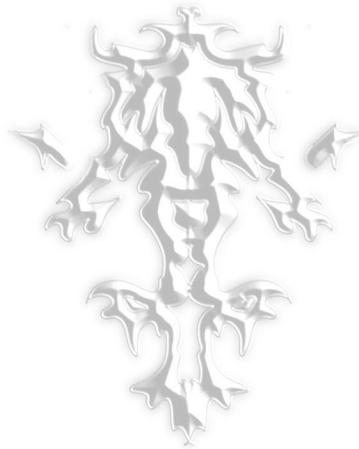




SYNTHETICS

A Night of Sermons



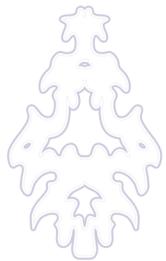
SYNTHETICS
A Night Of Sermons
July 30 2025

Curated by Danielle Paterson and Ruby Bailey

Accompanied by Samuel Jordan, Chia Amisola, Zarina Nares,
Emmett Palaima, Ruby Justice Thelot and Danille Gadus

Synthetics is a network of coded systems channeling collective consciousness toward new modes of techno-communion. Matrix as tool, not master; interface as portal, not veil. Through experiments, sermons, and releases, Synthetics constructs spiritual architectures for the unknown-the future, the ethereal and the hidden protocols beneath perception.





Sermons

0. Samuel Jordan: Public Transit Elevator Eulogy, 2025

Sound installation (speaker wire, hidden iPhone, elevator environment), looped audio, duration: variable

The first elevator to eternal peace. “Stand Clear of the closing doors” booms beside you, as the elevator doors close behind you, and you begin your journey upwards. The sound installation utilises the neutral and ever-present ever-watching voice of the MTA as the final guide on your journey to heaven. It acts as your proverbial Virgil, the final guide as you take the elevator upwards.

1. Danielle Paterson: Release to Enter, 2025

Text and Voice Over, TRT 4:00

2. Ruby Bailey: Endlessity, 2024

Video, TRT 6:52

Endlessity continues Bailey’s exploration of digital identity through her avatar LOObi. Following the hyper-saturated chaos of Loobtopia (2023), a film about online performance and self-curation, *Endlessity* shifts into a quieter, limbo zone.

The film unfolds as an intimate, almost secretive dialogue between LOObi and a nonhuman presence, moving through glitchy landscapes, rave footage, and digital limbos. It reflects on longing, erasure, and what it means to remain human when our identities are constantly shaped by machines.

3. Chia Amisola: An Apparition, 2025

Live multi-person performance with projectors and sound. 5 minutes

An Apparition is an ambience and offering towards the manifestations of the divine, drawn from Filipino Catholic & animist belief and cyberfeminist thought. In protocol, it traces visionary sightings of Mary and how technology complicates & exacerbates all of mystery, pain, authority, and ecstasy.

The work is situated within Amisola’s Himala series, an ongoing exploration of the myths around the miraculous.

4. Zarina Nares: TRUST THE PROCESS, 2025

Video, TRT: 7:40

TRUST THE PROCESS (2025) is an AI-generated animation composed from Pinterest-sourced images and narrated by an AI-clone of the artist's voice. Referencing a genre of YouTube content in which AI-generated Carl Jung personas narrate life advice, the piece moves through four sections—Flow, Alignment, Intuition, and Integration. It invites belief while unraveling its mechanics, offering a guided meditation that is both soothing and synthetic.

The work is part of REAL FEELINGS, a larger installation that explores how digital systems package relief as content—and how affirmation, even when automated, can still feel like recognition. The show asks what we reach for when we're afraid, and what it means to find comfort in something designed to simulate it.

5. Emmett Palaima: Great Peace Pt 1, 2025

Sound performance and reading, 15 minutes

Emmet Palaima's practice approaches music history through a materialist lens: that the technological tools used to make music drive its stylistic development, and that by building new platforms for sonic experience, it is possible to advance the music-historical process. A key feature of this approach is collaboration, making the

instruments he creates accessible to other performers thereby sharing and more fully exploring their sonic and creative potential. This approach centers on a long-term body of work building towards the creation of TEMPLE-65536: the world's largest spatial audio instrument as a permanent installation open to artists and composers from around the world.

6. Ruby Justice Thelot: Untitled (Instructions #1), 2025

Video installation and live VJ performance with multi-channel projections and sound, 5 minutes.

