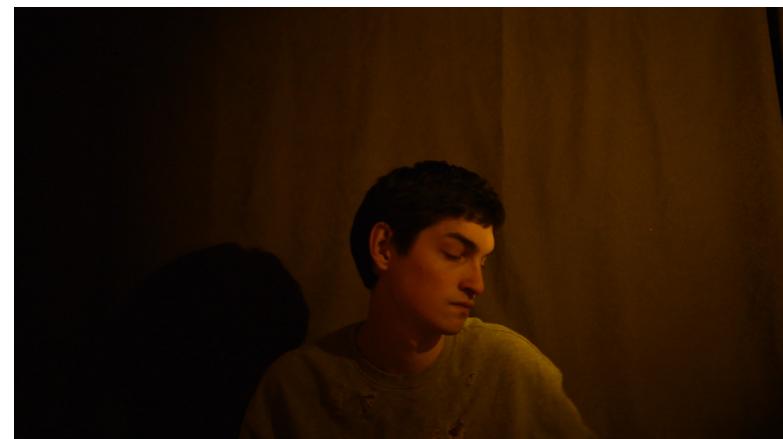
The final picture that response to the first line of a poem.



Man lost in space.



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During a very accidental photoshoot, I understood that when If I will keep my picture clean and not going to overload it with different light it can work better.



These pictures helped me with creating a final version of a video because when it turned into a more documentalist way of realizing the text I needed something like this.

After all tests, I knew how I need to visualise and record people. The future task is to find these people and finally record them as they are.

Due to quarantine, I was not able to personally record all the participants in the project, but they kindly agreed to write down themselves how they read the poem.

Back

Olga Ryabinina
last seen three hours ago



...



Lissa 2:11 pm

Привет!
Наверное Наташа должна была написать, что я к тебе обращаюсь. Это по поводу видео-эмоции, если так можно сказать)

Когда у тебя будет время на неделе? У меня свободные 10, 11(мб) 13 и 14-15, примерно



Olga 2:12 pm

Привет, я в сб утром улетаю, а 10 у меня съемки, так что остаётся только 11 или 13)



Lissa 2:13 pm

Отлично, тогда давай придерживаться 13 числа)



Olga 2:13 pm

Окей)

А что нужно делать?



Lissa 2:17 pm

Смотри, я тебе скажу стихи и главная задача понять эмоции этого стихотворения. Как именно ты их понимаешь - дело твое. В этом и есть самый интерес проекта, хочется увидеть как люди интерпретируют эмоциональные ситуации и вообще как проявляют эмоции в каких либо вещах.
Мне интересно, как ты будешь их показывать, как актриса.
Также ты можешь рассказать о чемнибудь, что вызывает у тебя ассоциации с этим стихотворением. Если ты считаешь это нужным.

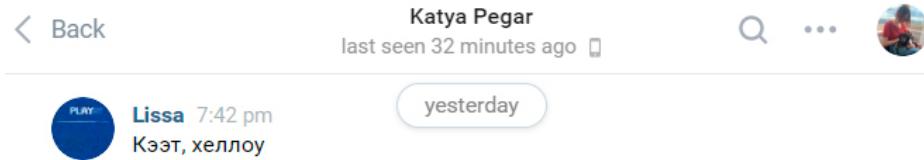


This is one of the chats that I had with people. I intended to introduce my project properly and explain what I want from them.

It was pretty hard to explain to people the idea of my project. One of the hardest parts was to make them want to take part in it.

Back Katya Pegar last seen 32 minutes ago

Lissa 7:42 pm yesterday



хочешь быть частью проекта дипломного моего?

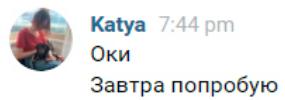
нужно лишь на камеру (вообще просто на свою телефонную) прочитать стих. его понимание, прочтение чисто на тебе, как хочешь так и верти. вот.

+ нужно после этого от тебя записанный голос об участии в проекте, может что ты думаешь о стихе, что он вызвал у тебя, или наоборот.

