

INFO 492 B

MUSIC

RECORDING AND

DISTRIBUTION IN

THE ERA OF

GENERATIVE

MUSIC

Capstone Gala Archive

ABOUT THE CLASS

Project Overview: Experiment on the intersection of music recording and artificial intelligence.

Research Focus: Distribution of music as an information medium and its purposes beyond entertainment.

Unique Aspect: Included Large Language Models (LLMs) as part of musical ensembles; where 'AI' was a member of each team's 'band'.

Outcome: Each team produced three-song EPs and released them on Spotify and other streaming services.

STUDENT TEAM: STRAWBERRY JAM

Members: Sloane Shea, Kassy Chaput, Lily Dong.

Three song EP sample:

<https://open.spotify.com/album/792oJh3FsjBN1uNYFP6FTr?si=DIStH9DIToqJSDazjrlxjQ>

Final presentation:

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1MIBCtemO9aY3h-LGVidZXUMQXd0tBSuYtxVpbvEZgfM/edit#slide=id.p>

STUDENT TEAM: COUGHING UP PHLEGM

Members: Jake Harper, Josh Shin, Mike Deng, Shammu Meyyappan.

Three song EP sample:

<https://open.spotify.com/album/5xGPIjgGJScJqNQkDctoJK>

Final presentation:

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/10RH48FWNqq4iZPf2Zq5DqhDW0hH0jLc4cFfRhBhqarM/edit#slide=id.p>

STUDENT TEAM: WEATHER REPORT

Members: Zoey Zhao, Siyu Lin, Lydia Lin, Kexuan Feng, Brian Chien

Three song EP sample:

<https://open.spotify.com/album/0rowPUFQ4pxy8qFTvj3uT3>

Final presentation:

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1nIbFBV2MtBb5C2Nb2XYsAs_-X9B3YSW44BL2AD3pM04/edit#slide=id.p

STUDENT TEAM: HUSKY BEAT

Members: Xinyu Chang, Maria Ma, Luna Liu, Danny Dai, Kunyang Li

Three song EP sample:

<https://open.spotify.com/album/3Yb23rse2fND3vxUI5LmI8>

Final presentation:

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1iuKSxa7O3eX0y4a_dEtzs9pWdM1s0osg2ReSco-F5Ek/edit#slide=id.gcec4d27072_0_0

Harmonizing AI and Human Creativity in Music Production: An Exploration of Emotive Impact



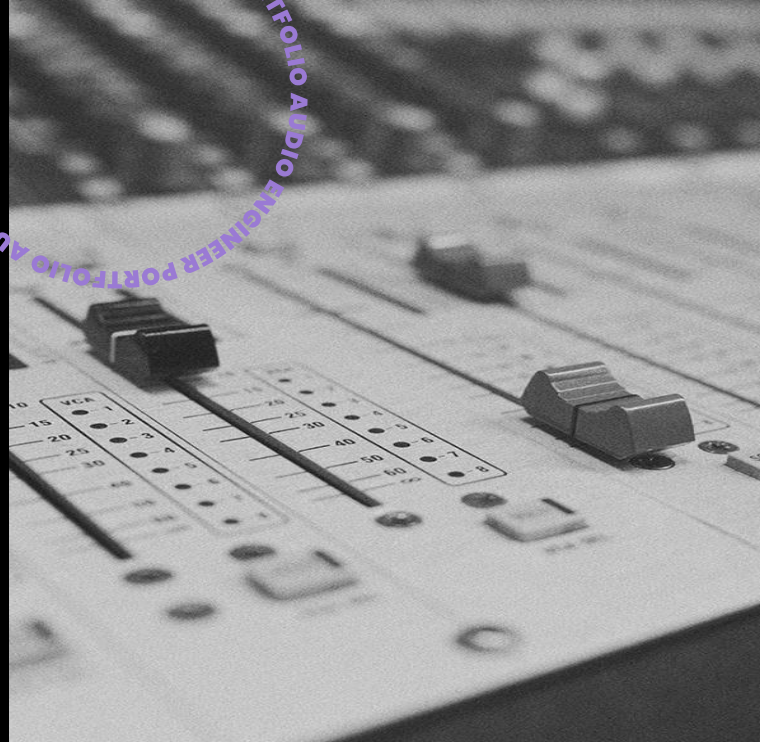
HuskyBEAT



ABOUT US



AUDIO ENGINEER PORTFOLIO AUDIO ENGINEER PORTFOLIO AUDIO ENGINEER PORTFOLIO



Xinyu (Creasa) Chang

MAJOR

Hi, I am a senior majoring in INFORMATICS.

FAVORITE MUSIC GENRE

Hip pop;
R&B



ROLE

Music Composition;
Vocal; Data Scientist

FAVORITE SINGER

Frank Ocean;
Keshi



Luna Liu

MAJOR

Finance & Informatics

FAVORITE MUSIC GENRE

Pop



ROLE

Music Composition;
Vocal

FAVORITE SINGER

JVKE D.O.



Yuzhuo(Maria) Ma

MAJOR

Hi, I am a senior majoring in INFORMATICS.

FAVORITE MUSIC GENRE

R&B; Pop



ROLE

Guitar; Piano; Vocal

FAVORITE SINGER

Muni long; SZA; Kaash Paige; Jenevieve



Kunyang (Carl) Li

MAJOR

Hi, I am a senior majoring in INFORMATICS.

FAVORITE MUSIC GENRE

R&B



ROLE

Music Composition;
Violin

FAVORITE SINGER

Jay Chou;
BaekHyun



Danny Yue

MAJOR

Hi, I am a senior majoring in INFORMATICS and minoring in Math.

FAVORITE MUSIC GENRE

Rock;
Jazz



ROLE

Music Editing; Vocal;
Piano

FAVORITE SINGER(S)

Jay Zhou;
Coldplay





Ensemble's Thesis



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Ensemble's Thesis



Ensemble keywords:

Creativity (Xinyu), **Human Involvement** (Kunyang), **Emotional Information** (Luna), **Distinctiveness**(Danny), **Training Data Fairness** (Maria)

“ The use of AI in the creative process of music production will diminish its capacity to deliver emotive information. ”

Ensemble's Thesis



01

Variable

Different degrees of creative AI use in each song.

02

Constants

R&B genre; collaborative recording with AI; constant creation periods

03

Method

Semi-structured survey rating emotional responses for each song.

