

14th SYMPOSIUM OF BIAL FOUNDATION
BEHIND AND BEYOND THE BRAIN

Artificial Creativity and Art

Penousal Machado
University of Coimbra
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Tiago Martins
University of Coimbra
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April 5, 2024

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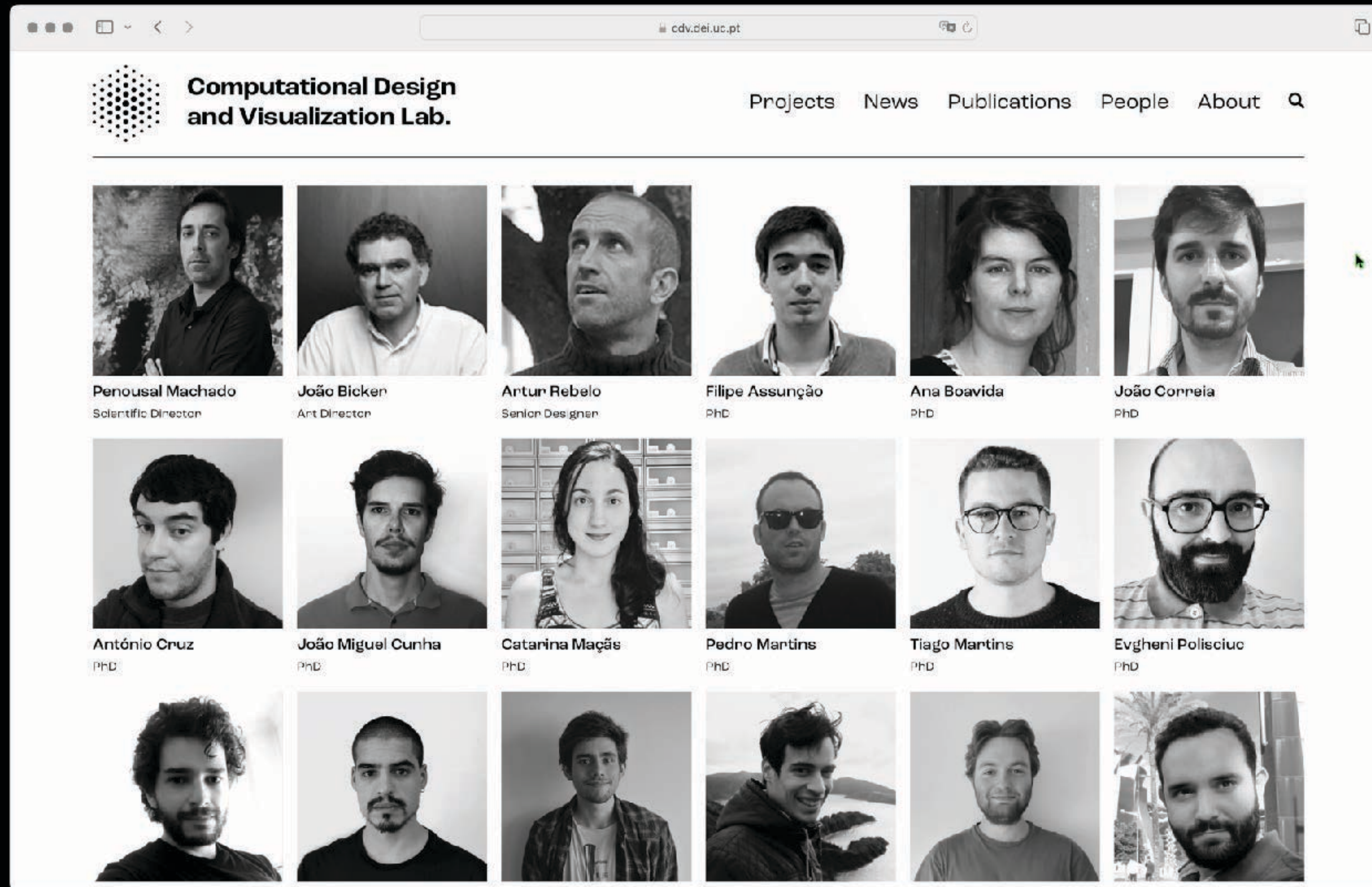
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Who am I?

I am a computational designer.

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I am a researcher at the Computational Design and Visualization lab, Centre for Informatics and Systems of the University of Coimbra.



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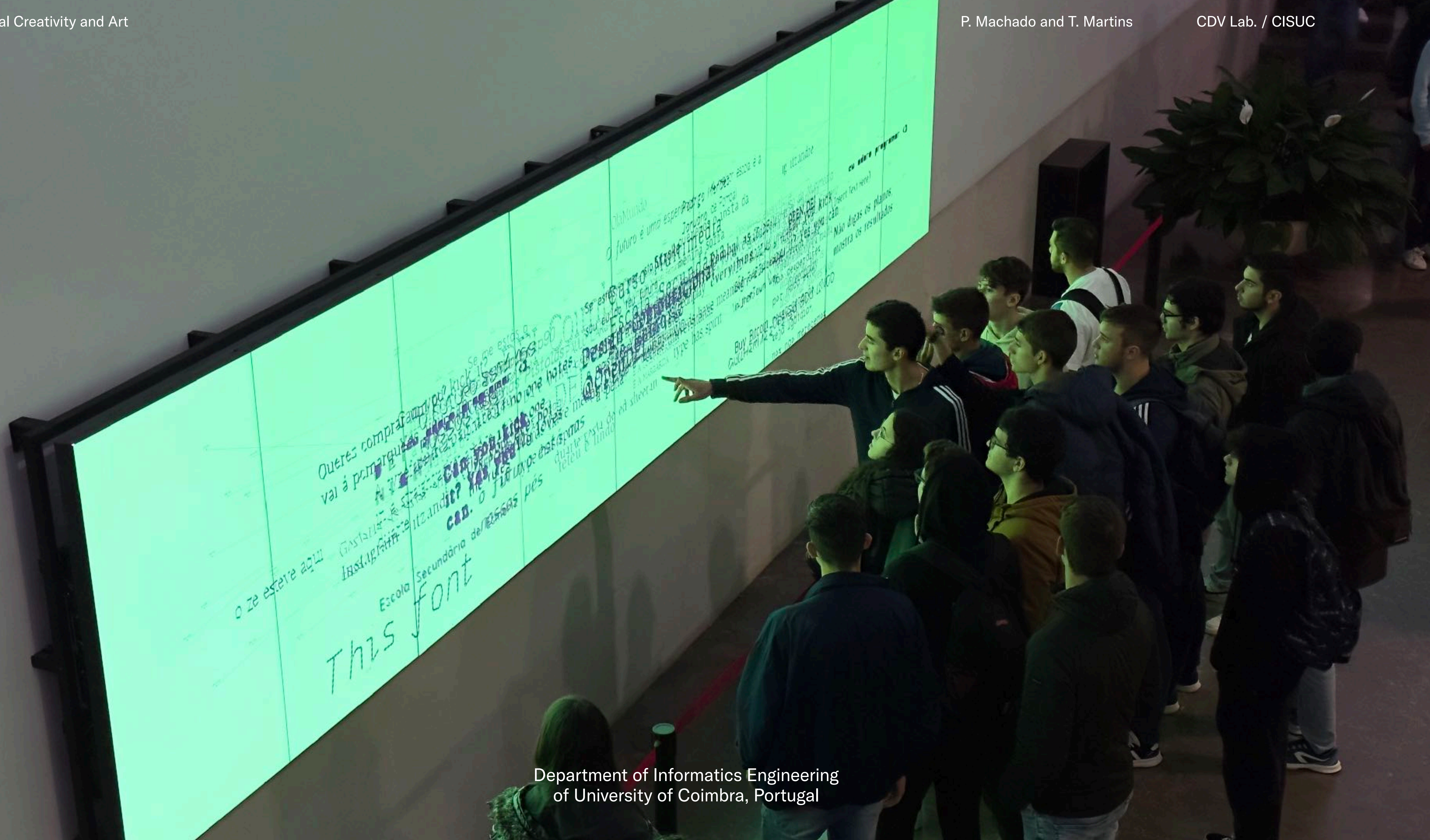
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I am a lecturer at Department of Informatics Engineering of University of Coimbra.



Department of Informatics Engineering
of University of Coimbra, Portugal



Generative Design and Visual Art

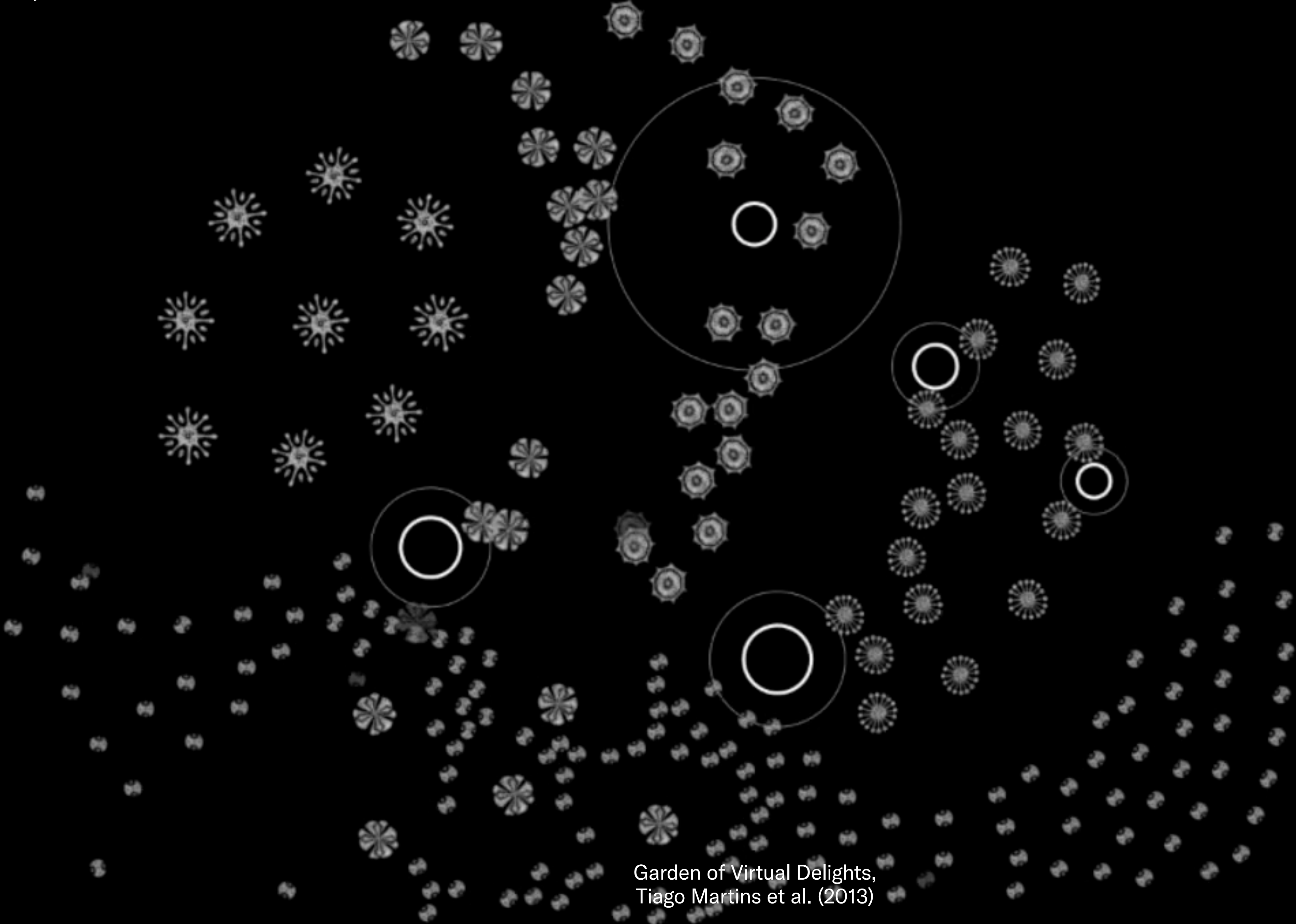
Generative Design and Visual Art

New Media Art

Generative Design and Visual Art

New Media Art

Artificial Intelligence



Garden of Virtual Delights,
Tiago Martins et al. (2013)

Use of Artificial Intelligence to generate new visual artefacts.

Use of Artificial Intelligence to generate new visual artefacts.

Propose novel tools to go beyond existing options.

Use of Artificial Intelligence to generate new visual artefacts.

Propose novel tools to go beyond existing options.

Explore vast spaces of unique designs through evolutionary computation.

Generating
letters

Generating
faces

Generating
coins

Generating
letters

Generating
faces

Generating
coins

Generating
harmonographs

Generating **letters**

Generating **faces**

Generating **coins**

Co-authored with João Correia,
Ernesto Costa, and Penousal Machado

Context

Context

- Typefaces are essential in several design domains;

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- Continuous creation of new custom typefaces;

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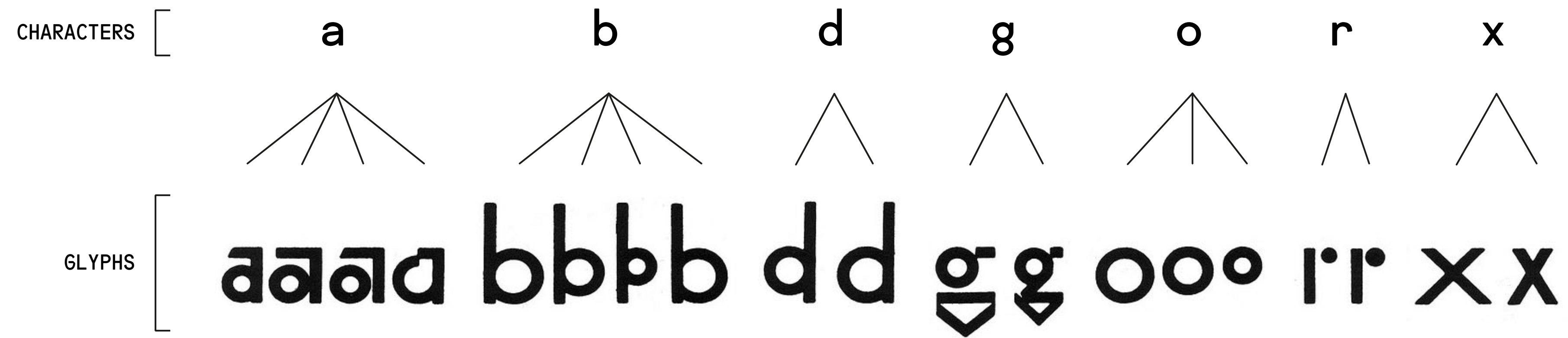
- Typefaces are essential in several design domains;
- Continuous creation of new custom typefaces;
- Designing a typeface is a laborious task;

Context

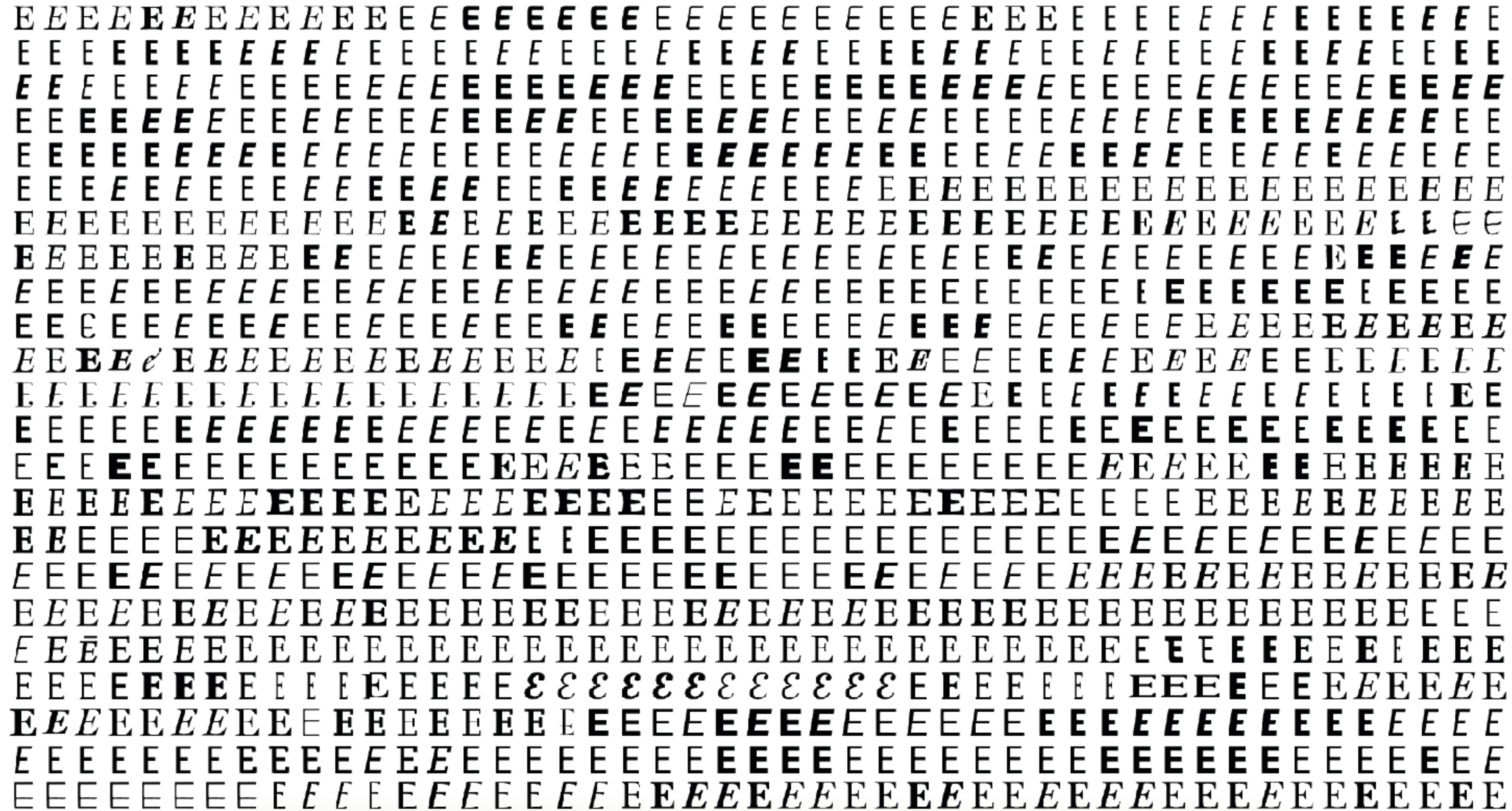
- Typefaces are essential in several design domains;
- Continuous creation of new custom typefaces;
- Designing a typeface is a laborious task;
- Existing computational tools offer little support to design exploration;

Context

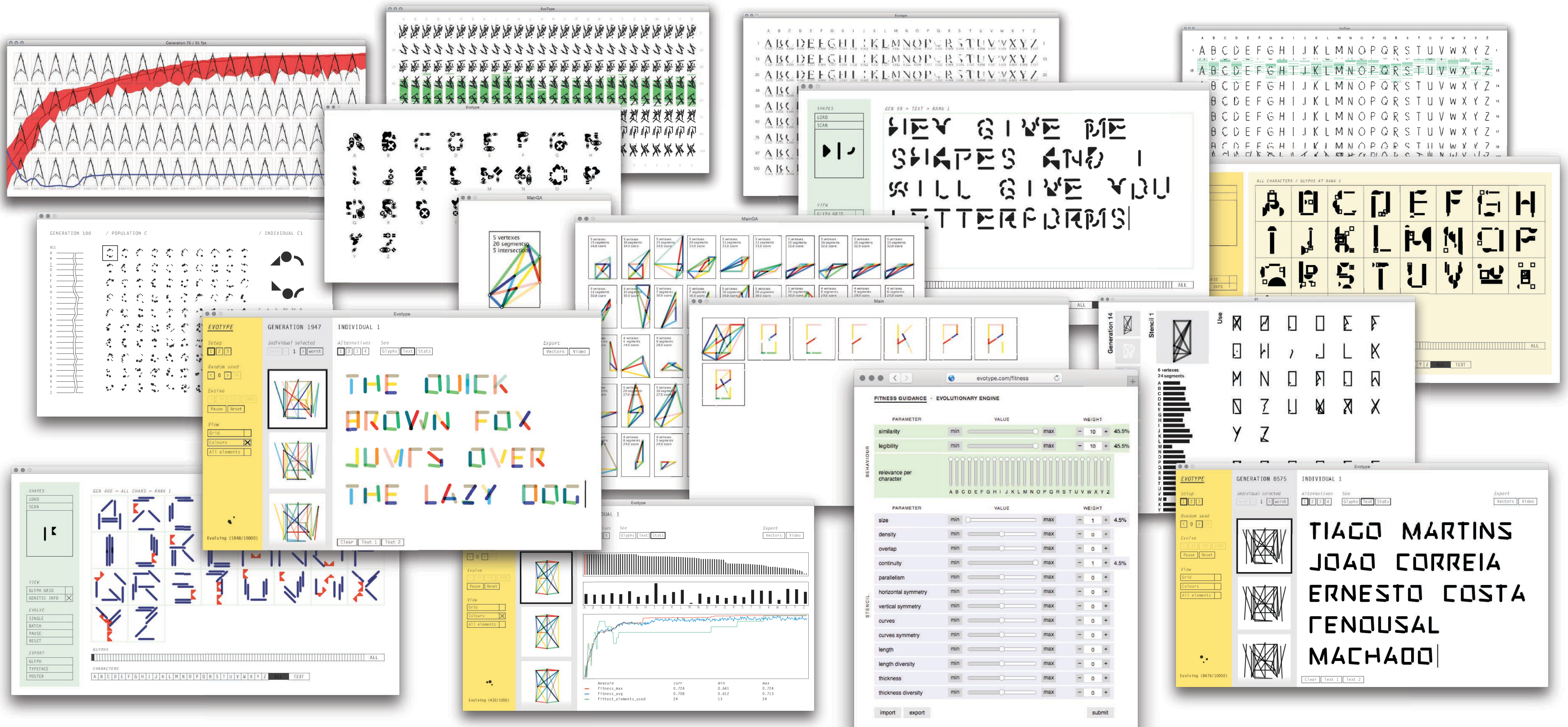
- Typefaces are essential in several design domains;
- Continuous creation of new custom typefaces;
- Designing a typeface is a laborious task;
- Existing computational tools offer little support to design exploration;
- Demand for tools that enable the quick generation of glyph designs.



