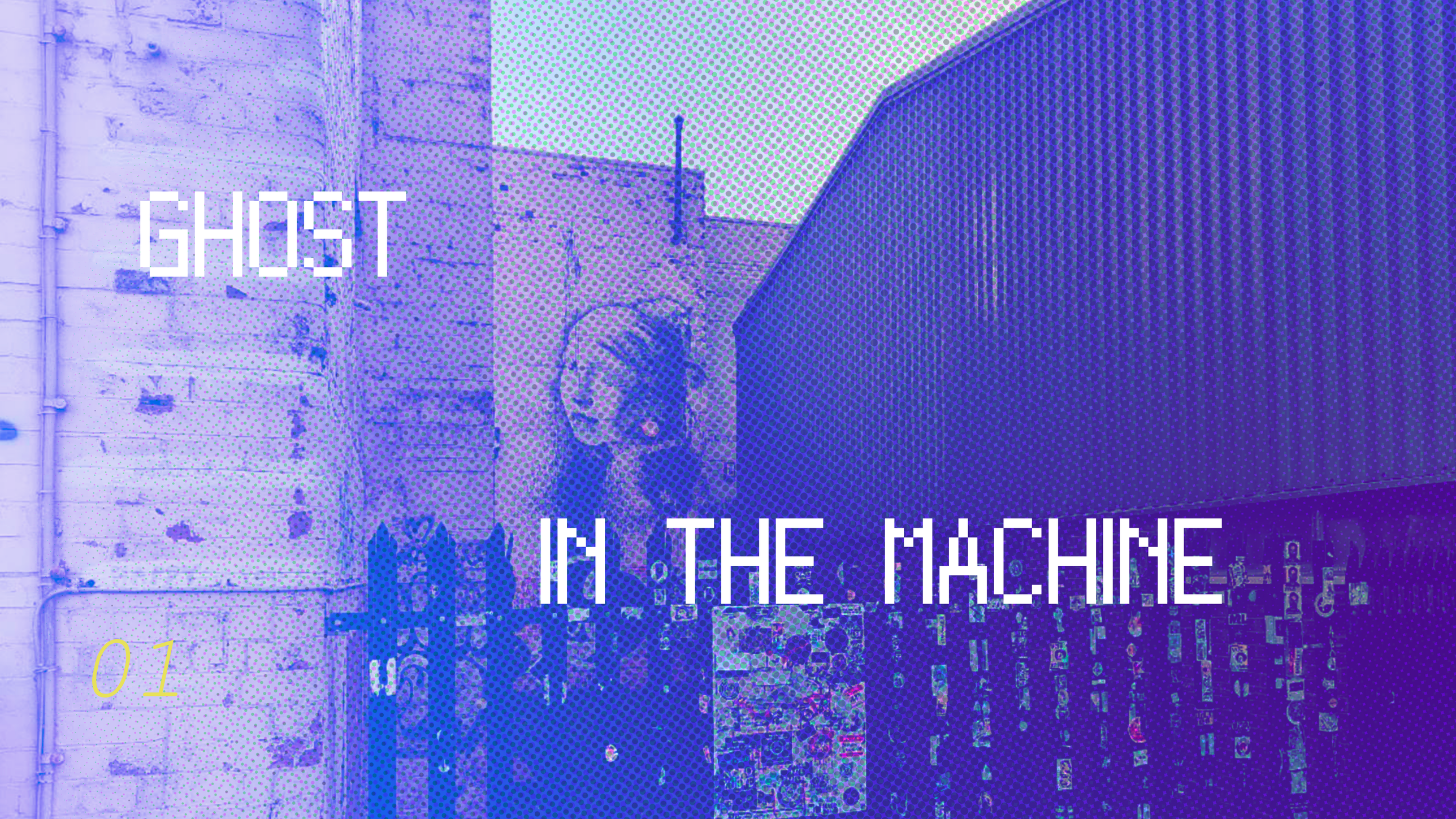
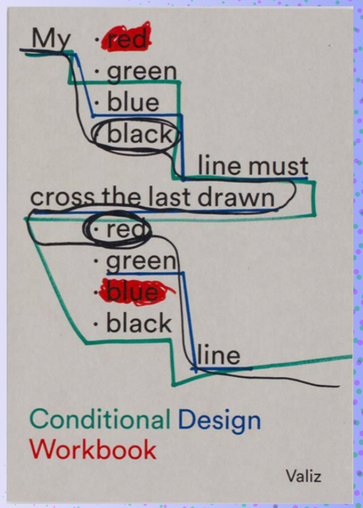


Yiwen Wang
37533525
2026


GHOST
IN THE MACHINE
01

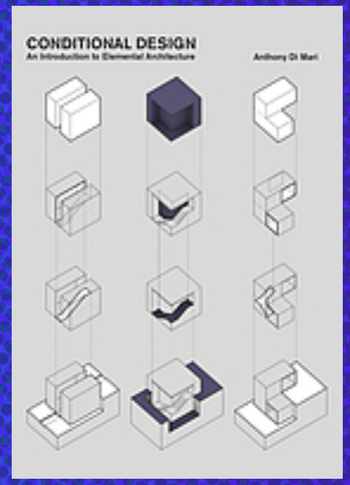
RESEARCH



CONDITIONAL DESIGN WORKBOOK

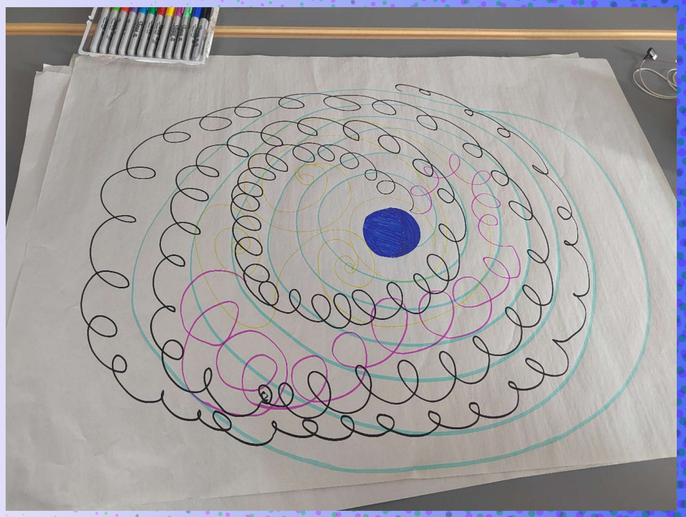
This is a book that teaches us how to undertake conditional desi9n. It 9uides teams in usin9 conditions to define the aPProach of their own desi9ns. Usin9 methods such as sketchin9, teams collaboratively Produce Posters within defined constraints. By transformin9 desi9n conditions into a form of desi9n itself, the Process allows for effortless documentation of the desi9n Journey.

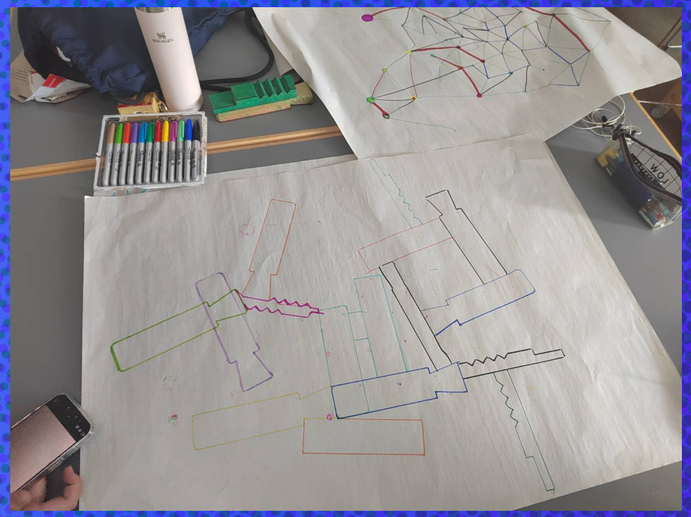
CONDITIONAL DESIGN : AN INTRODUCTION TO ELEMENTAL ARCHITECTURE

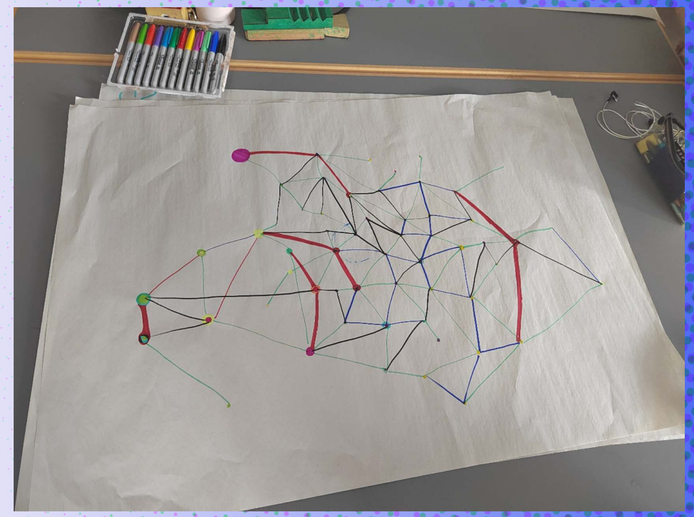


Conditional desi9n is the se9uel to OPerative Desi9n. This book will further exPlore the oPerative in a more detailed, intentional, and PerhaPs functional manner. SPatially, the conditional is the result of the oPerative. It is not a blind result however. Both terms work to9ether to satisfy a formal maniPulation throu9h a set of oPPortunities for elements such as connections and aPertures.

VISUAL EXPERIMENT



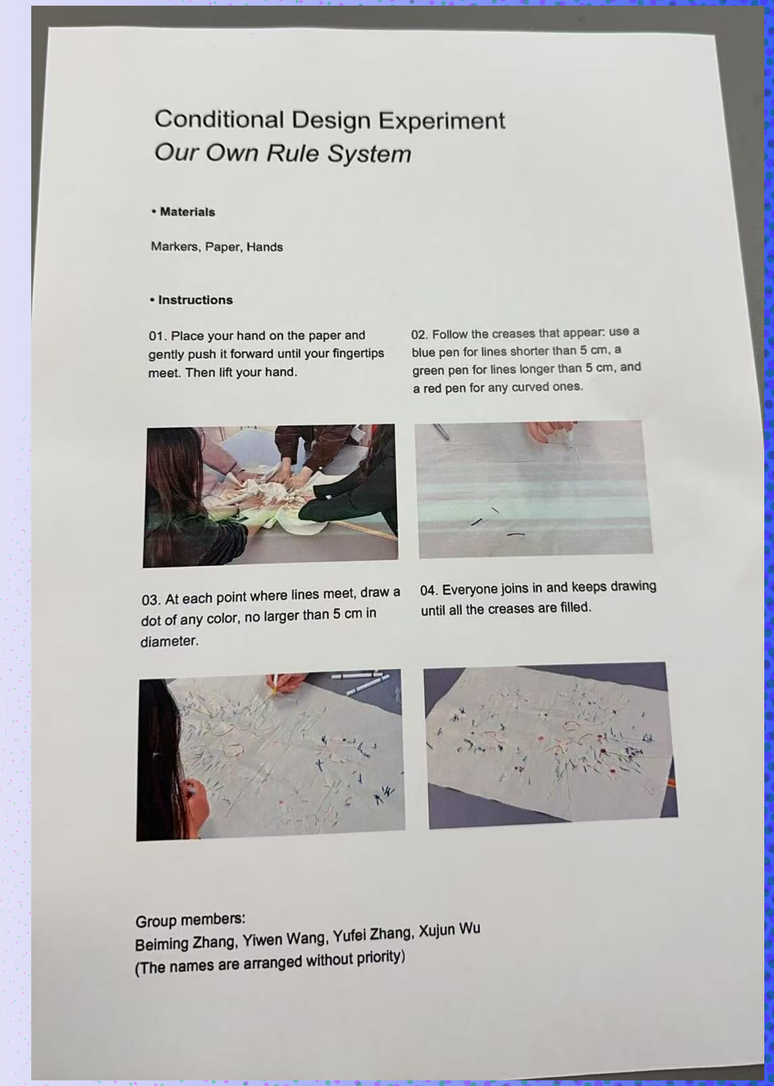






In our class, we desi9ned three Posters by followin9 the manual. We found that other 9rouPs understood the instructions differently, even thou9h we had the same rules. Because of this, their Posters were very different from ours. For the last Poster, we were free to choose a theme. We chose cats. We only drew cats and added a stackin9 9ame as conditional.
These cat-themed rules were devised by myself, and the 9rouP members have been haPPily Paintin9 alon9 with them.

TEAM WORK



Conditional Design Experiment
Our Own Rule System

• **Materials**

Markers, Paper, Hands

• **Instructions**

01. Place your hand on the paper and gently push it forward until your fingertips meet. Then lift your hand.

02. Follow the creases that appear: use a blue pen for lines shorter than 5 cm, a green pen for lines longer than 5 cm, and a red pen for any curved ones.

03. At each point where lines meet, draw a dot of any color, no larger than 5 cm in diameter.

04. Everyone joins in and keeps drawing until all the creases are filled.

Group members:
Beiming Zhang, Yiwen Wang, Yufei Zhang, Xujun Wu
(The names are arranged without priority)

First, we created a new set of rules for conditional design. We printed these rules on paper. After that, we shared our rules with other groups. Their task was to design posters, and they had to follow our rules.
The colour distinctions in this rule were devised by me.