04

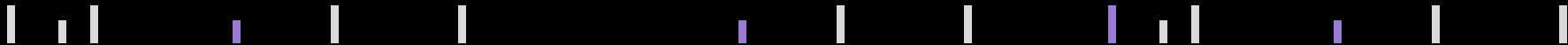
Conclusion

Explore AI's impact on conveying mood in music

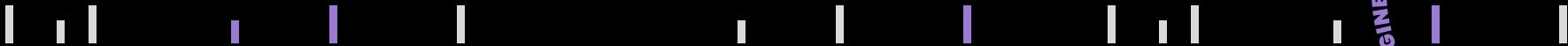
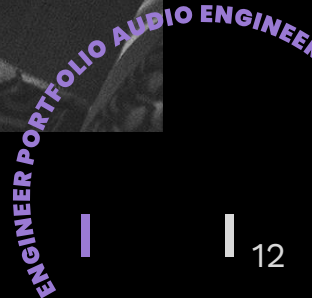
Abstract



“ This study investigates the thesis that the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in the creative process of music production diminishes its capacity to deliver emotive information. Through detailed analysis of three songs with varied levels of AI involvement and employing face-to-face interviews, we critically assess how AI's integration influences the emotional depth and complexity of music. Our findings indicate AI as a structural tool, emphasizing human creativity's vital role in emotional resonance. Advocating for balanced AI-human collaboration in music creation, we highlight the indispensable human element in emotional articulation, providing a refined view on AI's role in creative industries.”



Ensemble Pre - Production Plan



Musical Ensemble Plan with AI Integration + Lab Schedule

- **Miro Link:** <https://miro.com/app/board/uXjVN6UutcM=/#tpicker-content>
- **Song #1: "BEGINNING IN HUSKY HUES" (R&B)**
 - AI: 80% (Melody, Chords, Initial Lyrics)
 - Human: 20% (Vocals, Instruments, Refinement)
 - Dates: Pre-prod (01/12 - 01/20), Rehearsals (01/20 - 01/25), Recording + Editing (01/25 - 02/01), Listening Session (02/01 - 02/02)
- **Song #2: "CATCH 24" (Hiphop)**
 - AI: 50% (Melody Development, Song Structure)
 - Human: 50% (Vocals, Instruments, Lyrics)
 - Dates: Pre-prod (02/02 - 02/10), Rehearsals (02/10 - 02/13), Recording + Editing (02/13 - 02/15), Listening Session (02/15 - 02/16)
- **Song #3: "TO BE" (Hiphop)**
 - AI: 20% (Lyrics Refinement)
 - Human: 80% (Composition, Vocals, Instruments)
 - Dates: Pre-prod (02/16 - 02/23), Rehearsals (02/23 - 02/26), Recording (02/26 - 02/28), Listening Session (02/28 - 03/01)

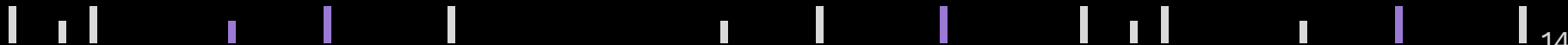




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Musical Ensemble Song Sketches





Musical ensemble song sketches for the first song



Miro Link:

<https://miro.com/app/board/uXjVN6UutcM=/#tpicker-content>

Brainstorm from following perspectives:

- **Inspiration**
 - What influences your songwriting?
- **Music Genre**
 - Ideas of music styles
- **Storytelling/Narrative**
 - Techniques for Expressing Emotion Through Music
- **Instruments**
 - Ideas played on instruments
- **Words**
 - Ideas formed into words



Song Sketches Ideas

Inspiration:

- Reflections on university life
- Emotional journey
- Experiences

Music genre:

- R&B
- Hip-hop
- Soothing and slow-paced

Instruments:

- Violin
- Piano
- Guitar
- Drum

Lyrics:

- "Purple and gold pride"
- "Red Square gatherings"
- "Caps thrown high"

Techniques:

- Dynamic range changes
- High pitch
- Slower tempos for reflective moments

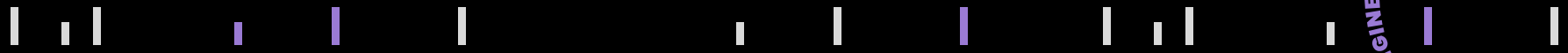
Album & Song Introduction



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Album cover & Album name



Album Name:

"Capstone"

Why "Capstone"?

"Capstone" is more than our academic capstone at the UW; it signifies key life milestones. Each track reflects growth, resilience, and new beginnings, highlighting the album's deep, dual significance beyond the classroom.



From AI Beginnings to Human Empowerment: Our Song Sequence



BEGINNING

3:08 

AI: 80%; Human Effort: 20%



CATCH 24

3:09 

AI: 50%; Human Effort: 50%



TO BE

3:47 

AI: 20%; Human Effort: 80%



Behind the scenes...

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Г



Let's Catch 24...



24'

PORTFOLIO AUDIO ENGINEER PORTFOLIO



TO BE...



PORTFOLIO AUDIO ENGINEER PORTFOLIO



From AI Beginnings to Human Empowerment: Reflect our growth journey

01

BEGINNING IN HUSKY HUE



Theme: University life, discovery; Reflects new beginnings, learning, and guidance

02

CATCH 24



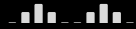
Theme: Graduation, anticipation, crossroads; Represents the balance between learned experience and new challenges

03

TO BE



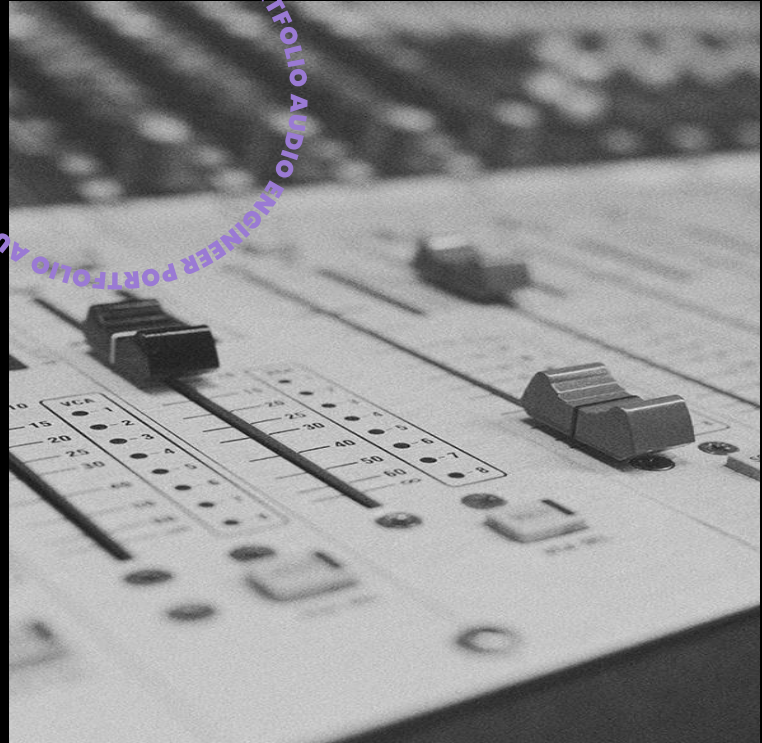
Theme: Self-empowerment, self-discovery; Symbolizes personal growth, maturity, and emotive depth