Thelot documented the hand-engraving of two aluminum sheets, transforming this tactile process into a video work co-edited with Ruby Bailey. In a live VJ performance, Thelot reanimates this footage, translating the etched codes into a new visual language - carving their presence into yet another shifting medium.

7. Ruby Bailey: Ocean, 2025

Video, TRT: 4:44

Closing Hypnosis. Infinite ocean, with overlaid appropriations of Bailey's drawings, glyphs, images and digital art. Like glitches and twinkles.
With soundscape by Lucas Schott.



Artworks

Danielle Gadus: Silk Wind Chimes, 2025

Hand-dyed silk hung from a steel bar, 8 × 22 in (20 × 56 cm). Hand-dyed silk is hung from an 11 in (28 cm) long steel bar and cotton hanging string.

silk + the elements
tension ↔ flow
intention ↔ letting go
body + space + presence

My media of choice are silk + the elements. The key components are body + space + presence. The exploration of silk + space encapsulates the dualities within the material and the environment, such as light and shadow; tension and flow; gravity and weightlessness.

Silk alters and changes state in response to dying processes and entropic environmental conditions. I move from intentionally binding and dying the fabric to letting go and accepting the unknown as the dye creates unpredictable patterns and

chromatic mid-tones.

Varying degrees of tension or flow either interrupt or embody the gentle movement inherent in the material. Movement, stillness, and ephemerality bring awareness to the present moment and the felt experience of time. By exploring dualities and their relationship to architecture and inhabited spaces, I employ form as a social metaphor and question dynamics of power and release.

A viewer-participant engages the work physically/sensually as they move with it. Subtleties of the experience heighten the awareness of one's senses. Drawing from a lineage of feminine mystics across cultures, I promote a direct, unmediated experience with one's body/sensorium and the work/space. A sense of liberation is experienced in the here and now.

Ruby Bailey: Crude Encryption, 2025

_Mirror Body: 24 × 24 in (61 × 61 cm), laser-engraved mirror acrylic
_Frost Body: 12 × 12 in (30 × 30 cm), laser-engraved frosted acrylic

Crude Encryptions occupies the liminal space between exposure and concealment. In Mirror Body and Frost Body, nude selfies are encrypted into ASCII code, etched into reflective and frosted acrylic surfaces. The body is rendered as a shifting puzzle of signs - present, luminous, yet unreadable by machines. These works oscillate between allure and opacity, inviting both looking and deciphering. The mirror bounces the gaze back, turning the act of viewing into self-reflection, while the frosted surface suggests veiled intimacy and fragile distance. Each piece is a quiet refusal of algorithmic capture, preserving a sense of mystery within an object that feels both digital and sacred.

Type or Paste Your Content Here, 2025

Glossy white powder-coated laser-cut steel, printed magnetic UV vinyl,
9 x 9 in (23 x 23 cm).

A glossy white steel square, cut with ornamental apertures, becomes the stage for eight magnetic fragments: Sims avatars, pixelated landscapes, and interface echoes that can be endlessly rearranged. Type or Paste Your Content Here transforms the compulsive gesture of swiping and dragging into a tactile, analogue ritual. The work reflects what critic Onty calls Web Expressionism — an aesthetic of emotional saturation shaped by online life, where identity is fragmented, reassembled, and rendered as data-feeling. Steel stands for infrastructure — cold, serverlike, unyielding — while the glossy magnets invite play, intimacy, and shifting narrative. There is no final composition: only an ongoing negotiation between visibility and withdrawal, absurd UX commands, and the human urge to touch and revise.

Zarina Nares: BOY (1–5), 2025

Laser-etched crystal, LED bases.

Five young men, mid-selfie, are encased in laser-etched crystal blocks - shirtless, posed, and nearly identical. Sourced from the internet and preserved in a format often used for memorializing lost pets or loved ones, these fleeting performances of masculinity are rendered permanent, collectible, and cold. The work sits with the contradictions of contemporary male self-image: its confidence and insecurity, its repetition and reach for individuality, its absurdity and its strange intimacy. As journalist Joseph Bernstein writes, “the self-facing camera has finally turned the male gaze on itself.”

Samuel Jordan: Excerpts from Ms. Tilda's diary vol. 1, 2025

4" x 5" giclée print on Moab Entrada Natural 300.