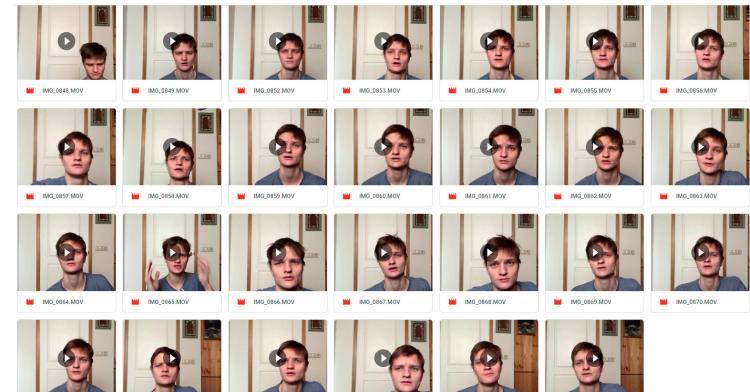
сам стих:

Человек в пространстве затерялся.
Много нитей прошло сквозь него.
Одни легко и мягко обнимают яркой краской,
Другие тянут вниз и режут душу фиолетовой струной...
Нити жизни музыку души слагают.
А человек как инструмент,
Невидимой рукой на нем играют и чувствами пространство
заполняют

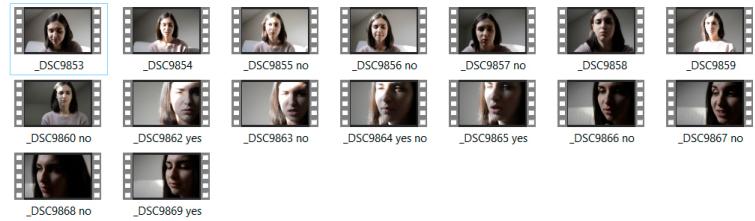
Katya 7:44 pm

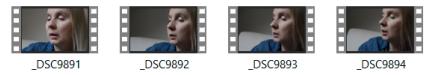


Lissa 7:45 pm



Footage that I got from one of the participants.

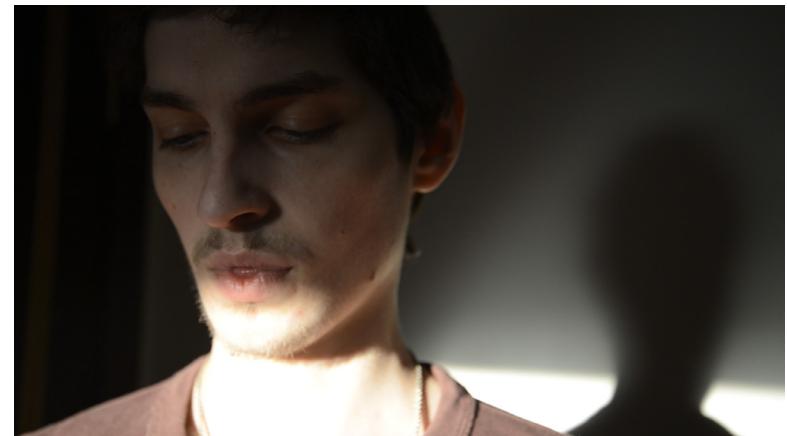




In the beginning, I wanted to take a few different shot angles of people. However, this kind of composition didn't really speak to me and didn't really open a person fully.

The close-ups did the job and all emotions and that intimacy that you have with the performer is very good.





I tried to match the personality of a person with a background and light. Of course, I tried to do it in a balance between the person and his expressions, because I needed a person's understanding of the text as the priority.





Unfortunately, because of the quarantine, I couldn't finish my video shooting. So, I asked my participants to record a video on their phones.



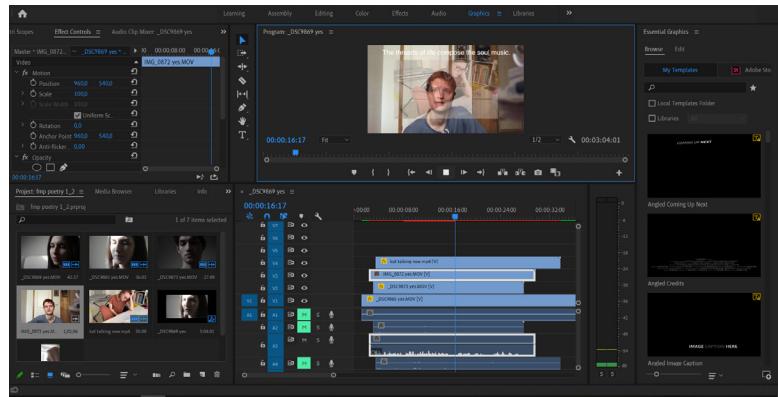
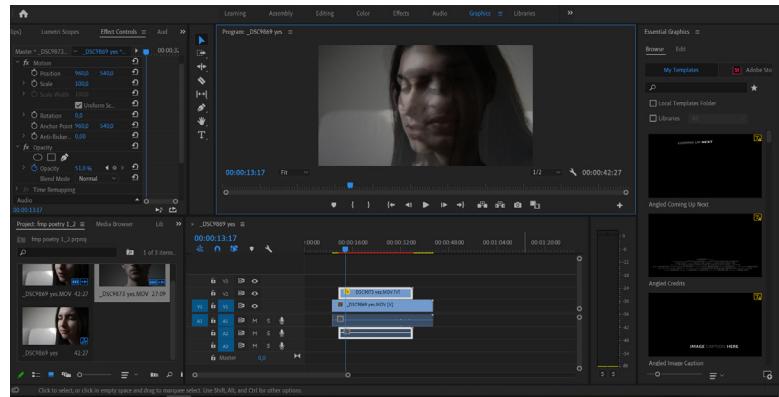
THE EDITING

The editing phase was not as carefully thought out as the shooting stages. The project developed very unevenly and most of the time I did not understand what to do with what I already have.