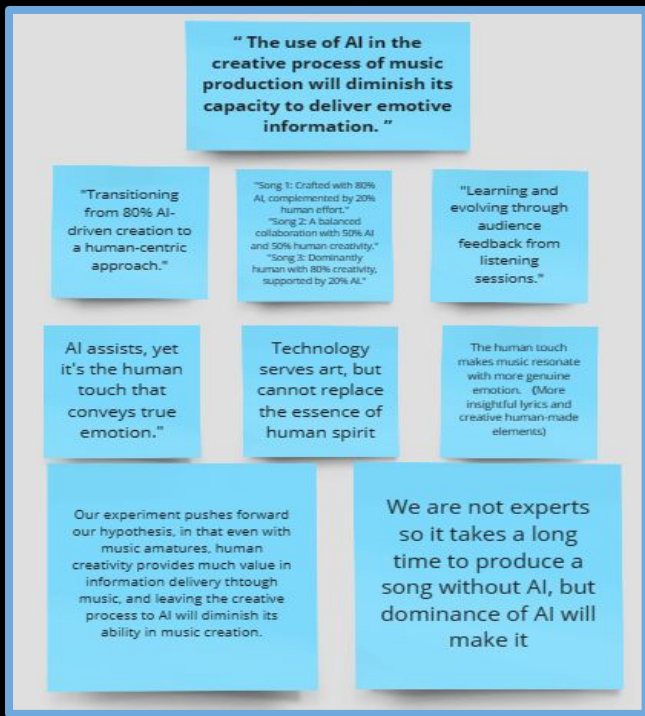
Course Reflections



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Our Hypothesis



● Role

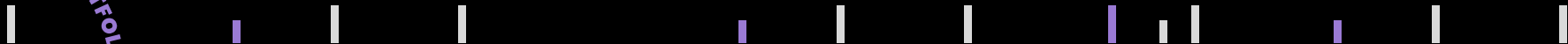
AI acts as an assistant, not an artist.

● Amount

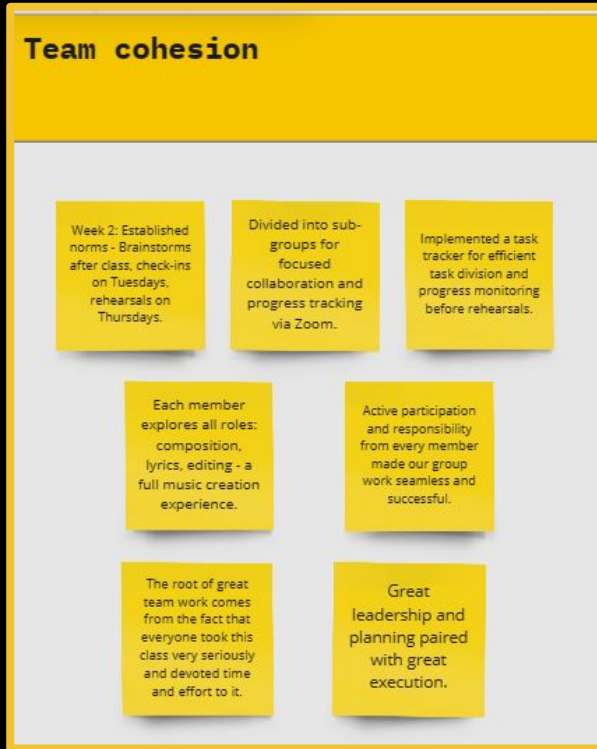
Too little is hard, too much is ineffective.

● Information

AI interpret info as style, but not yet as true emotion.

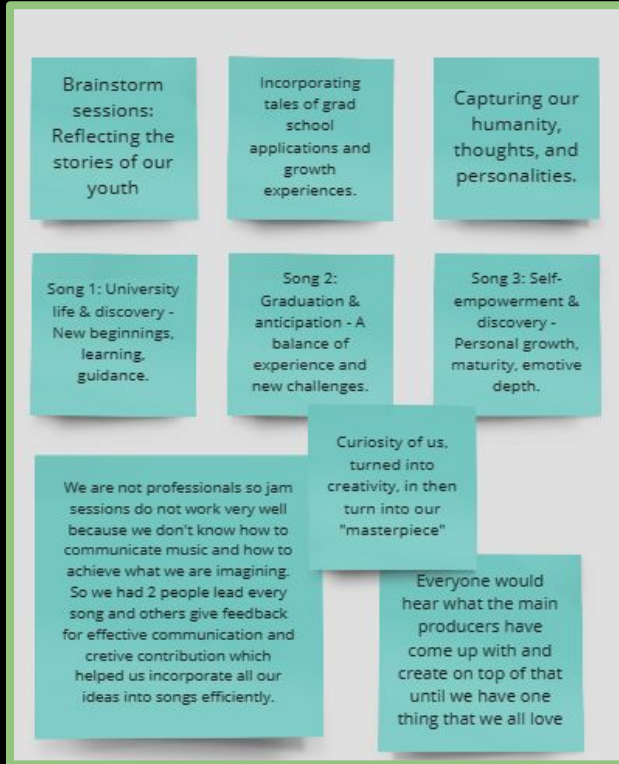


Team Cohesion



- **Organized**
We are a strong team, because we stayed organized.
- **Cooperative**
We have a serious leader, and 4 efficient members.
- **Proactive**
We are more than punctual. We finish things in advance.

Creation



- **Innovations**

We always try new things—everything is new in this field.

- **Experiments**

We meticulously planned the themes, style, and details.

- **Feedbacks**

Asks feedbacks from prof, friends, and strangers.



EP Reflection



Our final EP narrates the vibrant tales of our youth, surpassing our expectations in musical achievement.

Despite not being professional musicians, we've harnessed the universal language of music to convey deep emotional stories.

The brainstorming sessions mirrored our own stories of adolescence, growth, and aspirations during our graduate applications.

Our final EP narrates the vibrant tales of our youth, surpassing our expectations in musical achievement.

Despite not being professional musicians, we've harnessed the universal language of music to convey deep emotional stories.

The brainstorming sessions mirrored our own stories of adolescence, growth, and aspirations during our graduate applications.

From the excitement and discoveries of university life to the anticipations of graduation and the self-empowerment journey beyond.

Our songs blend humanity, thought, and personality, reflecting our journey from new beginnings to mature self-discovery.

