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An Entangled Perspective

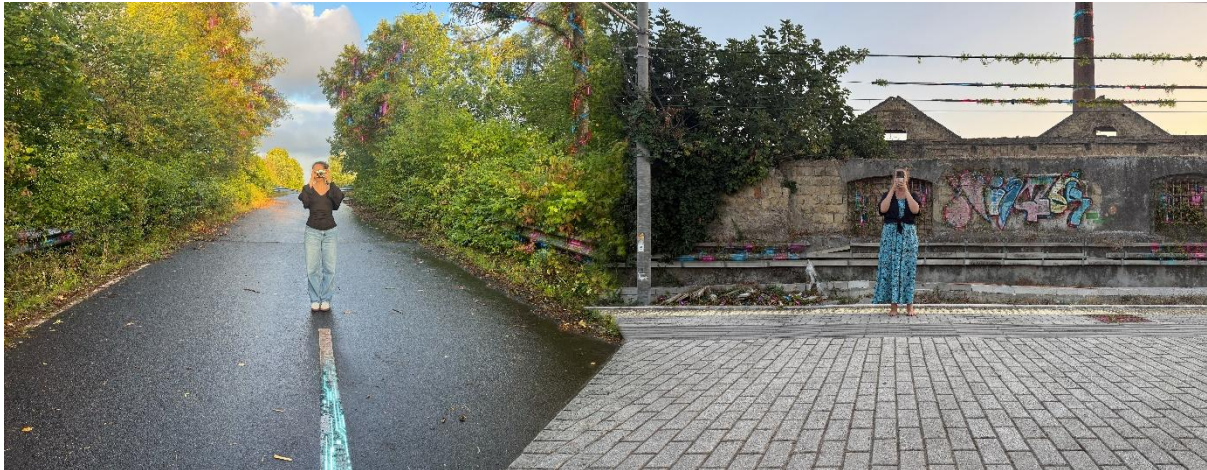
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Anchoring Ethical Technology (AI and Data) Usage in the Education Practice

An Entangled Perspective



Short summary of the postdigital positionality

Please provide a brief narrative (200-500 words) introducing the concept of postdigital positionality your work reflects or represents.

This artistic work represents our own postdigital perspectives, with a focus on breaking up binaries between nature/technology, human/non-human or specific normative notions of good/bad. It instead critically engages with different media and materials as well as our position in a world that increasingly blends these boundaries. In our reflections, we also noticed that often language has become the necessary means to engage with AI and that even to create an image, it first needs to be described in words. However, through photography, we like to emphasize an alternative way of visualizing ourselves in the postdigital condition. One, where art is perceived in its many forms, possibly transcending human language and where AI may evolve towards more diverse creative possibilities in the future. Inspired by Rainer Maria Rilke's poem 'The Panther' (written between 1902 and 1903) we further reflected on our own digital positionalities and have expressed the concept as follows:

The (Postdigital) Human

Within the Entanglement

Her eyes have grown so weary of the screens
that pass before them – cameras, phones, laptops
each one a boundary, each one a frame,
until she cannot see the world beyond.

She moves through spaces she cannot name,
longing for connection,
following paths already traced,
by systems she cannot understand.

But somehow, the boundaries tremble.
A device in her hand,
soil beneath her feet.
technology extending what nature has always done:
connect, sustain and grow.

For a moment, the binary lifts.
Nature breathes through technology.
Technology moves through her.
She moves through both.

And the image does not die in her heart.
It opens there.

She stops asking
where the digital ends
and the non-digital begins,
And instead imagines
what they might become together - deeply, beautifully entangled.

Short summary of the creative process

Please describe your creative process (200-500 words). If applicable, explain how AI tools (e.g., Midjourney, DALL-E) were used, including the prompts. If the work is entirely handcrafted, describe the materials and ideas that informed its creation.

Our process first involved many conversations on how we both perceive our own postdigital positionalities and later, how we would like to visualize our own perspectives creatively. We made use of Reverend Paulo Marshall McFrerean to brainstorm some initial ideas including having the AI create images that represent our thoughts visually. As a prompt, we asked it to play around different metaphors such as a Yin and Yang symbolism or Mobius strip to emphasize a shift beyond rigid binaries and towards more relational views. However, it became increasingly obvious that the resulting visuals showcased strong utopian or dystopian versions while continuously contrasting, for example nature with technology, rather than combining different

aspects in a nuanced manner. Despite trying to refine these images, we felt that these written prompts remained too limited in expressing our complex human vision fully and that it seemed more appropriate to create something ourselves, maybe in a more imperfect yet highly personal way.

Photography seemed to allow us to capture a snapshot of ourselves in a world that is physical yet digital, natural yet engineered, embodied yet mediated. We both chose locations in our immediate environments that reflect these complexities and each of us additionally selected a technological artifact (a smartphone and an analog camera) to show how such technologies have become part of our everyday life, almost like an extension of our physical bodies. Both photos were eventually combined and edited manually using Adobe Photoshop to further express our envisioned postdigital condition and how we position ourselves within it. Moreover, the poem 'The (Postdigital) Human' was generated using this prompt and extensively edited by ourselves afterwards to better reflect our own ideas:

Refer to The Panther by Rainer Maria Rilke and write a similar poem that captures our own postdigital positionalities based on the conversations we have had with you so far. Change the negative ending and instead reflect a more nuanced, entangled perspective.