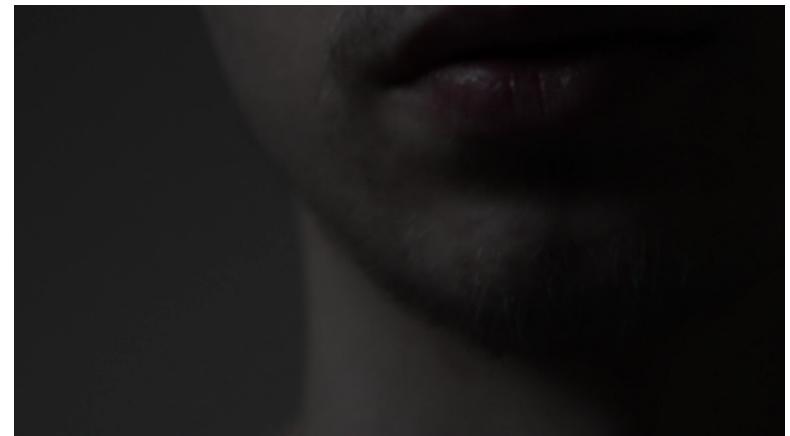
However, it all turned out that the editing stage opened the project in a new direction and showed the main idea of the project.

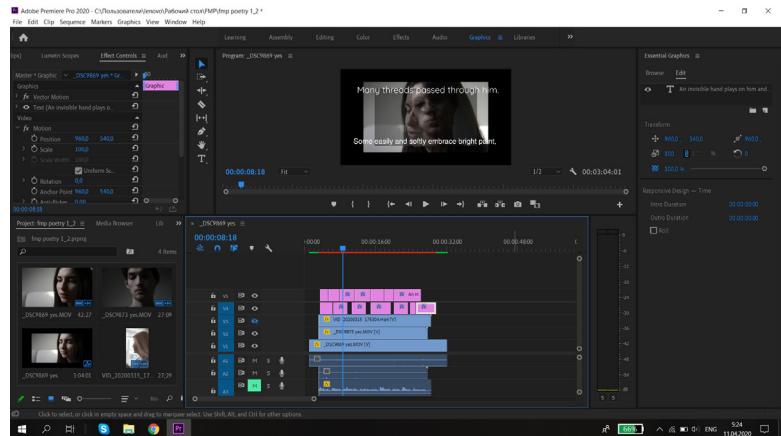


From the very beginning I tried to overlay the video on each other and add text.

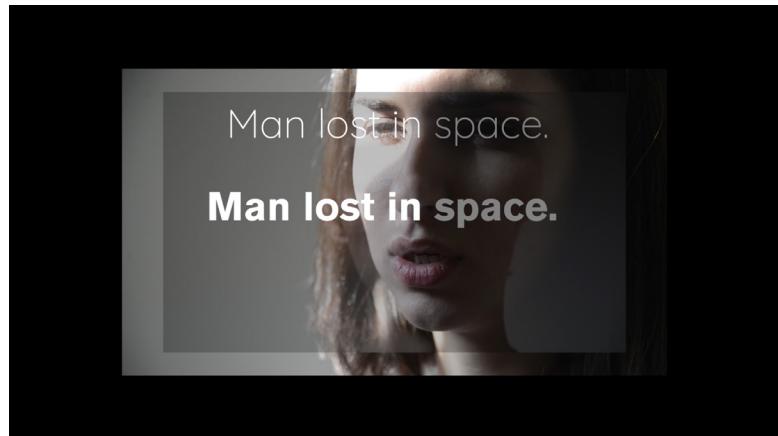


I also played with angles and approaching certain parts of the face that express any emotions.