- 1..Miles Died in This Meadow
- 2.My Horse Distrusts You
3. Horses Grow in Love
- 4.Horses Love Here
5. Gate 1
6. Dear Door <3
7. 5 Miles To Here

“The following photographs were discovered on a now-defunct personal website, used as a diary, by unknown author Ms. Tilda. Images were scraped from the website in order to publish them. Whilst careful attempts have been made to keep them true to the originals as possible, various changes have been made in the pursuit of preservation.”

Excerpts from Ms. Tilda's diary vol. 1 is presented as a fictional archive, assembled from images and texts that feel at once intimate and estranged. Horses, gates, gravestones, and desert fields - shot with a glaring flash and digitally transformed - dissolve into a dreamlike palette of pink gradients, inverted skies, and 8-bit textures. The series performs the role of a digital archaeologist, where preservation and invention blur. These images behave like relics scraped from a vanished web, yet their distortions are deliberate - evidence of a world built on the tension between sincerity and absurdity, memory and fabrication.

Ruby Justice Thelot: Untitled (Instructions #1), 2025
Code, hand-etched in aluminium, 12" x 7,5"

Thelot's work interrogates the algorithms (set of steps) behind the automated systems that are becoming prominent in our highly technological world. The two hand-etched slabs of aluminum form a neural network, written by hand, the foundational technology of AI. Placing them in the realm of the mystical, as an altar, a site of spirituality, but also highlighting their man-made characteristics, extracting their paradoxes through re-presentation.

We make the gods we worship.

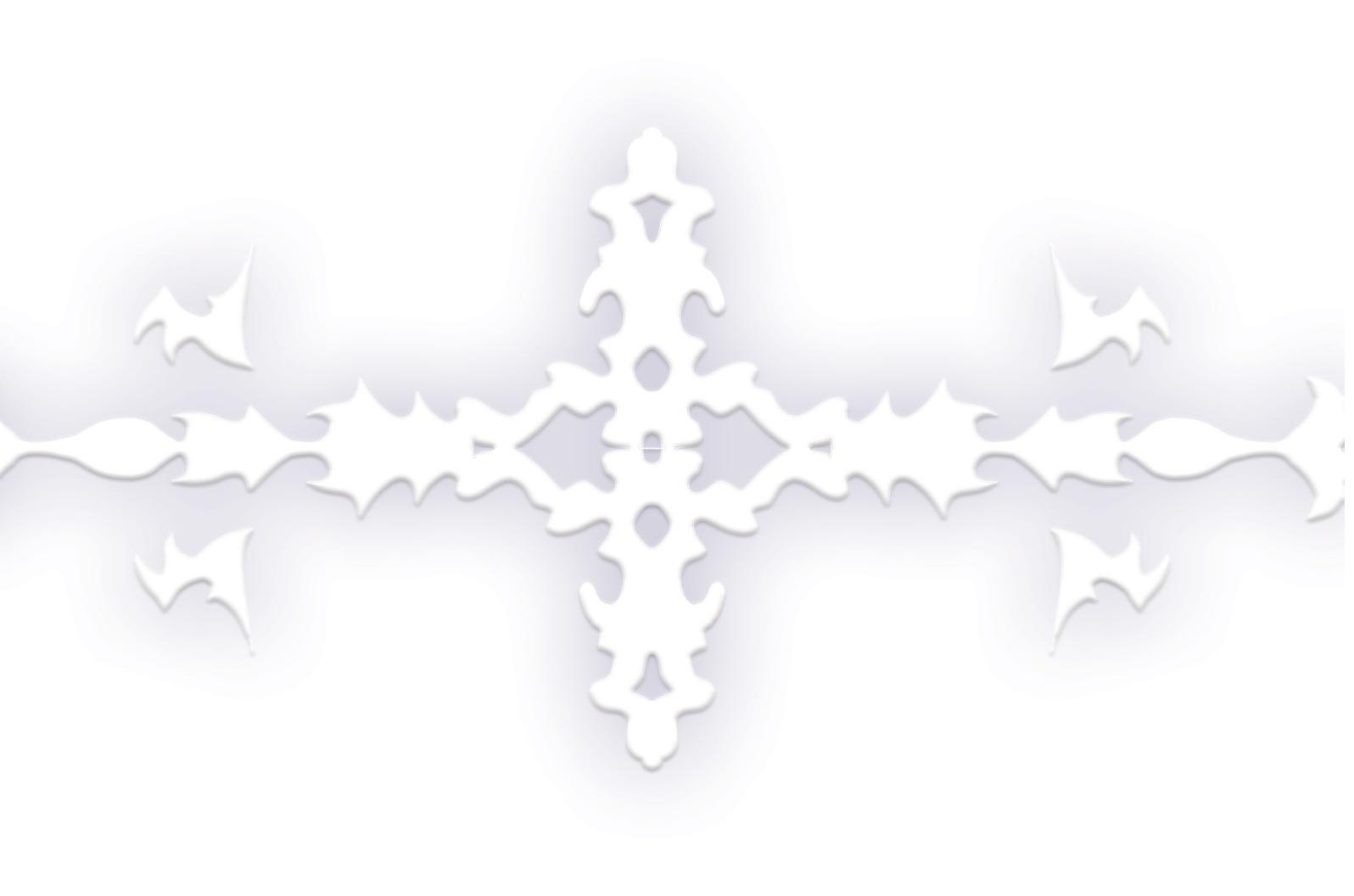
The practice of etching code by hand is meditative, anchoring, both edifying and de-mystifying...