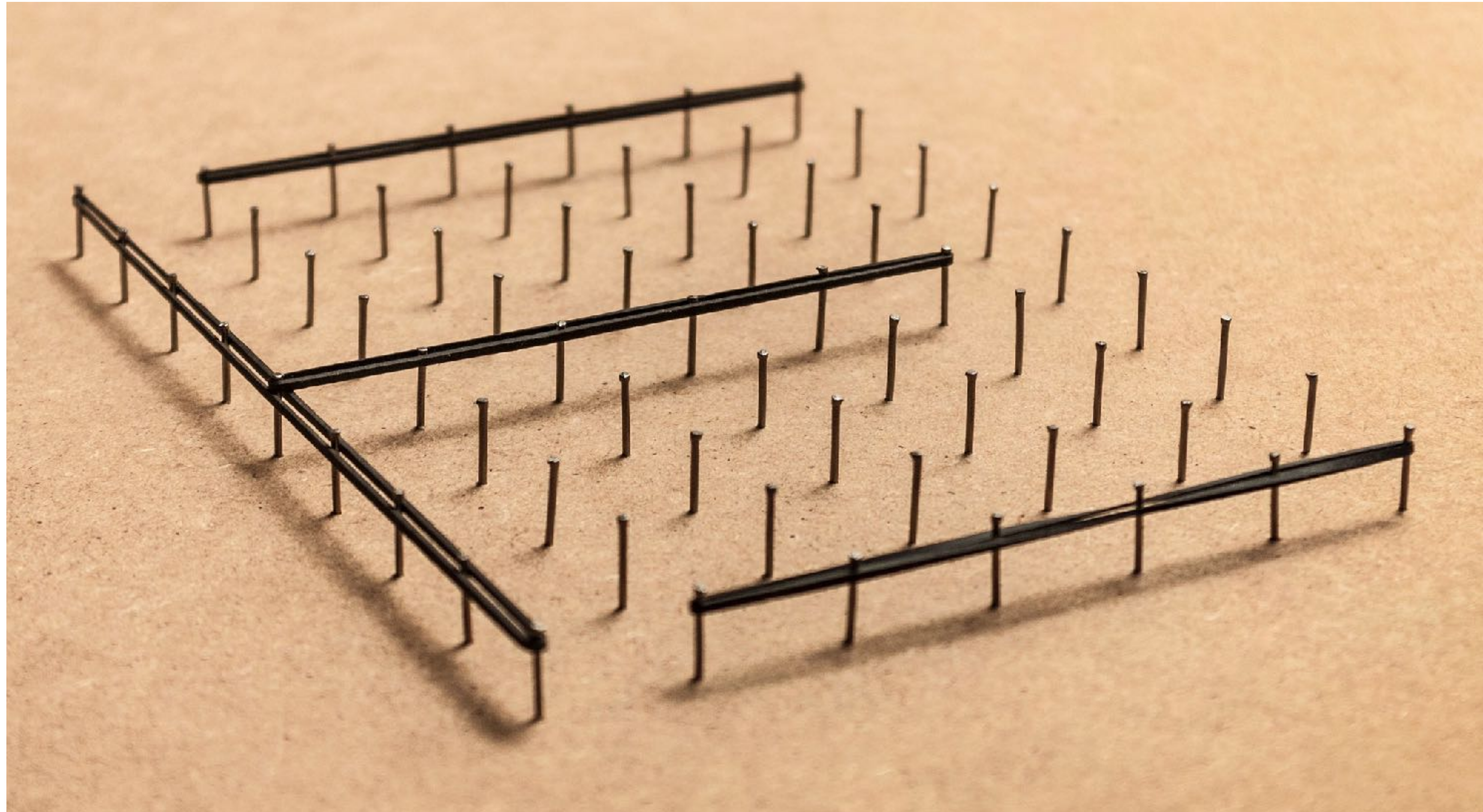
Characters and glyphs



Different glyphs for the letter E



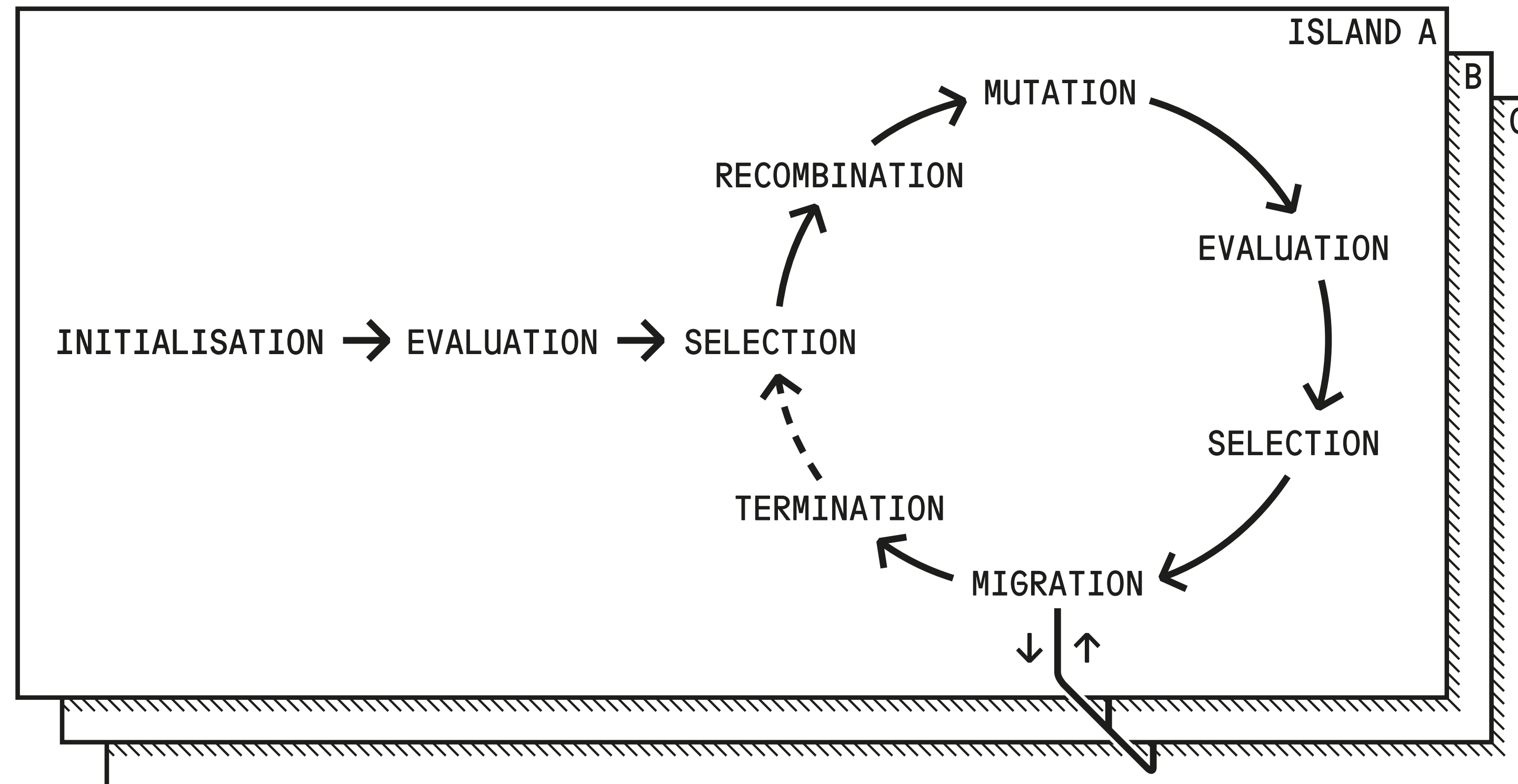
Screenshots of different computer systems developed for *Evotype*



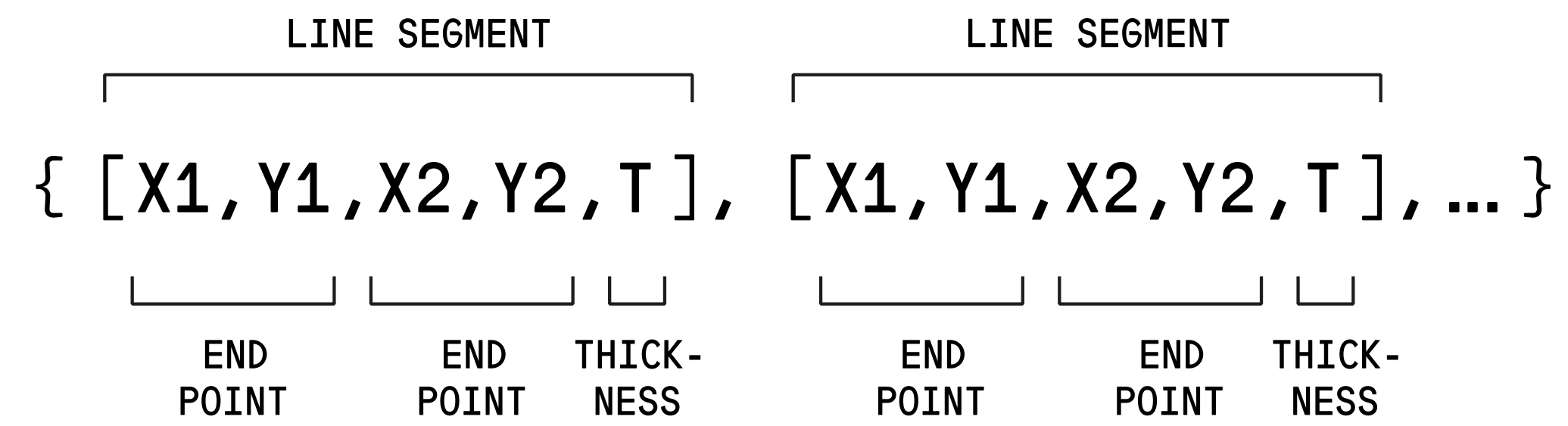
Glyph for the letter E designed with
rubber bands in a grid of iron nails



Video of the evolutionary process of Eotype



Overview of Evotype



Genotype encoding

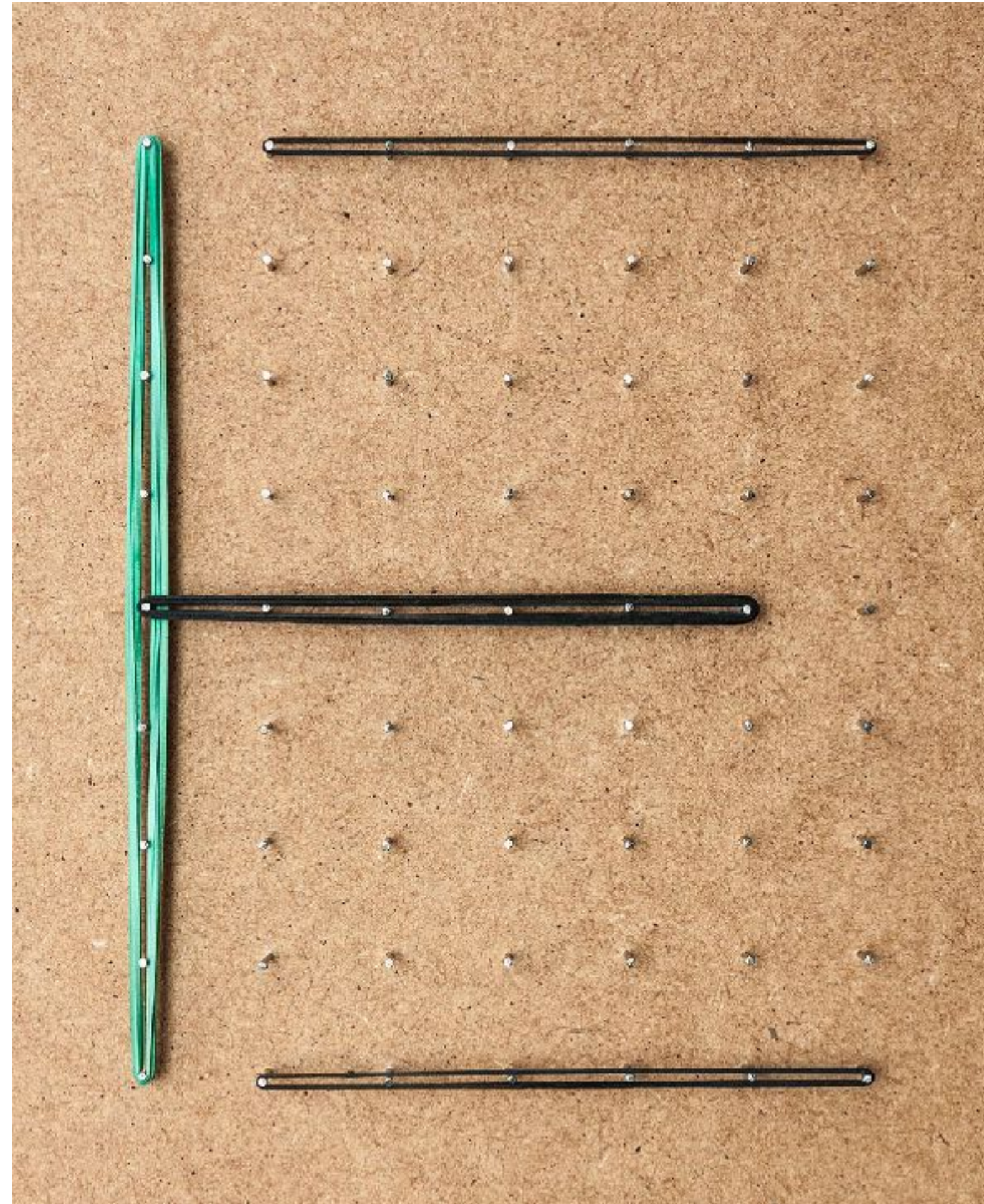

```
{[0,0,0,8,3],  
 [1,0,6,0,1],  
 [0,4,5,4,2],  
 [1,8,6,8,1]}
```



```
LINE SEGMENT      LINE SEGMENT  
┌──────────┐      ┌──────────┐  
{ [X1, Y1, X2, Y2, T], [X1, Y1, X2, Y2, T], ... }  
└────────┘ └──┘ └──┘      └────────┘ └──┘ └──┘  
  END  END  THICK-      END  END  THICK-  
POINT POINT NESS      POINT POINT NESS
```

Mapping process from genotype to phenotype

{ [0,0,0,8,3],
[1,0,6,0,1],
[0,4,5,4,2],
[1,8,6,8,1] }



LINE SEGMENT LINE SEGMENT
{ [X1, Y1, X2, Y2, T], [X1, Y1, X2, Y2, T], ... }
END POINT END POINT THICK- END POINT END POINT THICK-
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      │           │      │           │
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      │           │      │           │
      └──┬──┬──┘      └──┬──┬──┘
        END END THICK-  END END THICK-
        POINT POINT NESS POINT POINT NESS

```

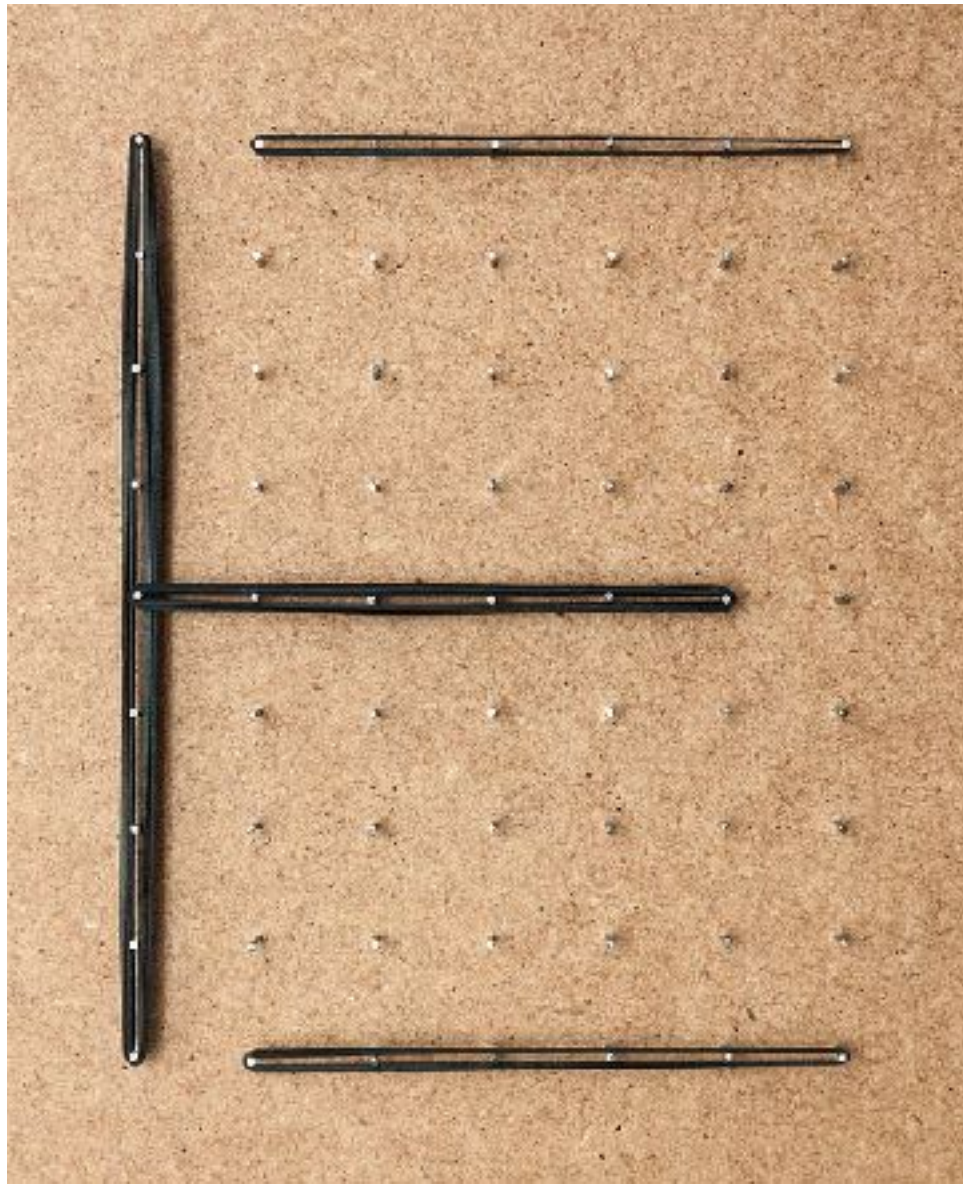
Mapping process from genotype to phenotype


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{[0,0,0,8,3],  
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 [1,8,6,8,1]}
```



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LINE SEGMENT      LINE SEGMENT  
┌──────────┐      ┌──────────┐  
└──────────┘      └──────────┘  
{ [X1, Y1, X2, Y2, T], [X1, Y1, X2, Y2, T], ... }  
┌──┐ ┌──┐ ┌──┐      ┌──┐ ┌──┐ ┌──┐  
END END THICK-      END END THICK-  
POINT POINT NESS   POINT POINT NESS
```

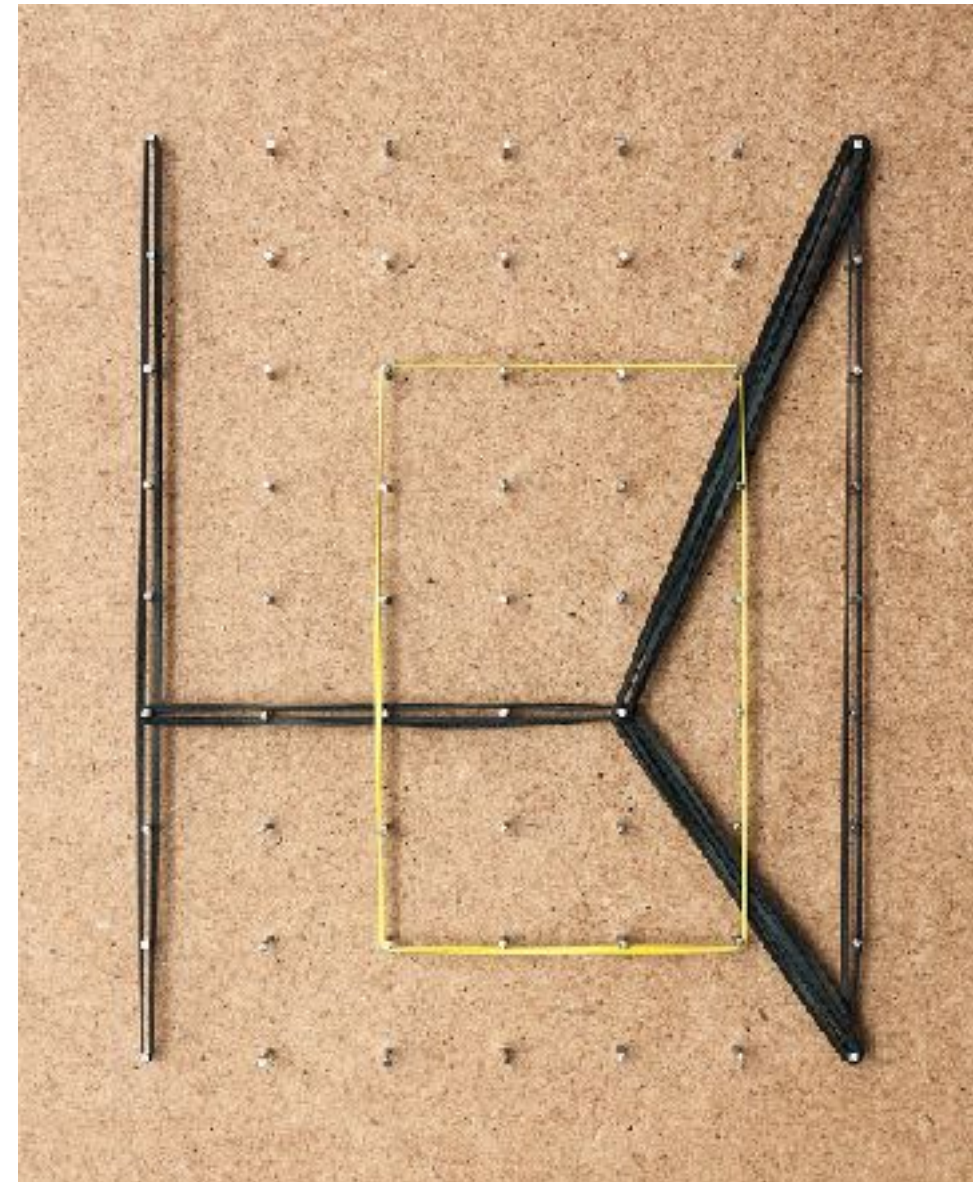
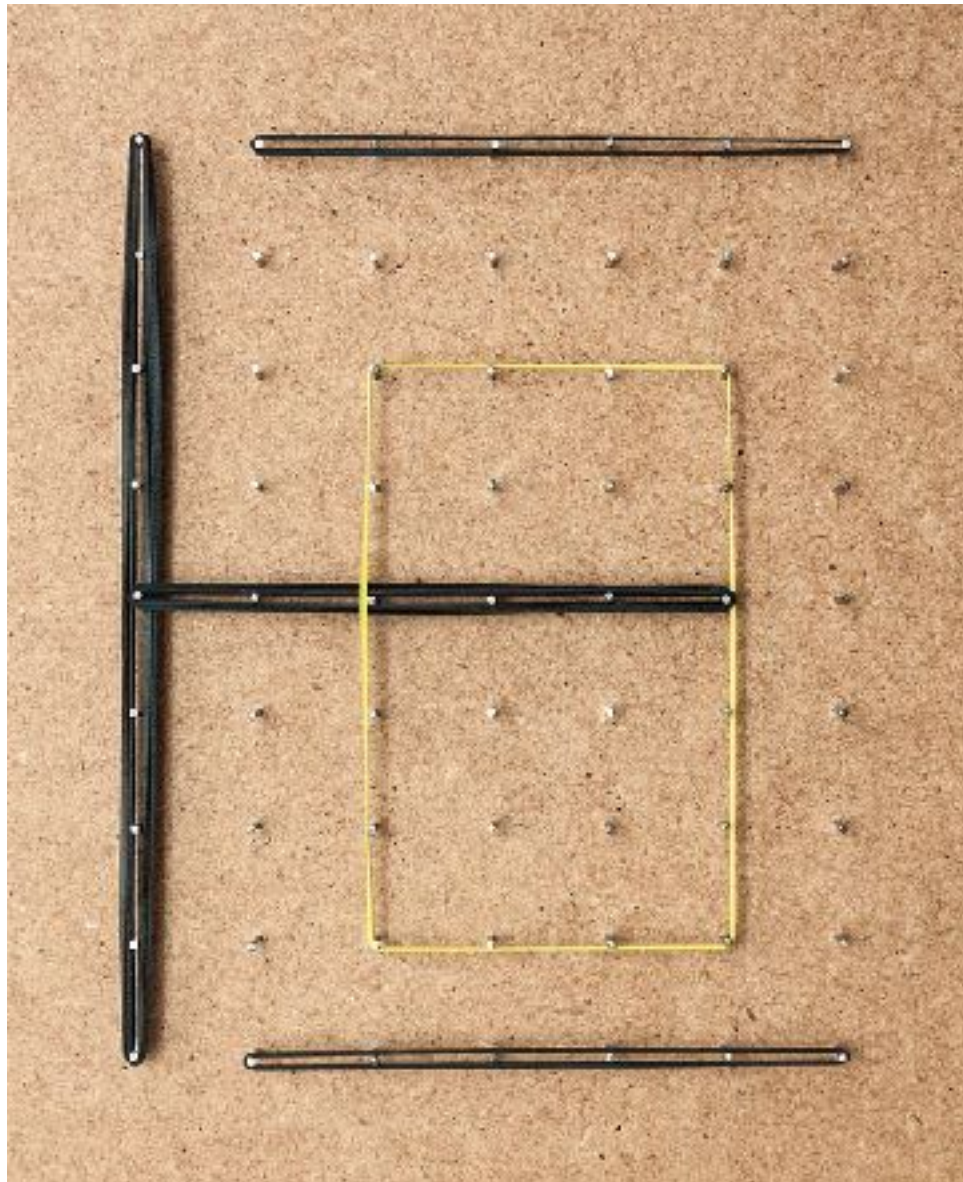
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{[0,0,0,8,3],  
 [1,0,6,0,1],  
 [0,4,5,4,2],  
 [1,8,6,8,1]}
```

```
{[0,0,0,8,1],  
 [0,5,4,5,1],  
 [6,0,6,8,1],  
 [6,0,4,5,4],  
 [6,8,4,5,4]}
```