TEAM WORK









We took notes about the other groups' work. We wrote about their poster-making process.

TEAM WORK



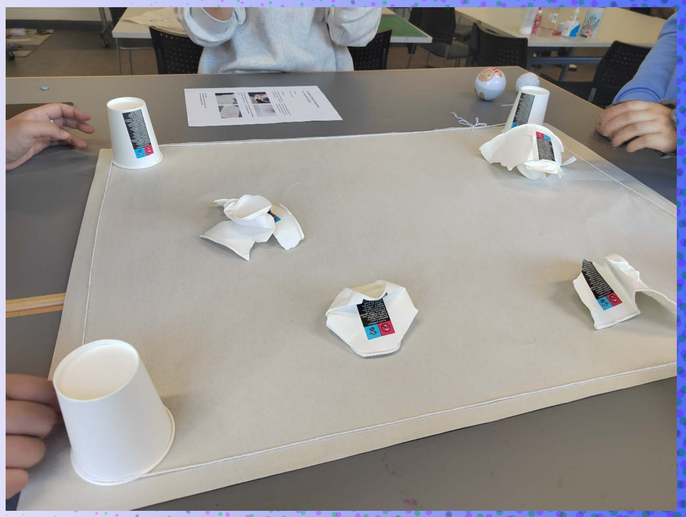






We took notes about the other groups' work. We wrote about their Poster-making process.

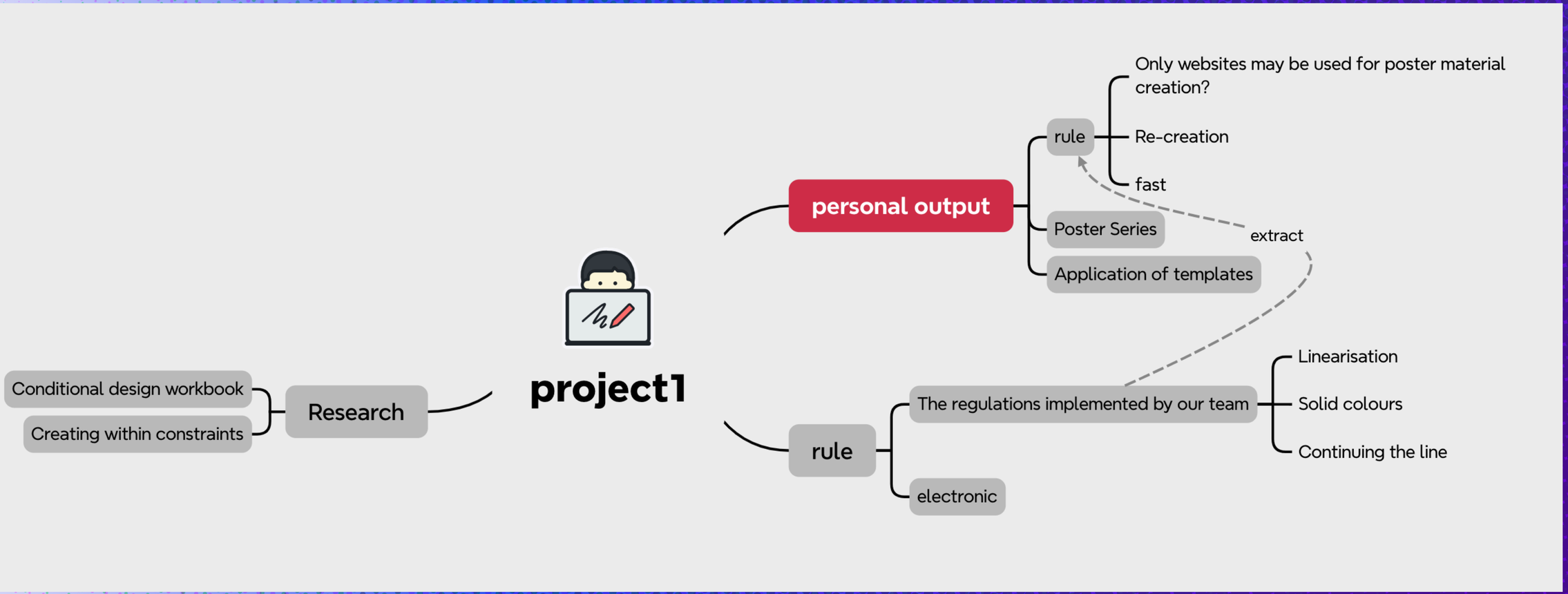
TEAM WORK



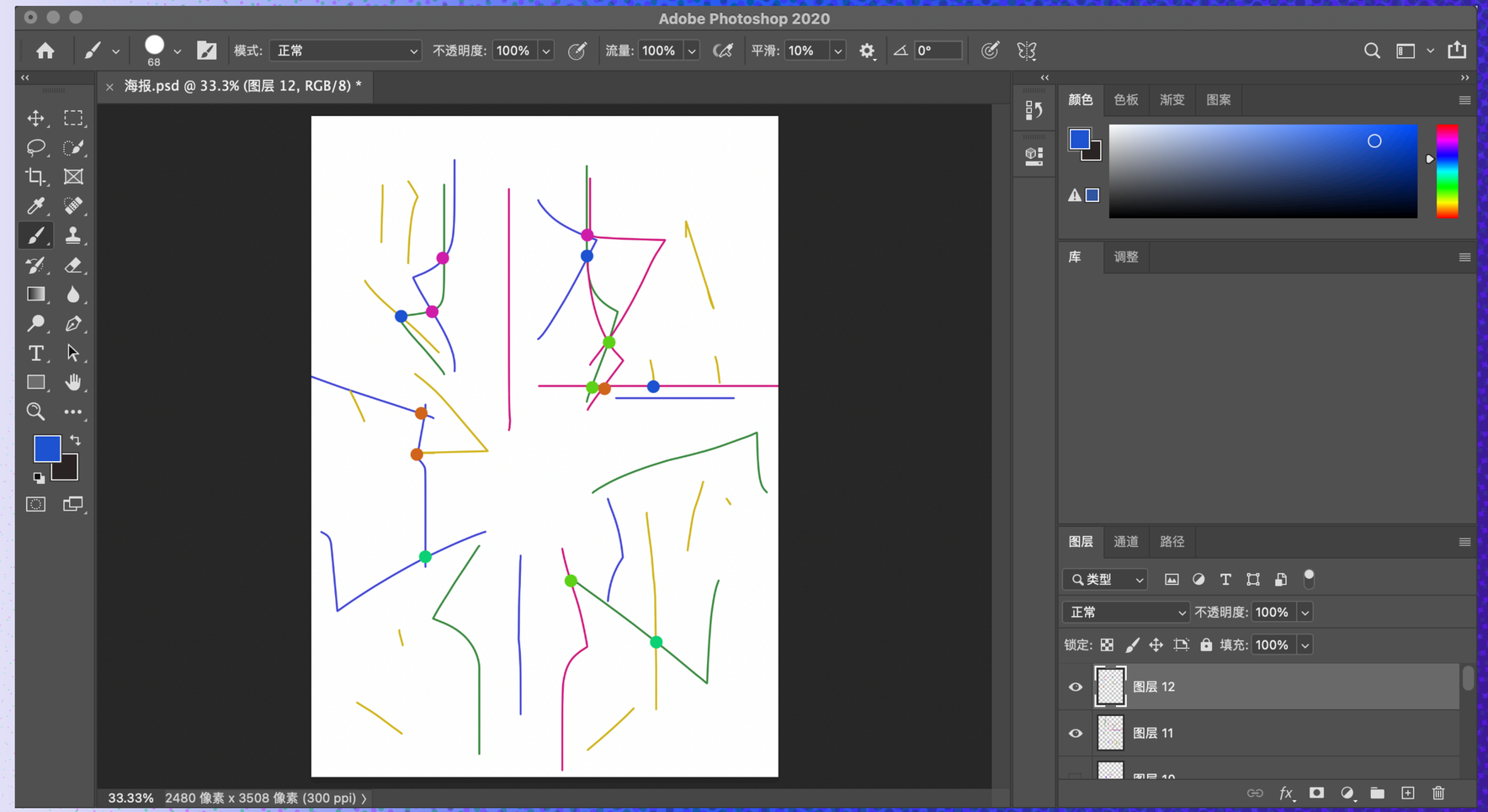


We tried the 'Conditional Design' rules from another group. We had to follow their instructions to make our Poster.

MIND MAP


project1
Research
Conditional design workbook
Creating within constraints
personal output
rule
Only websites may be used for poster material creation?
Re-creation
fast
Poster Series
Application of templates
extract
rule
The regulations implemented by our team
Linearisation
Solid colours
Continuing the line
electronic

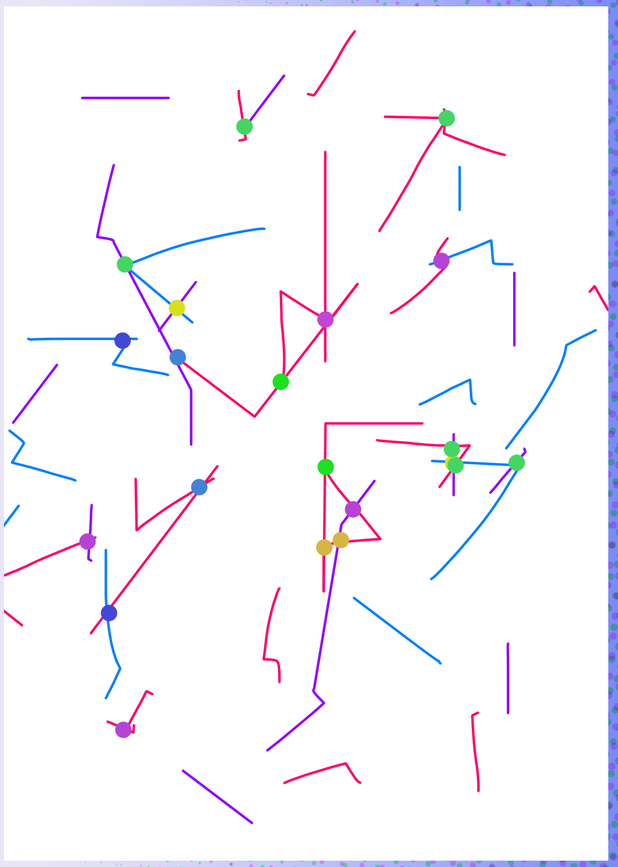
PROCESS

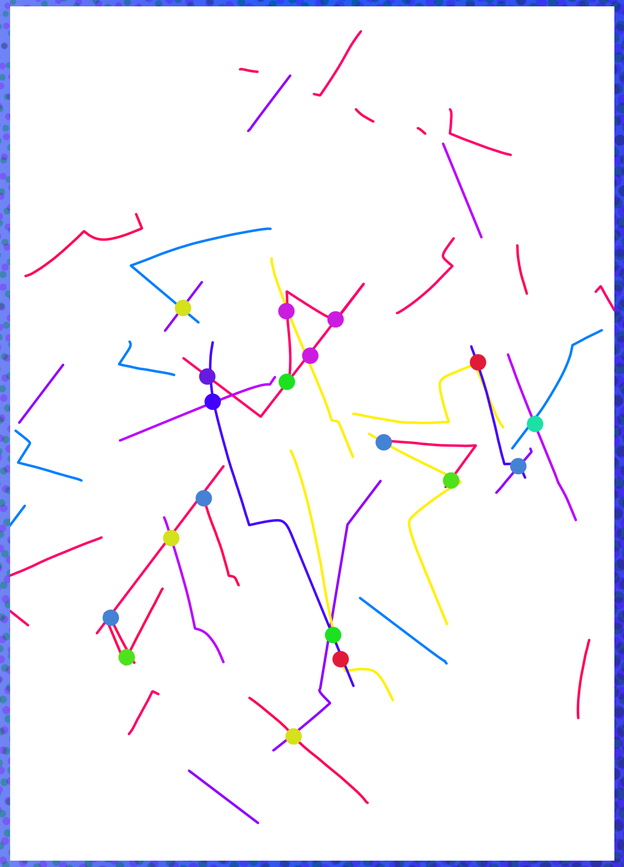


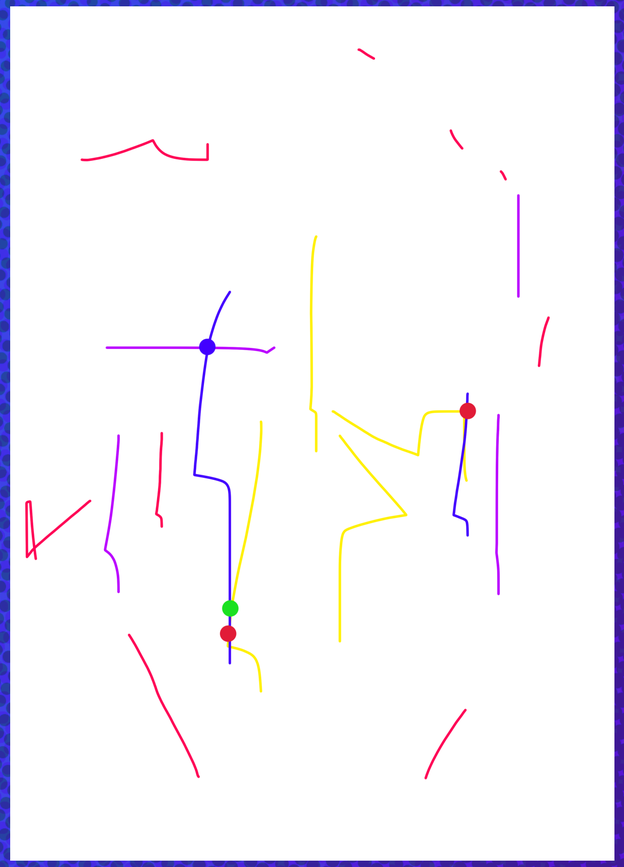
Utilised PhotoshoP software and temPlate websites.