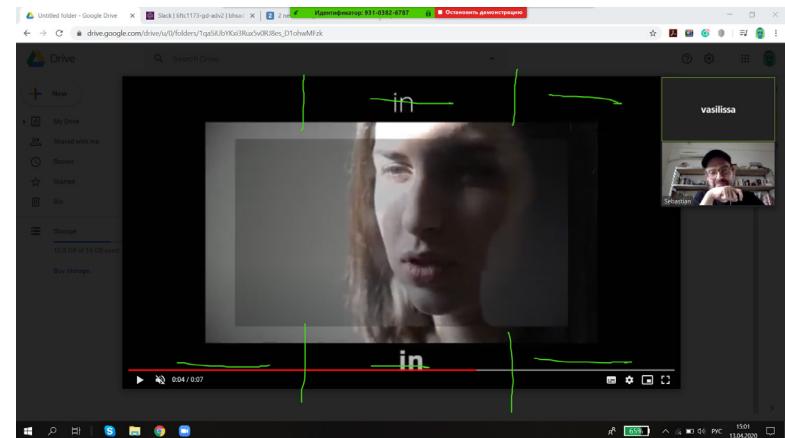
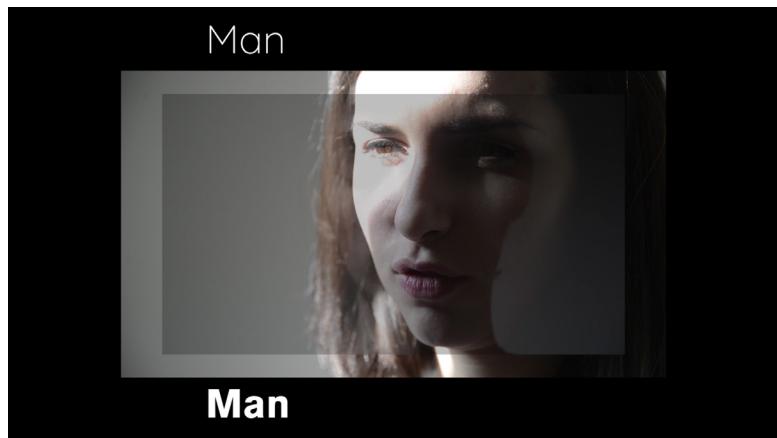




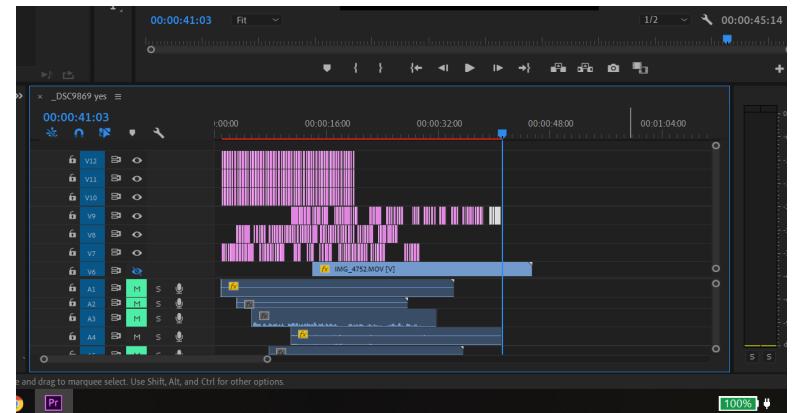
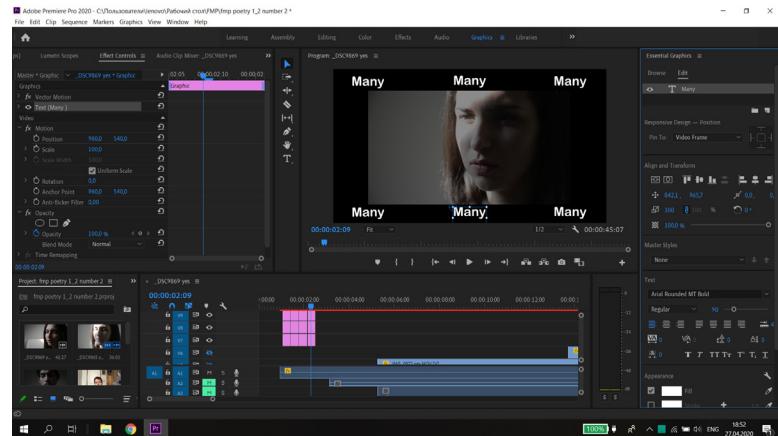
Test options for comparing two people. To do this, I used different fonts and imposed video tracks on top of each other so that it was possible to hear the difference in expressions.