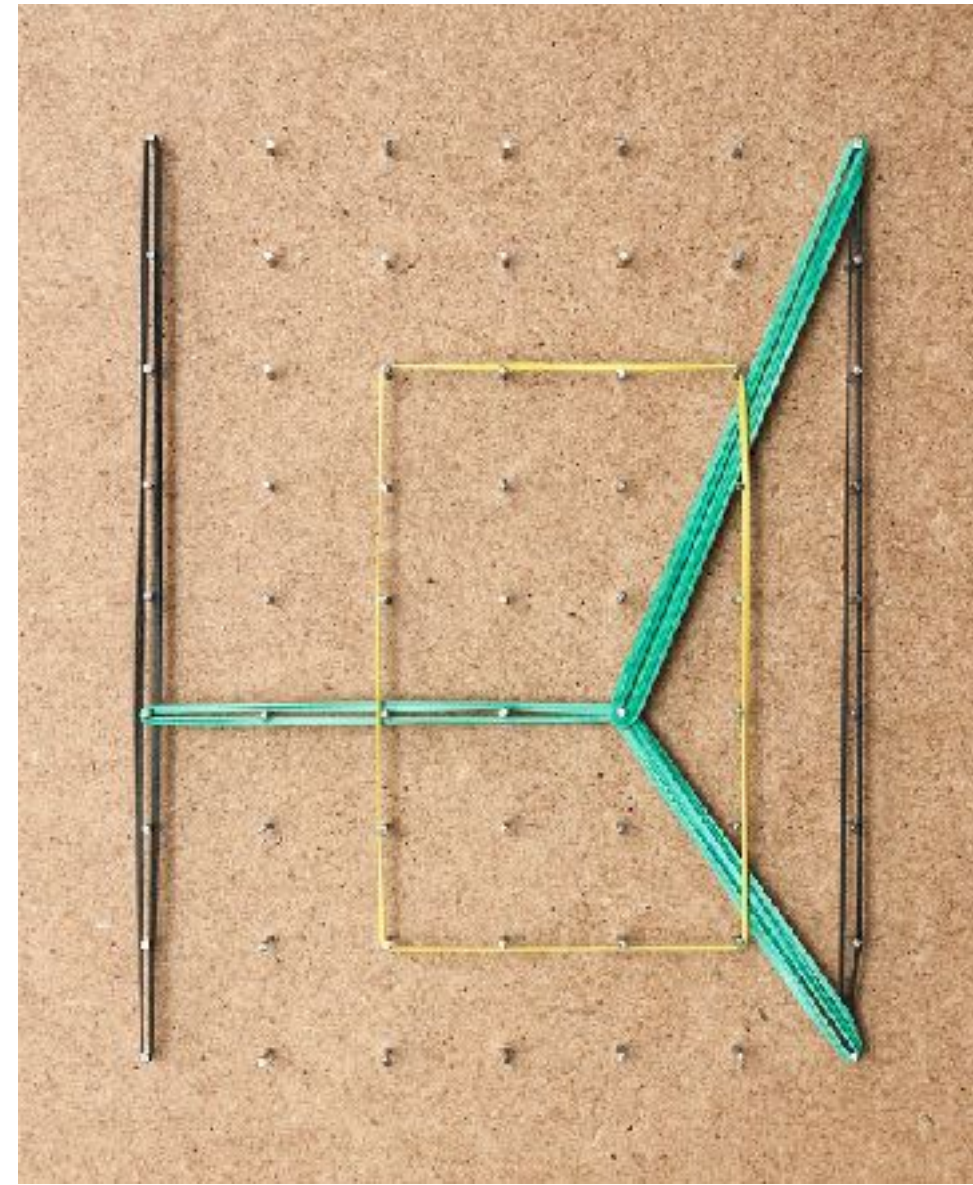
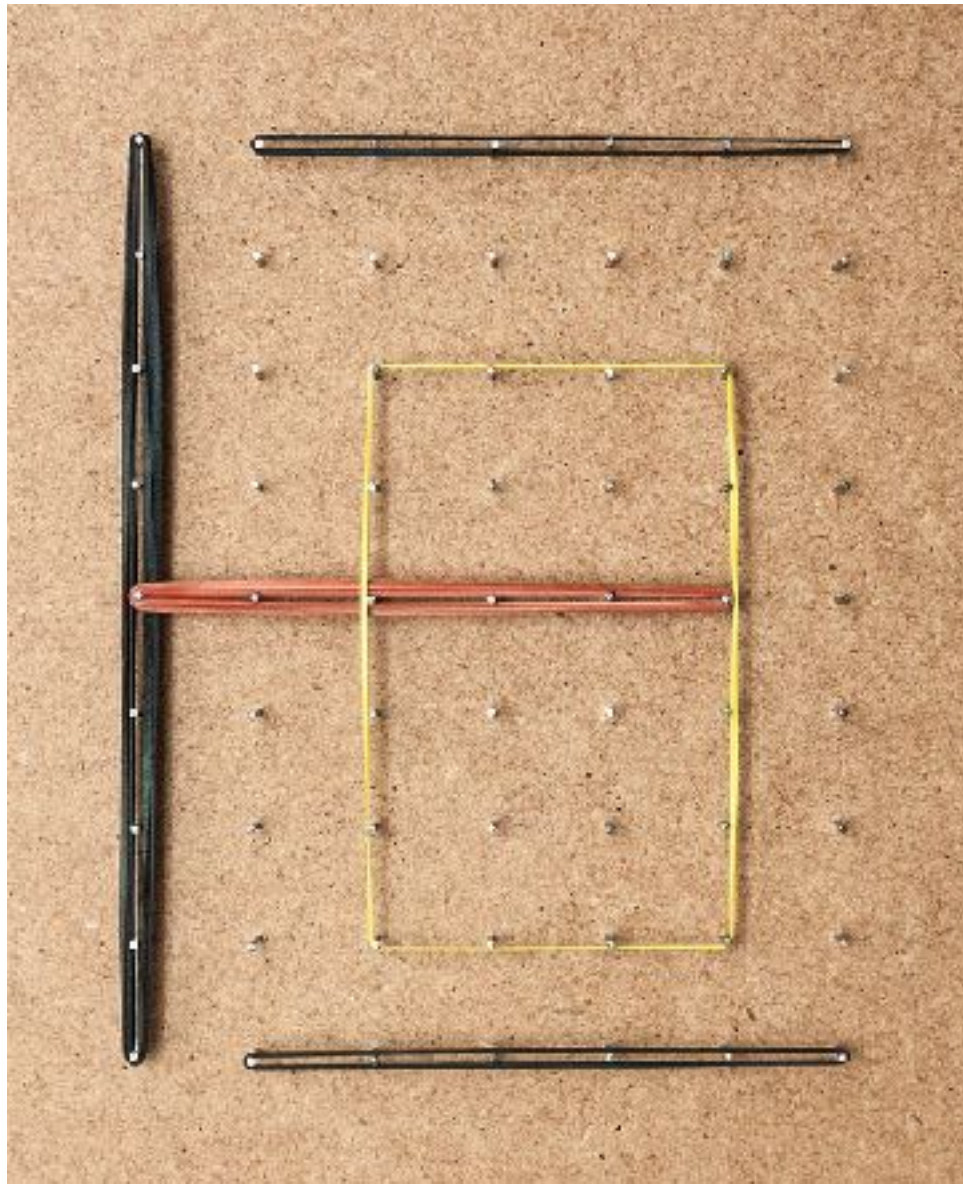
Crossover process



```
{[0,0,0,8,3],  
 [1,0,6,0,1],  
 [0,4,5,4,2],  
 [1,8,6,8,1]}
```

```
{[0,0,0,8,1],  
 [0,5,4,5,1],  
 [6,0,6,8,1],  
 [6,0,4,5,4],  
 [6,8,4,5,4]}
```

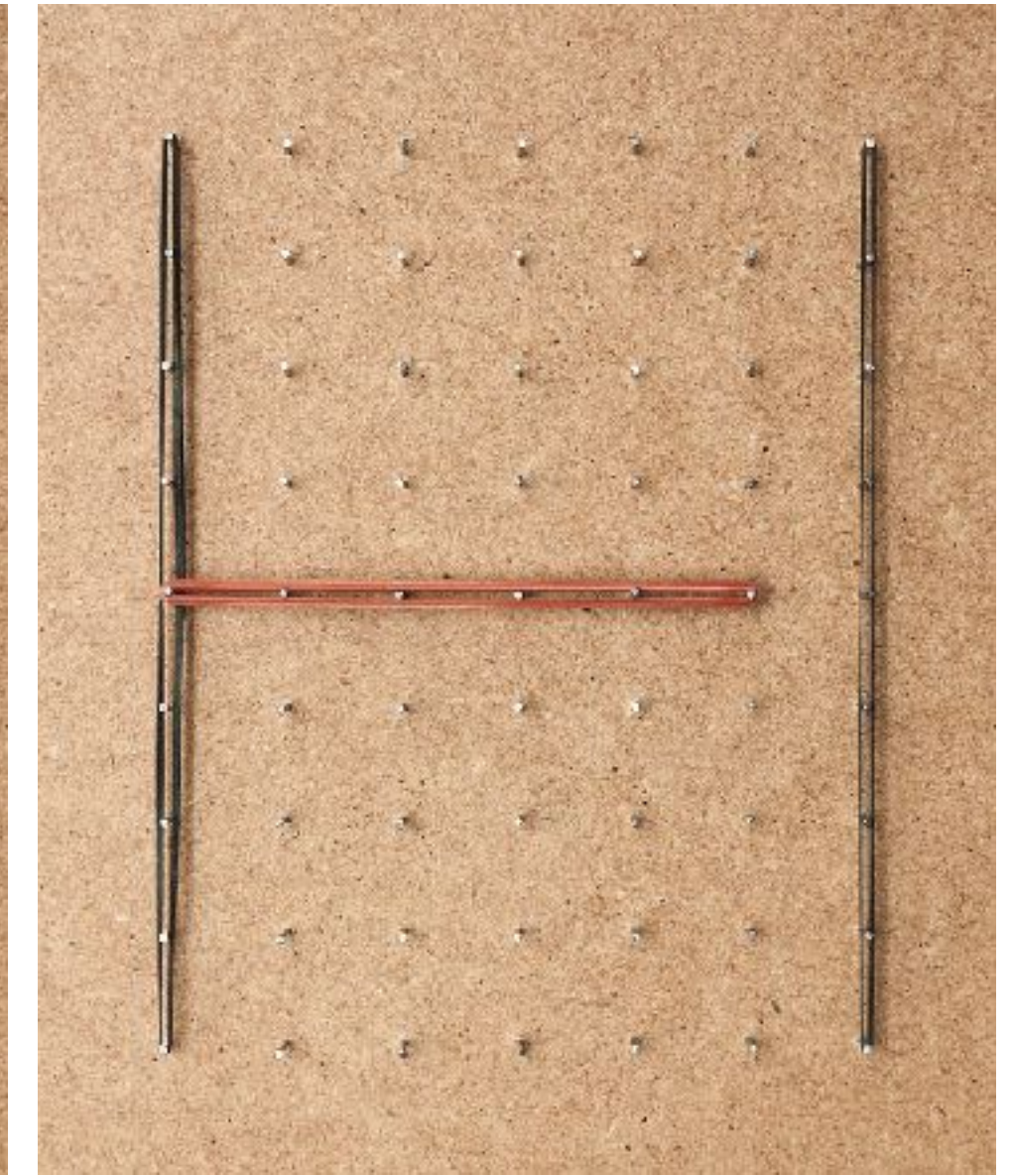
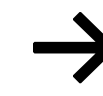
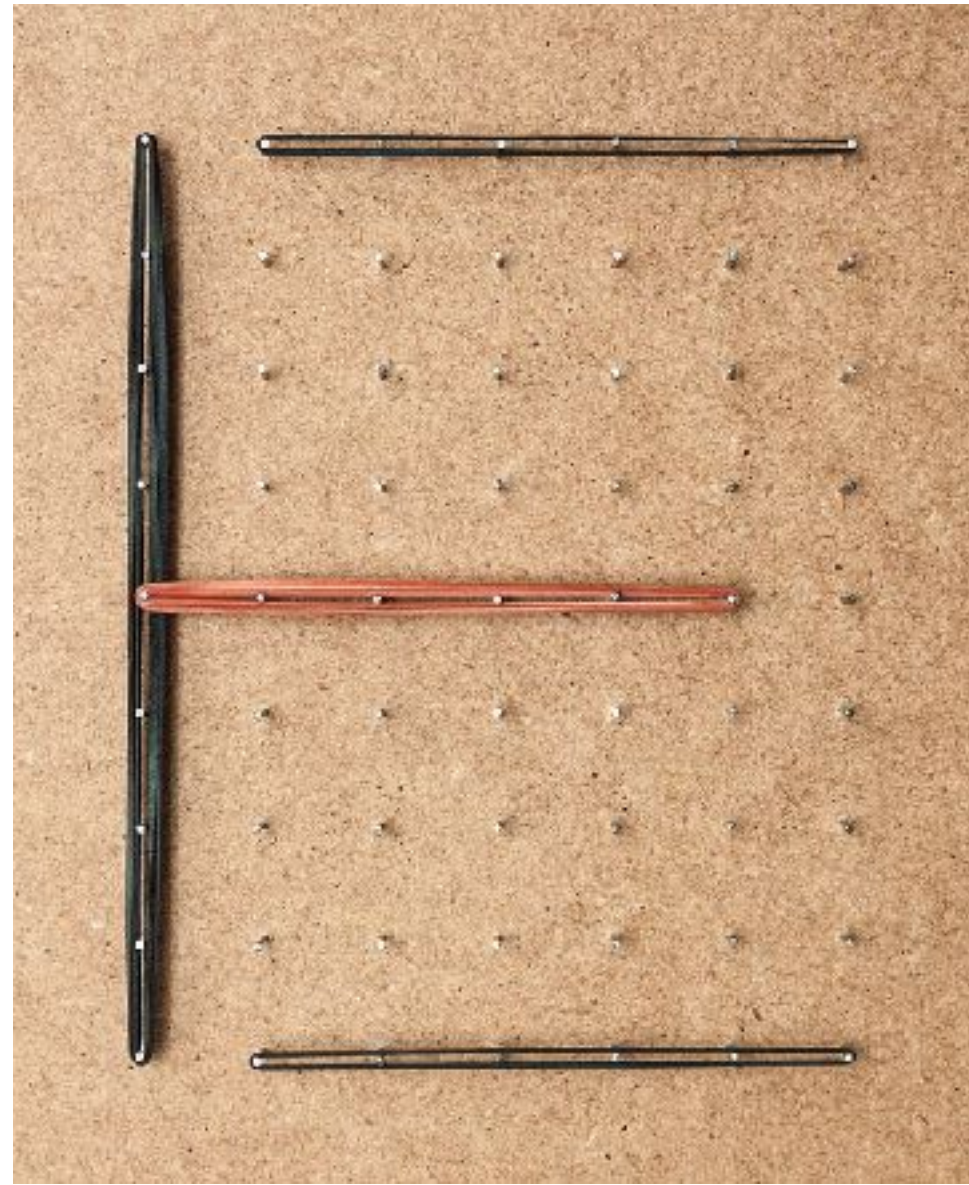
Crossover process



```
{[0,0,0,8,3],  
 [1,0,6,0,1],  
 [0,4,5,4,2],  
 [1,8,6,8,1]}
```

```
{[0,0,0,8,1],  
 [0,5,4,5,1],  
 [6,0,6,8,1],  
 [6,0,4,5,4],  
 [6,8,4,5,4]}
```

Crossover process



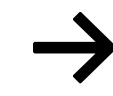
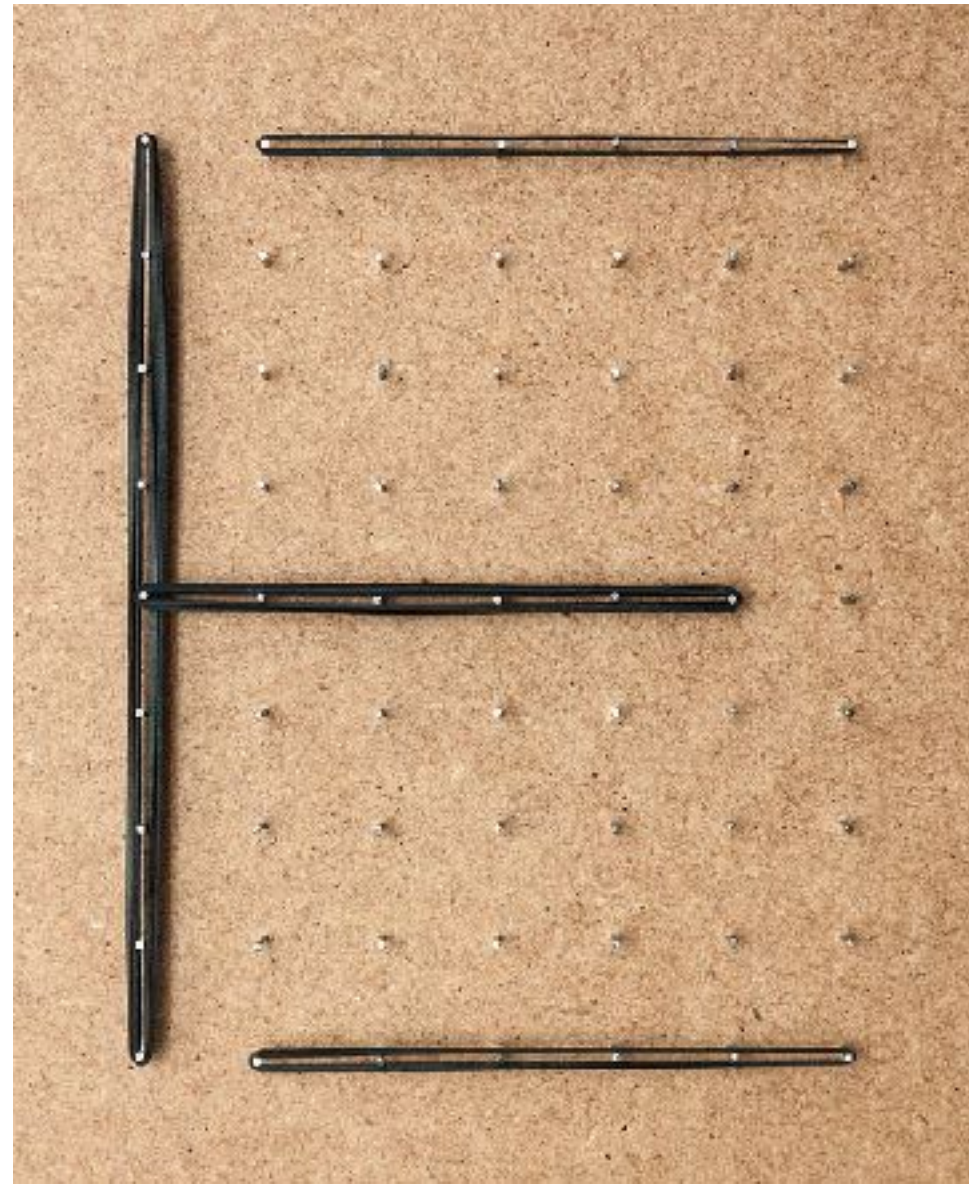
{[0,0,0,8,3],
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[1,8,6,8,1]}

