

'Perhaps it's a Stomach Ulcer Due to Repressed Childhood Trauma' (2020) is a digital artwork by Francesca Dobbe that explores the intersection of technology and mental health. The artwork features a looping animation of a character lying in bed while their stomach expands and contracts in a rhythmic pattern. The piece is created using a combination of digital software, 3D modeling, and animation techniques.

The title of the artwork suggests that it is an exploration of the connection between repressed childhood trauma and physical symptoms such as stomach ulcers. The looping animation of the character's expanding and contracting stomach could be seen as a metaphor for the cyclical nature of repressed trauma and the physical manifestations that it can cause.

Other artists exploring similar themes include Eva Papamargariti, who uses digital technologies to explore the relationship between humans and machines, and Katrien De Blauwer, who creates collages that explore the psychology of the human mind.

One aspect of the artwork that stands out to me is the use of color and light. The pulsing rhythm of the stomach is highlighted by a glowing blue light, creating a hypnotic and almost surreal effect. This use of color and light could be further developed to enhance the emotional impact of the piece.

Francesca Dobbe's background in graphic design and illustration is evident in the precise and detailed nature of the animation. This attention to detail, combined with her use of technology, sets her apart from other artists exploring

similar themes.

This artwork has inspired me to think more deeply about the intersection of technology and mental health in my own creative practice. The use of animation and digital software to explore complex emotional and psychological themes is a powerful tool that I will continue to explore in my own work.

'Perhaps it's a Stomach Ulcer Due to Repressed Childhood Trauma' was included in the Bloomberg New Contemporaries 2022 exhibition, which showcases some of the most promising emerging artists from UK art schools. Francesca Dobbe is a recent graduate of the BA Illustration course at Camberwell College of Arts, and in an interview with Bloomberg New Contemporaries, she discusses her process of creating the artwork and her interest in exploring the intersection of technology and mental health.