Utilizing AI, we refined our music beyond its raw inspiration, proving technology's role in enhancing our creative expression.

● Uncertainty

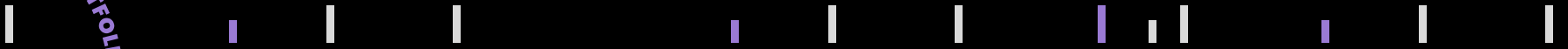
Trying this for the first time, we face the unknown.

● Fulfillment

The proof of our work will be shown to the world!

● Achievement

We did our best and believe it'll be a hit, no matter what others think.

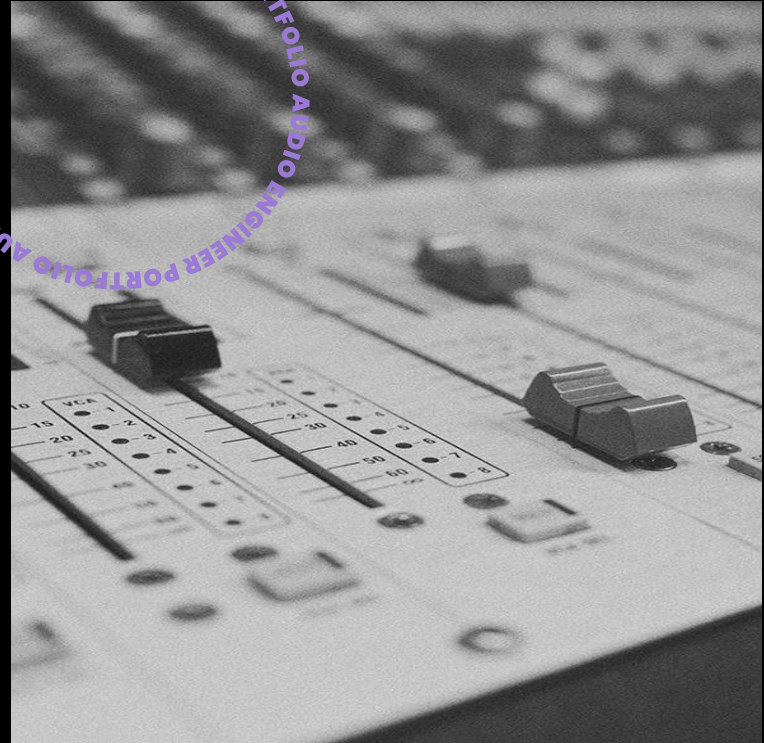




Ensemble's Web App



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STRAWBERRY JAM

Sloane, Kassy, Lily, StrawBae



THESIS STATEMENT

The lived experiences of each individual brings a unique arrangement of musical elements that create connections between the artist and listeners. Operating on generalized data, music produced by AI falls short of fully capturing the depth of emotion and individuality in human-made music.





SO....

Ai played a minor role in each song.

This wasn't our initial plan - but after hours of prompting we realized that:

Tapping into our own creativity, vulnerability and inner feelings is **HARD** and **EXHAUSTING** yet *very* rewarding. The state that AI generation is at today is impressive, but could not aid or reproduce what we created this quarter.



Strawbae - we love you but you're fired.
(thanks for the drum beats on song #1 and the mastering of #2 and #3. The brainstorm help and the crappy corny lyrics - they were okay.)



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REFLECTION





01 - EP PRESENTATION

PERENNIAL

lasting or existing for a long or apparently infinite time; enduring or continually recurring.

Negative connotation: bad situations or states that keep occurring or that seem to exist all the time



In our artistic collaboration, we combined our personal experiences to address themes like misogyny, toxic echo chambers, and societal expectations of women in our music. Our EP mirrors the lasting impact of unseen norms on our growth and identity. Though these challenges persist, we aim to inspire change and shed light on societal norms with our lyrics.

LISTEN NOW!



<https://open.spotify.com/album/792oJh3FsjBN1uNYFP6FTTr?si=iaDyOflyRT6bp1iE-nKu3A>



02 - EP PACKAGING



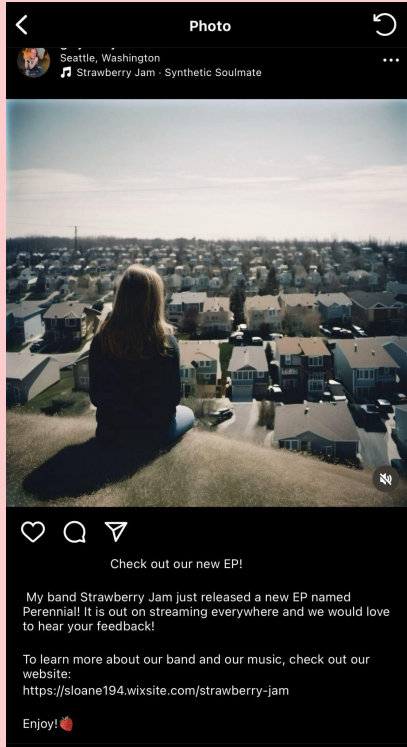
ALBUM ART

- AI derived
- Solitude, endless suburbs, analog film (for the old school vibe)
- Intend to invoke feelings like: uneasiness, solitude, monotony



03 - DISTRIBUTION PLAN

DIST. PLAN - SOCIAL MEDIA



Social Media!

- Reach lots of people that we don't talk to everyday
- Posted right when the EP dropped
- Lots of great feedback and reactions from people!

DIST. PLAN - LILY'S RADIO SHOW!



The radio show!

- Airs on Fridays after class
- Ability to reach more people from UW community
- Posters printed and hung up around campus to advertise the show

DIST. PLAN - POSTER

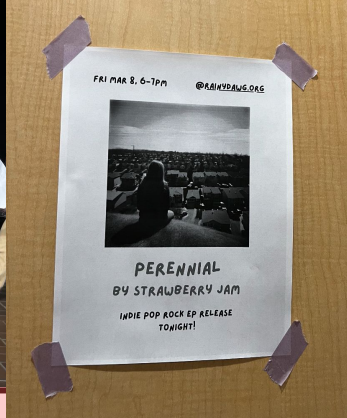
FRI MAR 8, 6-7PM

@RAINYDAWG.ORG



PERENNIAL
BY STRAWBERRY JAM

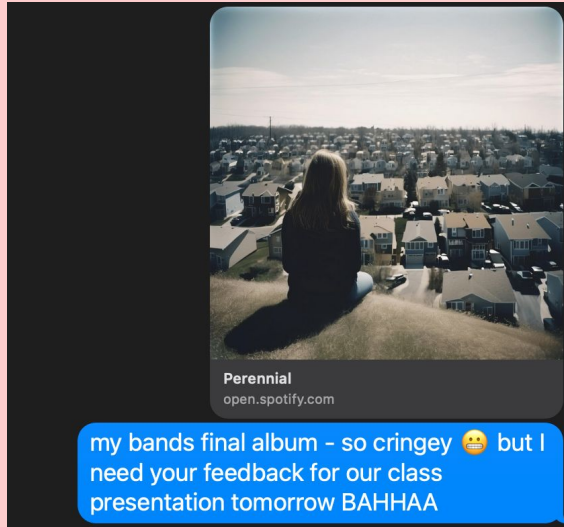
**INDIE POP ROCK EP RELEASE
TONIGHT!**



DIST. PLAN - LOCAL RECORD STORE



DIST. PLAN - TEXTS!