{[0,0,0,8,1],
[0,5,4,5,1],
[6,0,6,8,1],
[6,0,4,5,4],
[6,8,4,5,4]}

{[0,0,0,8,3],
[1,0,6,0,1],
[1,8,6,8,1],
[0,5,4,5,1],
[6,0,4,5,4],
[6,8,4,5,4]}

{[0,0,0,8,1],
[6,0,6,8,1],
[0,4,5,4,2]}

Crossover process



{[0,0,0,8,3],
[1,0,6,0,1],
[0,4,5,4,2],
[1,8,6,8,1]}

{[0,0,0,8,1],
[0,5,4,5,1],
[6,0,6,8,1],
[6,0,4,5,4],
[6,8,4,5,4]}

{[0,0,0,8,3],
[1,0,6,0,1],
[1,8,6,8,1],
[0,5,4,5,1],
[6,0,4,5,4],
[6,8,4,5,4]}

{[0,0,0,8,1],
[6,0,6,8,1],
[0,4,5,4,2]}

Crossover process



```
{[3,0,0,8,2],  
 [3,0,6,8,3],  
 [4,5,2,6,2]}
```

Mutation process



{[3,0,0,8,2],
[3,0,6,8,3],
[4,5,2,6,2]}

{[3,0,0,8,2],
[3,0,6,8,3],
[4,5,2,6,2]}

Mutation process

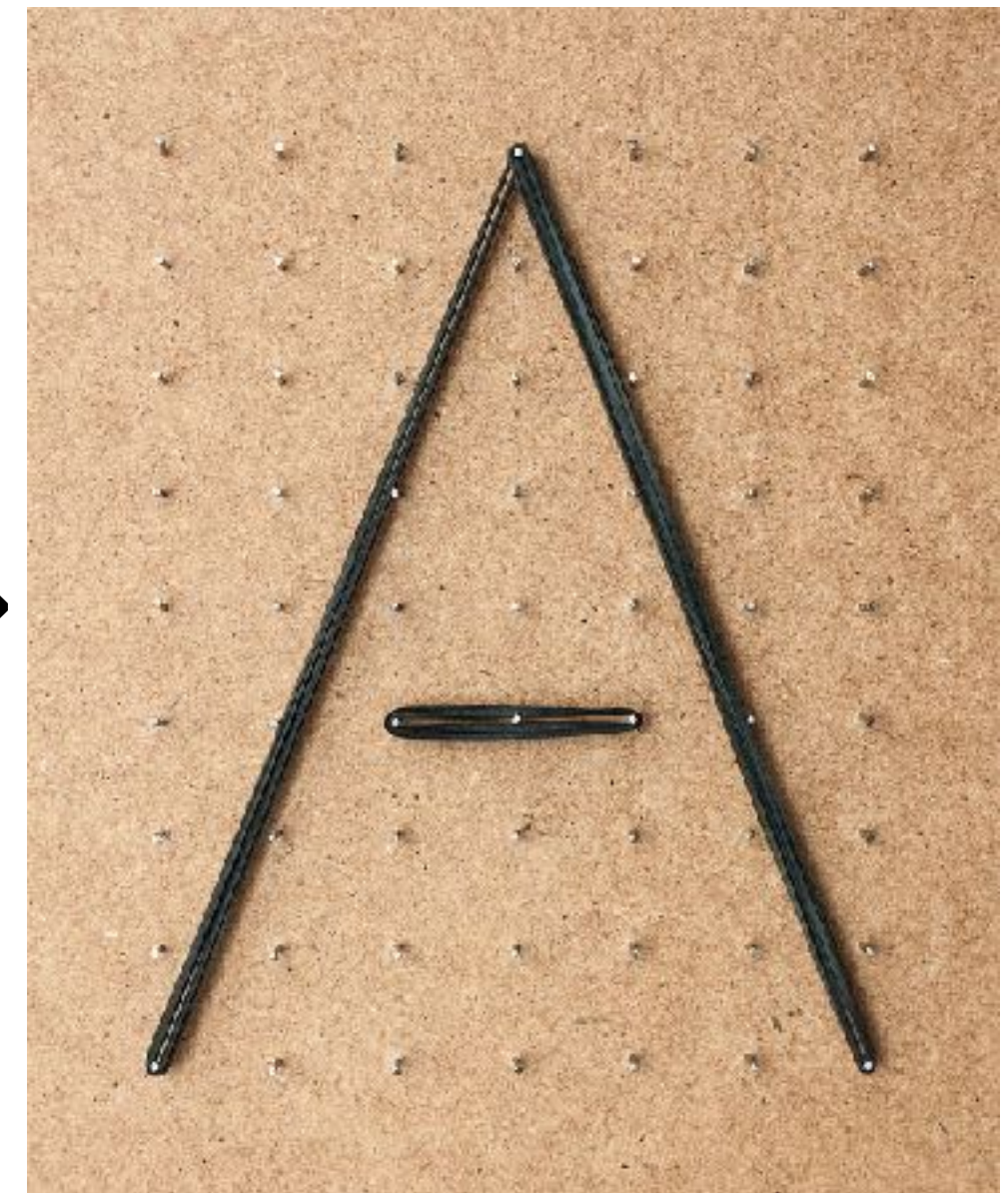


{[3,0,0,8,2],
[3,0,6,8,3],
[4,5,2,6,2]}

{[3,0,0,8,2],
[3,0,6,8,3],
[4,5,2,6,2]}

{[3,0,0,8,2],
[3,0,6,8,3],
[4,5,2,5,2]}

Mutation process



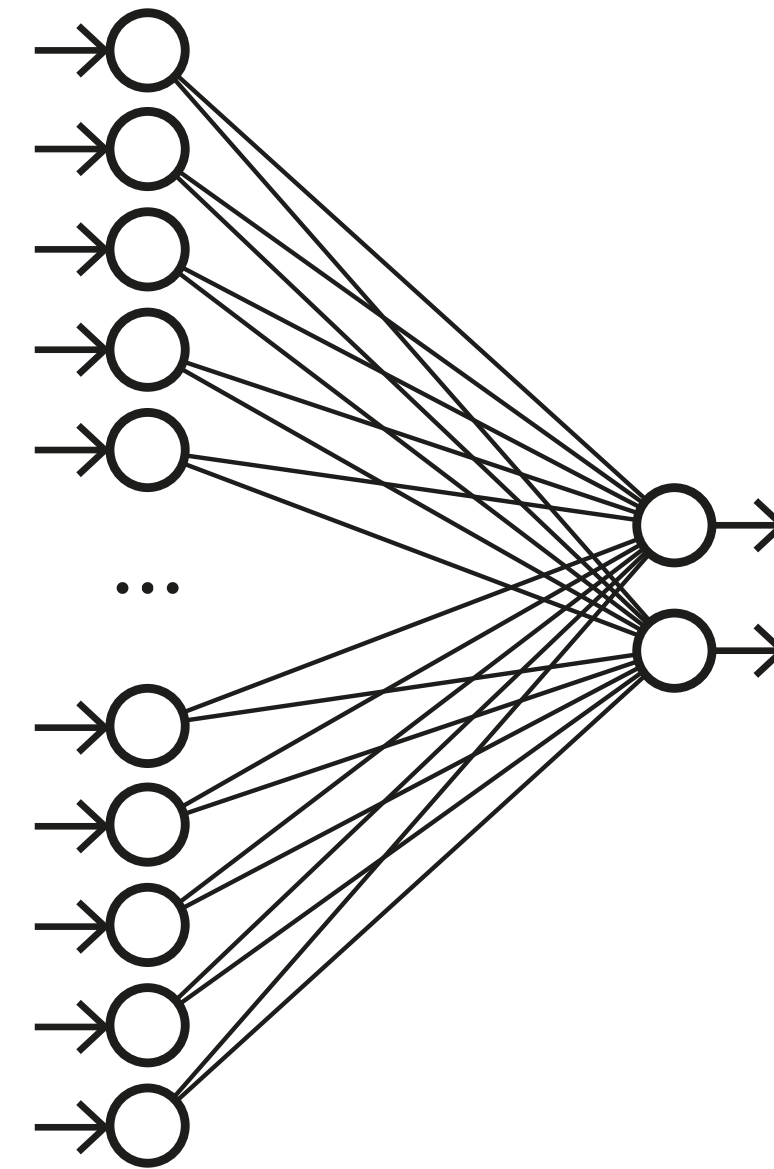
{[3,0,0,8,2],
[3,0,6,8,3],
[4,5,2,6,2]}

{[3,0,0,8,2],
[3,0,6,8,3],
[4,5,2,6,2]}

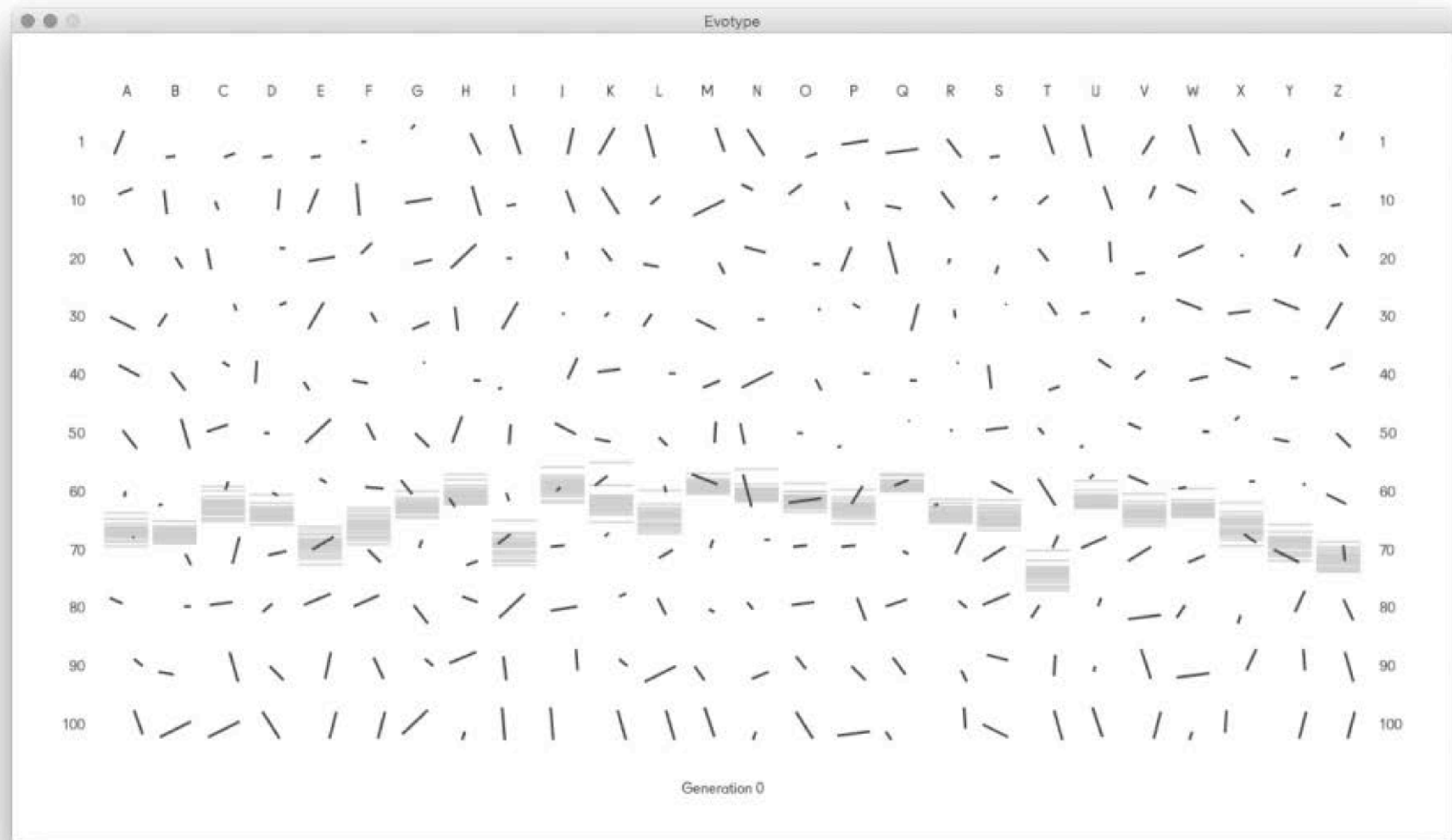
{[3,0,0,8,2],
[3,0,6,8,3],
[4,5,2,5,2]}

{[3,0,0,8,2],
[3,0,6,8,3],
[4,5,2,5,2]}

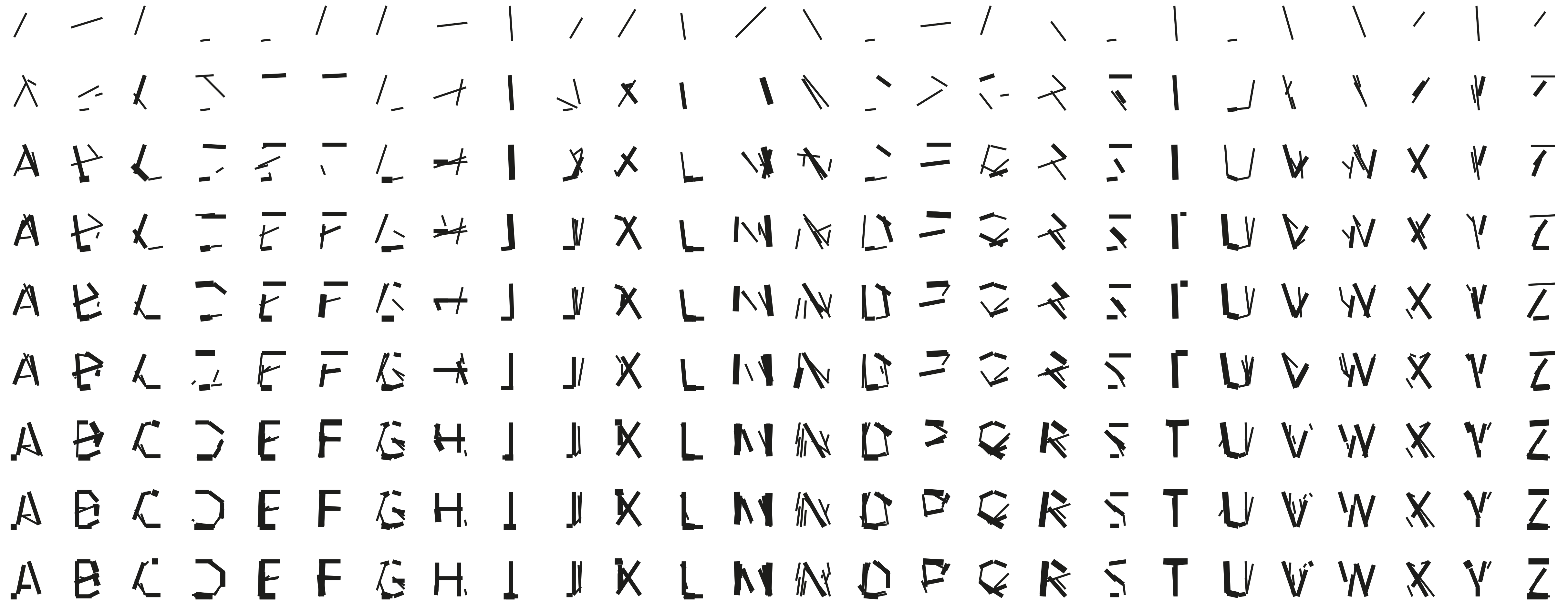
Mutation process



SNoW (Sparse Network of Windows)



Evotype system



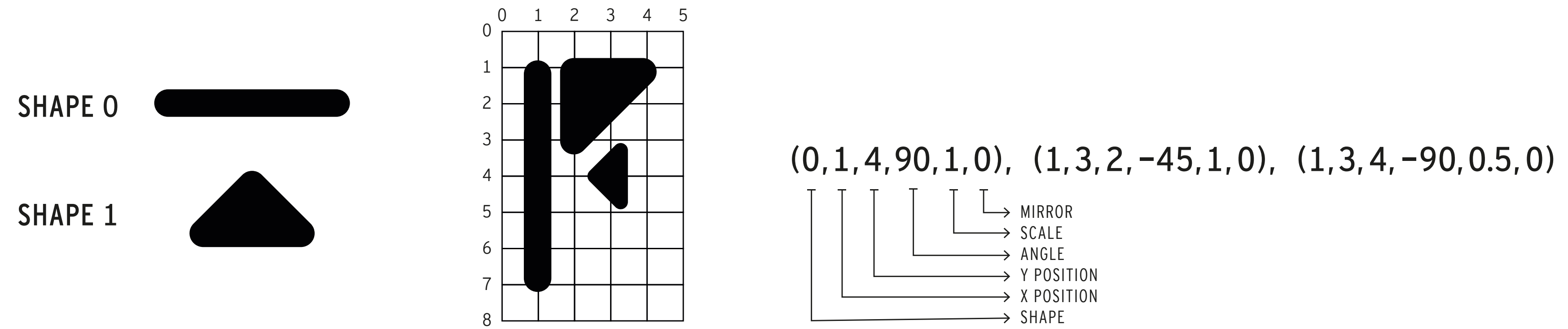
Best individuals of each island for different generations from a typical run



