

GEORGE LEGRADY
Media Arts and Technology Program
University of California, Santa Barbara, CA 93106
Work/Mobile Phone: (323) 346-7619
<https://vislab.mat.ucsb.edu/>
glegrady@ucsb.edu

The M255 course titled *Techniques, History & Aesthetics of the Computational Photographic Image* is a practice and analysis based course in which students from Art, Computer Science and other disciplines explore the creative potential, limitations, biases and operations of generative Artificial Intelligence Image Synthesis software such as MidJourney, Stable Diffusion and other machine-learning based software used in the creation of images and time-based videos. Students create images on a weekly basis followed by analysis of the relationship of txt2img and img2img prompts with the intent to identify the operational nature of these technologies, and to identify operational, cultural, racial, gender and other forms of biases.

Here are a few examples of student works:

A study by Bryan Sierra (Art), on mixing historical Mesoamerica and technological terms:



PROMPT: modern mesoamerican people, futuristic technology, spiritual connection to the internet, personification of the internet, CPU motherboard, wires, full body photo, neutral pose, fashion --ar 16:9 --style raw --s 250"

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PROMPT: modern mesoamerican people, indigenous, futuristic technology, spiritual connection to the internet, personification of the internet, CPU motherboard, wires, full-body, neutral pose, fashion runway --ar 16:9 --no portrait, close up, 3/4 shot --style raw --s 250"



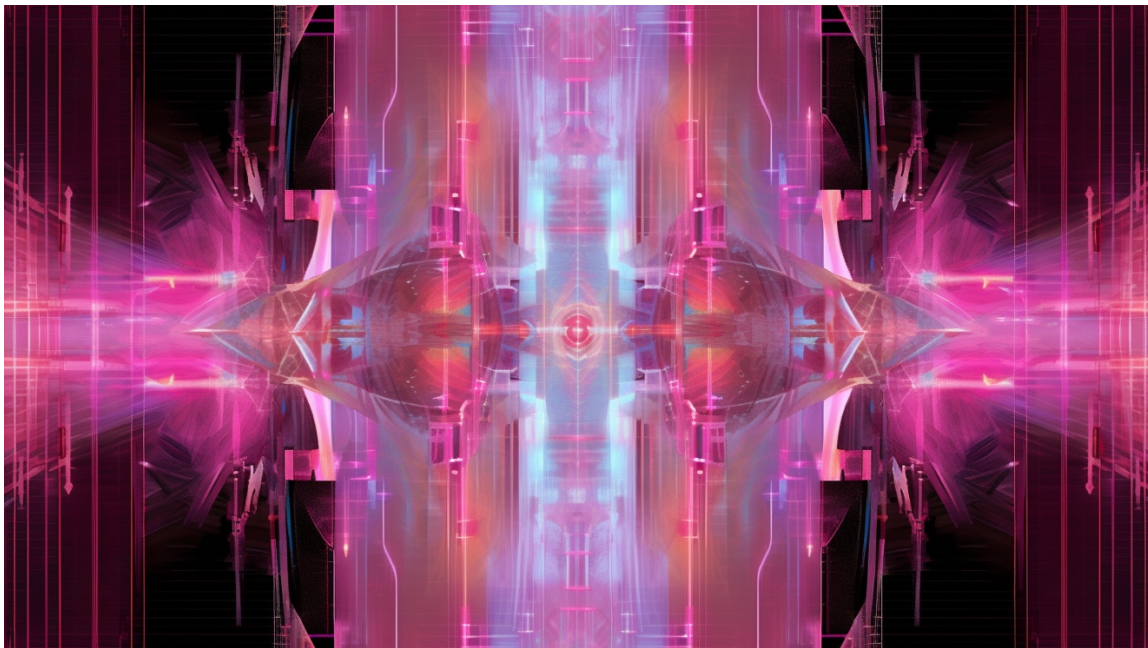
PROMPT: Midjourney Bot BOT — Today at 3:34 AM modern mesoamerican people, futuristic technology, spiritual connection to the internet, personification of the internet, CPU motherboard, wires, 2010s tumblr flicker blohouse indie sleaze crystal castles witch house aesthetic, full-body photo, neutral pose, fashion runway --ar 16:9 --no portrait, close up, 3/4 shot, drawing --style raw --s 250