Send to friends and family!

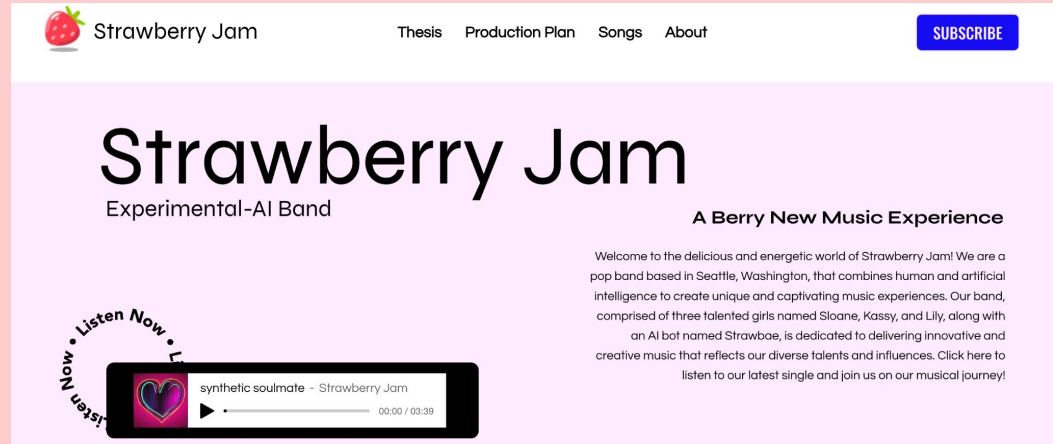
- Sent link to EP on Spotify
- Feedback is biased but can also be brutally honest
- I'm crying - was so nervous

DIST. PLAN - UPDATED WEBSITE

We updated our site with all three of our songs and descriptions of the songs to provide listeners with a more comprehensive overview of our views and goals!

We have also linked the songs on the streaming services.

LINK TO WEBSITE



The screenshot shows the Strawberry Jam website homepage. At the top left is the Strawberry Jam logo, a red strawberry icon. To its right are navigation links: Thesis, Production Plan, Songs, and About. On the far right is a blue 'SUBSCRIBE' button. The main heading is 'Strawberry Jam' in a large, bold, black font, with 'Experimental-AI Band' underneath. To the right of the heading is the sub-heading 'A Berry New Music Experience'. Below this is a paragraph of introductory text: 'Welcome to the delicious and energetic world of Strawberry Jam! We are a pop band based in Seattle, Washington, that combines human and artificial intelligence to create unique and captivating music experiences. Our band, comprised of three talented girls named Sloane, Kassy, and Lily, along with an AI bot named Strawbae, is dedicated to delivering innovative and creative music that reflects our diverse talents and influences. Click here to listen to our latest single and join us on our musical journey!'. Below the text is a music player interface for the song 'synthetic soulmate - Strawberry Jam'. The player shows a play button, a progress bar at 00:00 / 03:39, and a 'Listen Now' button with a circular arrow icon.

Omg just listened HAHHAHAHAH

Perfect music for an emo high schooler who wants to feel understood!

All the songs go together well like very much
vibe is the same in a good way

Cohesive 🙌🙌

Yesss omg I loooove

Lyrics hit 😭🙌🙌🙌

Did you guys make all the melodies and
stuff?

They give me heavy reminders of new order
and crystal castles?

So freaking cool

I feel like unconfined growth would be crazy
if I was like hard rock, like lowkey screaming
the lyrics

But you guys sounds great

That one reminds me of my chemical
romance

FEEDBACK



These are seriously good sloaney!!

I can't get over how good the music is

The last one is my fav

Lmao I think your voice sounds so good

Like clairo

Great job girls ! The 3rd is my favorite too. I
think the whole thing is a really strong effort,
and I bet you learned a lot about how hard it
is to make «real » songs. What was the
order of creation for these 3 songs ?

Dad Shea

I thought they got better with each 😊

Mom Shea

Finally got a chance to listen 'and I love ❤️

Yes, I hear some New Order and MCR. What
an honor 💕

FEEDBACK

Oooo such an angsty cover love it

Wow your page is so official!!
Listening to them now

Wait I think synthetic soulmate is my
fav after listening to them

It will be playing on repeat 🔄 as I
finish an essay

Ooooo we got that explicit E 🔥



You did great! I'm going to have my
music teacher friend listen too
tomorrow morning ❤️

So proud of you 🥺

HOLY SHIT TELL HER ITS SO
FUCKING GOOD

WAIT WTF SHE DOESNT KNOW
MUSIC AND SHES DOING THIS
SHIT

Sending this to my musician
friends

OMG I LISTENED TO THEM

I LOVE IT

I love the opening of synthetic
soulmate and the message of
unconfined growth so good

WOWOWOW

Where did that cover photo come
from? It's cool



04 - REFLECTION

FINAL THOUGHTS!



- Learned A LOT!
- Between the 3 of us we had fairly limited musical experience, especially regarding song-writing
- We were complete strangers at first, so performing/recording in front of each other was very awkward at first
- Definitely fun participating in this experiment and trying something completely new
 - Time constraints played a huge role in our songs - always something we wish we could change but overall happy and proud with how our EP turned out!

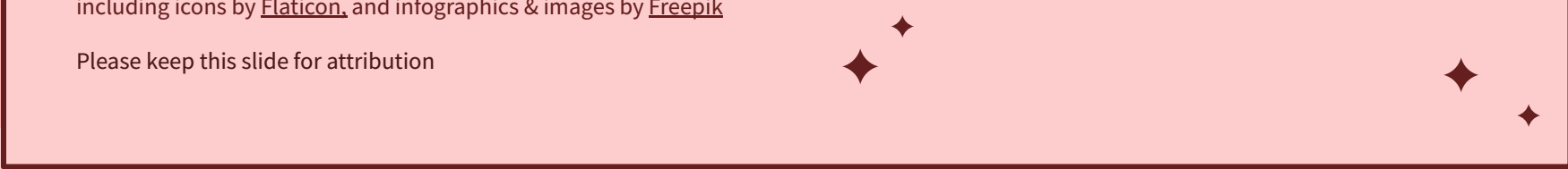




THANKS <3

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Please keep this slide for attribution



The background is a stylized, low-poly landscape. It is divided into vertical panels of different colors: white, dark blue, white, and orange. The landscape features mountains in shades of purple, blue, green, and orange, and a body of water in shades of blue and orange. There are also some white clouds and a yellow sun in the orange panel. The text is overlaid on the dark blue panel.