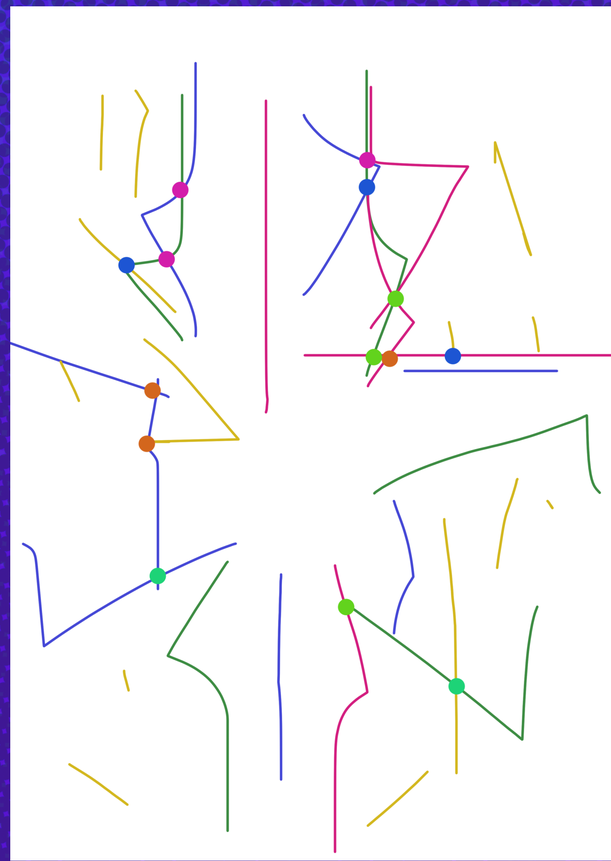
URL: https://www.minimalmockuPs.com/

POSTER/DIGITAL DESIGN









I desi9ned a series of Posters based on the collaborative work Produced by our 9rouP. The Posters, desi9ned accordin9 to our rules, symbolise the connections and communication between PeoPle.

MOCKUP DESIGN

The decorative and artistic qualities of the pieces are showcased within the domestic setting. As both the dining room and living room serve as spaces for social interaction, posters symbolising communication are most fitting for such areas.



MOCKUP DESIGN



The decorative and artistic qualities of the pieces are showcased within the domestic setting. As both the dining room and living room serve as spaces for social interaction, posters symbolising communication are most fitting for such areas.

MOCKUP DESIGN



The Poster's quietude within a Pure white sPace invites contemPlation of one's self.

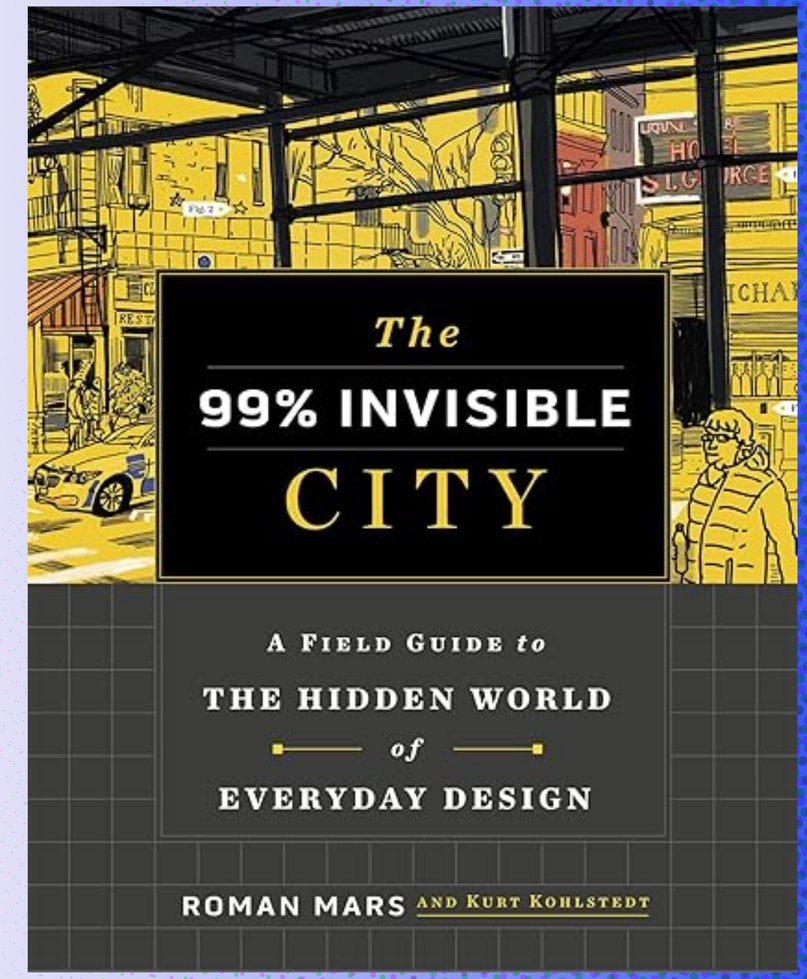


MAKING

THE INVISIBLE VISIBLE

02

RESEARCH



THE 99% INVISIBLE CITY: A FIELD GUIDE TO THE HIDDEN WORLD OF EVERYDAY DESIGN

"Ubi9uitous. Once you start to see them, you'll never understand how you hadn't noticed them before. On any 9iven city street, there are desi9n details scattered everywhere that are meant to es-tablish boundaries or Protect you on an everyday basis and in caSeS of emer9ency. EvenobScure notations created and used by sPecialists contain layers of information written onto the built world that can be read by anyone who knows how to deciPher them."

RESEARCH



DAILY NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

THE TIMES

Thursday November 27 2025 | thetimes.com | No 74869

£3.20 £2.35 to subscribers

Budget 2025 What it means for you and your family

12-page guide

High welfare, high tax

● Reeves announces £30 billion of tax rises ● One in four workers will pay higher rate ● Salaries to have stagnated for 22 years

Steven Swinford Political Editor
Oliver Wright Policy Editor

Rachel Reeves used her budget yesterday to raise taxes to the highest level in history and fund record amounts of benefit spending, hitting workers, savers and businesses.

The chancellor announced £30 billion worth of tax rises over the next five years and said everyone would have to make a "contribution" to ending the "cycle of austerity". The tax burden will rise to 38 per cent of national income, an all-time high.

Reeves announced an array of increases, including a three-year freeze on income tax thresholds. The "stealth tax" means one in four taxpayers, equivalent to 10.6 million people, will be higher or additional-rate taxpayers by 2030. It will raise £82.7 billion for the Treasury and mean that all those in receipt of the full state pension will have to pay income tax for the first time.

As a result Reeves was accused of breaking Labour's manifesto promise not to raise income tax, national insurance or VAT. Since Labour came to power Reeves has increased taxes by £66 billion — more than any government since 1970.

The Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR), the official forecaster, said that the rises would hit living standards and could "constrain economic activity".

It said average weekly earnings, after adjusting for inflation, would be lower by the end of the decade than they were in 2008 at the start of the financial crisis and added that none of the policies announced in the budget would have a "material" impact on economic growth. Reeves has repeatedly said that economic growth is the "No 1 priority".

Other tax rises included a national insurance raid on pension contributions that will hit employers and employees, a new charge on expensive properties and a pay-per-mile tax for electric cars.

The tax landlords pay on rental

Continued on page 2

Rachel Reeves before presenting her budget, the details of which the Office for Budget Responsibility mistakenly released early

AT A GLANCE

Pensions
£47bn tax raid on pension contributions made through salary sacrifice

Rise in tax burden
£30bn
25
20
15
10
5
0
2025-27
2026-28
2030-31

Mansion surcharge
Annual surcharge on homes worth more than £2m from April 2028

Fiscal drag
Share of adults paying 40% tax
20%
15
10
5
0
- Freeze extended
- If freeze ended 2028
- No freeze
1990-91
00-01
10-11
20-21
29-30
Higher rate NAW does not include Intermediate rate in Scotland Source: IFS

Unlock *expert* insights with one-to-one support
Make more informed investment decisions today
J.P.Morgan
PERSONAL INVESTING
Invest with *clarity*
Scan to download the app.

CONDUCT FIELD RESEARCH IN PERSON

I went to check the newsPapers in the UK and took one coPy home to study. This helPs me learn more about newsPaPer desi9n. It is an exPerience I could hardly have in the country where I lived before. I was surPrised to find that newsPaPers here are free to 9et. In Shan9hai, China, there used to be many newsPaPer stands. But now, they are all removed because news has become di9ital. If PeoPle want a Physical newsPaPer, they have to order it.

RESEARCH















I PhotoGraPhed a Great deal of obScure Graffiti. This is QuiTe rare in my hometown.

RESEARCH









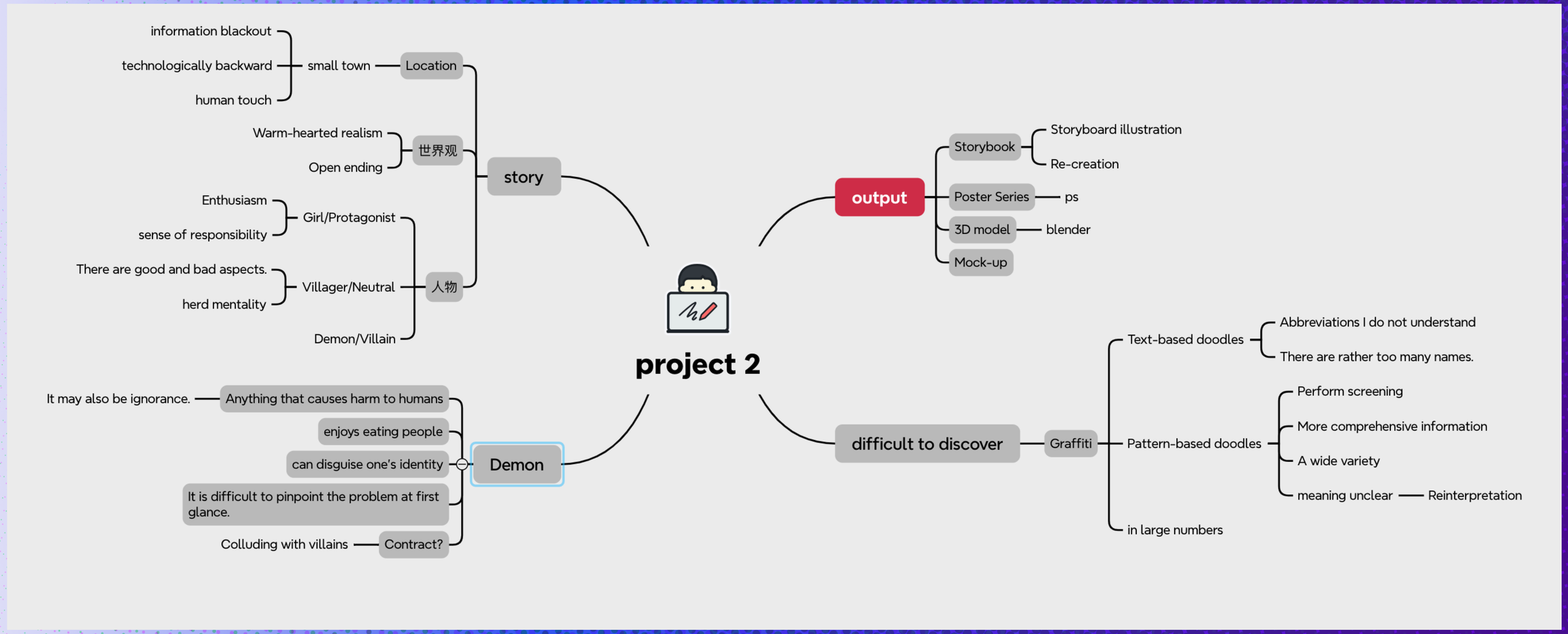






I PhotoGraPhed a Great deal of obScure Graffiti. This is QuiTe rare in my hometown.