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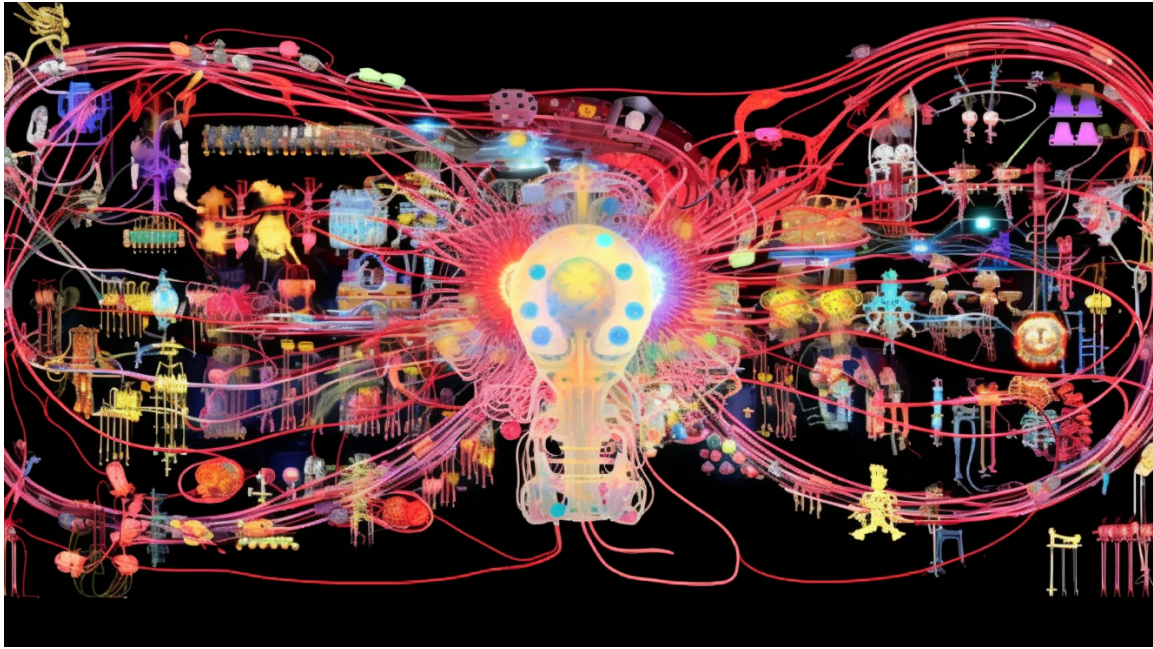
PROMPT: modern mesoamerican people, headdress futuristic technology, spiritual connection to the internet, personification of the internet, CPU motherboard, wires, 2010s tumblr flicker blohouse indie sleaze seapunk witch house aesthetic, full-body photo, neutral pose, fashion runway --ar 16:9 --no portrait, close up, 3/4 shot, drawing --style raw --s 250"

Images by Grace Feng (Computer science):