Examples of glyph designs evolved
in different evolutionary runs



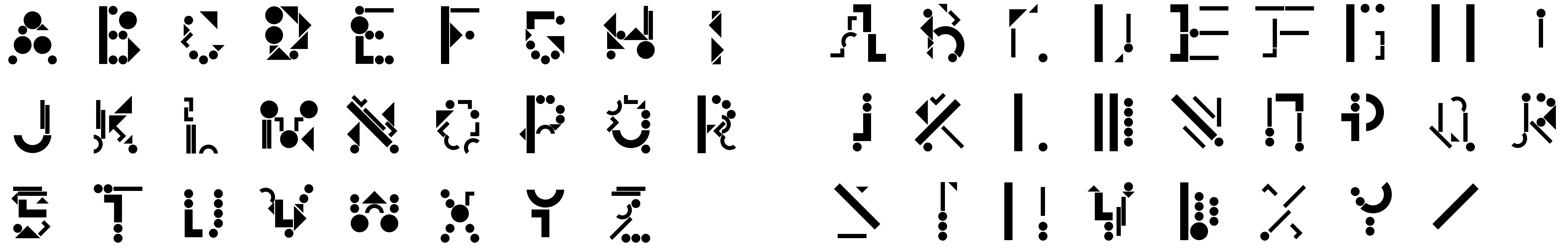
Found Fount by Paul Elliman



Encoding example

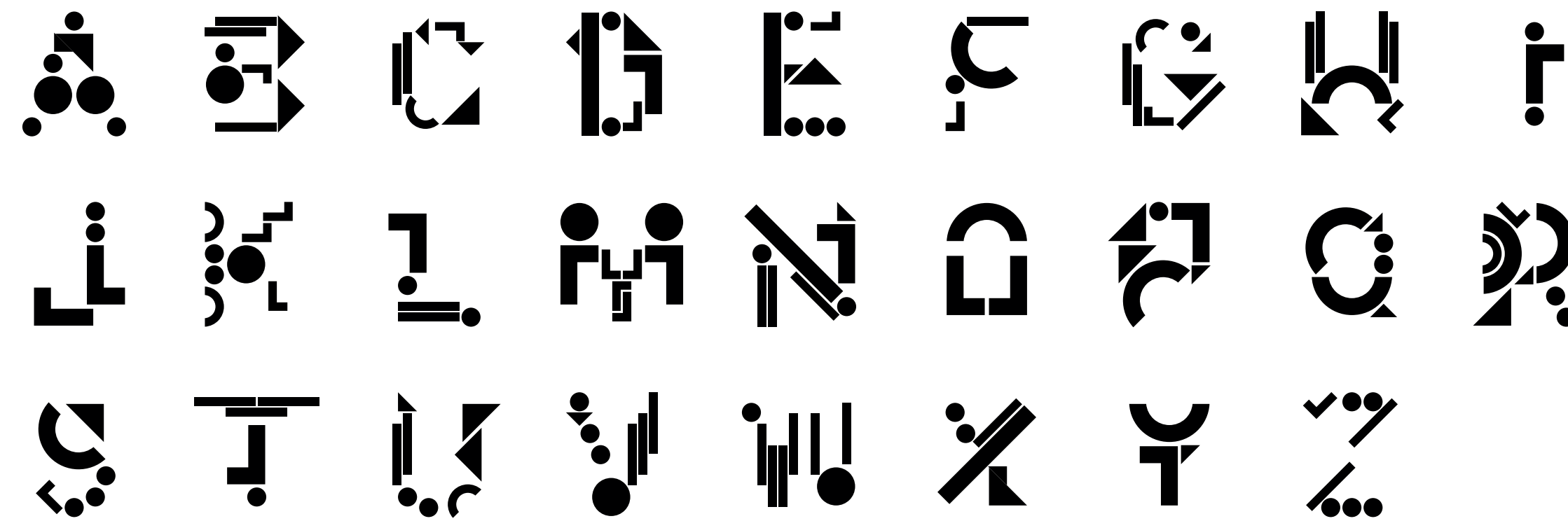


Example of input shapes



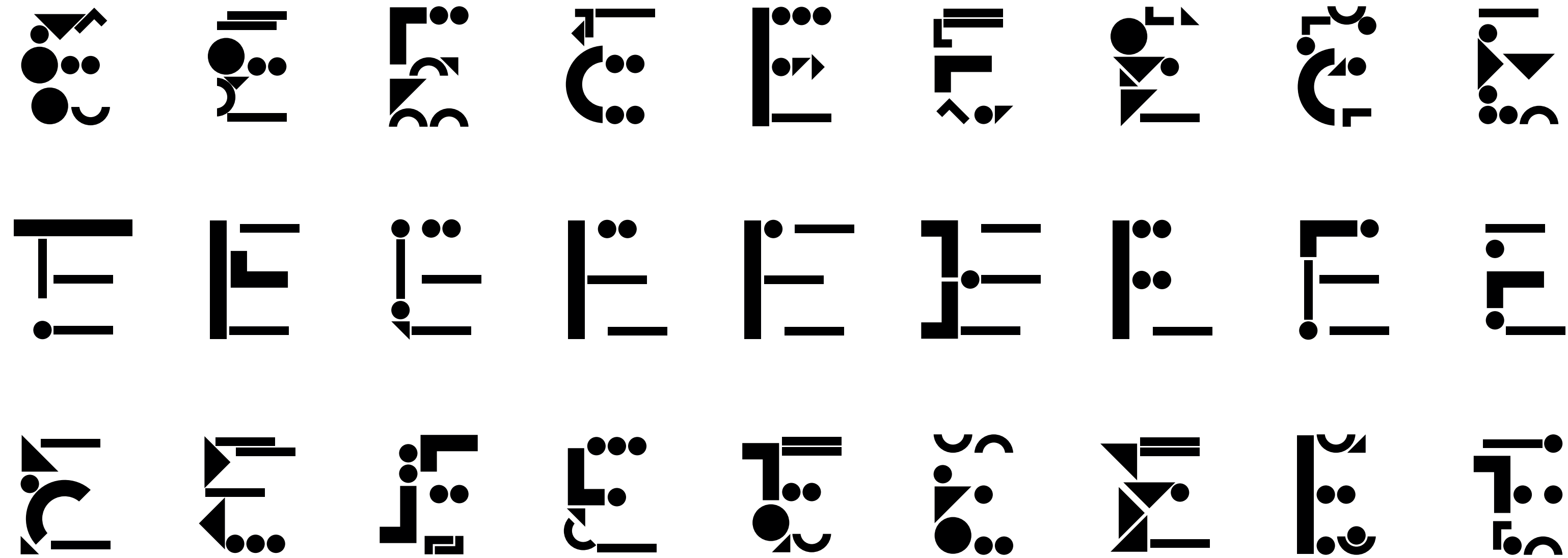
RMSE

CNN

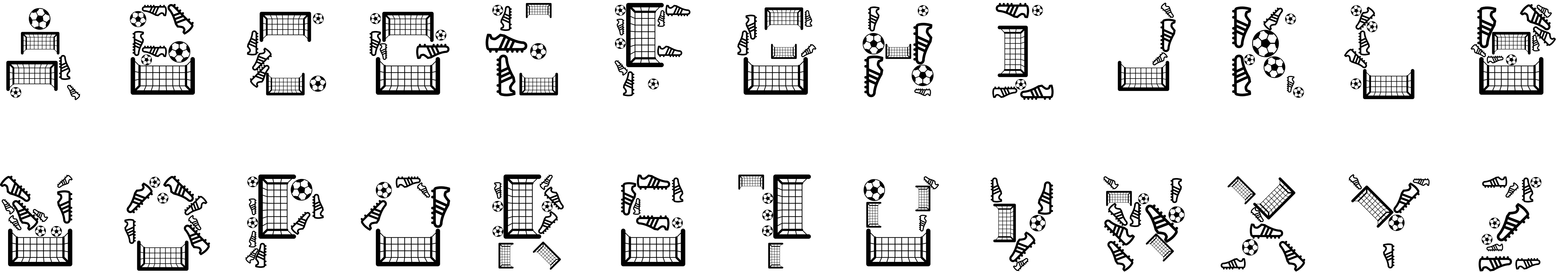


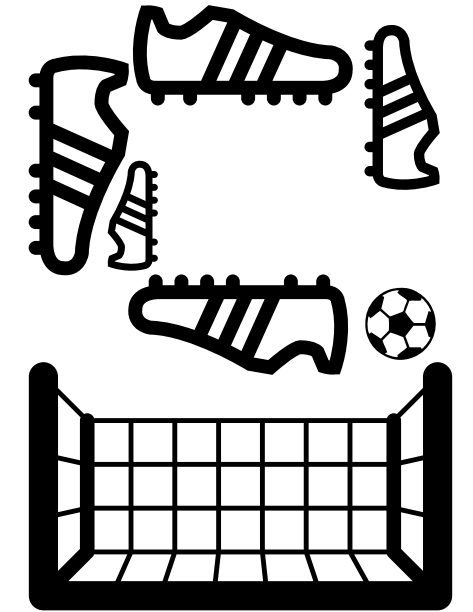
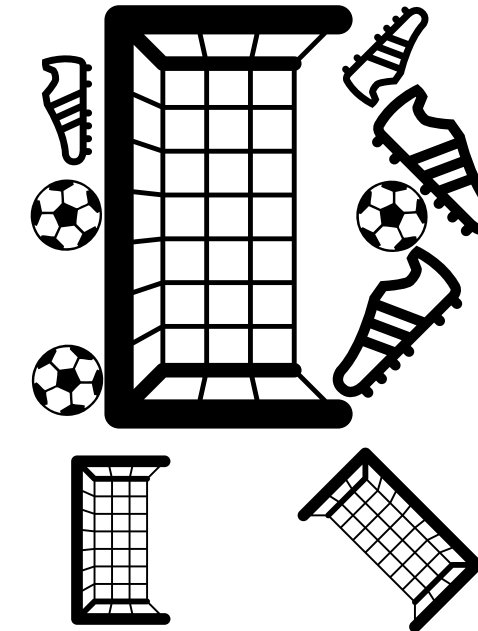
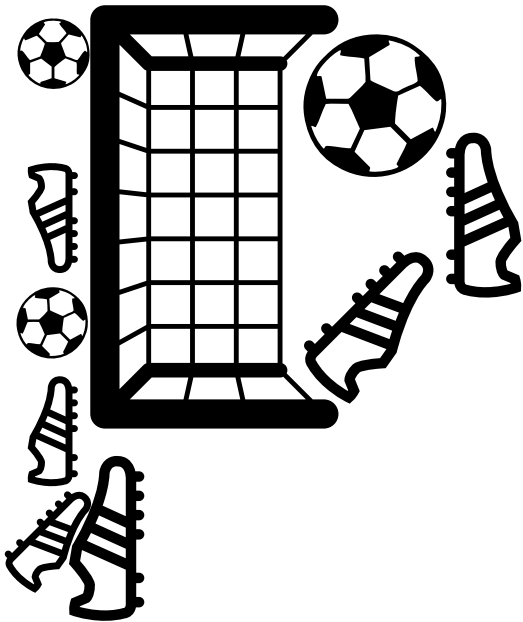
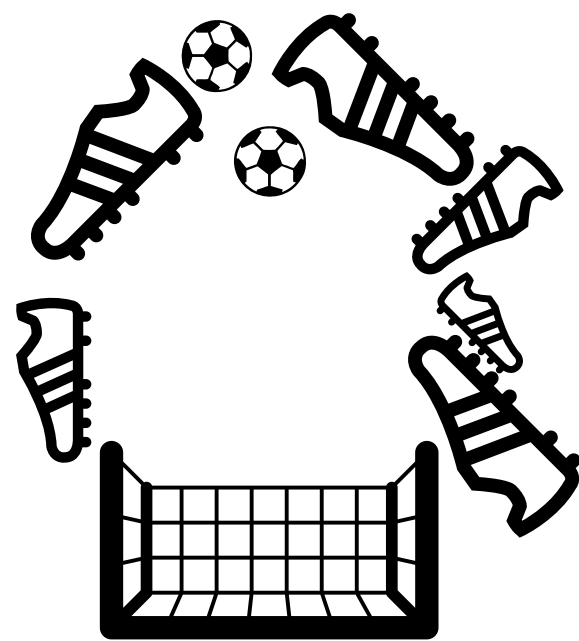
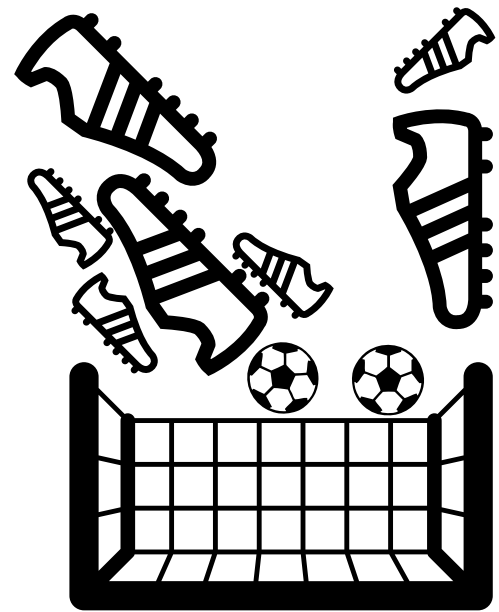
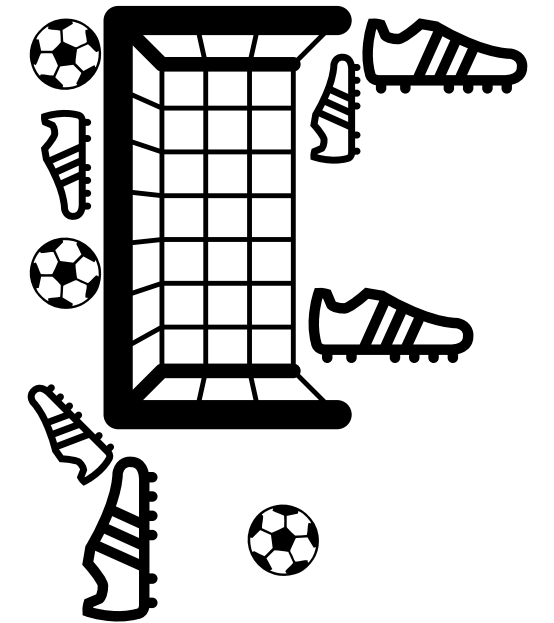
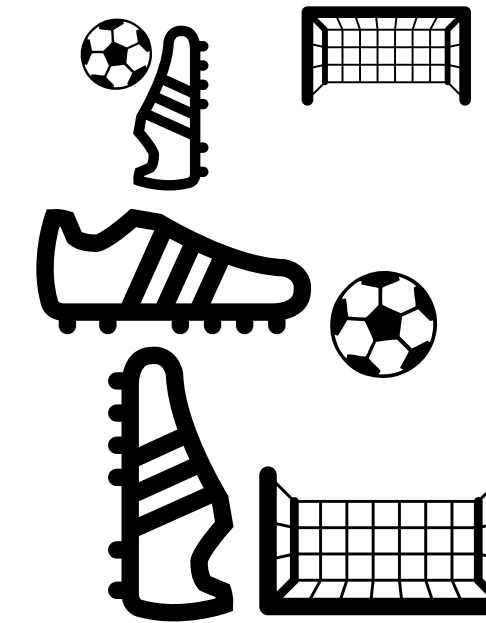
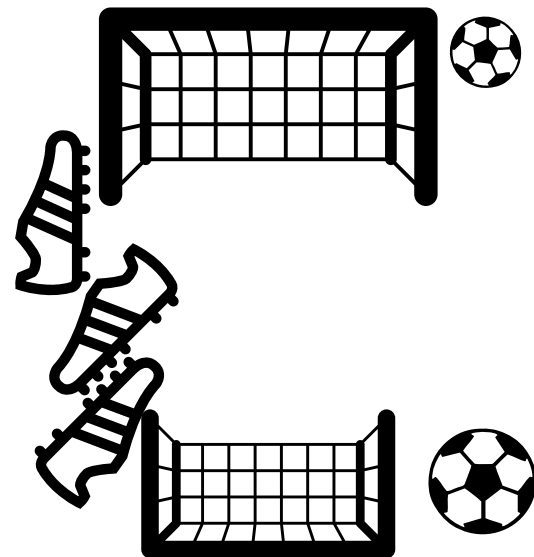
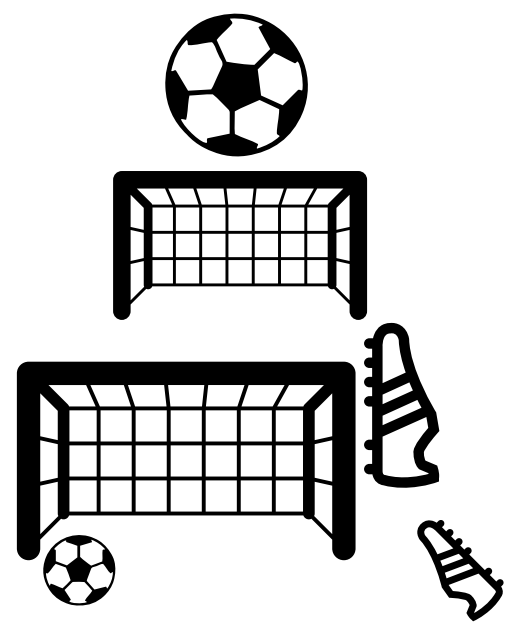
Hybrid

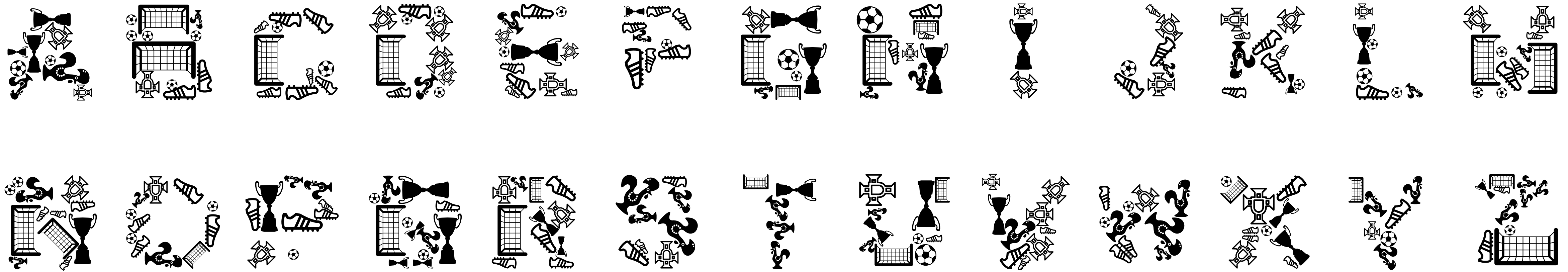
Typical glyphs evolved with *Evotype II* using different fitness functions

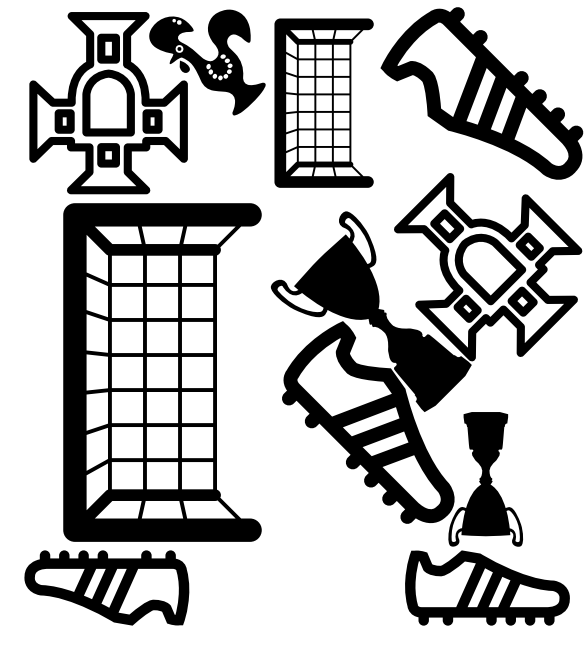
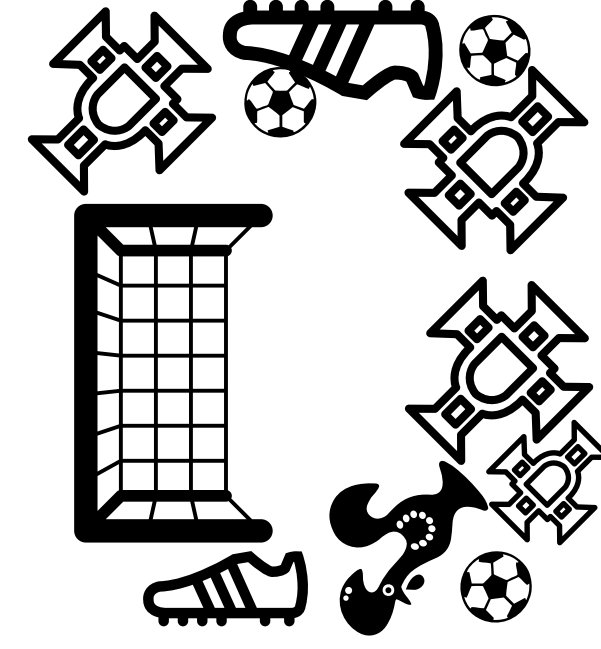
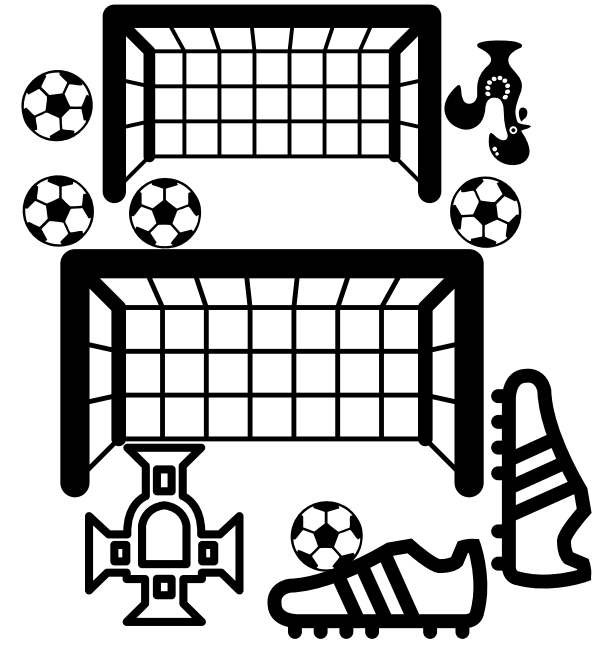


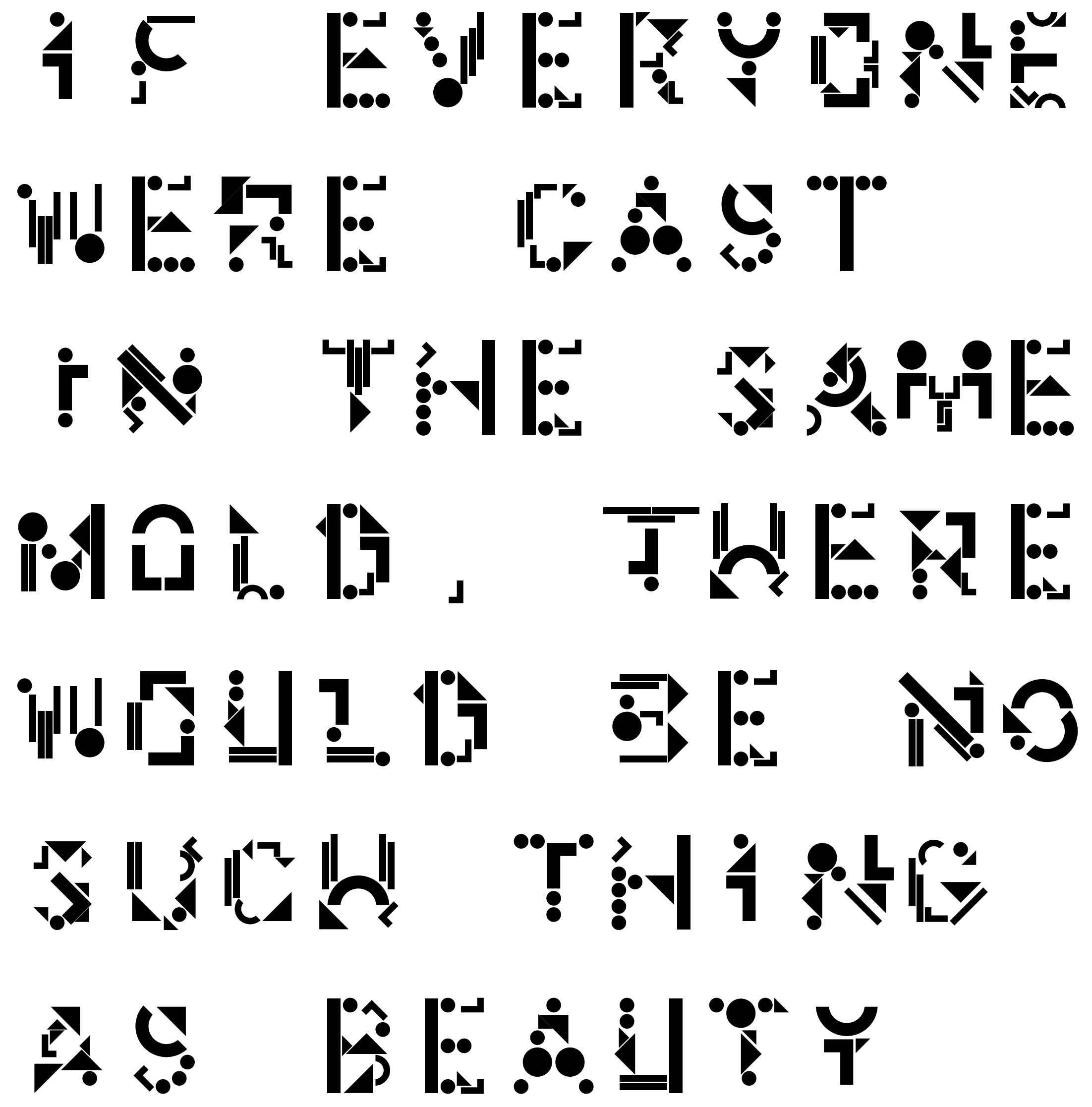
Different Es in the last generation

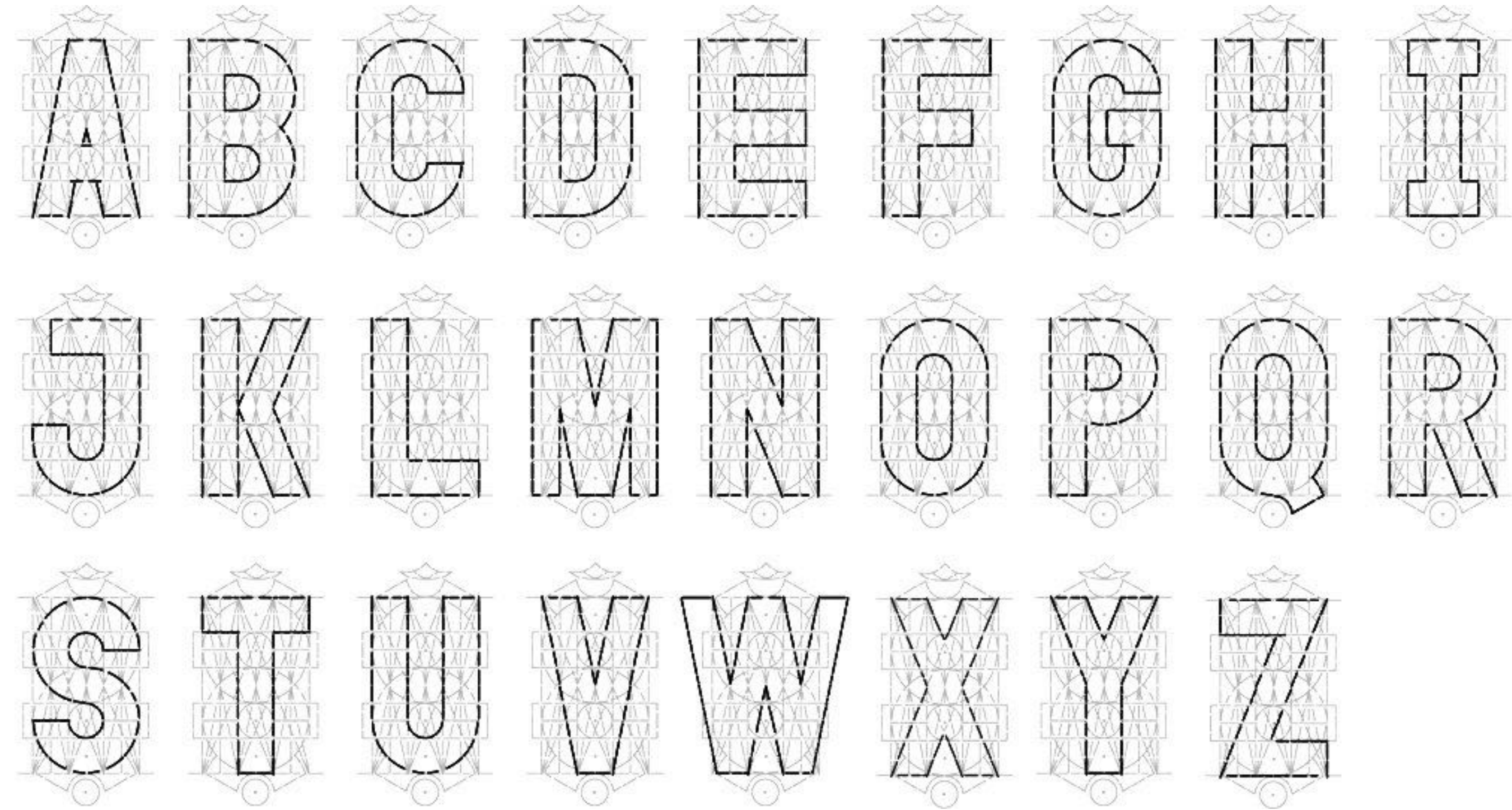
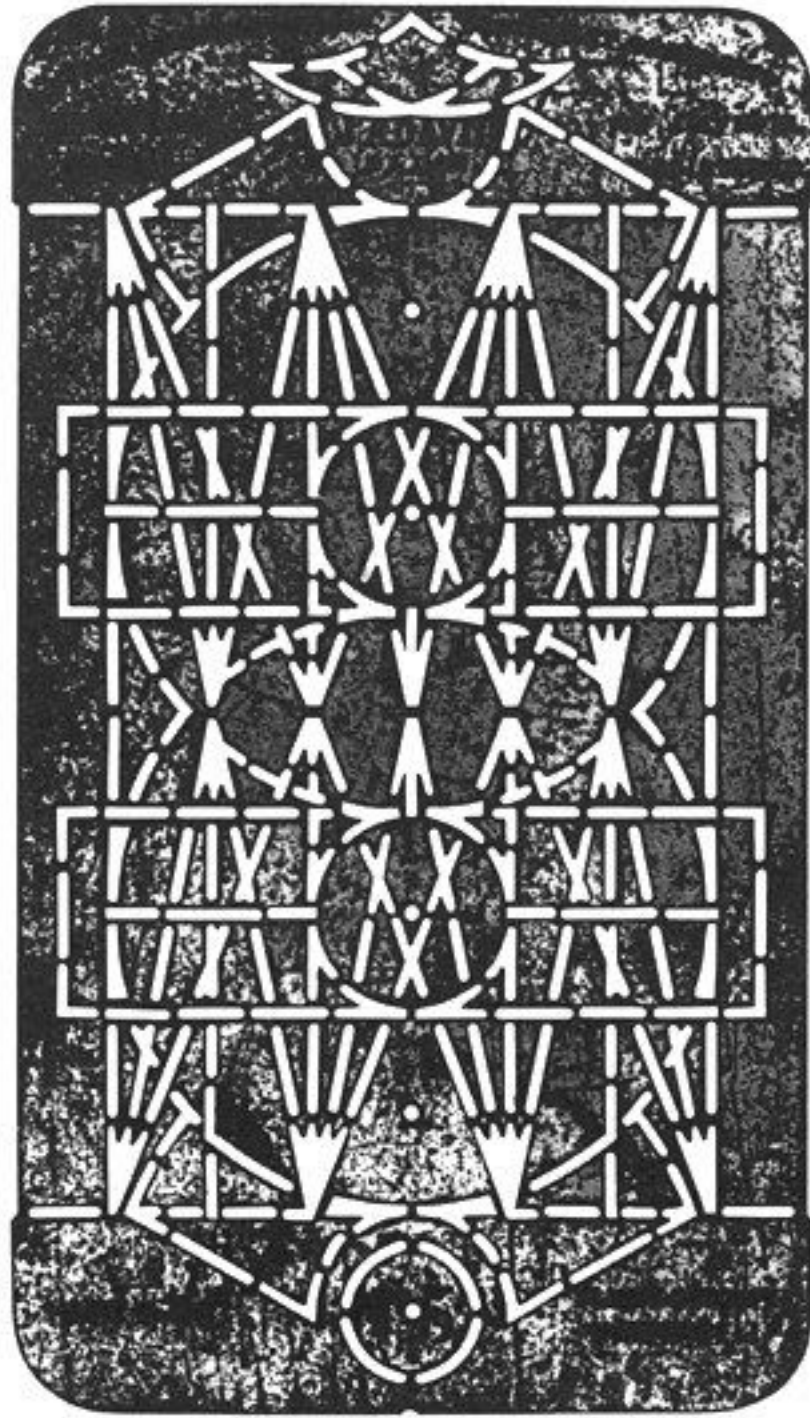