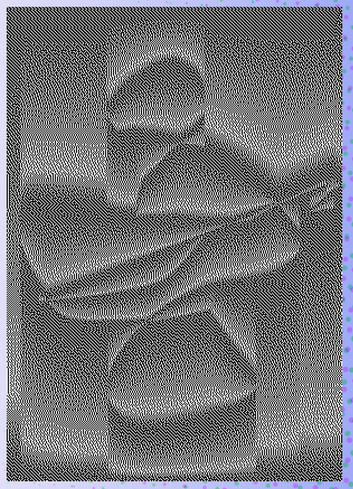
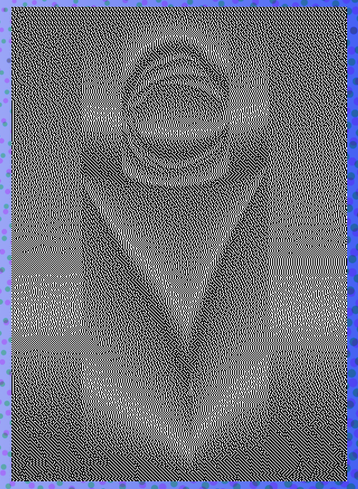
MIND MAP

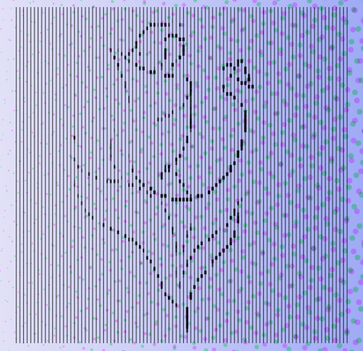
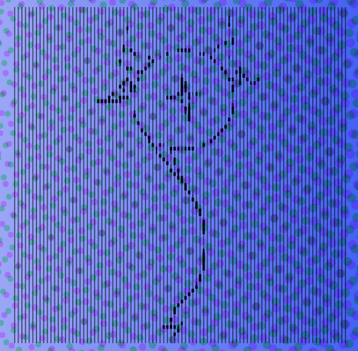

project 2
story
Location
small town
information blackout
technologically backward
human touch
世界观
Warm-hearted realism
Open ending
人物
Girl/Protagonist
Enthusiasm
sense of responsibility
Villager/Neutral
There are good and bad aspects.
herd mentality
Demon/Villain
Demon
It may also be ignorance.
Anything that causes harm to humans
enjoys eating people
can disguise one's identity
It is difficult to pinpoint the problem at first glance.
Colluding with villains
Contract?
output
Storybook
Storyboard illustration
Re-creation
Poster Series
ps
3D model
blender
Mock-up
difficult to discover
Graffiti
Text-based doodles
Abbreviations I do not understand
There are rather too many names.
Pattern-based doodles
Perform screening
More comprehensive information
A wide variety
meaning unclear
Reinterpretation
in large numbers

SKETCH



VISUAL EXPERIMENT

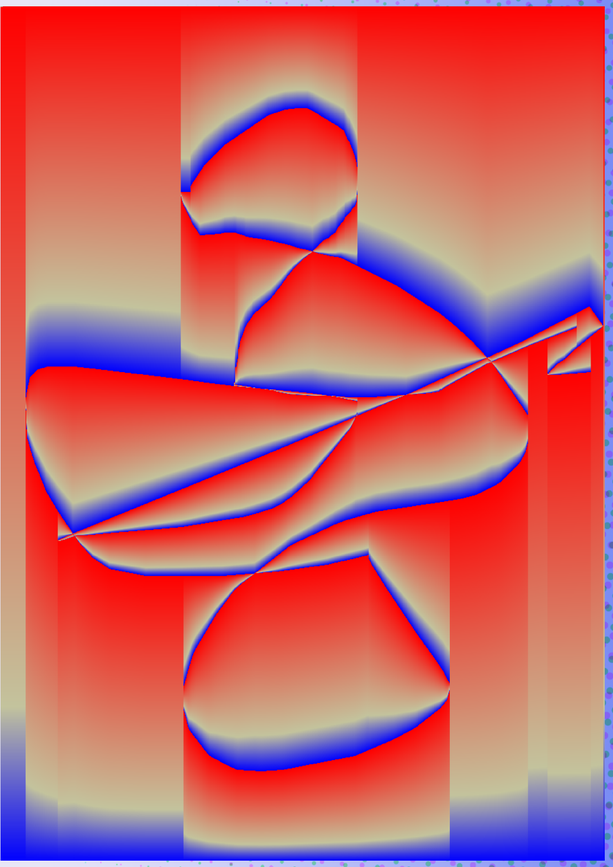



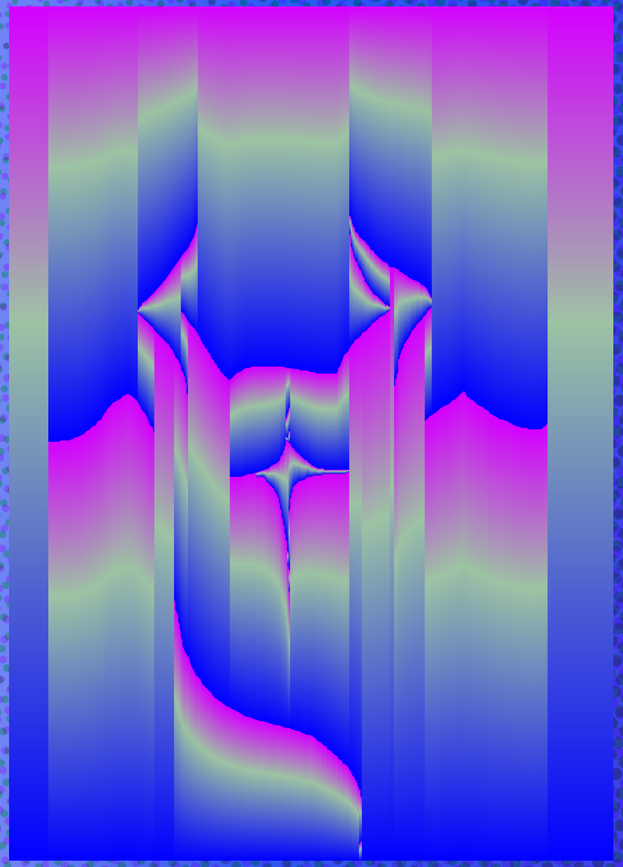




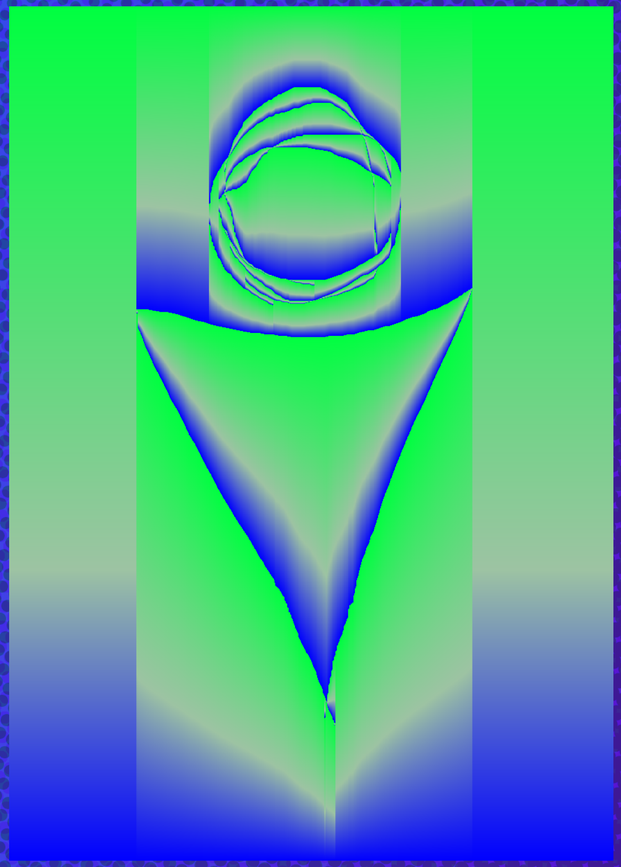


The Poster's attemPt to emPloy an acid-inSPired aeSthetic fails to harmoniSe with the claSSical fairy-tale Style.

VISUAL EXPERIMENT







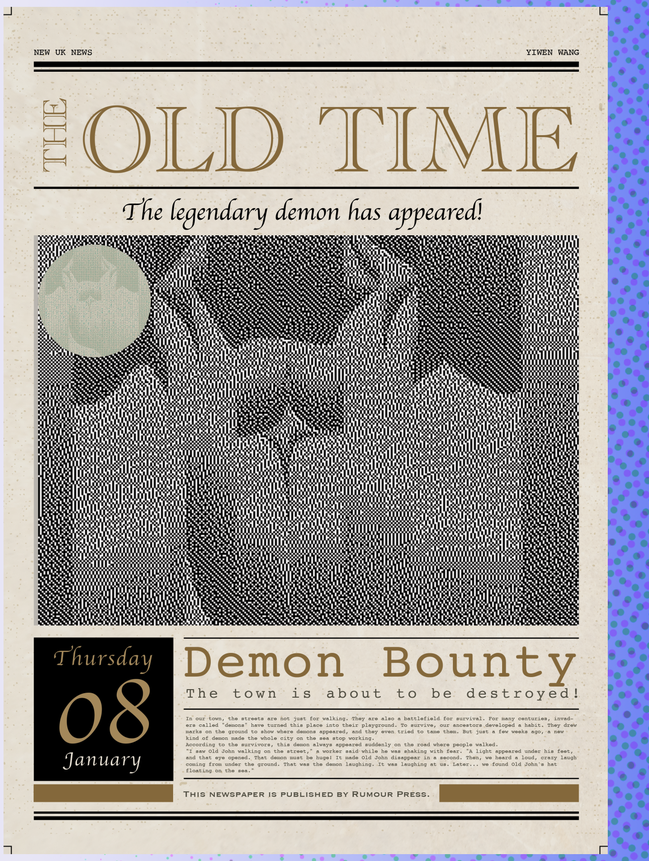


The Poster's attemPt to emPloy an acid-insPired aesthetic fails to harmonise with the classical fairy-tale style.

STORY

Long long ago, a group of demons come to the human world. They are very bad and they kill people just for fun. There are some people live in a city on the sea. When demons appear, they make marks and pictures, and try to catch them.
Slowly, the road has many marks. They find out that on full moon night, demons come out more easily and they are not careful. But this demon is different. It opens eyes and the eye is very huge, look like a star. This eye appears on the road where people walk. It moves people suddenly and pulls them into the ground, and finally into the sea. People are screaming, but the demon is laughing.
A young girl stands up and says: "We can tie a rope on our body! Other people can help hold the rope... or tie it somewhere! So in full moon night, it cannot pull us from the road to the sea." People think it is a good idea, but who wants to die to do this? No one dares to go out at night.
So, the girl has to go by herself. Surprisingly, the girl used a jar to catch the demon. Actually, its body is only as big as the eye. The demon is gone in the end, maybe killed. But the girl died because of the witch hunt. She was blamed wrongly. Finally, we can only see a world without demons, and the traces they left in the world.

NEWSPAPER DESIGN


NEW UK NEWS YIWEN WANG

THE OLD TIME

The legendary demon has appeared!

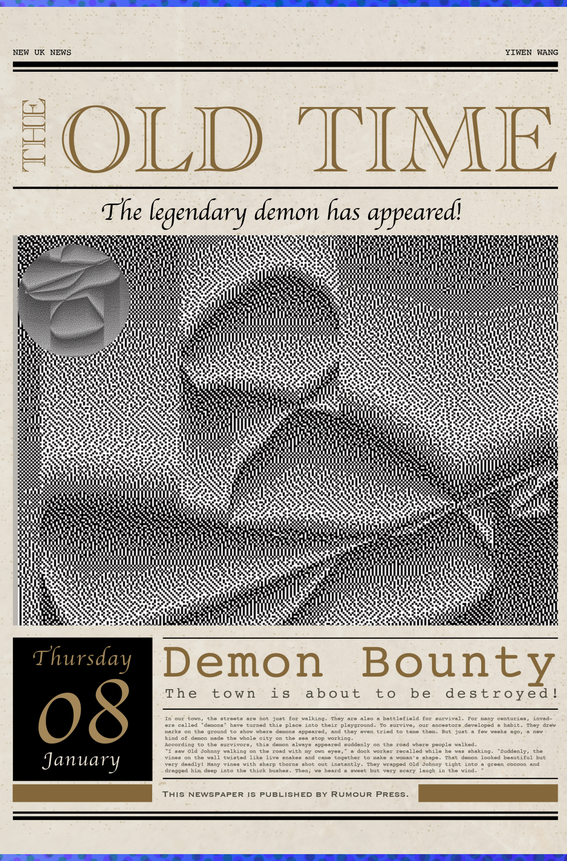
Thursday 08 January

Demon Bounty

The town is about to be destroyed!

In our town, the streets are not just for walking. They are also a battlefield for survival. For many centuries, invaders called 'demons' have turned this place into their playground. To survive, our ancestors developed a habit. They drew marks on the ground to show where demons appeared, and they even tried to tame them. But just a few weeks ago, a new kind of demon made the whole city on the sea stop working.
According to the survivors, this demon always appeared suddenly on the road where people walked.
"I saw Old John walking on the street," a worker said while he was shaking with fear. "A light appeared under his feet, and that eye opened. That demon must be huge! It made Old John disappear in a second. Then, we heard a loud, crazy laugh coming from under the ground. That was the demon laughing. It was laughing at us. Later... we found Old John's hat floating on the sea.

THIS NEWSPAPER IS PUBLISHED BY RUMOUR PRESS.


NEW UK NEWS YIWEN WANG

THE OLD TIME

The legendary demon has appeared!