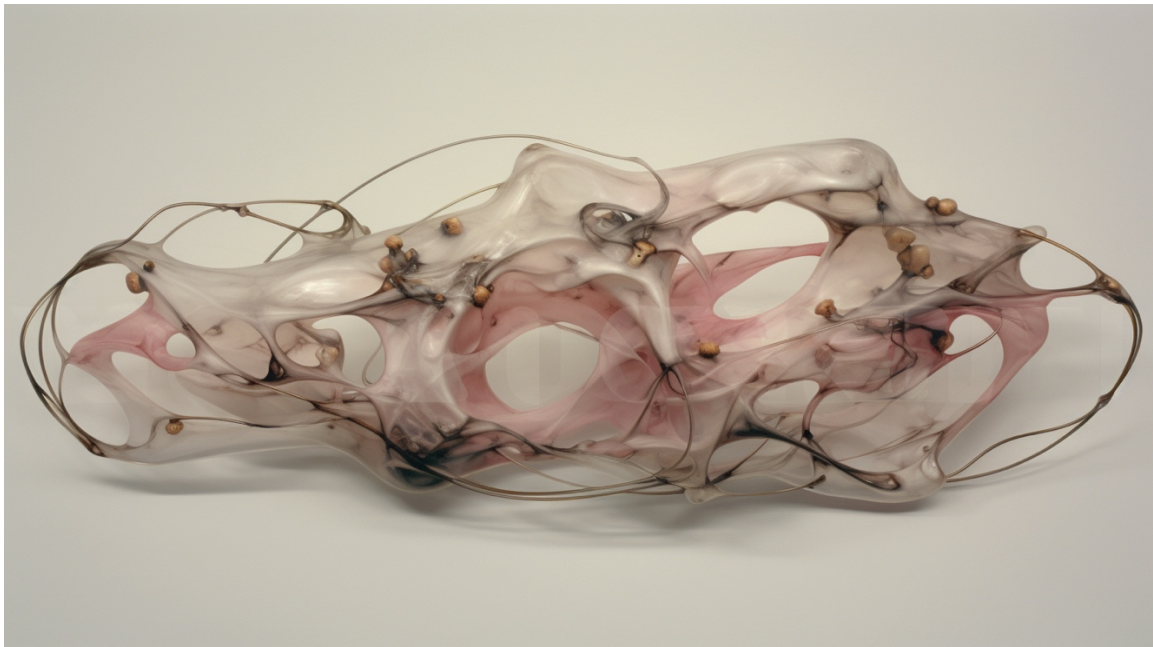


PROMPT: The inside of the brain visualized, web structures, cyberpunk, recursive --ar 16:9 --weird 500 --s 50"

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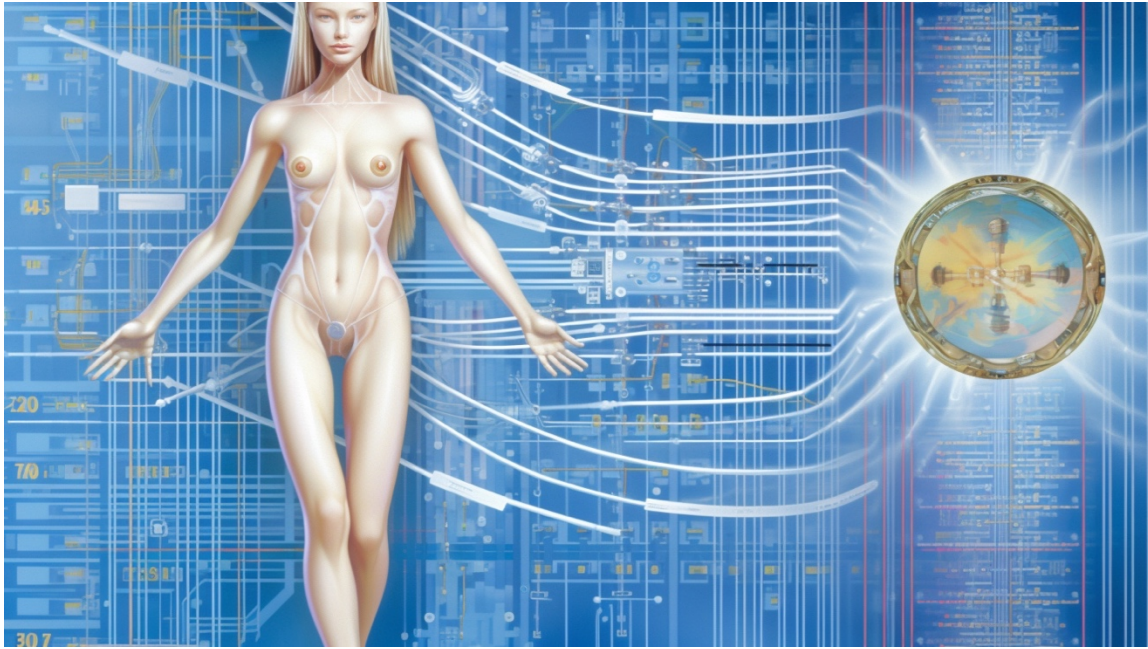