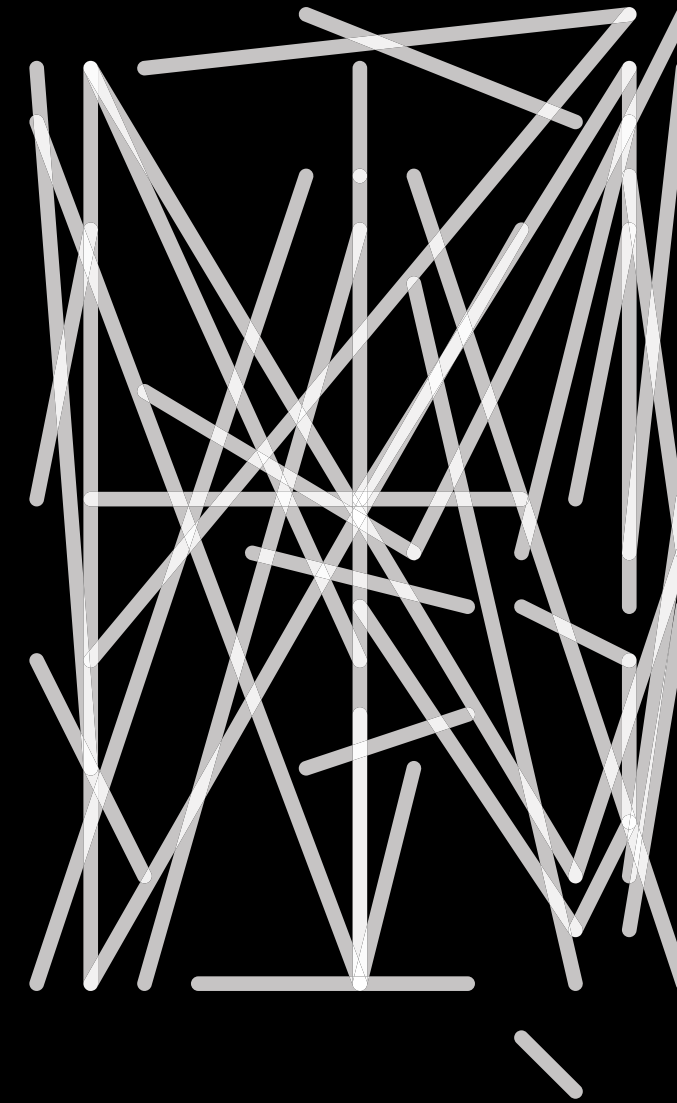




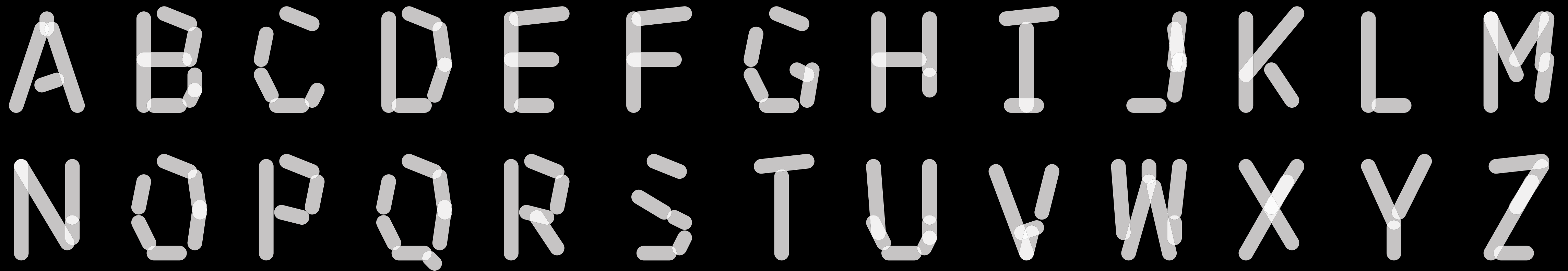
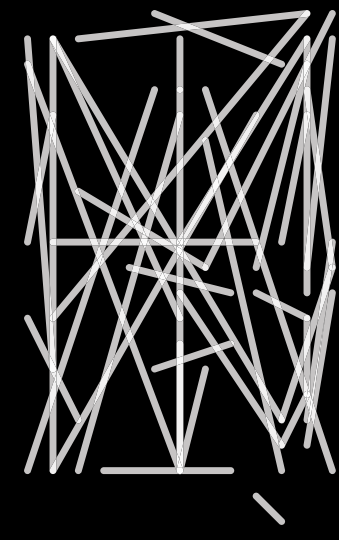
Plaque Découpée Universelle,
Joseph A. David, 1876



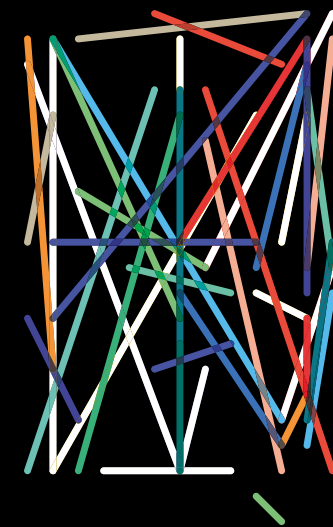
Seven-segment display



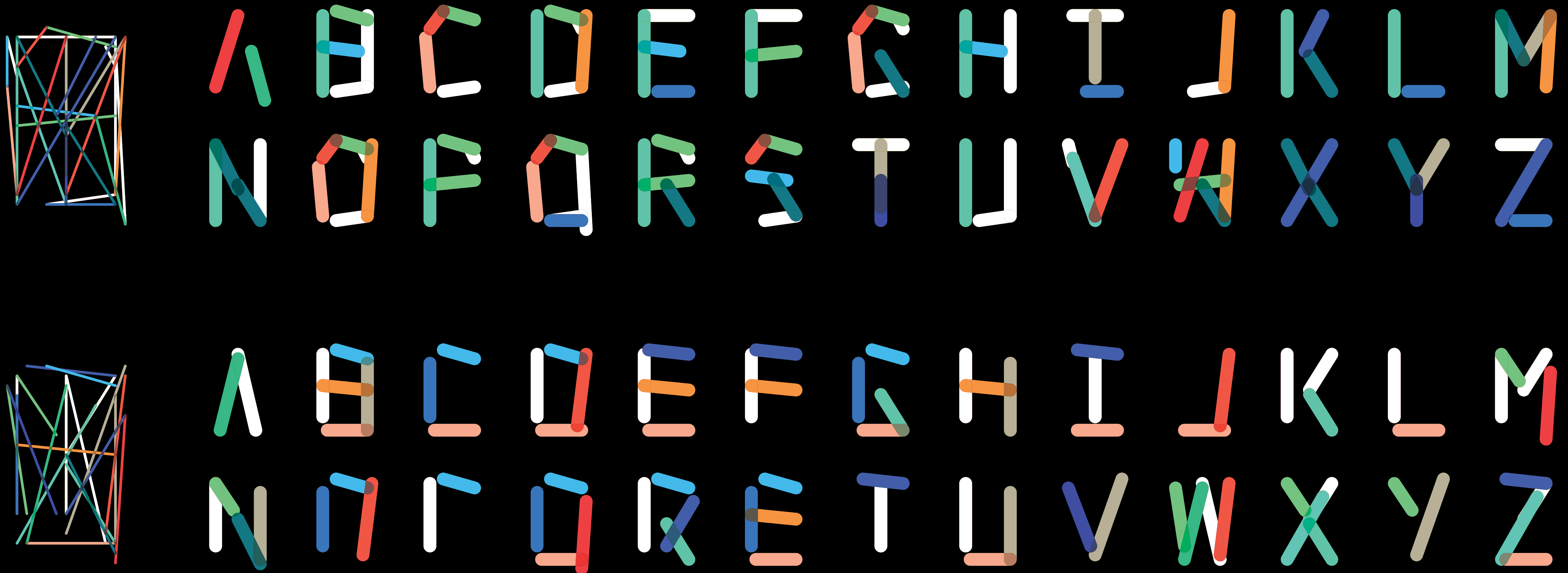
Evolved stencil



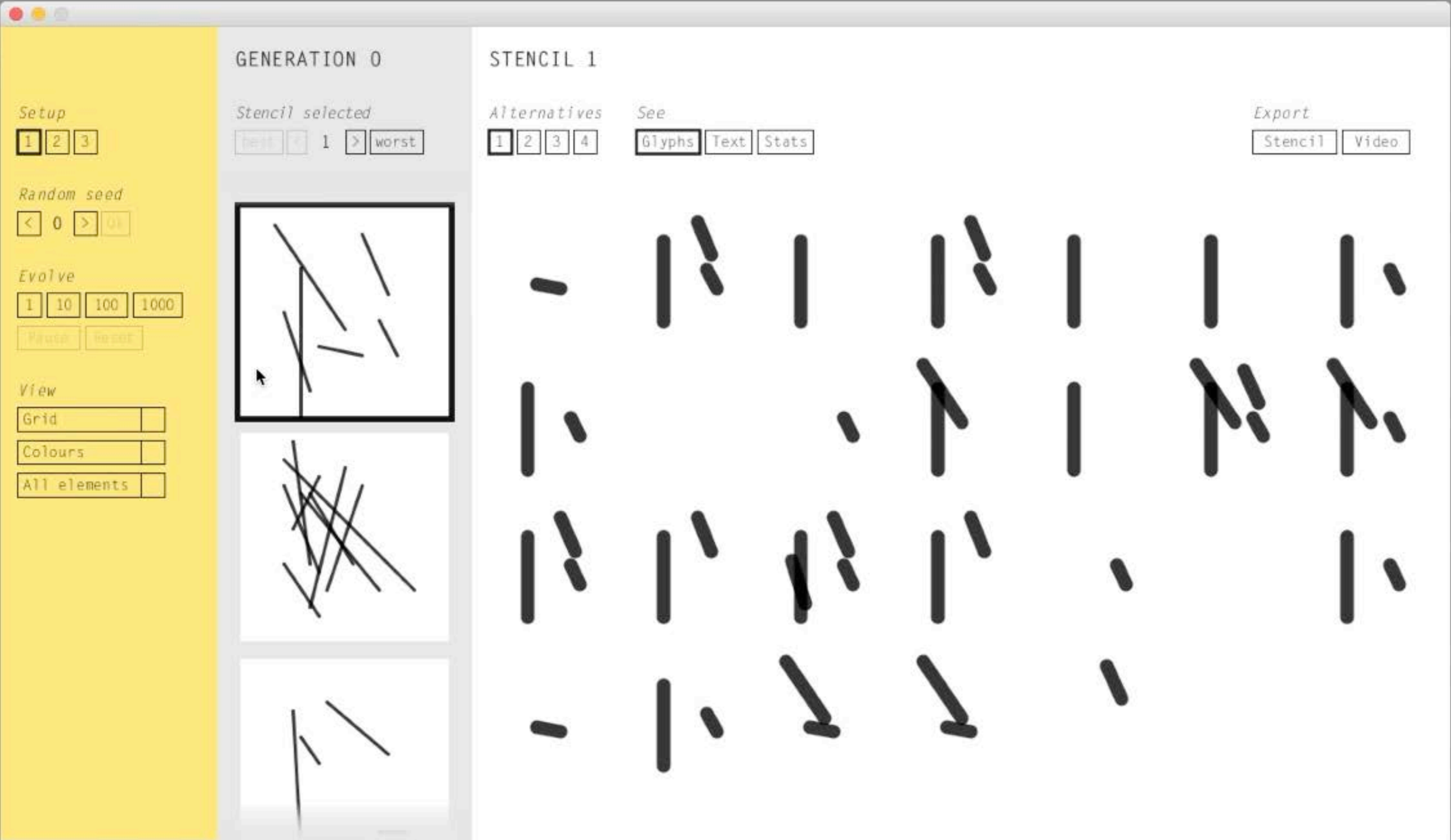
Letters drawn with evolved stencil

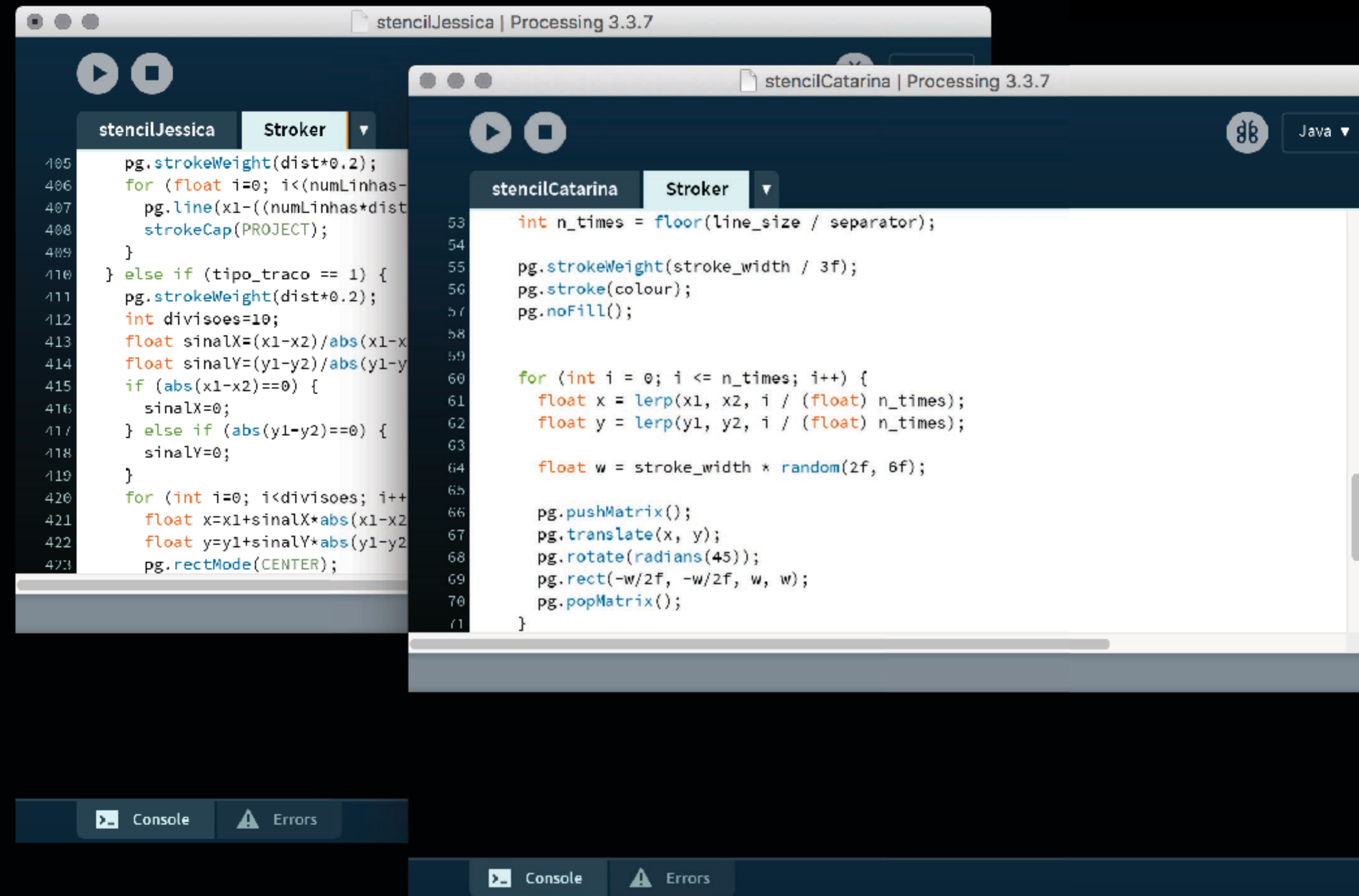


Letters drawn with evolved stencil



Letters drawn with two evolved stencils



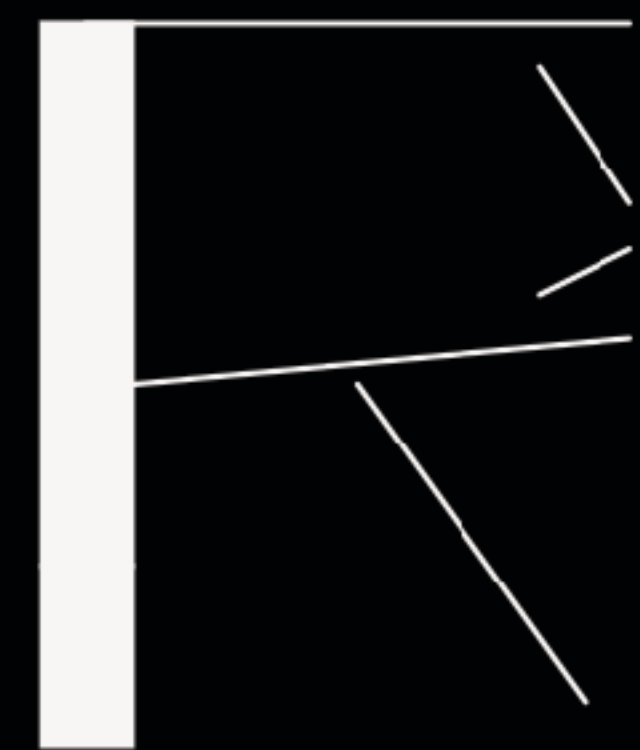
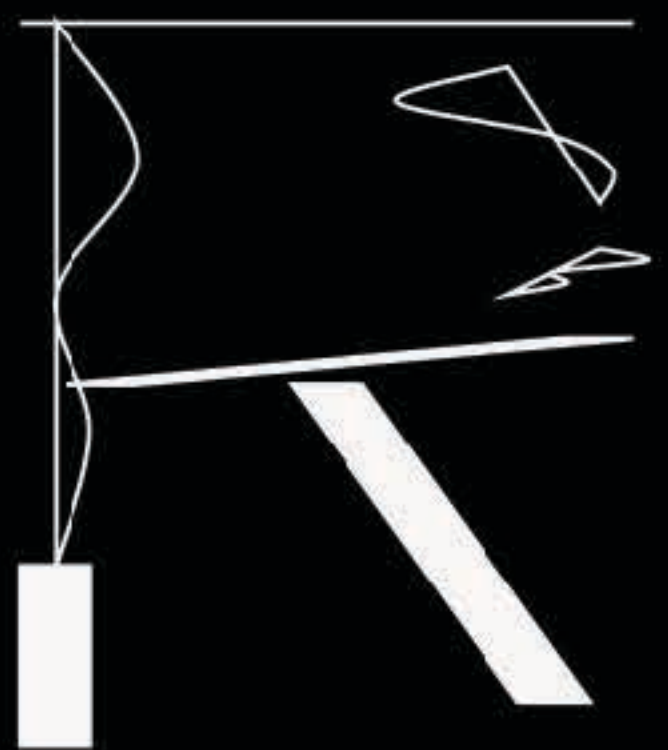
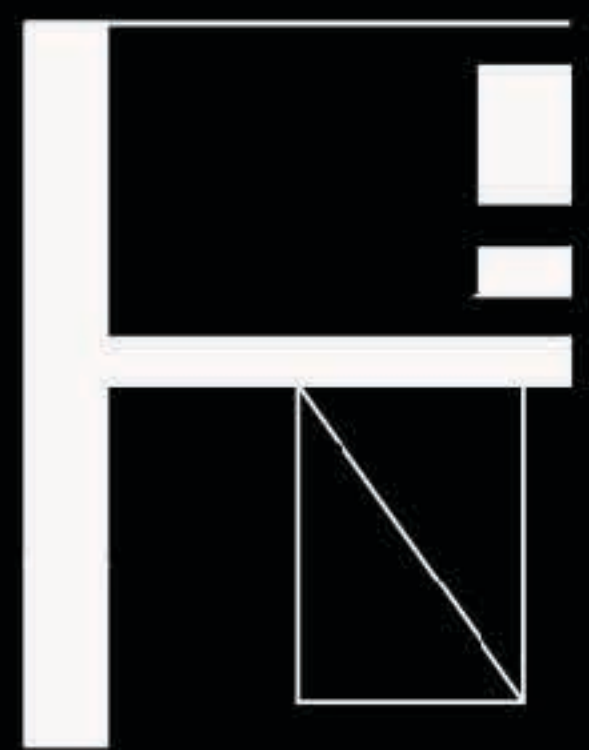
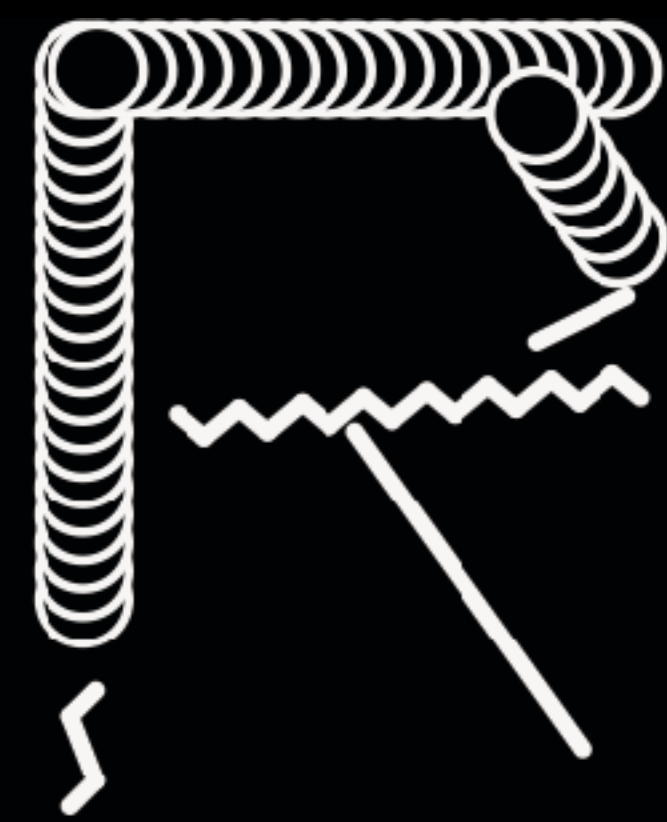
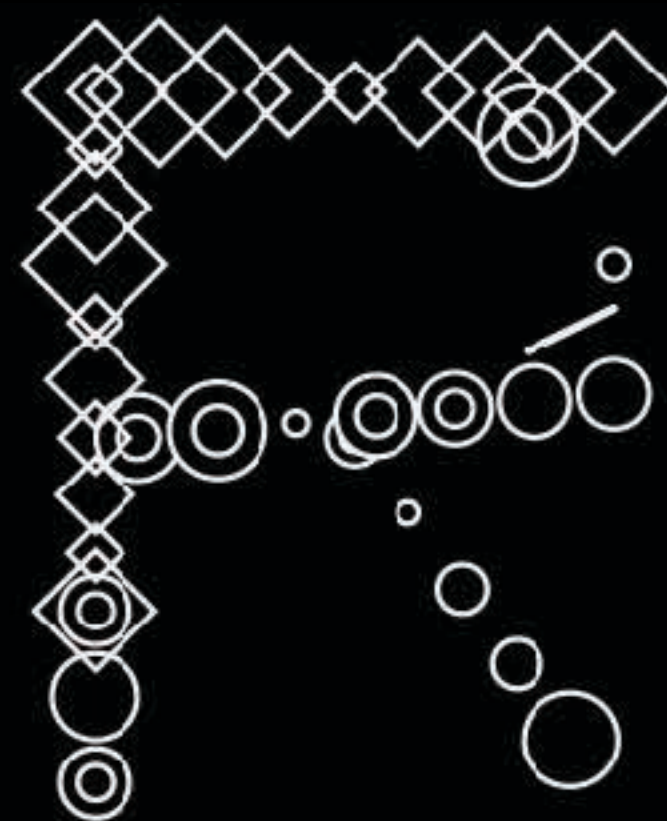
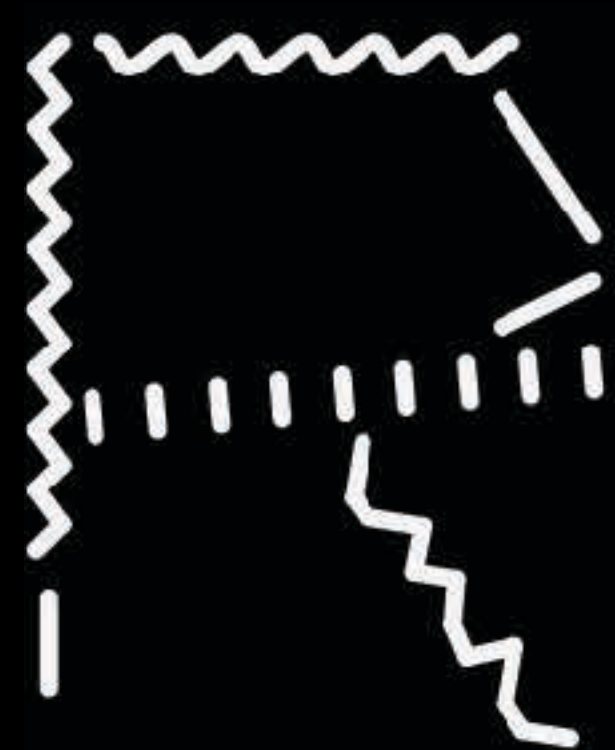


```
stencilJessica | Processing 3.3.7
stencilCatarina | Processing 3.3.7

stencilJessica | Stroker
105 pg.strokeWeight(dist*0.2);
106 for (float i=0; i<(numLinhas-
107   pg.line(x1-((numLinhas+dist
108     strokeCap(PROJECT);
109   }
110 } else if (tipo_traco == 1) {
111   pg.strokeWeight(dist*0.2);
112   int divisoes=10;
113   float sinalX=(x1-x2)/abs(x1-x
114   float sinalY=(y1-y2)/abs(y1-y
115   if (abs(x1-x2)==0) {
116     sinalX=0;
117   } else if (abs(y1-y2)==0) {
118     sinalY=0;
119   }
120   for (int i=0; i<divisoes; i++
121     float x=x1+sinalX*abs(x1-x2
122     float y=y1+sinalY*abs(y1-y2
123     pg.rectMode(CENTER);

stencilCatarina | Stroker
53 int n_times = floor(line_size / separator);
54
55 pg.strokeWeight(stroke_width / 3f);
56 pg.stroke(colour);
57 pg.noFill();
58
59
60 for (int i = 0; i <= n_times; i++) {
61   float x = lerp(x1, x2, i / (float) n_times);
62   float y = lerp(y1, y2, i / (float) n_times);
63
64   float w = stroke_width * random(2f, 6f);
65
66   pg.pushMatrix();
67   pg.translate(x, y);
68   pg.rotate(radians(45));
69   pg.rect(-w/2f, -w/2f, w, w);
70   pg.popMatrix();
71 }
```

Screenshots of Processing sketches to generate shapes that replace the stencils' elements



Elements of a stencil replaced with different shapes



Generating **letters**

Generating **faces**

Generating **coins**

Co-authored with João Correia,
Ernesto Costa, and Penousal Machado

Generating
letters

Generating
faces

Generating
coins

Co-authored with João Correia,
Sérgio Rebelo, João Bicker,
and Penousal Machado

Context

Context

- Computational face detection is widely used;

Context

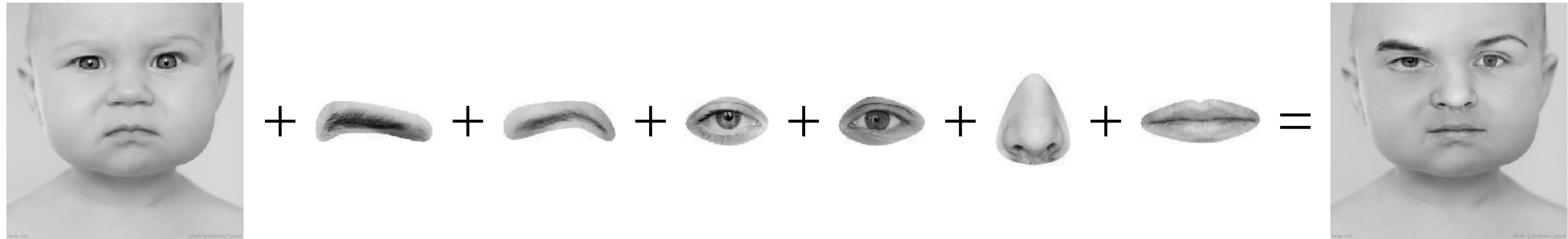
- Computational face detection is widely used;
- Face detection classifiers can have limitations;

Context

- Computational face detection is widely used;
- Face detection classifiers can have limitations;
- Opportunity to evolve face images that are not detected as such;

Context

- Computational face detection is widely used;
- Face detection classifiers can have limitations;
- Opportunity to evolve face images that are not detected as such;
- Explore the borderline between the real and the artificial.