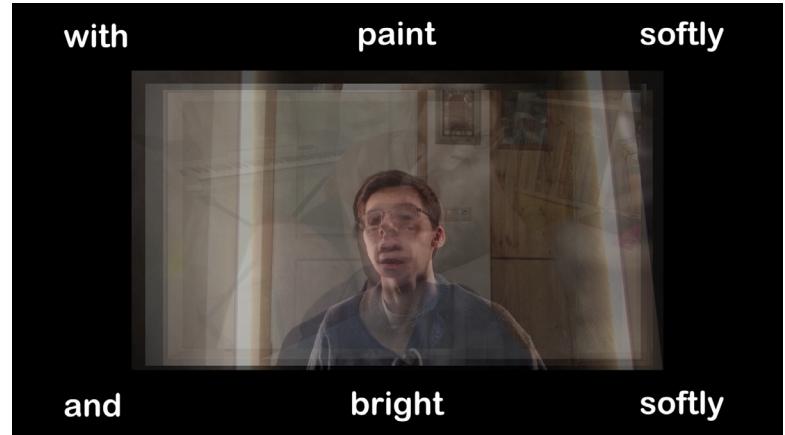
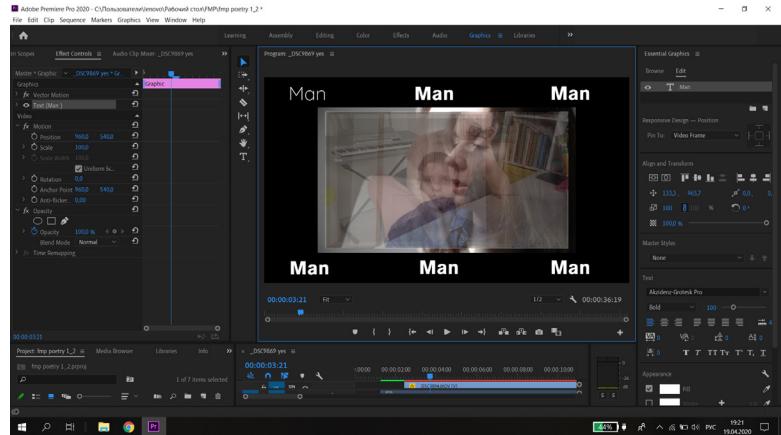
On the tutorial, the idea arose that I can create a specific grid system, where each cell refers to a particular participant.



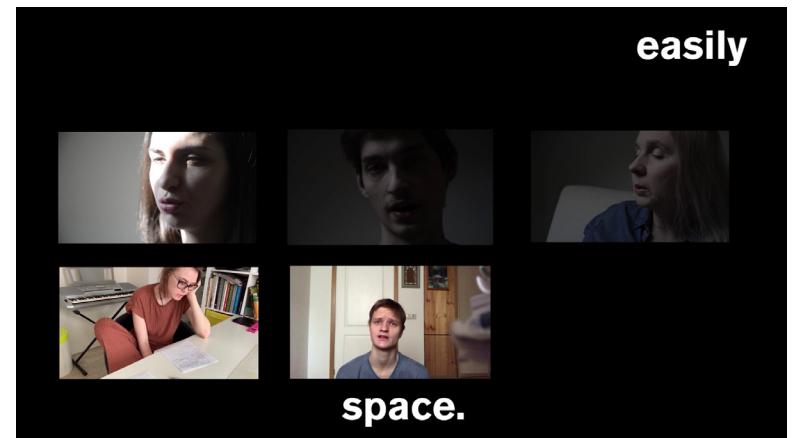
Since each of the participants uniquely pronounces each word, you can notice how the desync occurs in the pronunciation of a particular word.

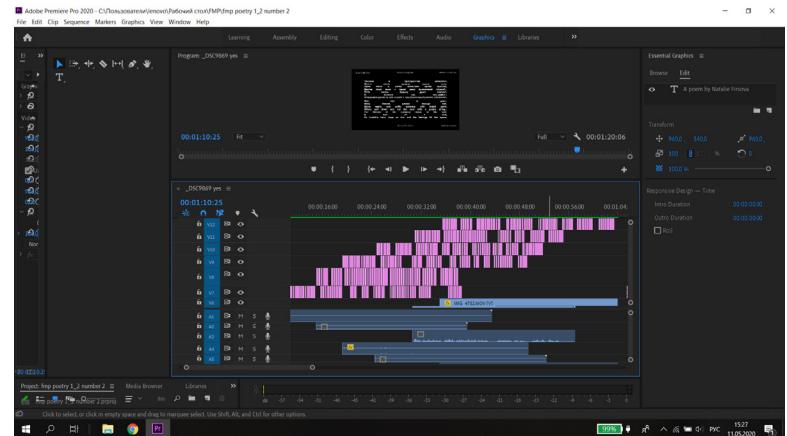
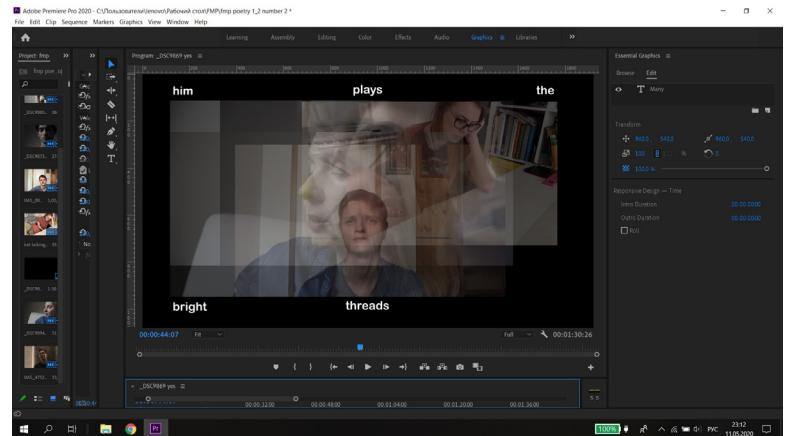