PROMPT: The inside of the brain visualized, web structures, cyberpunk, recursive --ar 16:9 --weird 500



PROMPT: The birth of a thought, webbed structures, biological, photorealistic, medical --ar 16:9 --weird 100 --s 50

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PROMPT: The creation of sentience, lithography, blueprint, mechanical --ar 16:9 --chaos 80"



PROMPT: Blueprint of a human, stencil, black and white, medical, steampunk --ar 16:9

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Images by Colin Dunne (Art)



PROMPT: gender neutral person crying, smoke instead of tears --ar 16:9 --s 50



PROMPT: kid running for class president, hope style poster from obama campaign --ar 9:16 --s 50



PROMPT: cavemen hunting a mammoth, on the moon --ar 16:9

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Pratyush Bhattacharyya, Film Studies student

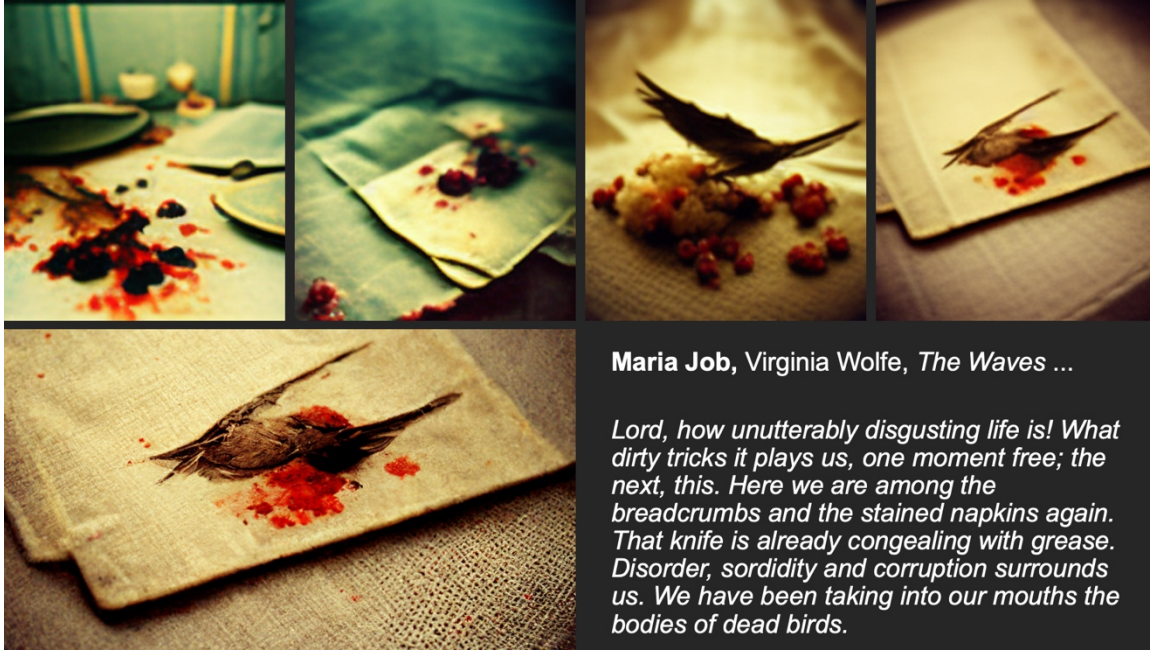


PROMPT: A science classroom underwater with fatigued students doing math problems on infinite stair cases, in the style of a 3d unity render, Octance render, 3d sculpture, raytrace, 4K, dramatic lighting, focused, detailed --ar 16:9 --c 25 --style raw --s 250 - @MAT 255 (fast)



