

Project 8

Course Code and Name: MSJ 11215 Convergence Communication 2

Project Name: My Guilt

Project Type: Art Video & Concept Paper

Project Theme: Ecosystem Restoration

Project Date: Spring 2022

Project Introduction:

As a part of the coursework for Convergence Communication 2, we were asked to conceptualize, direct, shoot and produce an art video under the theme of Ecosystem Restoration. We were also required to prepare and submit a concept paper discussing the video as a final project for this course.

Project Justification:

In my art video, I tried to explore the contract of human's impact on the nature around us. Through the means of abject symbols and metaphors I tried to convey the every continuing conflict between rapid urbanization, consumerism, resource exploration and the silent decline in nature in general whilst showcasing my personal reflection and guilt associated with being a part of the cycle.

Lastly I also tried to portray my yearning to return to nature's embrace as possible as it may be within the confines of a bustling urban landscape. I have tried to intentionally avoid any specific or direct messaging so as to invite the viewers to interpret the piece through their own unique perspective and understandings.

Project produced under this course:

Youtube Video Link – <https://youtu.be/8c-N2HzYvZk?si=MZTCMgsLJqxxmFsJ>



Department of Media studies and Journalism

Concept Paper of video art : “my GUILT”

Submitted To

Mohammad Shazzad Hossain
Senior lecturer, Media Studies and Journalism
University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB)

Submitted by

Hrituparna Devmoni
ID: 201012088

Concept paper of video art “my GUILT”

Title: my GUILT

Idea:

In my art video, I tried to explore the contract of human's impact on the nature around us. Through the means of abject symbols and metaphors I tried to convey the every continuing conflict between rapid urbanization, consumerism, resource exploration and the silent decline in nature in general whilst showcasing my personal reflection and guilt associated with being a part of the cycle.

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Visualisation:

Shot 1: Title is written by assembling cigarette filters and plastic bottle caps. Cigarette ash is there. Polythene bags are lying beside. Black and white. Camera is moving from left to right. Golden outline filter. Page torn effect.

Message 1 : Ecosystem destruction elements and guilt associated with that. The artist conveyed her deeply personal emotions by opting for a black and white palette and page torn effect, capturing the essence of her profound sadness and guilt. The golden color (outline) signifies success in psychology, yet the black and white filter prompts reflection on the cost of that achievement.

Message 2 : Depression and guilt

Message 4: Drug addiction and guilt

Shot 2: Artist's name (Hrituparna) is being written on a leaf. Some other leaves are lying beside. Black and white. Golden outline filter.

Message 1: The artist is trying to introduce ecosystem restoration through this video.

Message 2: The artist is trying to portray fertility / growth

Message 3: A hope for betterment

Shot 3: City night lights. Black and white. Camera moving from left to right. Golden outline filter.

Message 1: Vibrant energy of city nightlife, but black and white to give the ominous vibe, as from the artist's point of view, she doesn't like urbanization.

Message 2: The night is still young

Message 3: A depiction of the advent of modernity in Dhaka City

Shot 4: Artist riding a rickshaw on a city road. Bunches of wires and transformers are seen in the background. A closeup shot of the artist's face, while riding a rickshaw, is flashed for a few moments. A flock of her hair dances over her face as she looks the other way.

Message 1: The artist is lost in thoughts while projecting her daily excursion through the city

Message 2: The artist is showing the electricity hazards / development problems of Dhaka

Message 3: The artists is lost in urban melancholy

Shot 5: A car dashboard is shown while the car is speeding ahead on a highway with a series of streetlights on the sides.

Message 1: The artist is lost in urban melancholy city life in the night time

Message 2: Modern era is characterized by races

Message 3: The artist is showing her place within the social class hierarchy or developments

Shot 6: The artist's face with some multiplying visual effect is again shown, this time with a more graceful look and calm mood.

Message 1: The artist is alluding a transition of peace and chaos

Message 2: The multiplicity refers to the artist's own multitude of expressions

Message 3: A depiction of modern piety

Shot 7: A flash shot of a chicken cage is shown with an entrapped chicken which is pacing around the cage very anxiously.

Message 1: The artist is referring to her inner caged consciousness

Message 2: The artist is a vegan activist

Message 3: Awareness against animal abuse

Shot 8: A shot where someone is taking out a pinch of a burger very carefully. Black and white filter is used.

Message 1: A reference to the growing consumer culture in Bangladesh

Message 2: The artist is a food lover herself

Message 3: The artist is promoting a specific restaurant chain

Shot 9: A shot depicting a closeup of the face and eyes of the artist is shown. A multiplying effect is used to show an iterated number of her face and eyes.

Message 1: An allusion to the modern human condition

Message 2: The artist's unresolved guilt about her life events, food habit, consumerism etc

Message 3: The artist has come into a solution

Shot 10: A quick short depicting a quick and dramatic excursion to the local fish market from a first person perspective. The shot roams over a few buckets of Hilsha fish and it abruptly focuses on the eye of a fish, the shot quickly cuts to a very small clip of water waves. Throughout, the golden filter is used.

Message 1: A reference to the high rate of fish consumption in Bangladesh

Message 2: The artist is referring to her own optical problems

Message 3: A reference to the monopoly of the bourgeoisie class on the common fish sellers

Shot 11: A shot is shown (with the same previous filter) where a single piece of prawn is rolled around in a bowl with a soup spoon; the shot quickly changes to a multicolored bird eye's view of the same aforementioned fish market and the buckets of Hilsha fish, the water waves, and prawn scene is repeated with this new multicolor tone.

Message 1: The repetition symbolizes the recursion of event in the life of individuals

Message 2: The artist has a preference or distaste towards seafood

Message 3: The artist is a pescetarian person

Shot 12: : The artist's facial gestures are shown again the same "multiplying" and "multicolored" visual effect is shown. This time the speed of the shot is a tiny bit faster.

Message 1: A sudden waking up from a gray dream and coming back to reality

Message 2: The artist is referring back to her dreams and seeing interpretations re

Message 3: A (re)focus on the "self"

Shot 13: A quick shot of the artist is shown; it's been captured using the guises of a small plant.

Message 1: A real and palpable transition in the artist's life

Message 2: A reference to tranquility and stability one hopes for in their lives

Message 3: An allusion to climate change activism

Shot 14: A colored and angled shot of the artist is shown where she is smiling, then it cuts to the ending of the video and the acknowledgments for this video is shown.

Message 1: An optimistic ending to the unresolved guilts of the artist

Message 2: A symbolic investment on "hope"

Message 3: A reference to the infinite set never-ending smiles everyone should strive for

Equipments:

Smartphone model: Google Pixel 7

Audio created by Broken Orchestra Typewriter ai

Self-Reflection:

Making "My Guilt" was a profound experience for me as it taught me how to balance personal confessions whilst maintaining viewer's autonomy, how much can be depicted & how much can be left to the imagination. I learned to use form as an argument, with tempo, repetition & a lack of colors as the carriers of meaning, & to cut scenes ruthlessly such that the images can breathe. I also had to juggle artistic flair with the constraints of ethics, especially when it came to shooting markets, animals and other people's properties; always maintaining a respectful distance and ensuring proper consent is in place to prevent any dispute. I also had to work around creative challenges brought about due to the hardware and

software limitations such as low illumination areas, handheld stability and the ambient market sound which forced some creative choices in the framing and mixing of scenes.