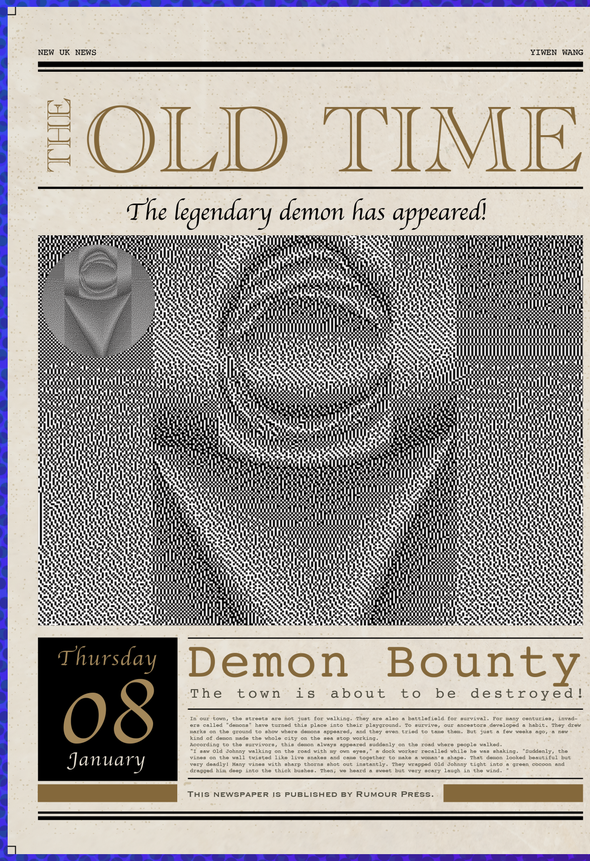
Thursday 08 January

Demon Bounty

The town is about to be destroyed!

In our town, the streets are not just for walking. They are also a battlefield for survival. For many centuries, invaders called 'demons' have turned this place into their playground. To survive, our ancestors developed a habit. They drew marks on the ground to show where demons appeared, and they even tried to tame them. But just a few weeks ago, a new kind of demon made the whole city on the sea stop working.
According to the survivors, this demon always appeared suddenly on the road where people walked.
"I saw Old Johnny walking on the road with my own eyes," a dock worker recalled while he was shaking. "Suddenly, the vines on the wall twisted like live snakes and came together to make a woman's shape. That demon looked beautiful but very deadly! Many vines with sharp thorns shot out instantly. They wrapped Old Johnny tight into a green cocoon and dragged him deep into the thick bushes. Then, we heard a sweet but very scary laugh in the wind."

THIS NEWSPAPER IS PUBLISHED BY RUMOUR PRESS.


NEW UK NEWS YIWEN WANG

THE OLD TIME

The legendary demon has appeared!

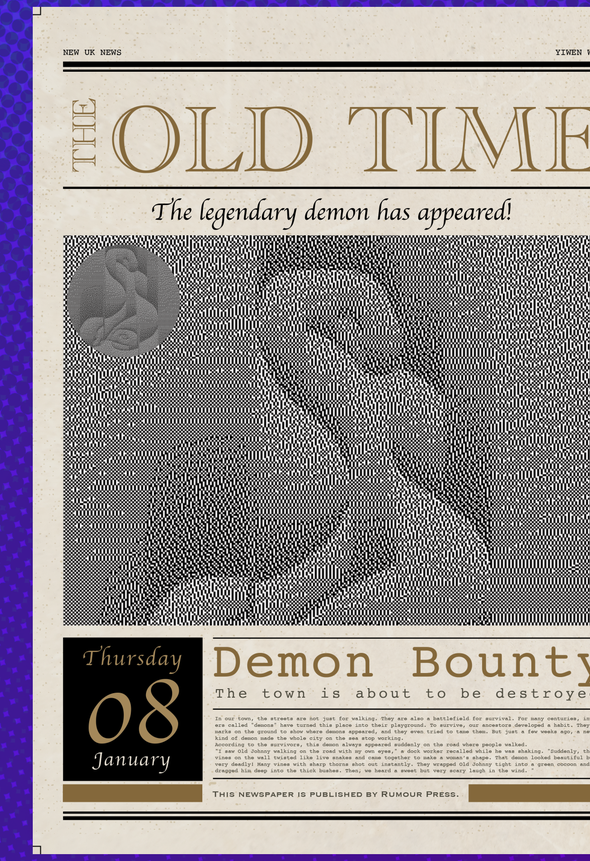
Thursday 08 January

Demon Bounty

The town is about to be destroyed!

In our town, the streets are not just for walking. They are also a battlefield for survival. For many centuries, invaders called 'demons' have turned this place into their playground. To survive, our ancestors developed a habit. They drew marks on the ground to show where demons appeared, and they even tried to tame them. But just a few weeks ago, a new kind of demon made the whole city on the sea stop working.
According to the survivors, this demon always appeared suddenly on the road where people walked.
"I saw Old Johnny walking on the road with my own eyes," a dock worker recalled while he was shaking. "Suddenly, the vines on the wall twisted like live snakes and came together to make a woman's shape. That demon looked beautiful but very deadly! Many vines with sharp thorns shot out instantly. They wrapped Old Johnny tight into a green cocoon and dragged him deep into the thick bushes. Then, we heard a sweet but very scary laugh in the wind."

THIS NEWSPAPER IS PUBLISHED BY RUMOUR PRESS.


NEW UK NEWS YIWEN WANG

THE OLD TIME

The legendary demon has appeared!

Thursday 08 January

Demon Bounty

The town is about to be destroyed!

In our town, the streets are not just for walking. They are also a battlefield for survival. For many centuries, invaders called 'demons' have turned this place into their playground. To survive, our ancestors developed a habit. They drew marks on the ground to show where demons appeared, and they even tried to tame them. But just a few weeks ago, a new kind of demon made the whole city on the sea stop working.
According to the survivors, this demon always appeared suddenly on the road where people walked.
"I saw Old Johnny walking on the road with my own eyes," a dock worker recalled while he was shaking. "Suddenly, the vines on the wall twisted like live snakes and came together to make a woman's shape. That demon looked beautiful but very deadly! Many vines with sharp thorns shot out instantly. They wrapped Old Johnny tight into a green cocoon and dragged him deep into the thick bushes. Then, we heard a sweet but very scary laugh in the wind."

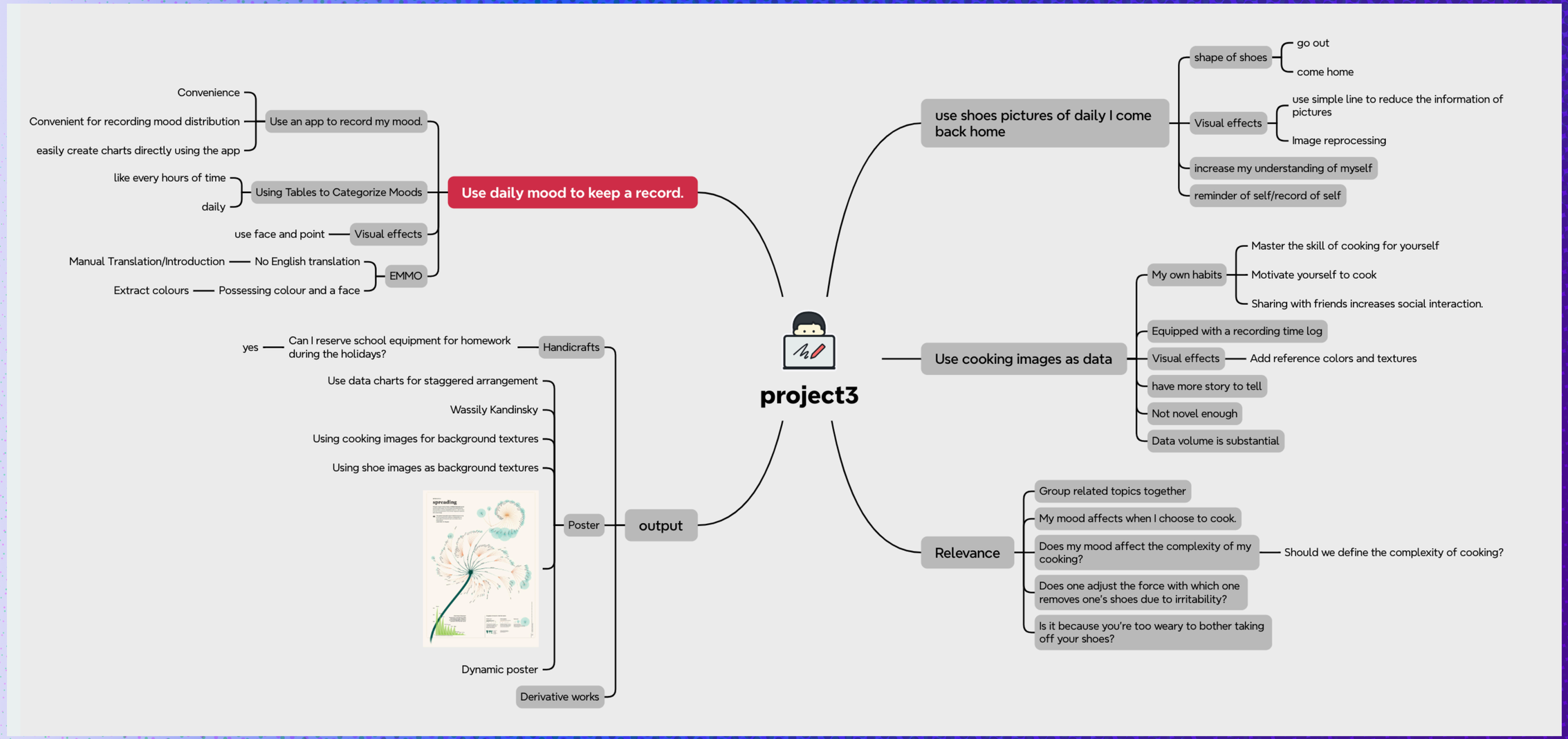
THIS NEWSPAPER IS PUBLISHED BY RUMOUR PRESS.

Desi9ned various demons and Produced news rePorts The chief demon was marked with a distinctive colour.

THE QUANTITATIVE SELF

03

MIND MAP


project3
Use daily mood to keep a record.
Use an app to record my mood.
Convenience
Convenient for recording mood distribution
easily create charts directly using the app
Using Tables to Categorize Moods
like every hours of time
daily
Visual effects
use face and point
EMMO
No English translation
Manual Translation/Introduction
Possessing colour and a face
Extract colours
output
Handicrafts
Can I reserve school equipment for homework during the holidays?
yes
Poster
Use data charts for staggered arrangement
Wassily Kandinsky
Using cooking images for background textures
Using shoe images as background textures
Dynamic poster
Derivative works
use shoes pictures of daily I come back home
shape of shoes
go out
come home
Visual effects
use simple line to reduce the information of pictures
Image reprocessing
increase my understanding of myself
reminder of self/record of self
Use cooking images as data
My own habits
Master the skill of cooking for yourself
Motivate yourself to cook
Sharing with friends increases social interaction.
Equipped with a recording time log
Visual effects
Add reference colors and textures
have more story to tell
Not novel enough
Data volume is substantial
Relevance
Group related topics together
My mood affects when I choose to cook.
Does my mood affect the complexity of my cooking?
Should we define the complexity of cooking?
Does one adjust the force with which one removes one's shoes due to irritability?
Is it because you're too weary to bother taking off your shoes?

DATA COLLECTION





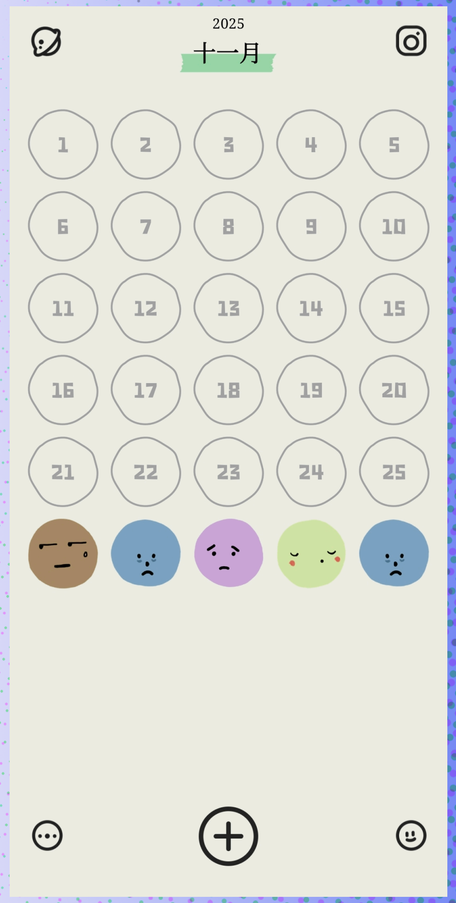




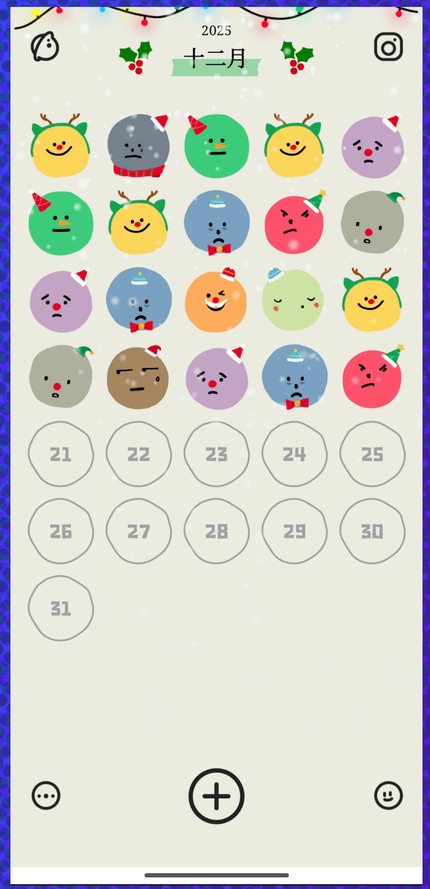


I PhotoGraPhed my Shoes rouGhly 12 times when leavinG or returninG home. As I didn't Go out on many days, this likely amounts to about a month's worth of records.