Pink tracks are subtitles.



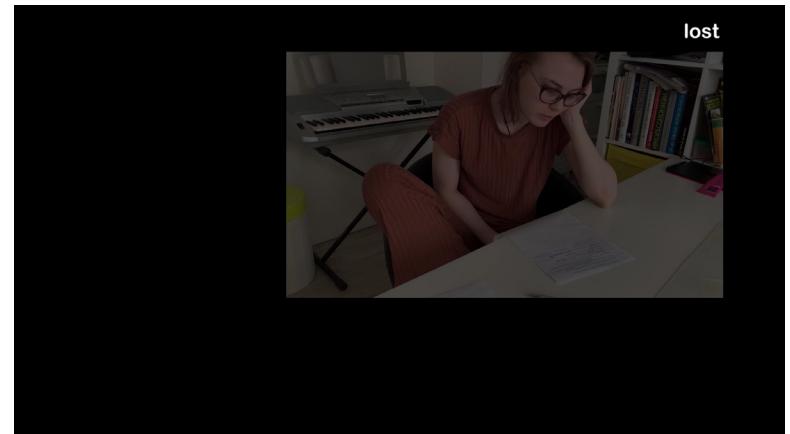
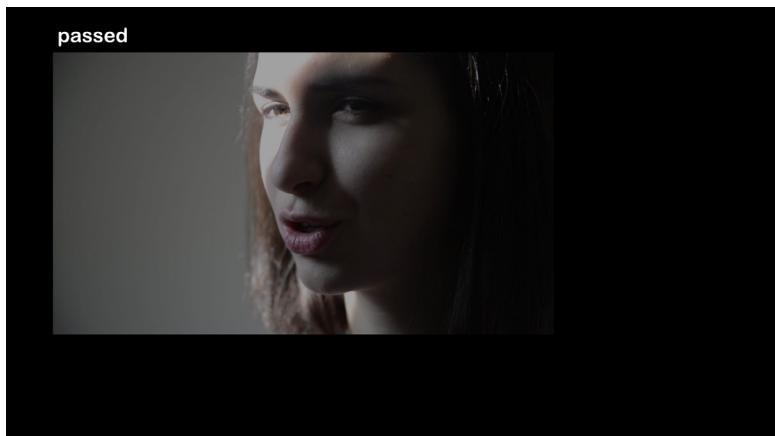
I tried a slightly different video layout. This kind of arrangement did not look very right on the screen, like a video.



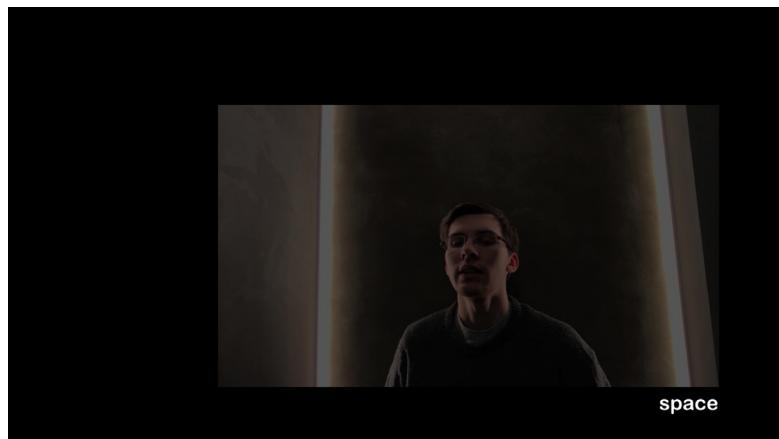


The first subtitle options were quite large. Reducing the size of the text and scattering the pictures a little wider the video began to look better.