TO CALL UP A DEMON YOU MUST LEARN ITS NAME!

Emmett Palaima
Morningstar Flail Bracelet, 2025
Brushed stainless steel, chain, hardware
3 x 3 x 3 inches with 18 inch chain

Morningstar Speakers, 2025
Full-range point-source driver, blackened carbon steel, stainless steel,
hardware
11 x 11 x 11 inches





Samuel Jordan



Public Transit' Elevator Eulogy, 2025

Danielle Patterson



Excerpts from Ms. Tilda's diary vol. 1, 2025



Release to enter, 2025



Techno-meditations, 2025
Ether:Beta:: release to enter, 2025

Samuel Jordan lives on the Internet. He wants to live in the Internet. He takes photographs. He hates photographers. He speaks both hardware and software.

Danielle Paterson is a Toronto born and London/New York based art tech curator, advisor, and researcher. She curates world-builders and transient creators who navigate subcultures, digital mythologies, and spiritual frameworks to envision alternate realities and collective futures. Through producing exhibitions, books, and other arts programming, she explores the spaces between the physical and metaphysical, online and offline—interrogating how the internet reshapes our inner worlds, collective memory, and systems of belief. Her work also considers how emerging art markets and platforms can become more accessible, transparent, and artist-driven.

Ruby Bailey



Crude Encryptions, 2025

Type Or Paste Your Content Here, 2025

Ether:Beta:: release to enter, 2025



**Endlessity*, 2024*

Ocean, 2025

Chia Amisola



An Apparition, 2025

Ruby Bailey is a multimedia artist working between Cape Town and New York City. Her practice spans film, digital media, drawing, sculpture, and installation, exploring technofetishism and the {gaussian} blur between visibility and erasure, online and offline. Through two key frameworks ~~ *Loobtopia*, a hyper-curated arena of visual excess and networked performance, and *Ethereality*, a posthuman, liminal sublime where affect becomes ambient and bodies dissolve ~~ Bailey examines digital identity, performativity, and the spectral echo of *The Sublime* in contemporary screen-based culture.

Chia Amisola is an artist devoted to the internet's loss, love, labor, and liberation. They create ambiences, performances, and tools that explore infrastructures, intimacies, and identities through spaces domestic to divine.

Zarina Nares



TRUST THE PROCESS, 2025



BOY (1-5), 2025

Emmett Palaima



Morningstar Flail Bracelet, 2025
Morningstar Speakers, 2025



Great Peace Pt 1, 2025

Zarina Nares (b. 1995) is a New York City-born artist of Indian Muslim and British descent. She studied electronic music, computing, and technology at Goldsmiths, University of London. Working across installation, video, audio, performance, sculpture, and print, her practice explores how identity, femininity, and self-worth are shaped by digital and cultural systems. She draws from a wide range of material—social media, news, pop culture, self-help, and spiritual aesthetics—to examine how selfhood is performed, packaged, and politicized. Through repetition, contradiction, and shifting tone, she creates spaces that are part mirror, part glitch, part therapeutic theater. Her work doesn't aim to resolve contradictions; it lingers in them. She's interested in the mess: where need blurs with manufactured desire, where sincerity starts to perform itself, and where critique collapses into complicity.