DATA COLLECTION



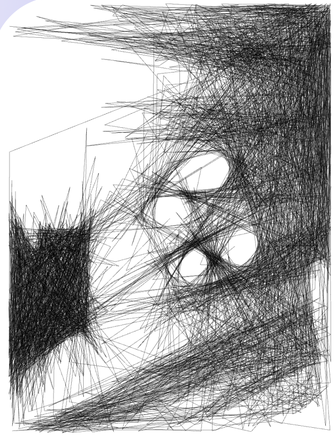
The image on the left represents November's data. I previously requested an English version from the website, but to date this has not been successful. Consequently, I can only use a screenshot from the Chinese version for November. The core data is displayed through emoticons representing moods, which are colourful in nature. I shall identify the corresponding dates in the records to create my work.

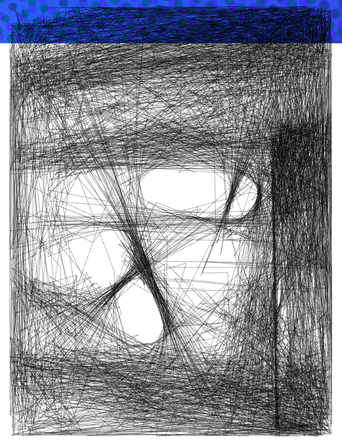
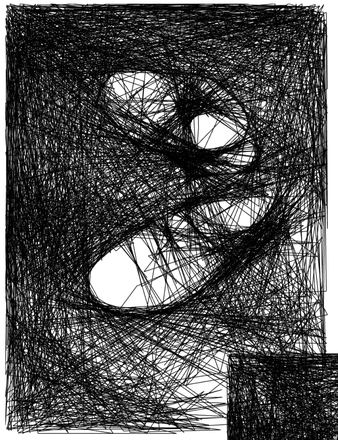
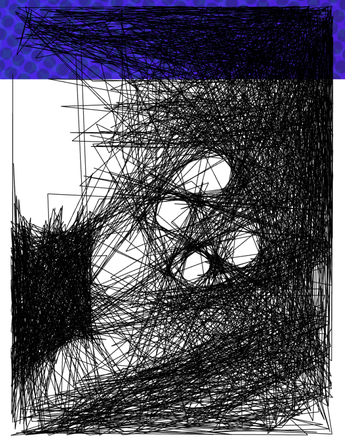
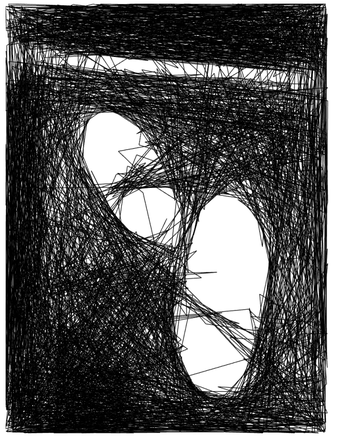
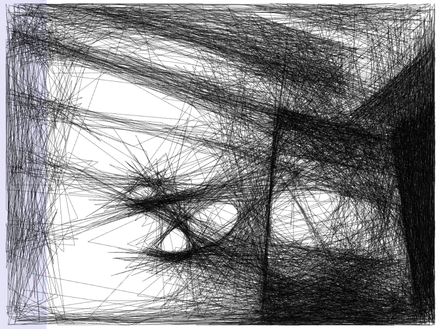
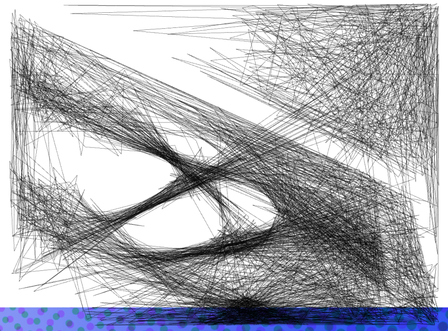
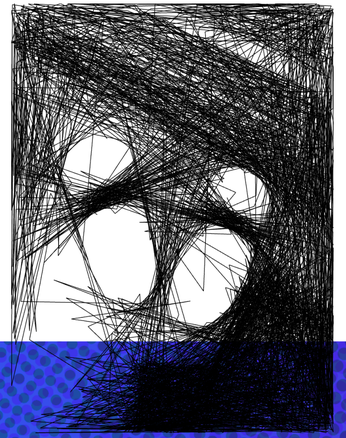
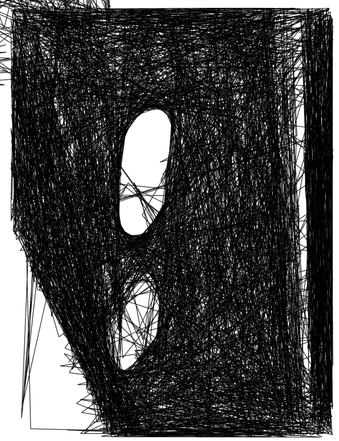
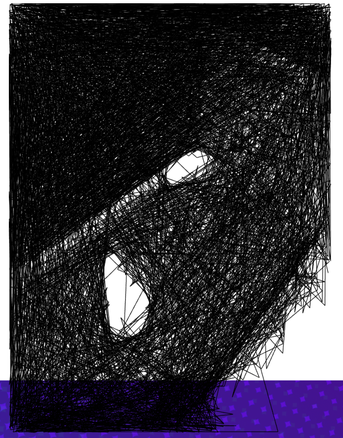


Similarly, the image on the left represents data from December. This app, called EMMO, adds decorative elements to the emoticons at different times of the month. This does not affect our data collection.

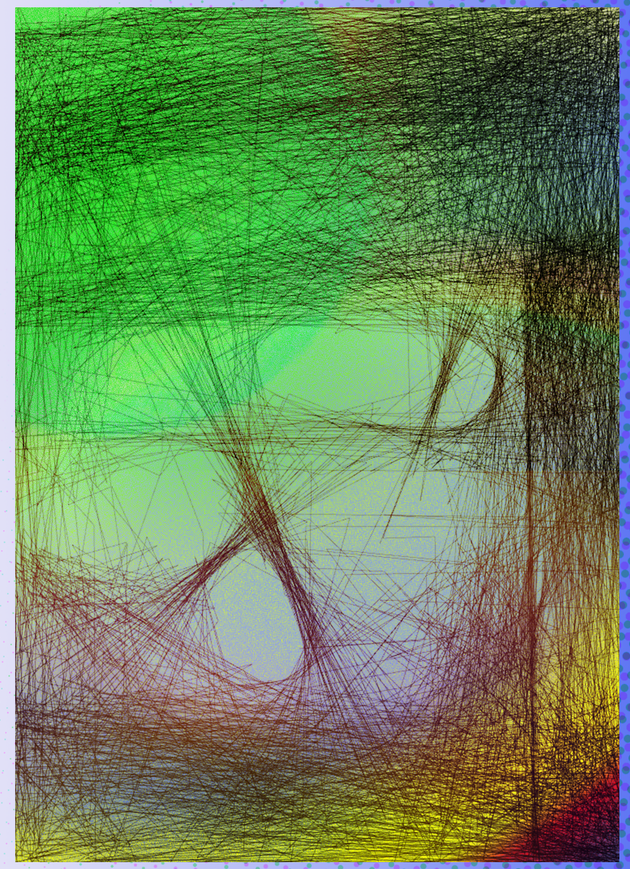
VISUAL EXPERIMENT

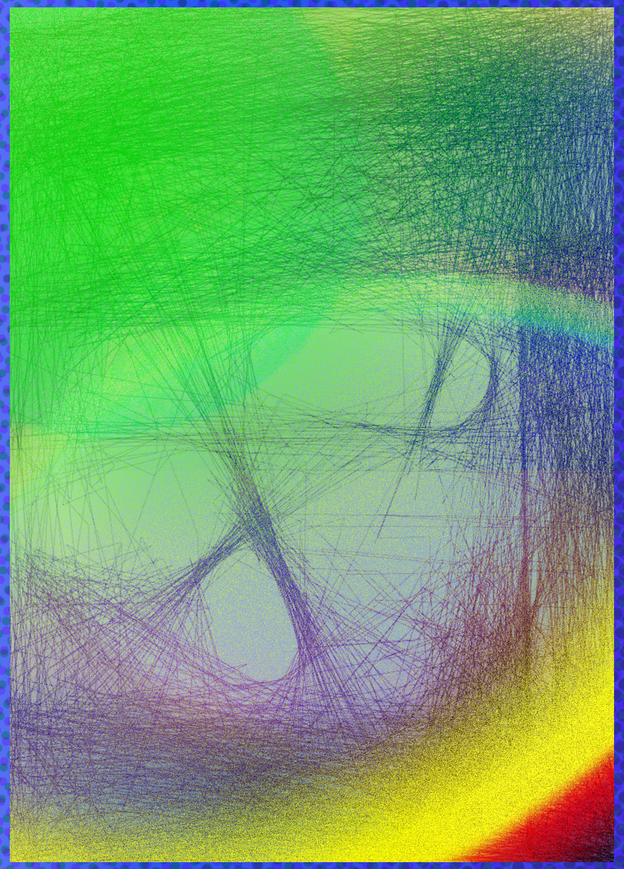
Restricting the use of lines to convey the sensation of data while simultaneously constructing the form of the shoe.



PROCESS

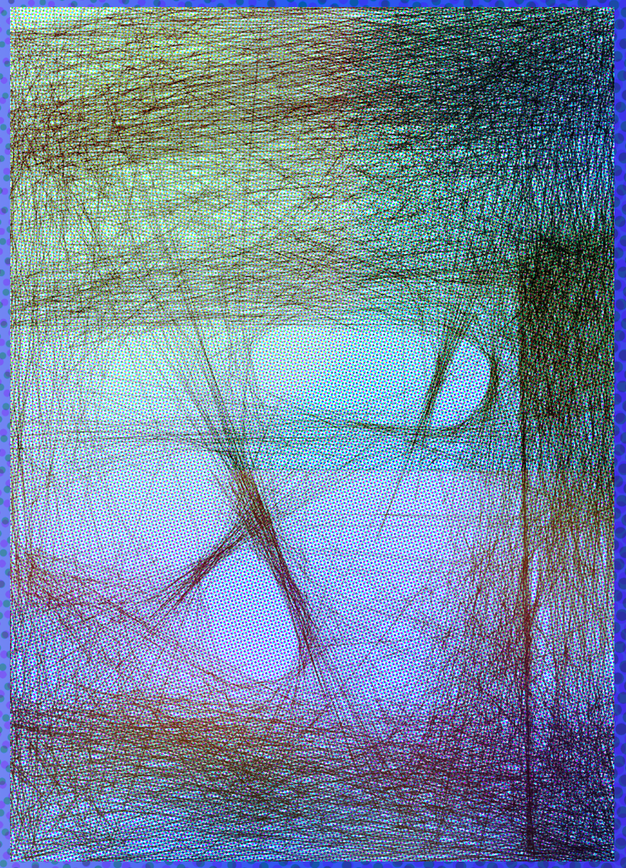




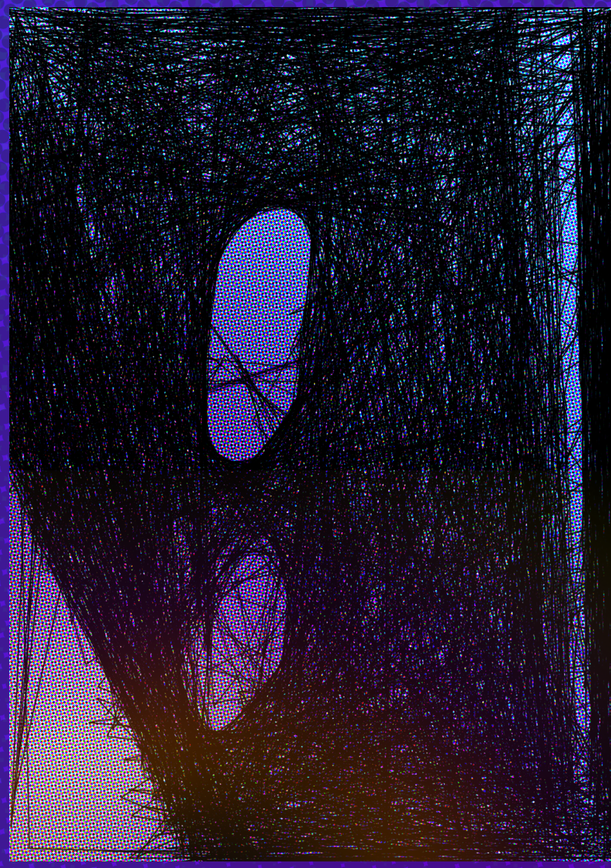
During Processing, it was discovered that the image was excessively dirty, so adjustments were made.

