

A Global Lens:

Examining AI Gender Construction in Fiction and Technology through World Cinema

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Abstract

In this paper, we will examine the specific qualities that distinguish a human from a machine blur, particularly through the force of gender identity and sexual desire; how gender constructs appear in cinema; as well as how these [re]presentations shape the perceptions of film, technology, and society at large –through iconic AI characters like Spike Jonze's *Her*¹, Alex Garland's *Ex Machina*² and Grant Sputore's *I Am Mother*³ that present three distinct cinematic portraits of artificial intelligence by film makers across the world.

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¹ Jonze, S. (Director). (2013). *Her* [Motion picture]. USA.

² Garland, A. (Director). (2014). *Ex Machina* [Motion picture]. United Kingdom.

³ Sputore, G. (Director). (2019). *I Am Mother* [Motion picture]. Australia: Netflix.

About the paper

This work is initially a paper submitted to [UP Film Institute](#) in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the cognate elective in BA Philosophy under Film Studies under [Prof. Nicolas Deocampo](#).

About the author

Lyantoniette Chua is a graduating student at University of the Philippines Diliman, majoring in Philosophy. She is pursuing AI ethics and governance to put her background in the arts (philosophy) and sciences (computer engineering) full circle. Her cognate studies is in film, where she mostly project her creative juices as a scholar of philosophy and technology. Outside of academics, Lyan climb mountains, explore seas, work part-time and volunteer by teaching. Her academic and professional interests include algorithms, law, youth, and international affairs.

Lyan is an executive board member of [AYES International](#), the youngest Working Group member of Mechanism Design for Social Good ([MD4SG](#)) - [Fairness Group](#), a founding member of The distribution and concentration of powers caused by A/IS Committee under IEEE Standards Association - [IEEE Global Ethics Initiative on Autonomous/Intelligent Systems](#), a volunteer-instructor and Red Cross Leadership Awardee from RCY Manila. Lyan is 23 and from the Philippines.