Process of generating a new face image
using the *X-Faces* system



Facial parts extracted from existing face images



Two face images from an existing dataset and
two new face images generated from them

ANNOTATION TOOL

Overview of *X-Faces* system

**ANNOTATION
TOOL**



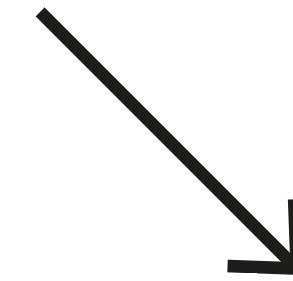
**ANNOTATIONS
AND MASKS**

Overview of *X-Faces* system

**ANNOTATION
TOOL**

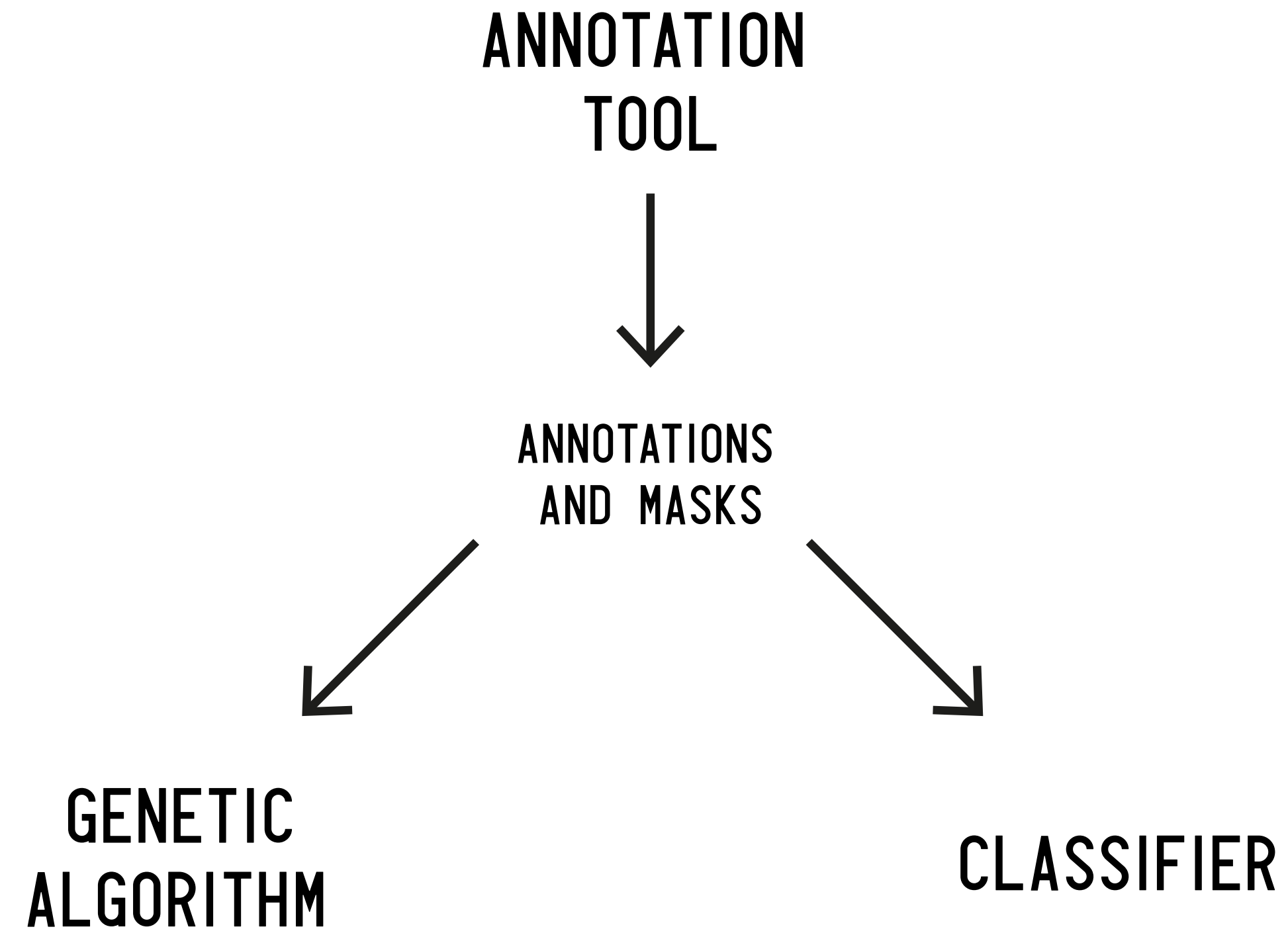


**ANNOTATIONS
AND MASKS**

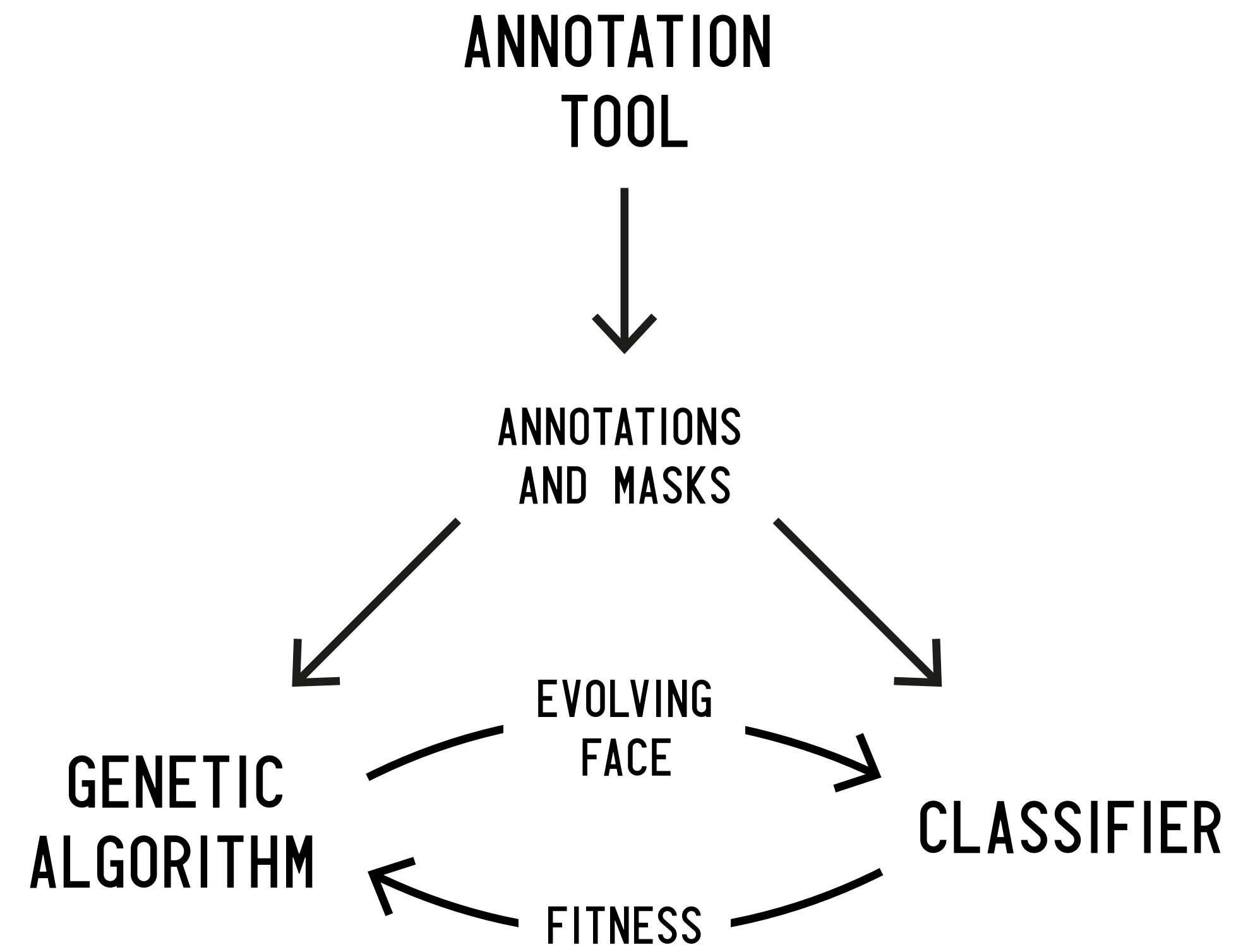


CLASSIFIER

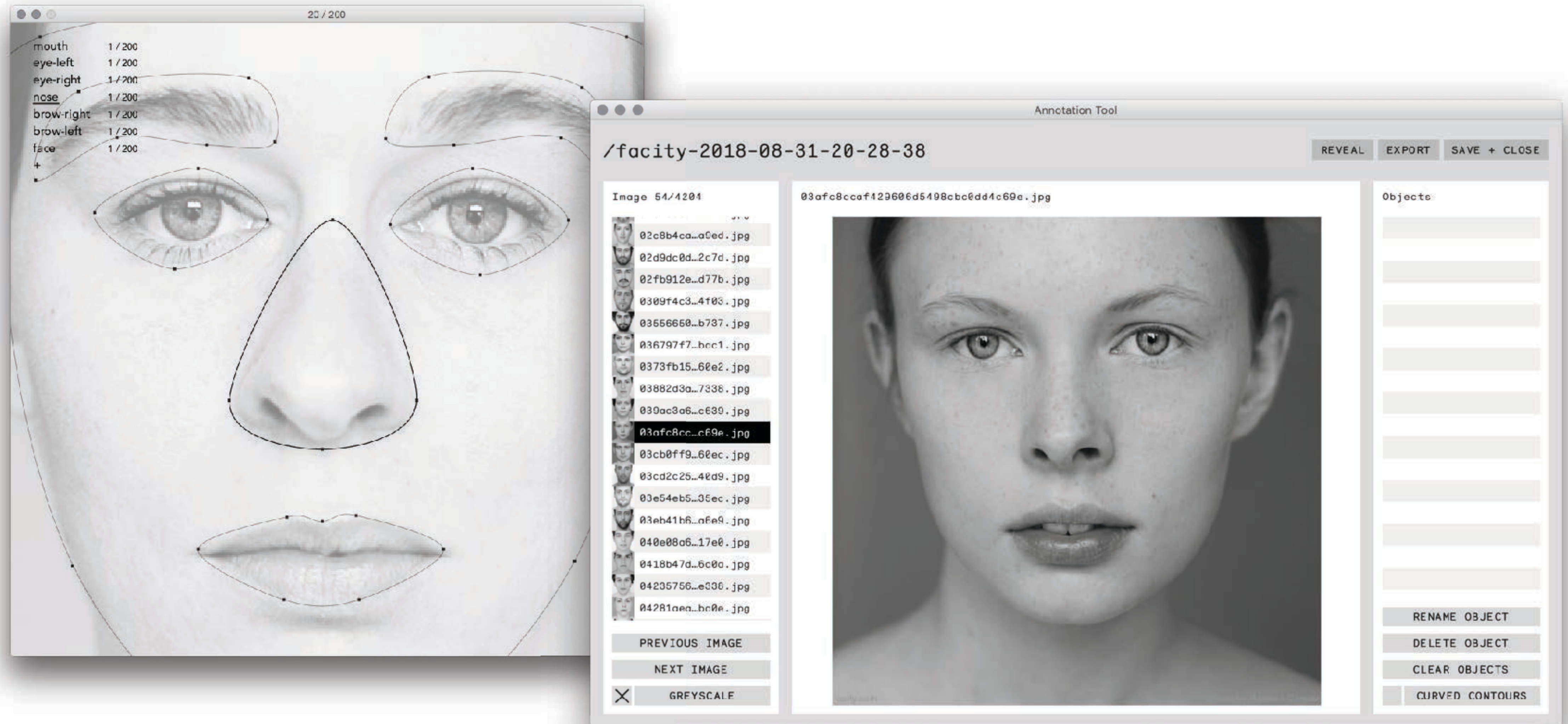
Overview of *X-Faces* system



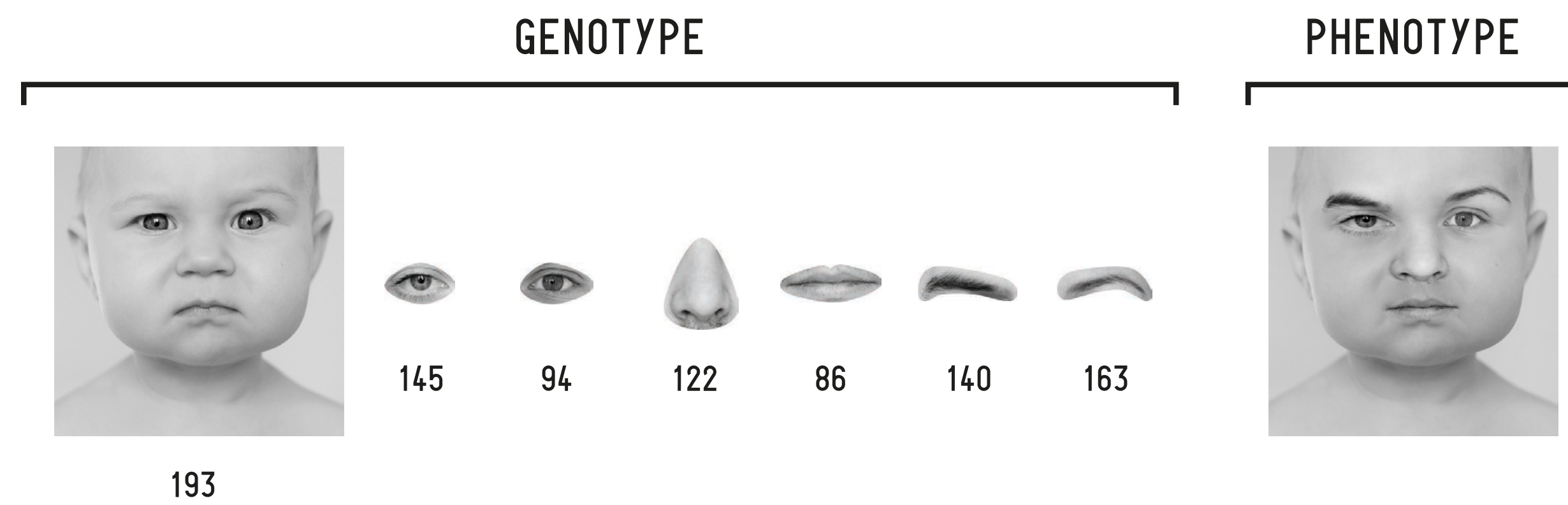
Overview of *X-Faces* system



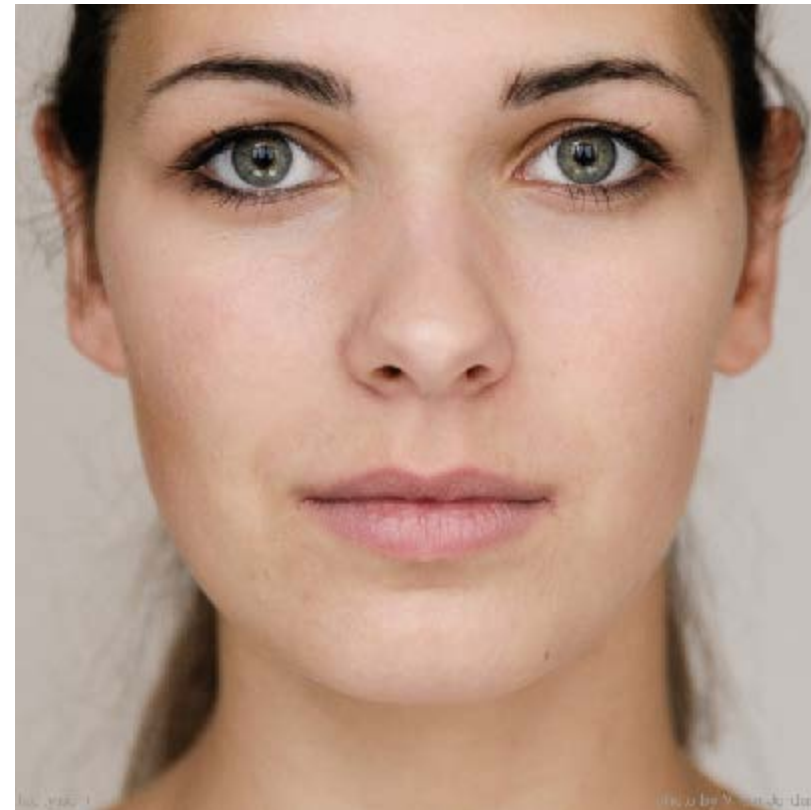
Overview of X-Faces system



Screenshots of annotation tools
developed for X-Faces



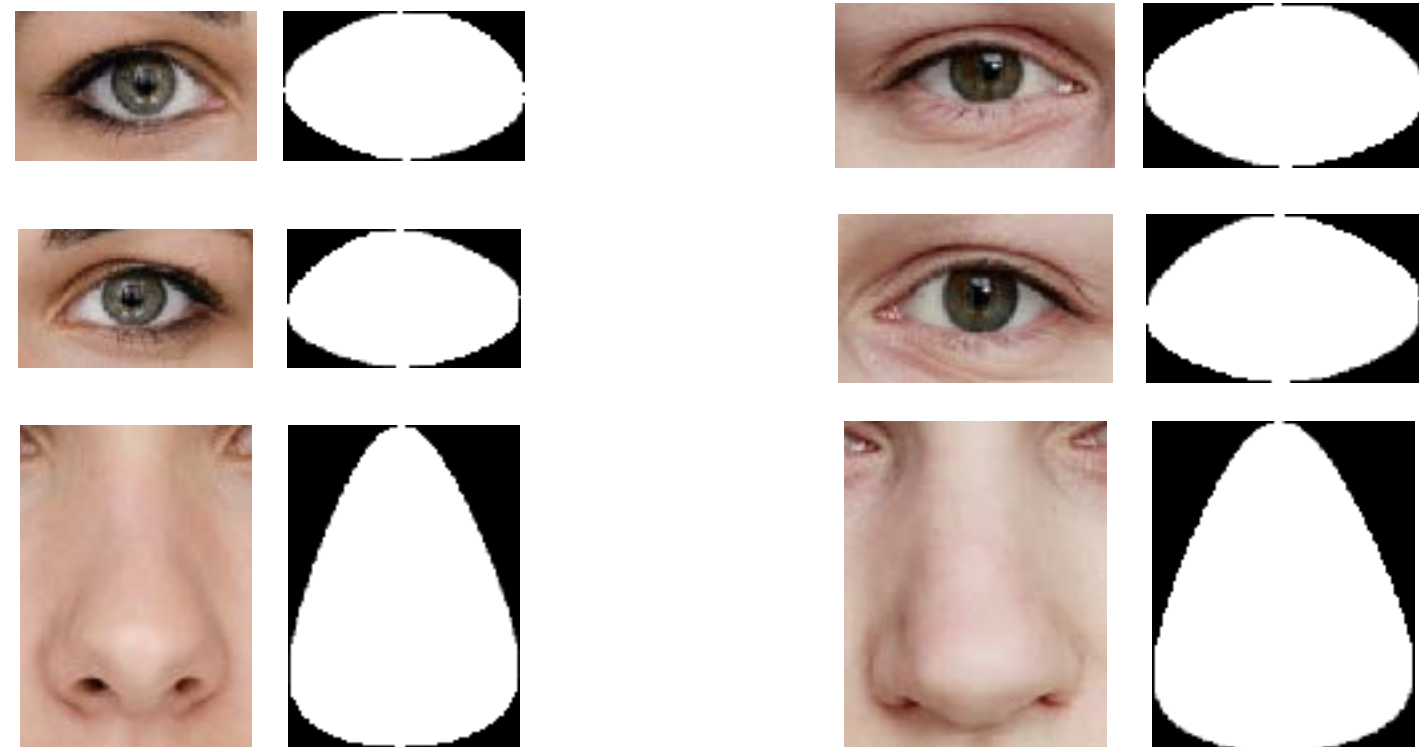
Encoding of evolving faces



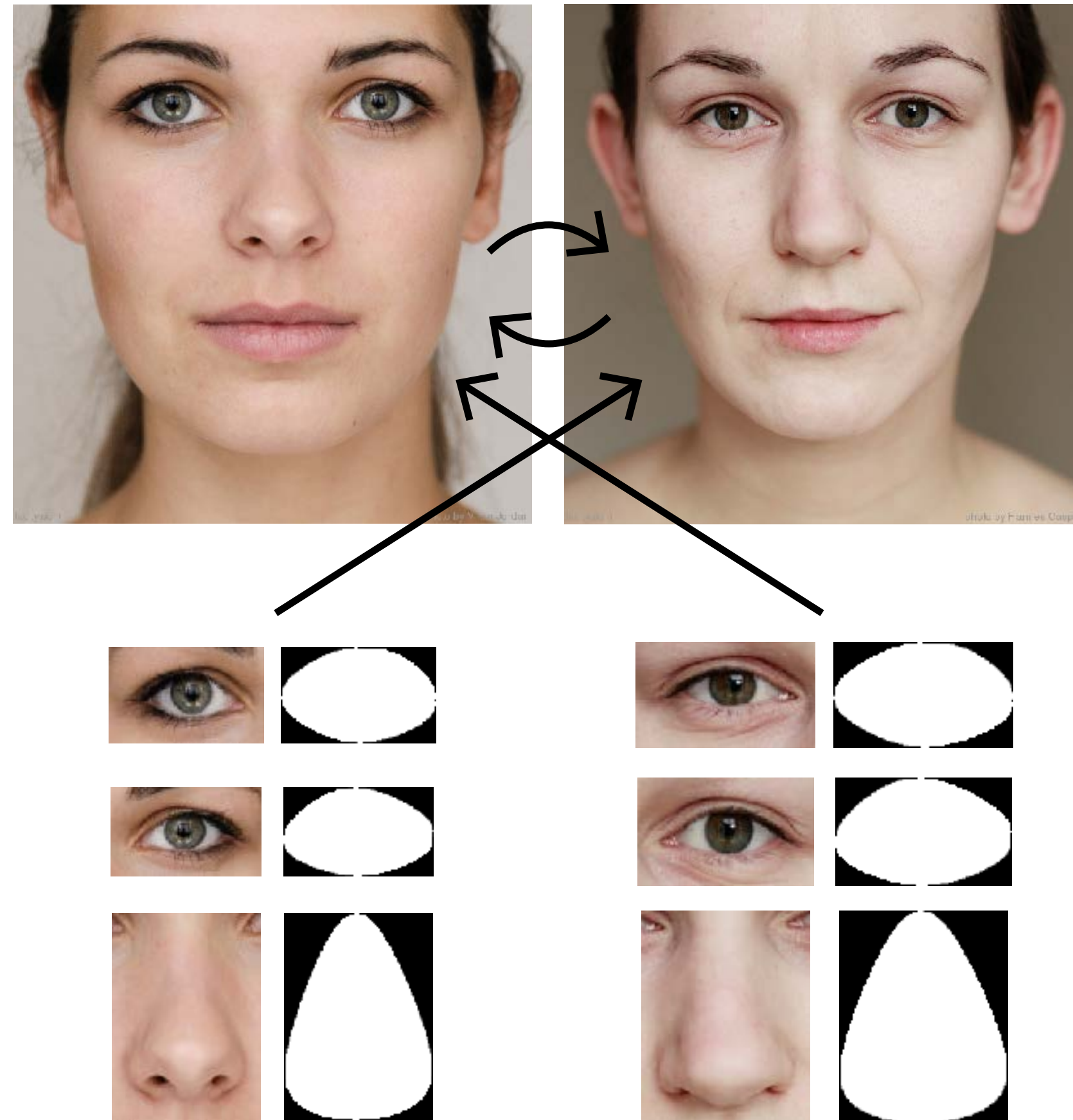
Recombination of faces using the seamless clone algorithm by Pérez et al. (2003)