POSTER/DIGITAL DESIGN









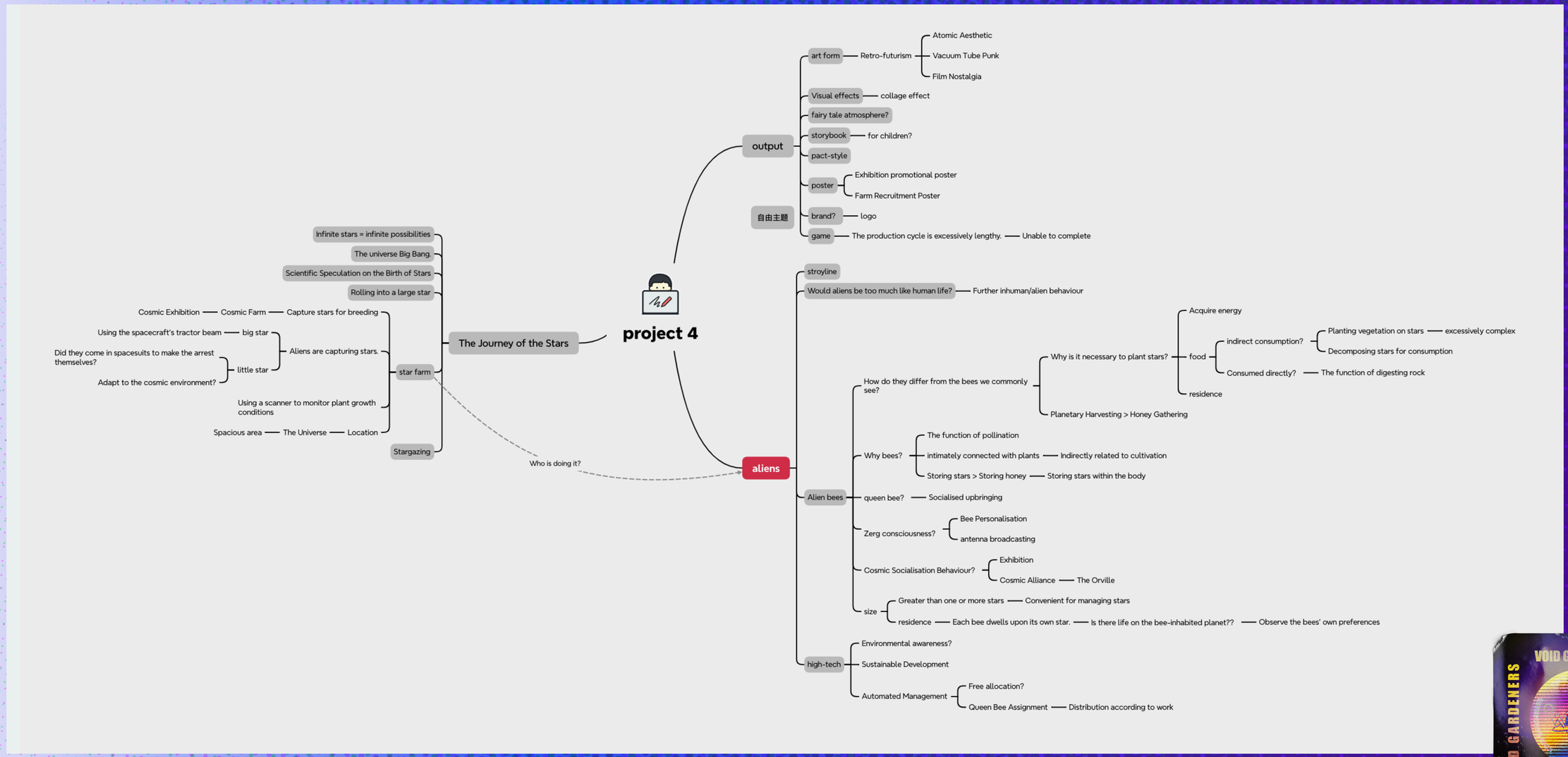
Linkin9 the Poster's sPecial effects to emotional states: joy, contentment, numbness, and melancholy. These emotions Pro9ress in intensity. Data reveals that at the two extremes of my mood, shoes tend to 9o flyin9.



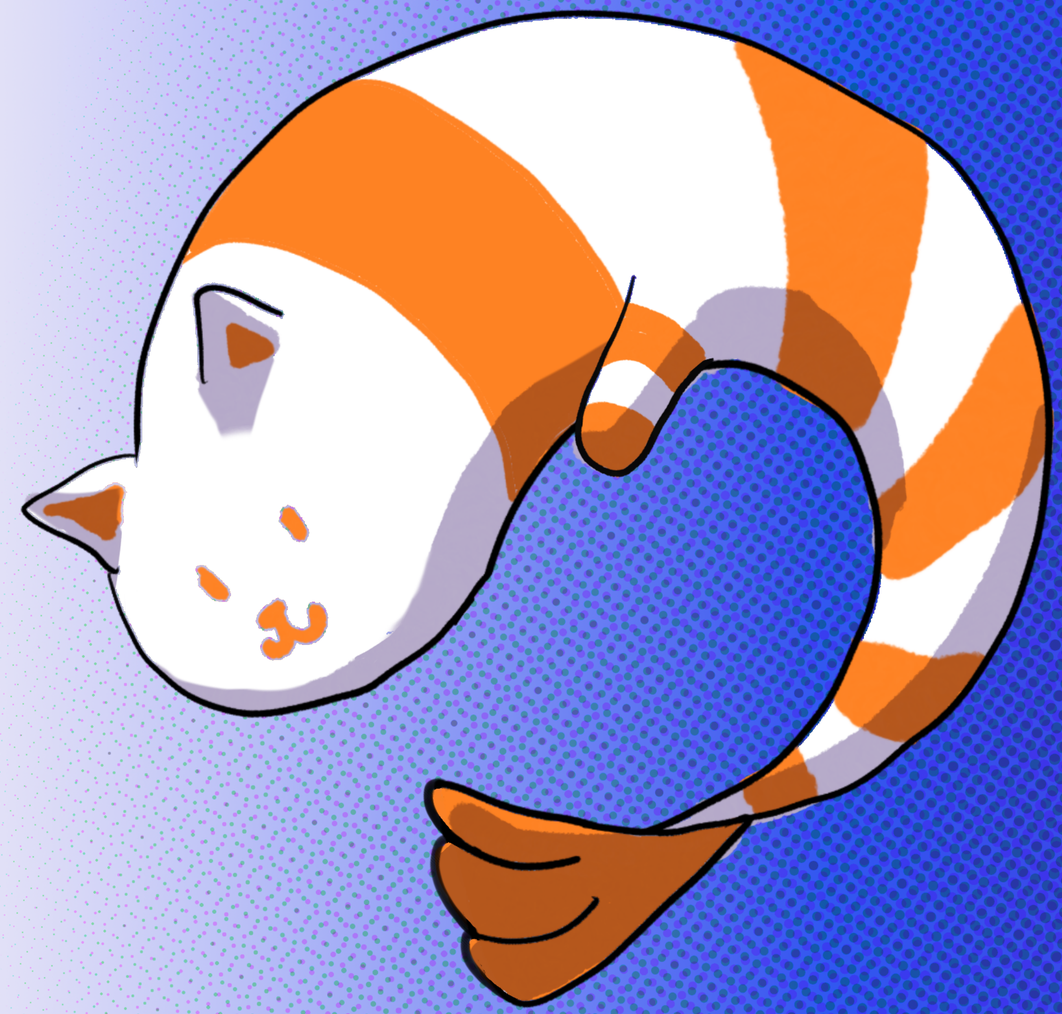
INTERACTIONS WITH NON-HUMANS

04

MIND MAP

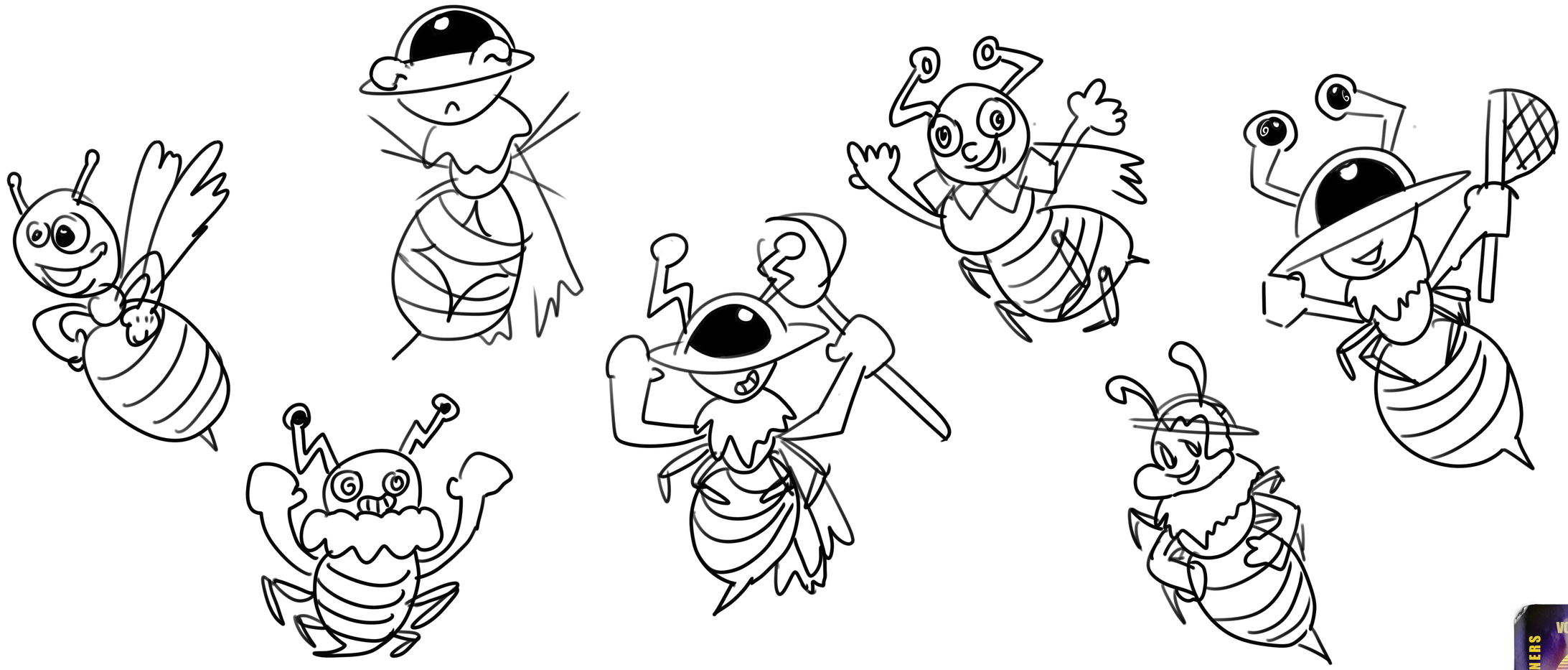

project 4
output
art form
Retro-futurism
Atomic Aesthetic
Vacuum Tube Punk
Film Nostalgia
Visual effects
collage effect
fairy tale atmosphere?
storybook
for children?
pact-style
poster
Exhibition promotional poster
Farm Recruitment Poster
自由主题
brand?
logo
game
The production cycle is excessively lengthy.
Unable to complete
The Journey of the Stars
Infinite stars = infinite possibilities
The universe Big Bang.
Scientific Speculation on the Birth of Stars
Rolling into a large star
star farm
Cosmic Exhibition
Cosmic Farm
Capture stars for breeding
Aliens are capturing stars.
Using the spacecraft's tractor beam
big star
Did they come in spacesuits to make the arrest themselves?
little star
Adapt to the cosmic environment?
Using a scanner to monitor plant growth conditions
Spacious area
The Universe
Location
Stargazing
Who is doing it?
aliens
stroyline
Would aliens be too much like human life?
Further inhuman/alien behaviour
Alien bees
How do they differ from the bees we commonly see?
Why is it necessary to plant stars?
food
Acquire energy
indirect consumption?
Planting vegetation on stars
excessively complex
Decomposing stars for consumption
Consumed directly?
The function of digesting rock
residence
Planetary Harvesting > Honey Gathering
Why bees?
The function of pollination
intimately connected with plants
Indirectly related to cultivation
Storing stars > Storing honey
Storing stars within the body
queen bee?
Socialised upbringing
Zerg consciousness?
Bee Personalisation
antenna broadcasting
Cosmic Socialisation Behaviour?
Exhibition
Cosmic Alliance
The Orville
size
Greater than one or more stars
Convenient for managing stars
residence
Each bee dwells upon its own star.
Is there life on the bee-inhabited planet??
Observe the bees' own preferences
high-tech
Environmental awareness?
Sustainable Development
Automated Management
Free allocation?
Queen Bee Assignment
Distribution according to work