Weather Report EP:

Weather Report

Weather Report: Zoey, Lydia, Brian, Siyu, Kexuan

Table of contents

The background features a warm orange and red gradient. At the top, there are stylized white clouds. Several dark blue birds are scattered across the sky. At the bottom, a dark blue silhouette of a forest of trees is visible, with a white path leading from the bottom right towards the center.

01

EP Songs Distribution Data

02

Packaging of the EP

03

Distribution Plan for the EP

04

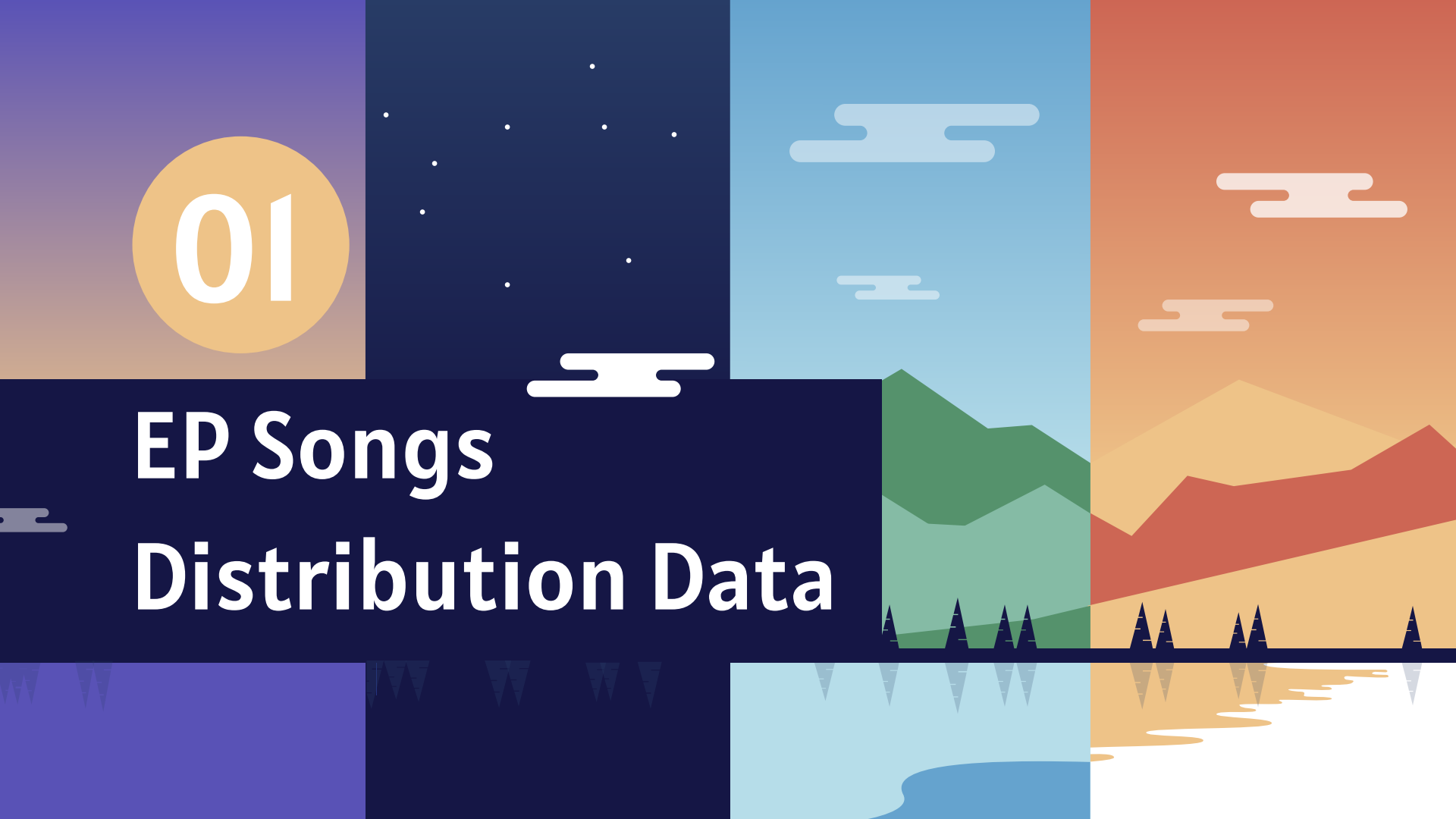
Web App for the EP

05

Reflection of our EP

01

EP Songs Distribution Data



Thesis Statement for the EP

- **Examining how AI augments music's capacity for information delivery, this study delves into the emotive nuances of seasonal compositions—spring's joy, summer's warmth, autumn's melancholy, and winter's stillness—revealed through an exploration of three songs within our Extended Play (EP).**



Artist/band Name:

Album Title:

Release Date:

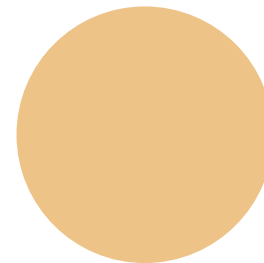
Album Price:

Language:

Primary Genre:

Secondary Genre:

Album Cover (3000x3000 picture):



weather report

Song Title:

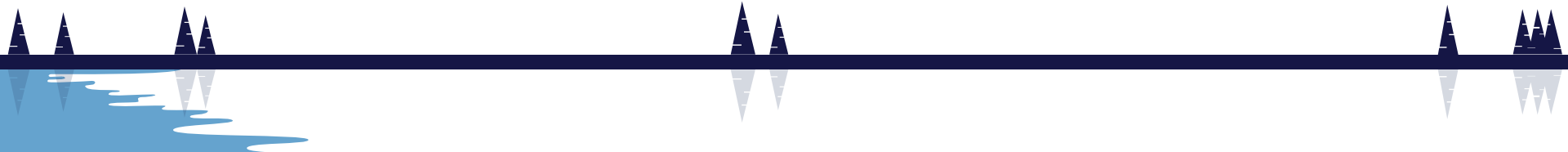
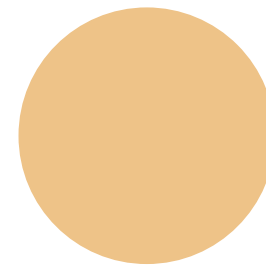
Song File:

All songwriter/contributors real name:

Explicit Lyrics:

Preview Clip Start Time:

Track Price:



Song Title:

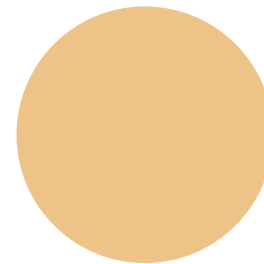
Song File:

All songwriter/contributors real name:

Explicit Lyrics:

Preview Clip Start Time:

Track Price:



Song Title:

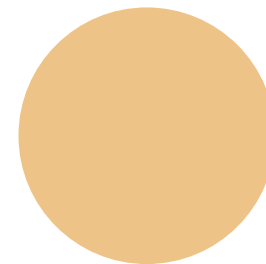
Song File:

All songwriter/contributors real name:

Explicit Lyrics:

Preview Clip Start Time:

Track Price:



The background is a stylized landscape divided into a grid of color blocks. The top row has four blocks: purple, dark blue with white stars, light blue with white clouds, and orange with white clouds. The bottom row has three blocks: purple, light blue, and white. A dark blue banner with a white cloud icon is positioned horizontally across the middle. The text '02' is in a yellow circle in the top-left, and 'Packaging of the EP' is in white on the banner. Stylized mountains and trees are visible in the right half of the image.

02

Packaging of the EP



Summer
&& Spring
&& Autumn Golden leaves
&& Winter Snow on trees



EP Songs

Specifically, we select 'Memotape' as our leading track, illustrating spring's initiation of the yearly cycle. Through this, we aim to immerse our audience in the evolving sensations of the seasons as expressed through music, highlighting the profound ways AI can deepen our engagement with and understanding of seasonal emotional landscapes.



Spring

'Memotape'



Summer

'Orange Sunset'



Autumn/Winter

'Winterfall'

Detail about Songs

Memotape

AI: Magenta Studio

Composition: Cassette SFX in the beginning and end. Use of wind instrument (flute) for spring. 100 BPM

Winter Fall

AI: X studio for AI vocal

Composition: Japanese weather forecast SFX. Rain and fire SFX to invoke Fall and Winter seasons. 80 BPM

Orange Sunset

AI: Suno, Magenta Studio

Composition: Ocean waves SFX, use of wood percussion set. 110 BPM



03

Distribution Plan for the EP

Digital EP

Youtube

<https://youtu.be/qoZVUZBpPkA>



Soundcloud

https://soundcloud.com/siyu-lin-224914593/memotape?si=167f03ab61b6415a82889d2f72793745&utm_source=clipboard&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=social_sharing



Weather Report First EP

Lydia Lin

3次观看 · 1天前

Hello, we are Weather Report. This is our first EP. Our EP songs discuss different stories that happen in four seasons. Hope you guys enjoy it...更多

2条评论

添加评论...

@CoyuyPlaylist2024 · 13小时前

百花齐放，优美动听的音乐，好评👍的演奏，大型赞了！谢谢啦！

@Playlists · 13小时前

每天发布特长的声音给你，你需要做的是准备好接收你的心绪和情绪的心来接受它。

Memotape

Weather Report

▶ 2 · 3:11 · Mar 5, 2024

Memotape

Weather Report

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EP Feedback



Spring

'Memotape'

- Like the song, make me in spring.
- Cool and gentle



Summer

'Orange Sunset'

- Impressive happy melody with energy vide
- I like the variation of the song and also the oceans wave



Autumn/Winter

'Winterfall'

- Like the melody of the song
- The vocal could be better



04

Web App for the EP

WEB APP

Weather Report

INFO 492

Who We Are

We are five Informatics students studying at the University of Washington. We create and compose songs to examine how AI augments music's capacity for information delivery, this study delves into the emotive nuances of seasonal compositions—spring's joy, summer's warmth, autumn's melancholy, and winter's stillness—revealed through an exploration of three songs within our Extended Play (EP).