Emmett Palaima is an artist working with electronics and esoteric processes of sound creation. His work is conceptually rooted in the idea that technology and magic are one and the same, and that electricity is a manifestation of the divine or elemental forces underlying physical reality. He creates instruments which explore the experience of sound as an embodied, physical process and the sculptural beauty of the systems used in sound creation.

Ruby Justice Thelot



Untitled (Instructions №1), 2025



Untitled (Instructions №1), 2025

Danielle Gadus



Silk Wind Chimes, 2025

Grounding Practice Variation 8 (heaven's echos), 2025

Ruby Justice Thelot is a designer, cyberethnographer, and artist based in New York. He is an adjunct professor of Design and Media Theory at New York University. He is the founder of the award-winning creative research and design studio 13101401 inc.

Danielle Gadus (b. 1998, Chicago, IL) lives and works in Brooklyn, NY. Her work explores sensuality, somatic modes of perception, and phenomenological dualities. Utilizing silk as a primary medium, she engages transdisciplinary processes, including spatial installation and gestures of performance. Danielle transforms the textile through dying processes, lighting techniques, and use of organic matter (such as rocks or sand) or entropic forces (such as gravity or wind).

Techno-Meditations

A collection of 10 duo-tools for *techno-communion and **techno-unplugging. Rituals for grounding, for tuning in, for stepping out of sync. Use them to locate yourself inside the system and then to exit. Each pair of meditations offers a route: one through the machine, one through the world. Practice with intention.
Let them shift your attention. Let them linger where you log off.

Interface Gazing

*Sit in front of your screen. Turn it off. Watch your reflection in the black mirror. Hold eye contact. Breathe. What does this surface know about me?

**Hold a bowl of water. Look into it. Let your reflection blur. What do I carry that no mirror can hold?

Sonic Communion

*Play a resonant field recording or ambient loop. Let the machine-generated sound vibrate through your body. Become the receiver.

**Go outside. Find the quietest place near you. Sit and look up. Listen for the softest sound you can hear. Stay with it.

Haptic Sync

*Place your hand on your device while it charges or runs. Feel its warmth. Feel your own. Sync breath with its hum.

**Place your hand on a stone warmed by the sun. Let its heat pass into you. Breathe in rhythm with the wind.

Ritual Ping

*Send a message of gratitude to someone you haven't spoken to in a while. Not for a reply. Just a signal: I'm here.

**Write a note by hand. Leave it in a public place. Let it drift into another's story.

Portal Walking

*Open Google Earth. Zoom into a location you've never been to. Close your eyes. Imagine stepping through. Who would you be there?

**Pick a street you've never walked down. Wander it with no destination. Be alert. Be altered.

Breath Loop

*Open your voice memos. Record the sound of your breath for one minute. Play it back on a loop. Breathe along. Let it become external, machinic, mirrored.

**Cup your hands over your ears. Listen to your breath inside your body. Let your pulse become the metronome.

Data Shedding

*Scroll through your camera roll. Select 10 images that no longer feel like you. Delete them. Whisper a thank you before each one disappears.

**Write 10 memories you no longer need on scraps of paper. Fold and bury them under dirt, water, or flame.

Gesture Archive

*Use a front-facing camera to record your body performing a repeated gesture. Make the gesture your version of a prayer. Watch it back. Observe how the machine sees your movement.

**Repeat the gesture slowly in a mirror. Notice what changes each time. Let the motion etch into memory.

Gesture Archive

*Send a voice note or text. Before hitting send, pause for 10 full seconds. Feel the gap between thought and transmission.

**Form a sentence in your mind. Wait 10 seconds before speaking it aloud. Offer it like a slow spell to the room.

Clock Unbinding

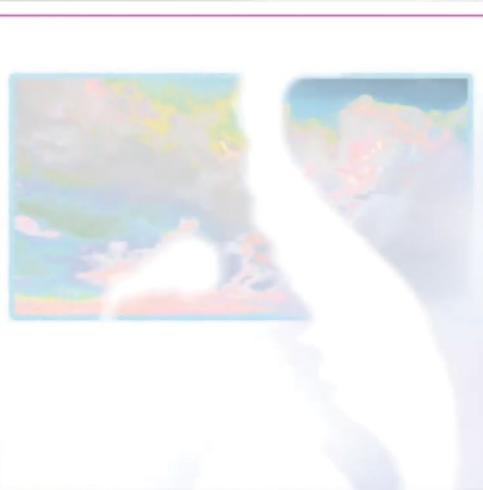
*Turn off all clocks and notifications for one hour. Use only your body's sense of time. Let the machine's rhythm fall away.