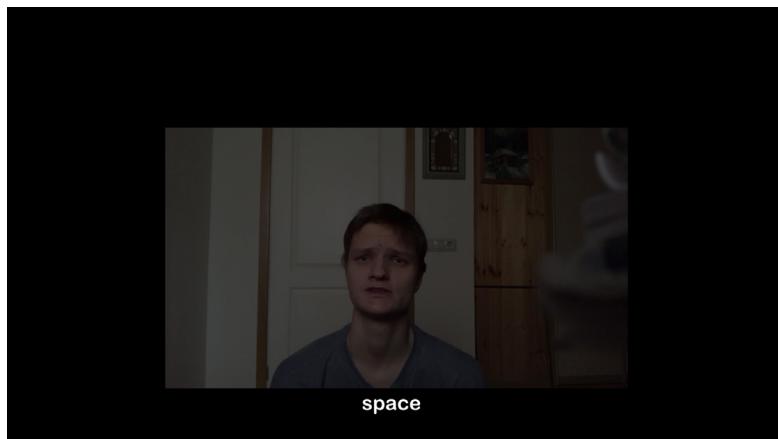
Because of this, each video created new patterns from the text that the participants read.



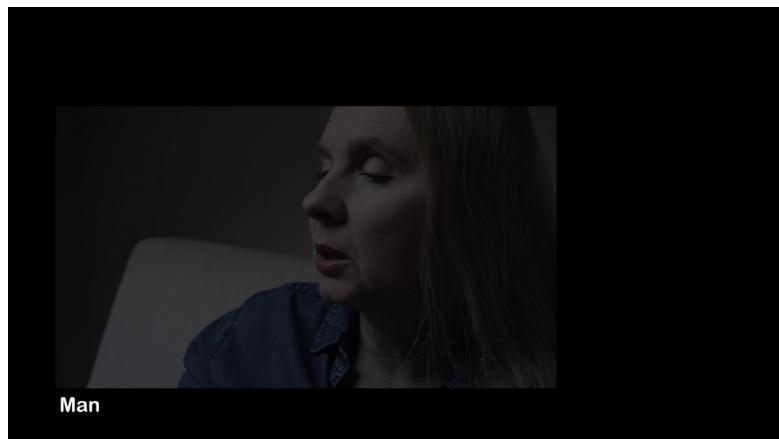
I made 6 videos to show each character in more detail, each participant begins to read the poem first.



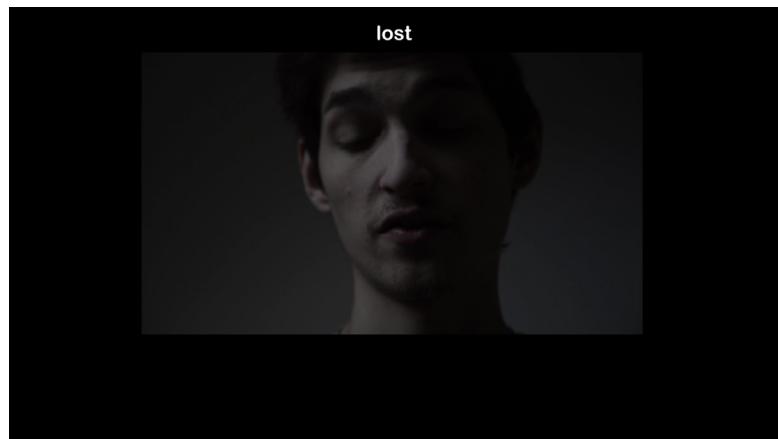
space



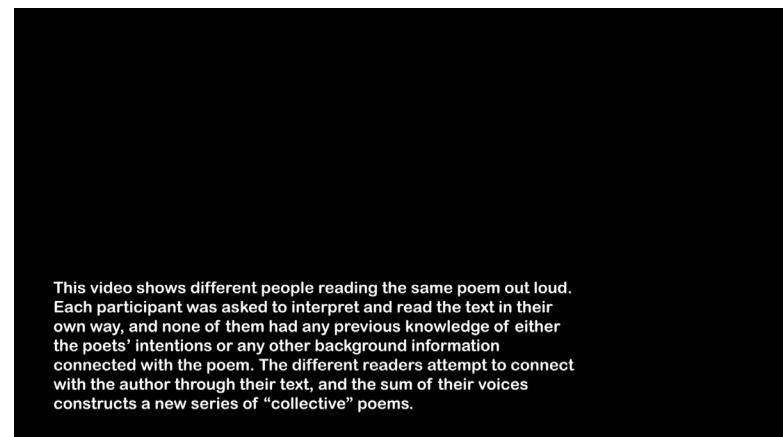
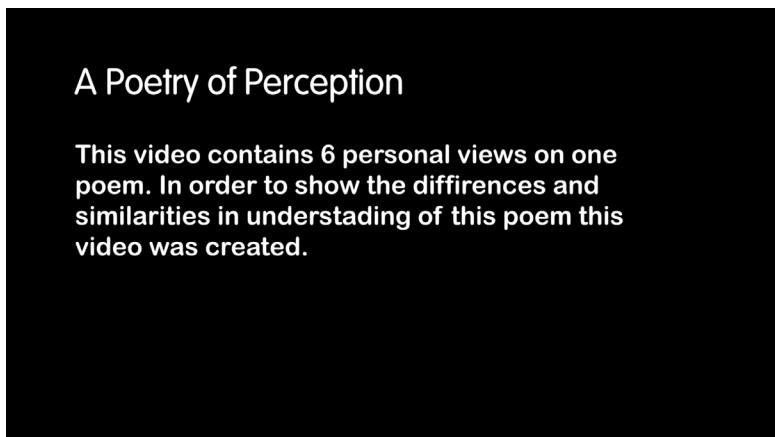
space