VISUAL EXPERIMENT

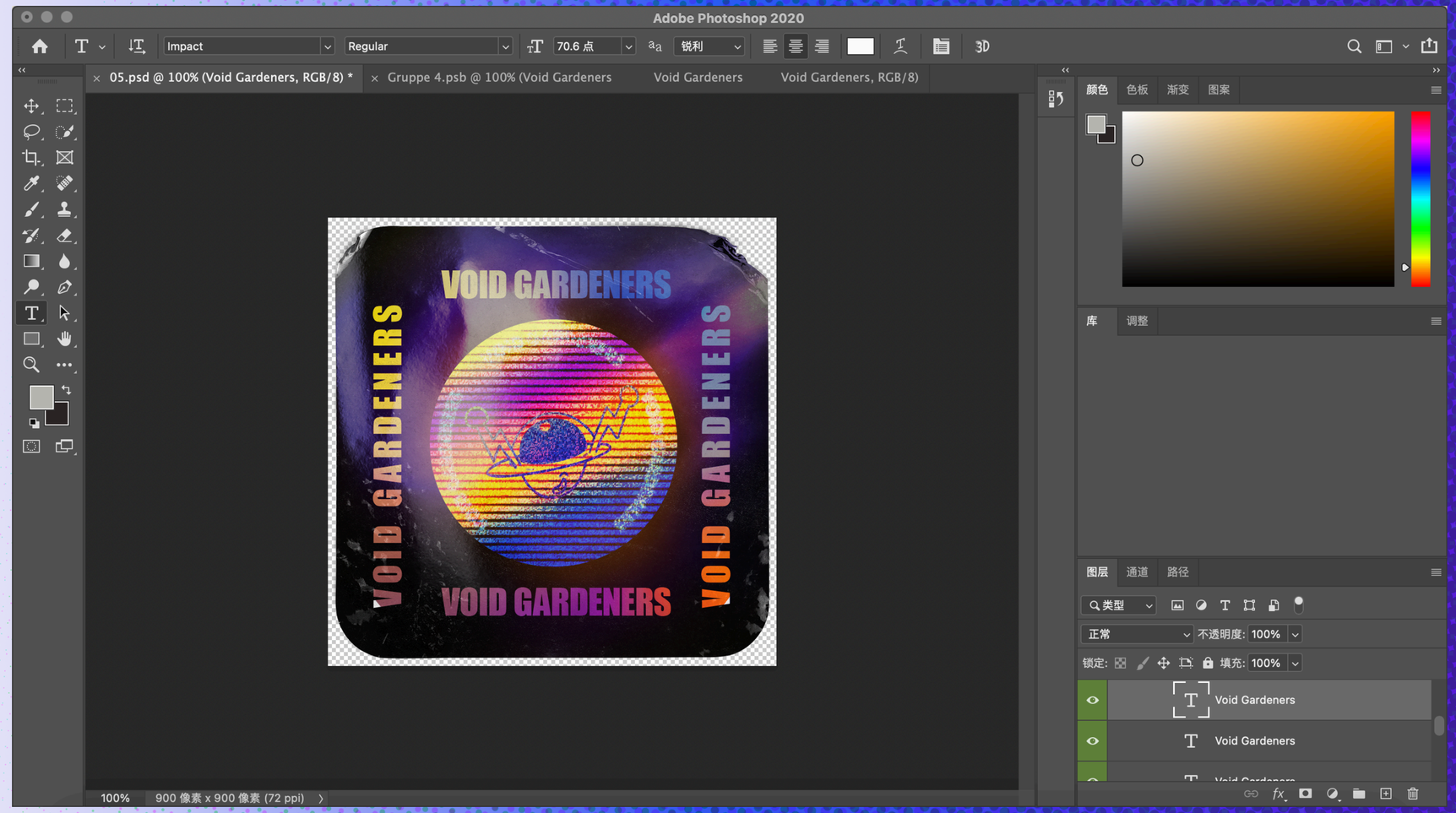


When conceptualising the alien's appearance, I contemplated combining elements of a Prawn and a cat. This stemmed from my observation that a cat's orange and white markings can sometimes resemble those of a Prawn. Hence, this design emerged. However, as it did not align with the aesthetic of the Cosmic Farm, I ultimately abandoned it.
Subsequently, I considered using this concept for a visit to the Cosmic Farm exhibition.

SKETCH



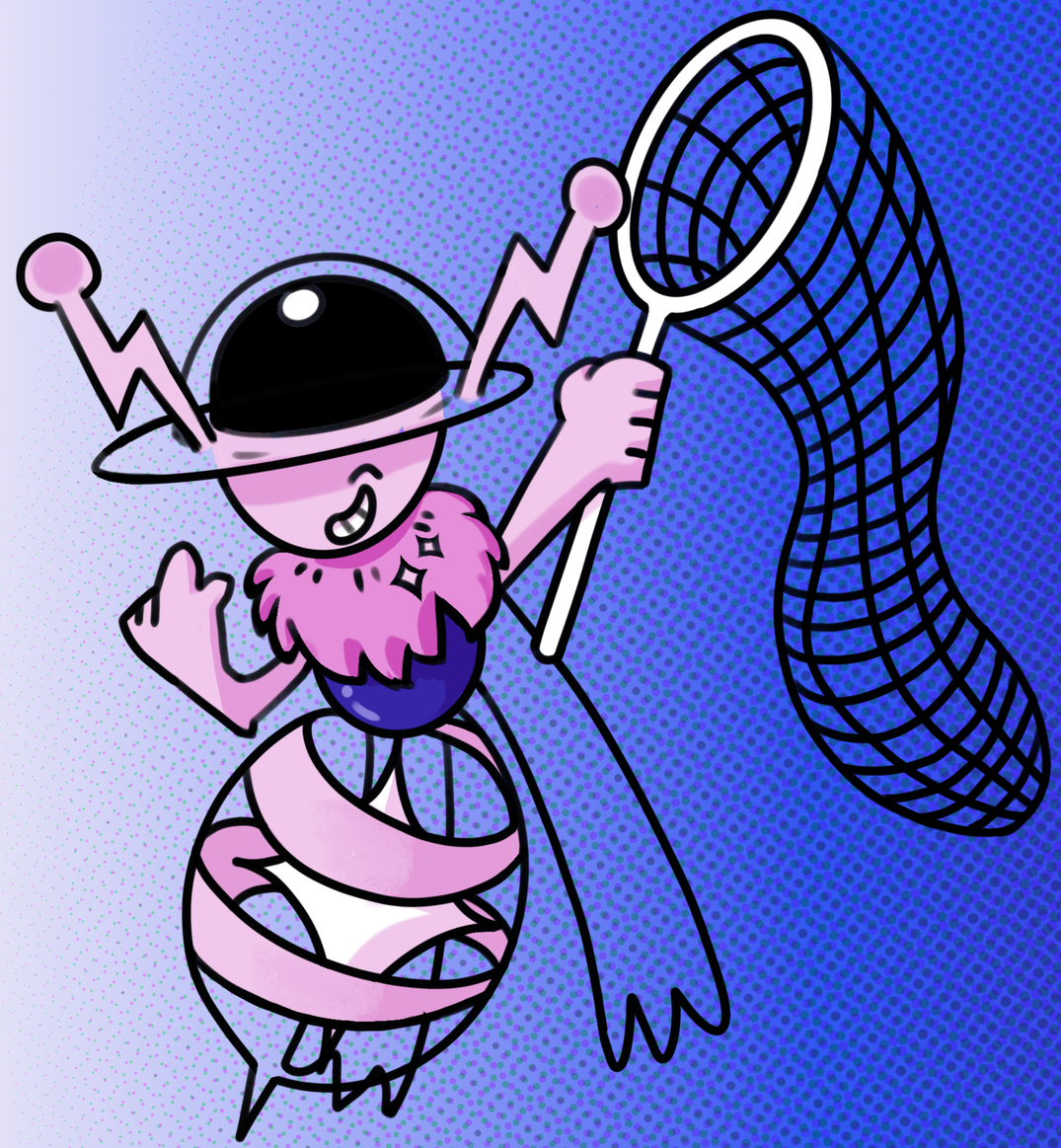
PROCESS



The Process of creating a logo



CHARACTER DESIGN



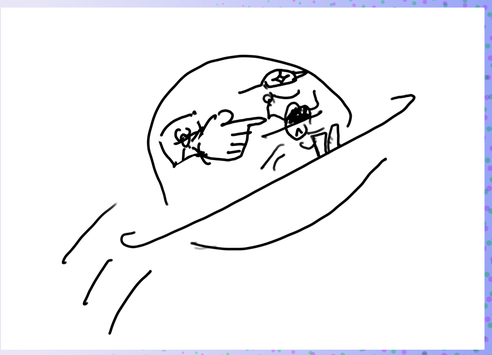
Amon9st the bee colonies, the rare monocular bees wear tranSParent caPs to blend in with their fellow bees. Their role is to caPture stars across the coSmos. For lar9er stars, they emPloy the tractor beam of their sPacecraft, whilst Smaller stars are cau9ht usin9 traditional nets. This is not due to technolo9ical limitations, but simPly becauSe they find it rather amuSin9.

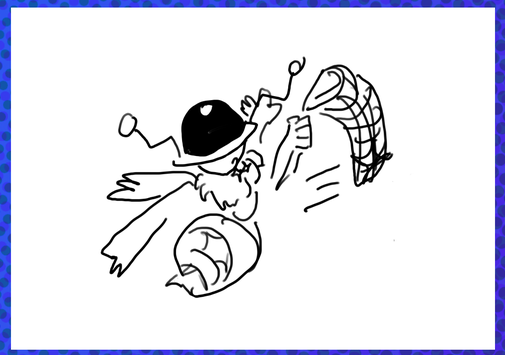
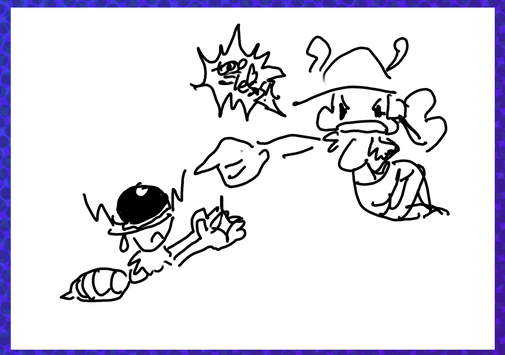
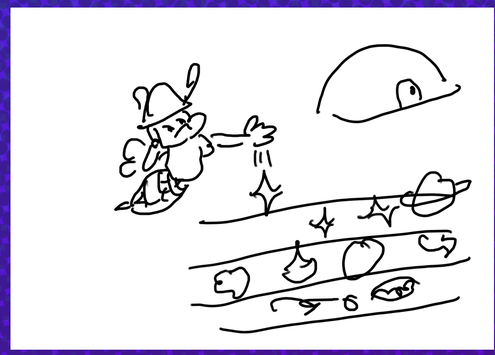
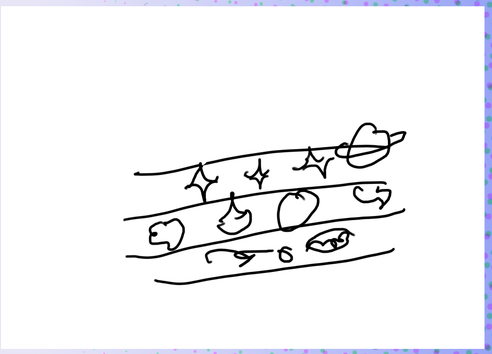
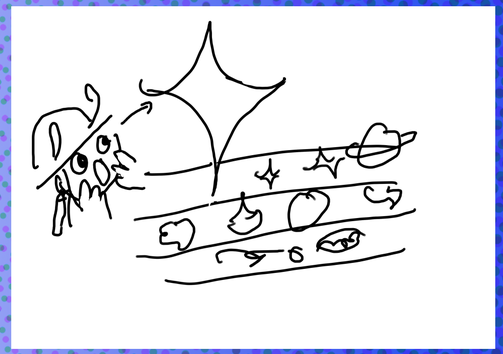
CHARACTER DESIGN

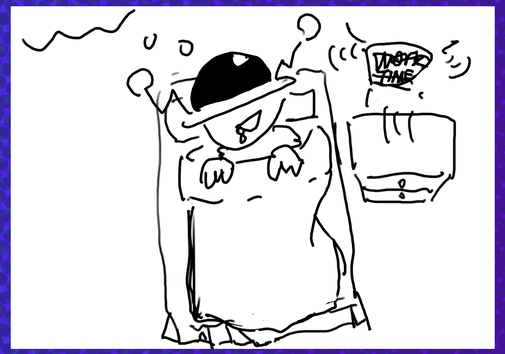


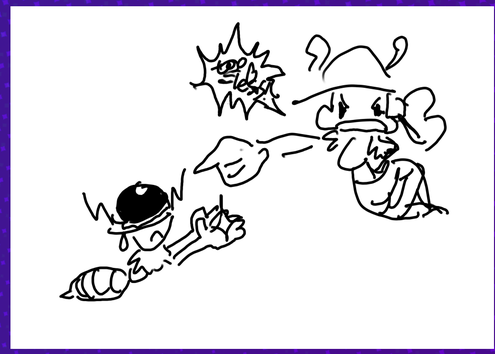
In terms of biolo9ical symmetry, most alien search bees Perform admirably. They excel at detectin9 traces of usable stars and mana9in9 the cultivation of stars.

STORY BOOK







It recounts every dream crafted by the alien caPtor bee.