**Cover any windows. Light a candle. Stay until it burns to the halfway point. Let its melt be your timer.



It's me L00bi

Ruby Bailey



i imagine u as a cloud,

ENDLESSITY, 2024



Ruby Bailey



I <3 clubs
Pixie music



We're getting there...]

ENDLESSITY, 2025



Zarina Nares



TRUST THE PROCESS, 2025



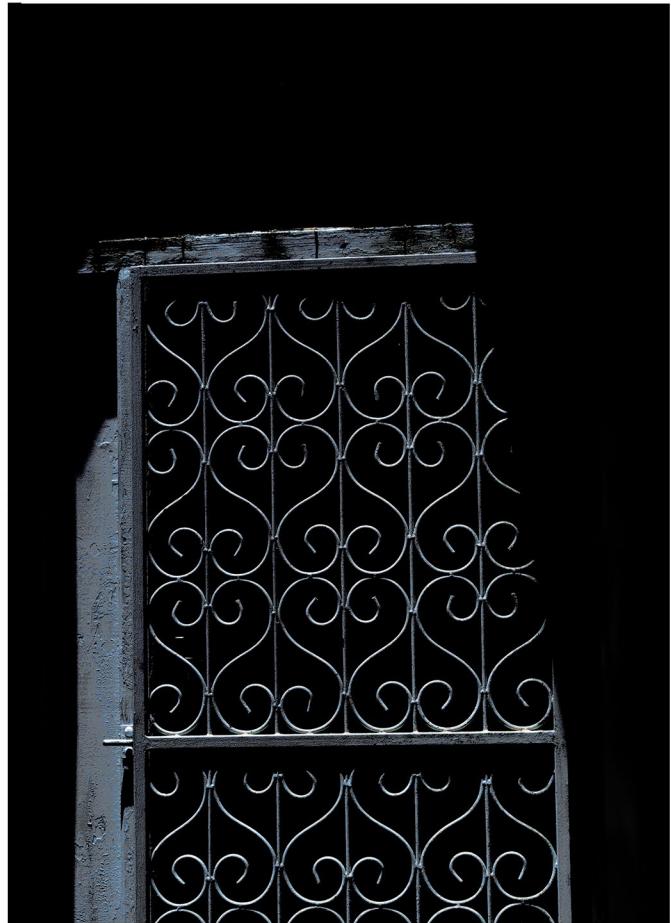
Zarina Nares



TRUST THE PROCESS, 2025

excerpts
from ms.
Tilda's diary.