Man

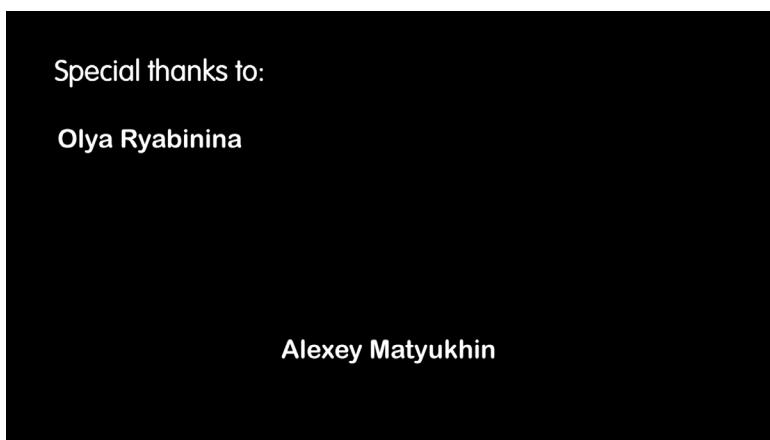


The title page, a kind of brief coverage of what the viewer sees in this video.



The final version of the title page.

It is an early version of the final title page, I wanted to repeat the same grid that was throughout the video.



I needed to add the full text of the poem so that the audience could understand the full picture of what they heard at the end. I decided to combine the text with the names of the participants in the project, repeating the grid of the entire film.

CONCLUSION

This short film is a representation of people voice, thought and interpretation. Each of us have certain view on events, art, emotions and more. The uniqueness of our understanding and making is very interesting thing to research and show.

In this short film people have their own reading of a one piece of poetry and my job was to show it right.

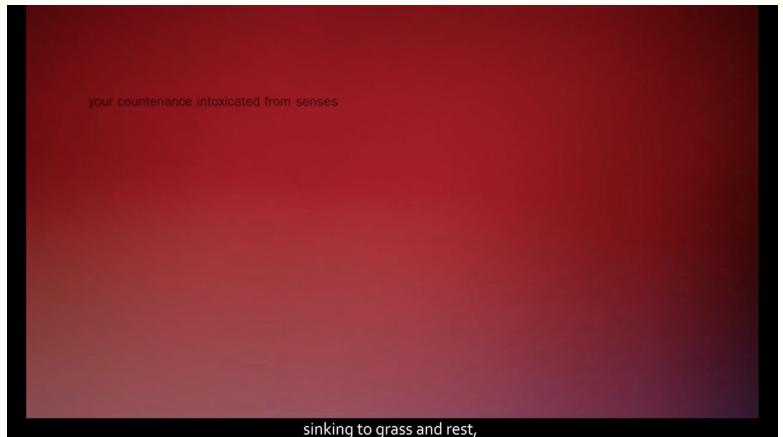
THE REFERENCES: DAVID LYNCH – ERASERHEAD

David Lynch's film "Eraserhead" inspired me a lot. This film also really helped to understand my project theme. Almost all of his film is based on visual perception, he skillfully plays with form and color, influencing our perception.



THE REFERENCES: MARC NEYS – A BLUE ANIMAL BOWS

This poetic film is dedicated to the poem of Sigrun Höllrigl. In my opinion, this video is a good example of visualization and disclosure of the author's poetic theme. The video and text work together immersing us in the world of words.



THE REFERENCES: RANKIN X SERGEI – TEMPO

This music dance video made by Rankin. He used very rough light to emphasize human countour. The movements of the Polunin is very stunning and really can caught your eye.

In the beginning of my journey I was thinking that my project would be connected to a video clip making but it turned out that it took some different direction. However, this video helped me to understand how to make a clear point of a idea and emotion you want to deliver to the viewer.