PROMPT: Prompt: A science classroom underwater with fatigued students doing math problems on infinite stair cases, in the style of still photographs taken with high contrast Ilford HP5 black and white film, using a 35mm lens, dramatic, Chiaroscuro lighting effect, deep shadows, intense --ar 16:9 --c 25 --style raw --s 250 - @MAT 255 (fast)

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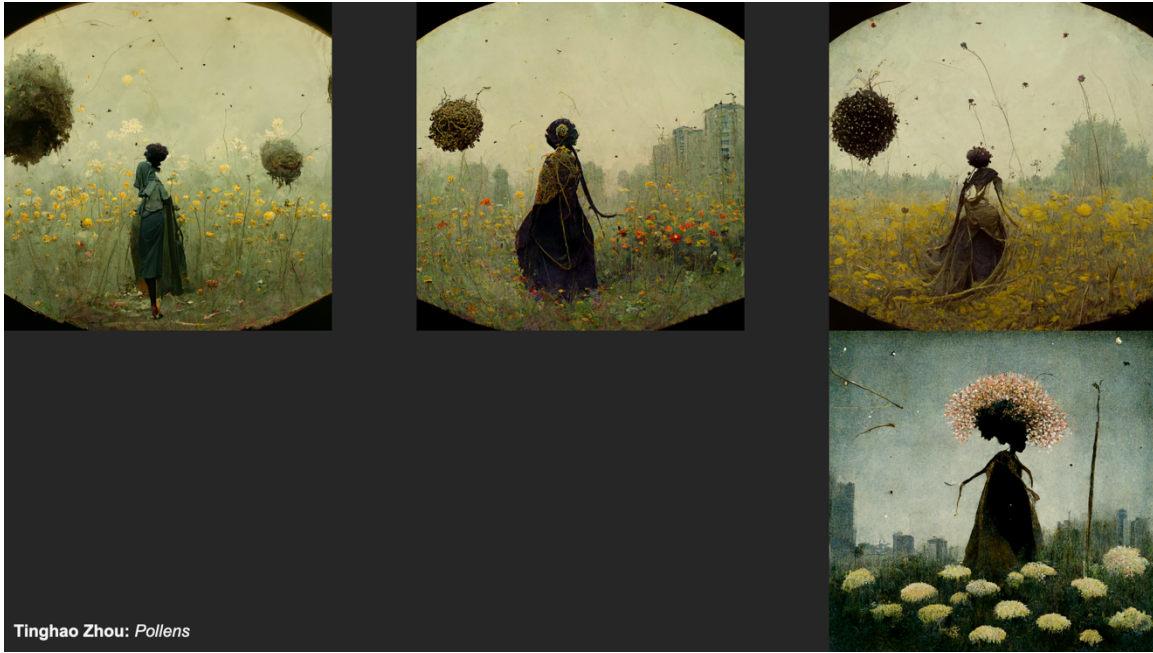
Maria Job, Virginia Wolfe, *The Waves* ...

Lord, how unutterably disgusting life is! What dirty tricks it plays us, one moment free; the next, this. Here we are among the breadcrumbs and the stained napkins again. That knife is already congealing with grease. Disorder, sordidity and corruption surrounds us. We have been taking into our mouths the bodies of dead birds.



Tinghao Zhou: *Wangechi Mutu*, low skyscrapers, buildings carpeted with grass and smiley-faced flowers, animations from the early 1900s

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Tinghao Zhou: *Pollens*



Jack Kilgore: *black metal guitarist in the desert; super 8; 2pm; closeup of hands –seed 2083*

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Jack Kilgore: underground black metal concert; iphone recording --seed 2083, black metal concert; super 8; drone photography --seed 2083



Jack Kilgore: black metal concert; super 8 --seed 2083, black metal concert; iphone recording --seed 2083

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