Centre (for)
Projection Art
presenting

GERTRUDE
STREET
PROJECTION
FESTIVAL

Transcription J. Rosenbaum - Set In Stone,

My Name is J. Rosenbaum, my artwork title is Set In Stone presented in Gertrude Street Projection Festival 2021.

I would describe this artwork as a video projection of a large mosaic. It shows a face with colorful hair constructed of tiny Artificial Intelligence generated faces which zooms in on a single pixelated masculine marble face inside the mosaic. Everything else fades around the face as it starts to grow and shift and change, as further content is added to the neural network to alter it's biases. As the AI learns and grows and more data is added, the gender of the image shifts and changes and colour is added in the hair and the face becomes more realized, more representational of themselves. It is a discovery from our blurry beginnings to our realizations of ourselves. The new face becomes a new mosaic and another face is zoomed in, ready to start the transformation again.

My work explores transgender aesthetics and experience through the lens of technology and the latest techniques. This work is about seeing if artificial Intelligence can change its own biases. This work represents the introspective journey of what gender means to us all and how we are the sum of all of our knowledge and experiences. Gender is not a binary, it contains multitudes, and if a biased neural network isn’t set in stone then neither are we.

My artistic practice is research and programming and dataset creation and a million different hats. I shape shift, morph into my different personas, I create with traditional sketching mediums and vintage imagery, I model in 3D planes on a 2D screen, I write programs for my computer and teach artificial neural networks. I create, I change, I adapt, I grow. All the time my work and my AI systems adapt and grow with me, an extension of myself. My art is about the processes that go into its completion, not just the final work but every step that led to it being the work you see. My practice is about linking the real and the digital, the artificial and natural intelligences and showing the processes that my brain goes through while collaborating with my computer.

In 500 years I suspect I will look like a computer simulation, able to adapt and change to represent my truest self and move beyond the confines of my fallible human body to a purely simulated existence. I hope that all the wonderful things that make life amazing are also simulated, creating an ideal plane of existence where I can live as I want, with whom I want, in a limitless space of possibility.