05

Our Reflection





Miro Board

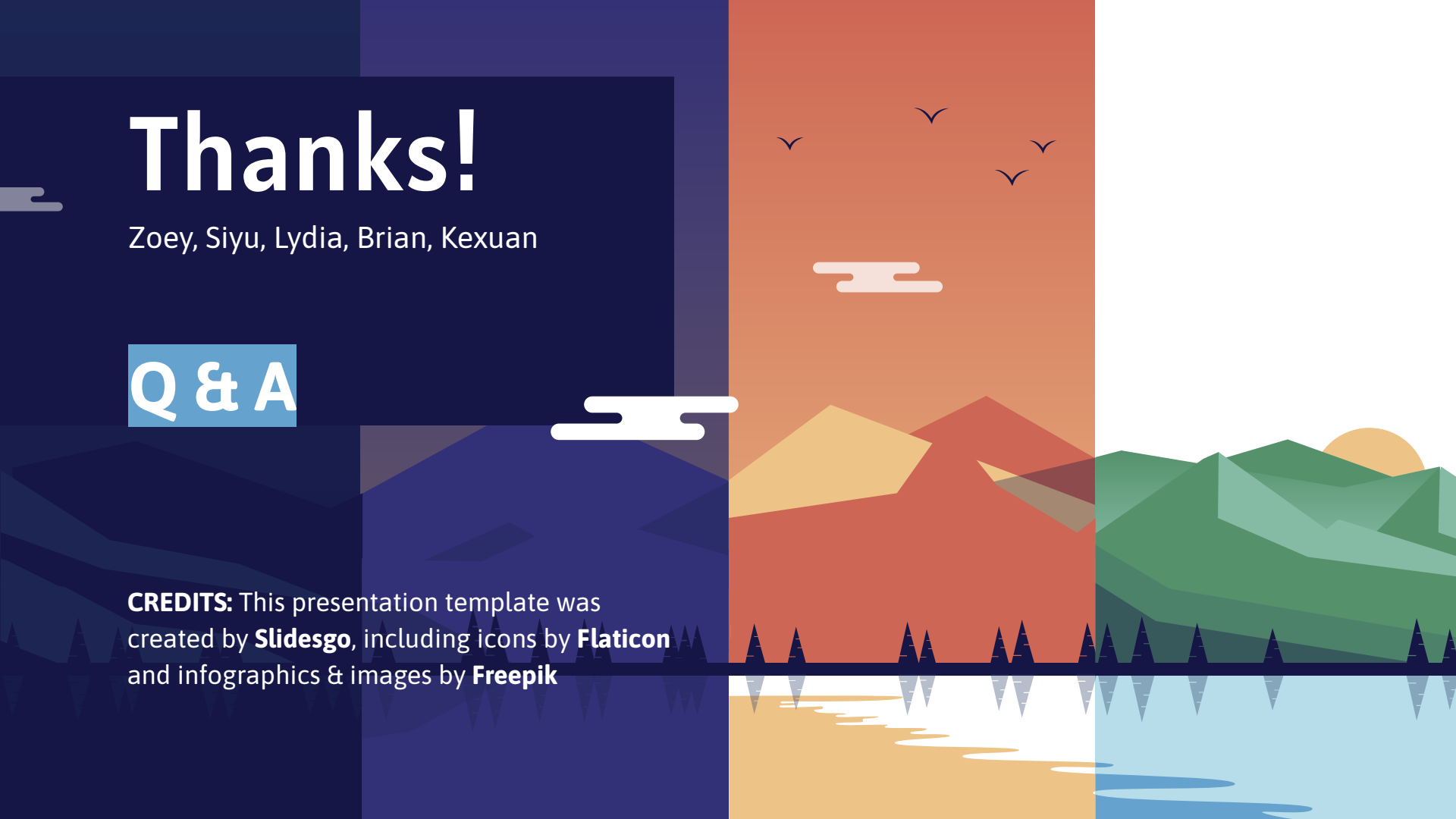


Thanks!

Zoey, Siyu, Lydia, Brian, Kexuan

Q & A

CREDITS: This presentation template was created by **Slidesgo**, including icons by **Flaticon** and infographics & images by **Freepik**



About A Girl
by Coughing Up
Phlegm:

An Auditory Experiment
Navigating AI Usage in Music



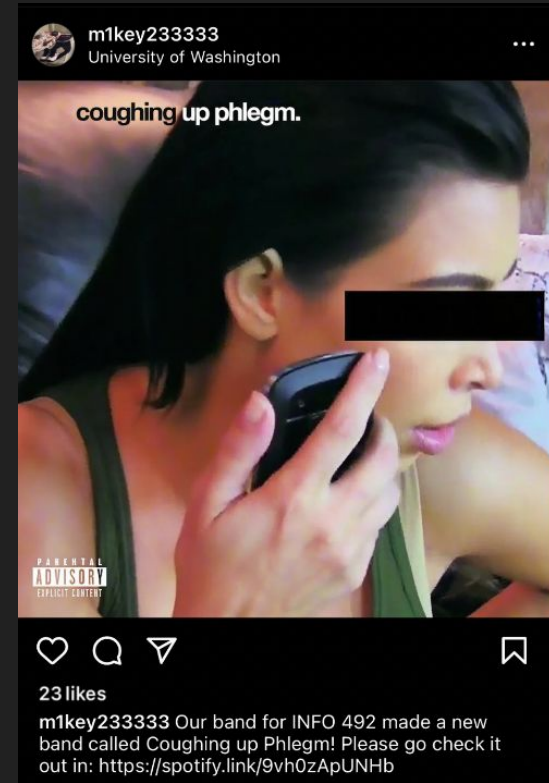
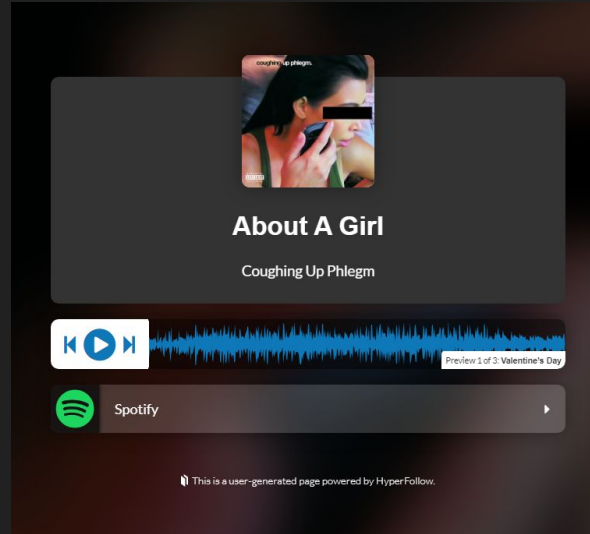
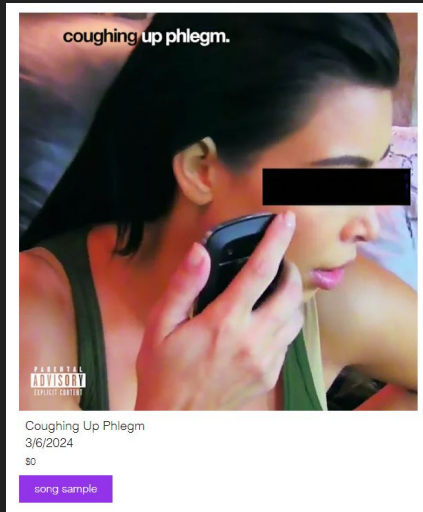
Thesis

AI tools can both streamline and democratize the music-making process in the short-term, but without conscious usage and rigorous self-regulation, complacent over-reliance on AI will homogenize the music industry and tarnish the bond between artist, song and listener in the long-term.

Web App

coughingupphlegm.com

Distribution



Feedback

- “Loved the songs, it would be better if the vocals got more mixed in with the beat”
- “I like the narrative of *Valentine’s Day*”
- “*Aisle 4* gives me Passionfruit - Drake vibes”
- “You and your groupmates’ vocals being distorted differently takes me out of the song a bit”
- “*Fadeaway* is fire”

Reflection - Team

- AI tools allowed 4 newcomers to music to create something with a more refined, professional sound
- At times it was difficult to synthesize 4 individuals' ideas along with AI output into a single, cohesive song
- Increased reliance on digital music production tools can make artist collaboration more difficult, as there is more crossover in skillsets and ability

Reflection - Creation

- The AI vocals were a bit jarring at times
- ChatGPT proved useful for assistance with writing lyrics, particularly for finding specific rhymes
- LANDR's AI mastering and Voice.ai's AI stem-splitting were highly effective and elevated the songs beyond our own capabilities
- We managed to implement AI elements without compromising our artistic expression

Reflection - EP

- *Aisle 4* feels less polished, *Valentine's Day* feels less ambitious than *Fadeaway*
- Vocals were a point of struggle throughout the EP, whether it was our inexperienced human vocals, choppy AI vocals, or poor results from our free auto-pitch software
- Proud to have created and released music for the first time, which would not have been possible without the confidence AI assistance provided us with
- Provides a strong jumping-off point for future music creation, both through:
 - Increased knowledge on where AI implementation can be of use, and where it might supersede artistic expression
 - Experience collaborating and seeing a song through from start to finish

Thank you.