Samuel Jordan

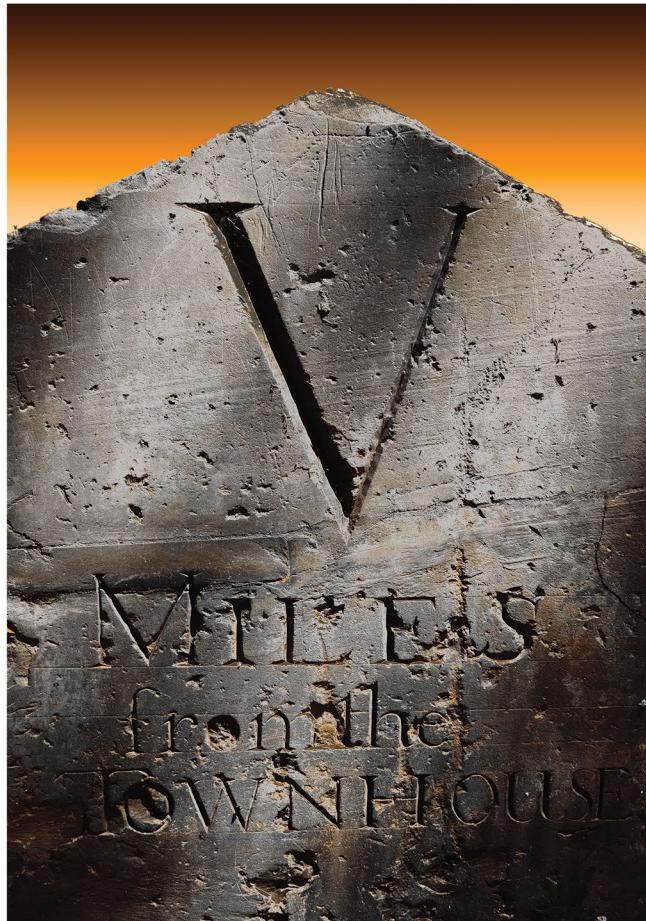




Excerpts From Ms Tilda's Diary, 2025



Samuel Jordan

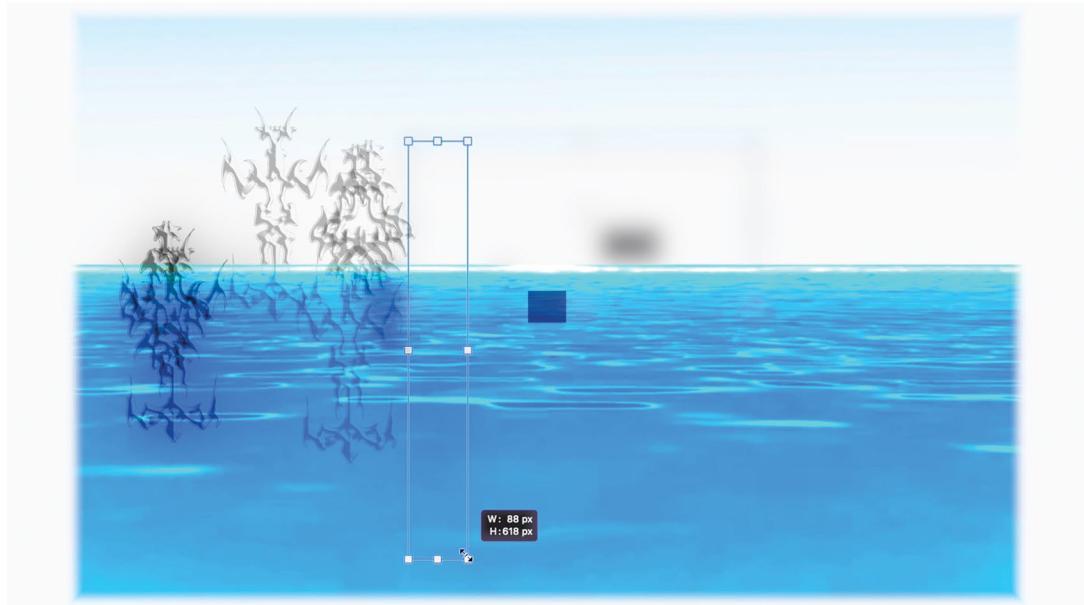




Excerpts From Ms Tilda's Diary, 2025



Ruby Bailey



Ocean, 2025



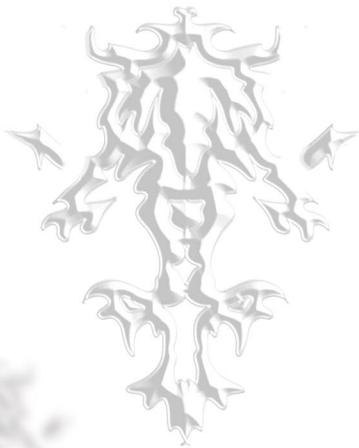
In the future we won't ask these
questions.

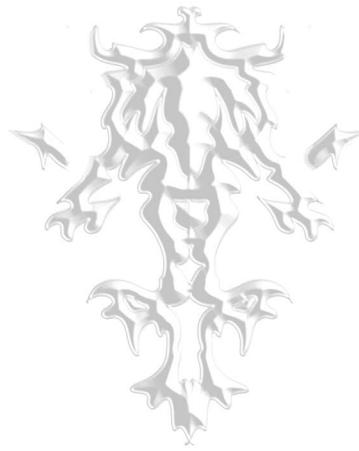
In the future images will exist as
pure accents, flourishes, dingbats
and webdings.

Ruby Bailey

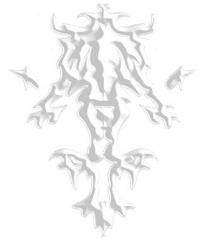


Ocean, 2025





SYNTHETICS
A Night Of Sermons
July 30 2025



synthetics.metalabel.com

Samuel Jordan
Danielle Paterson
Ruby Bailey
Chia Amisola
Zarina Nares
Emmett Palaima
Ruby Justice Thelot
Danielle Gadus

*curated by Danielle Paterson and Ruby Bailey
catalogue zine by Ruby Bailey*