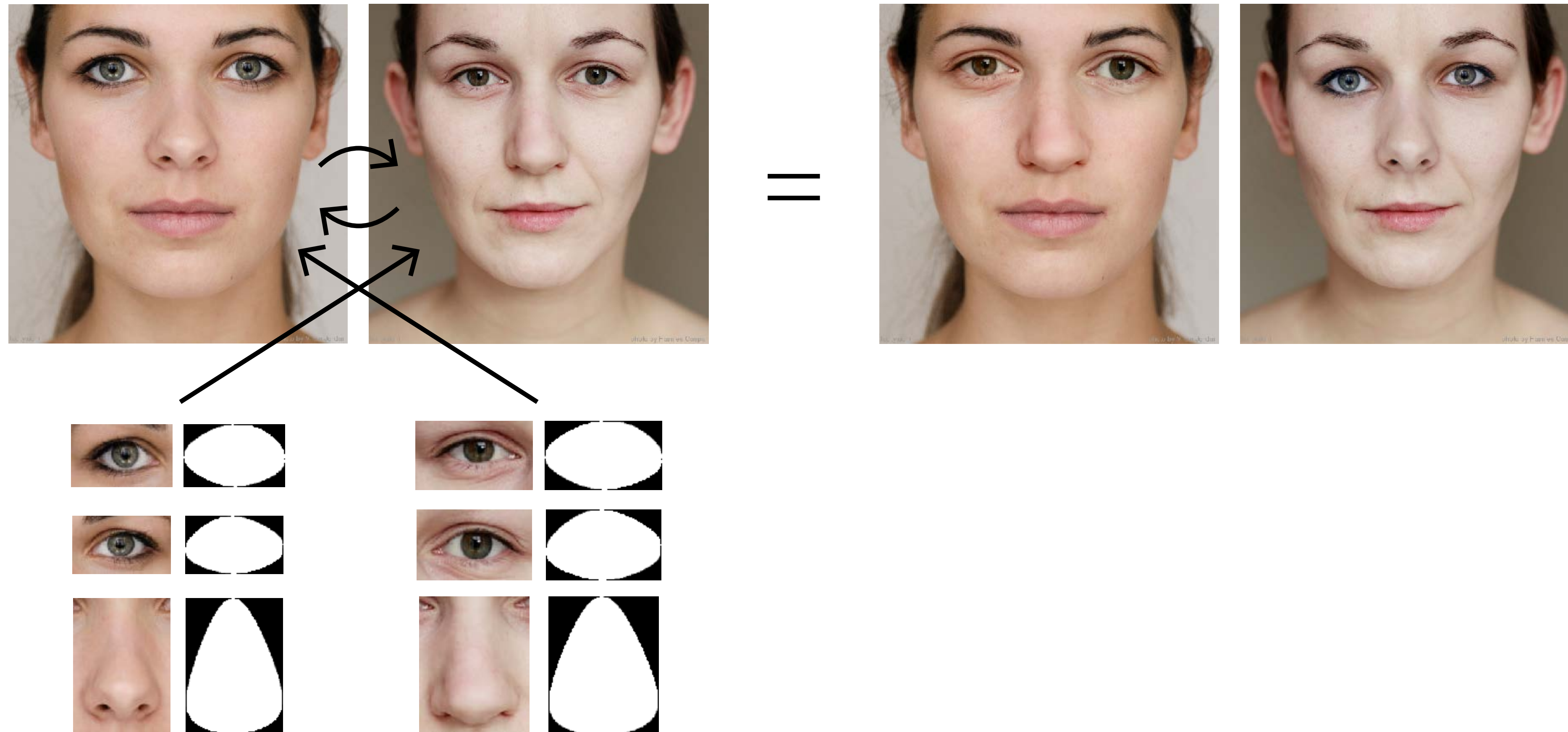
Recombination of faces using the seamless clone algorithm by Pérez et al. (2003)



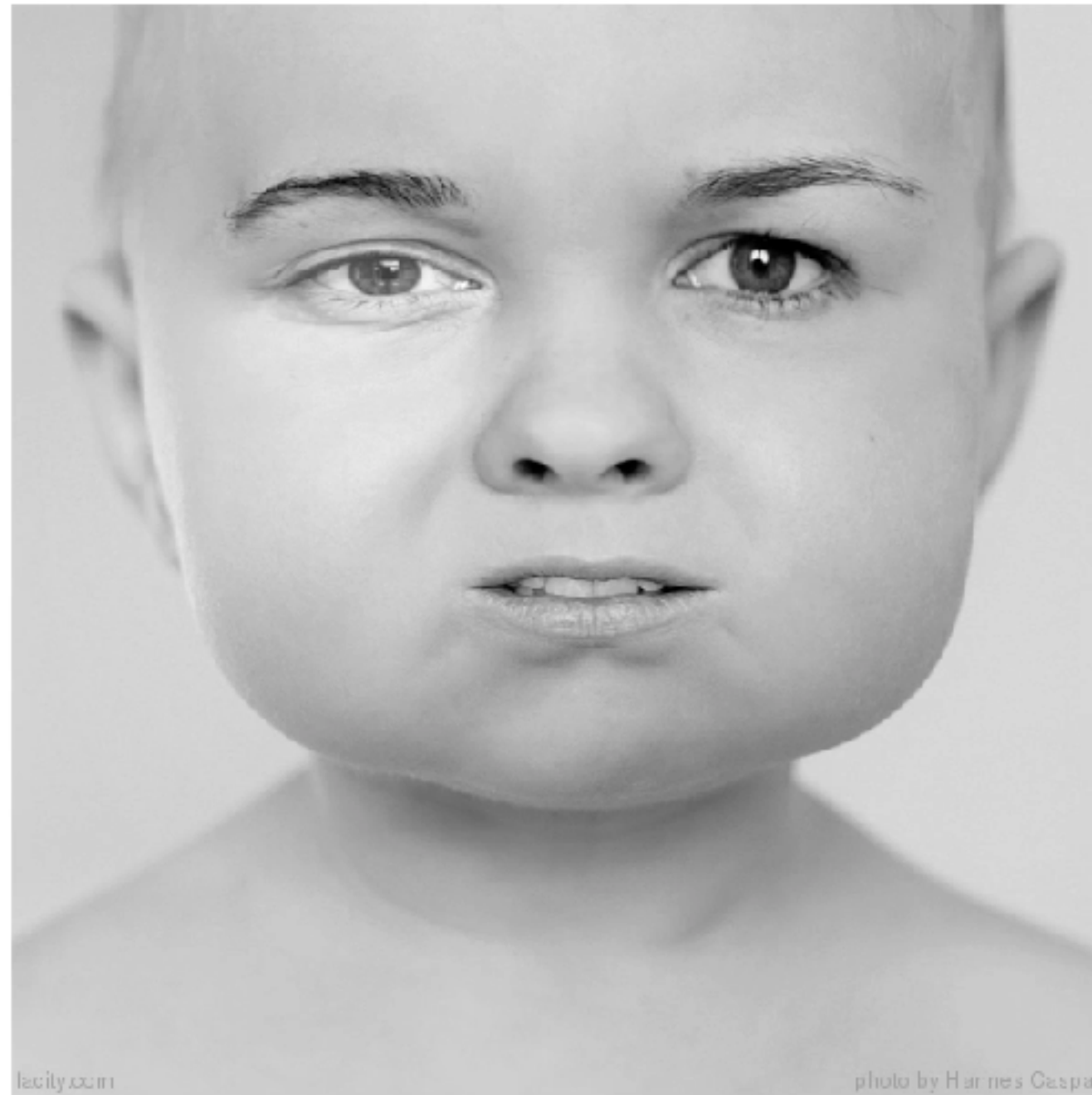
Recombination of faces using the seamless clone algorithm by Pérez et al. (2003)



Recombination of faces using the seamless clone algorithm by Pérez et al. (2003)



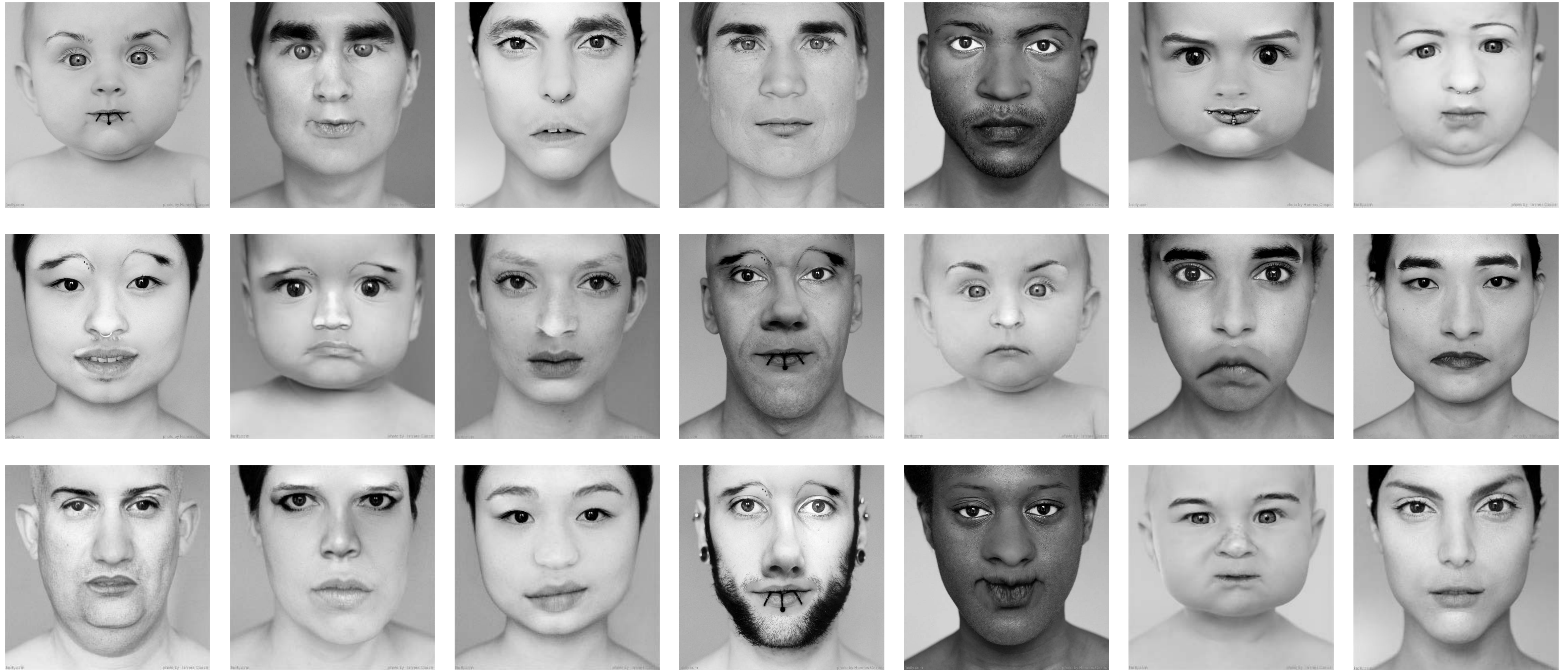
Recombination of faces using the seamless clone algorithm by Pérez et al. (2003)



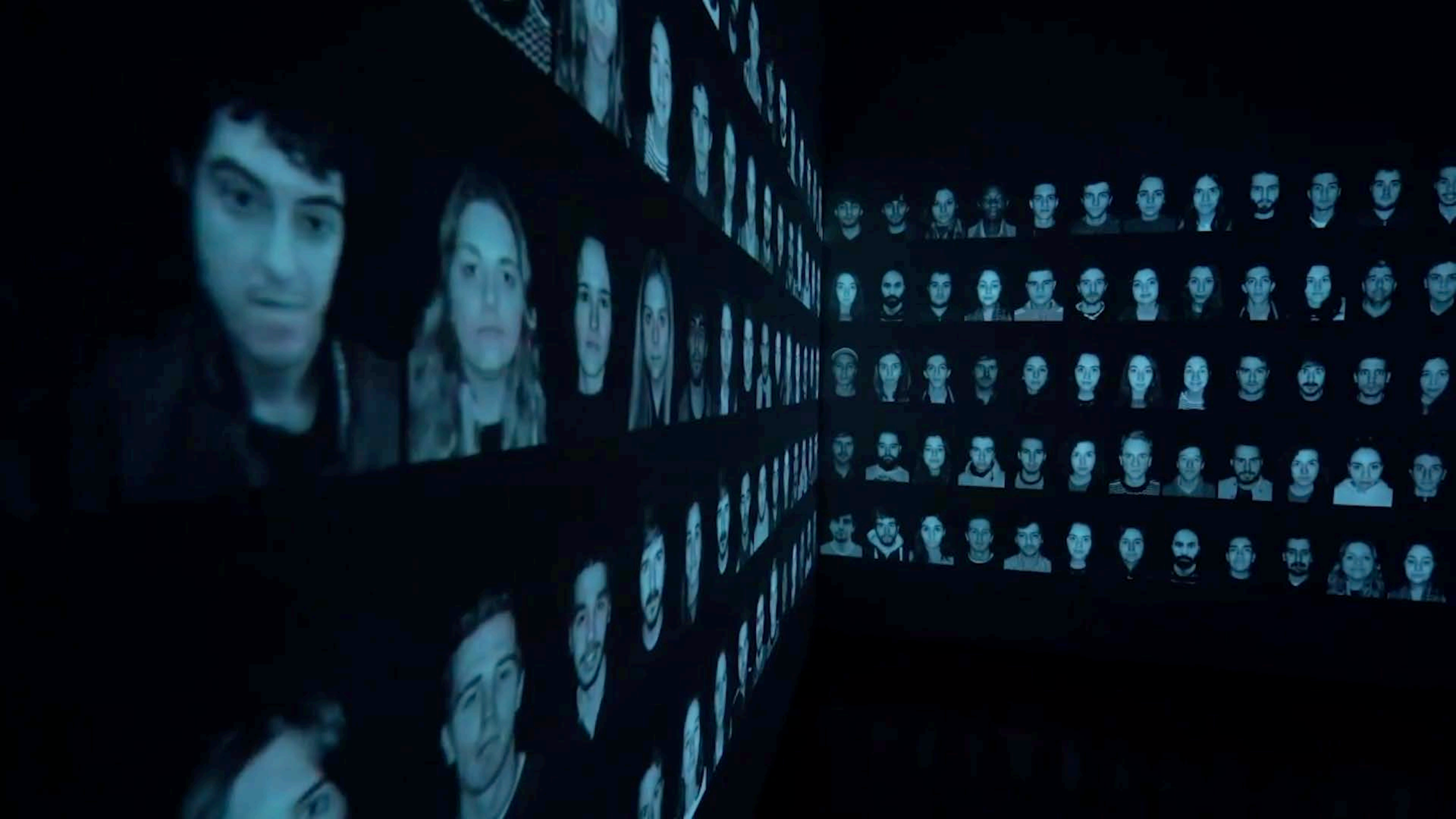
**Different face parts
on the same face**



Different combinations



Examples of face images evolved in different evolutionary runs

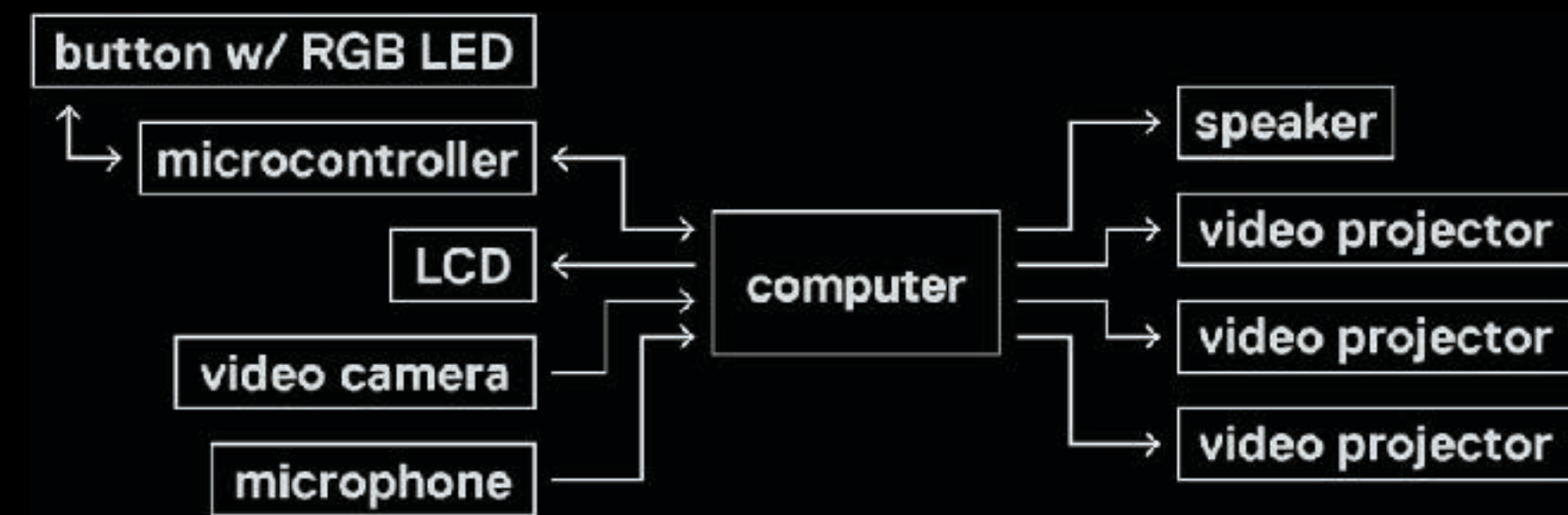
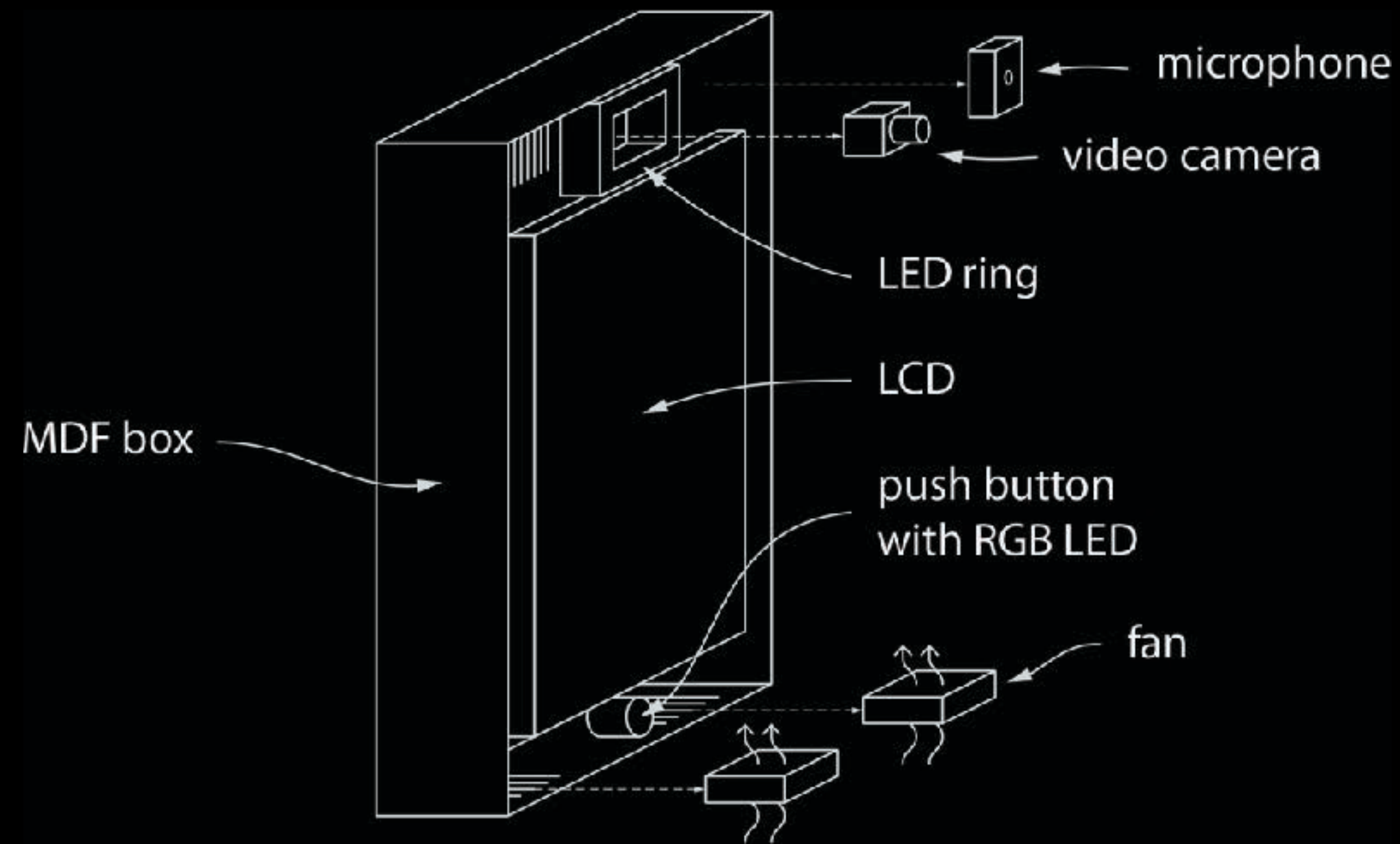




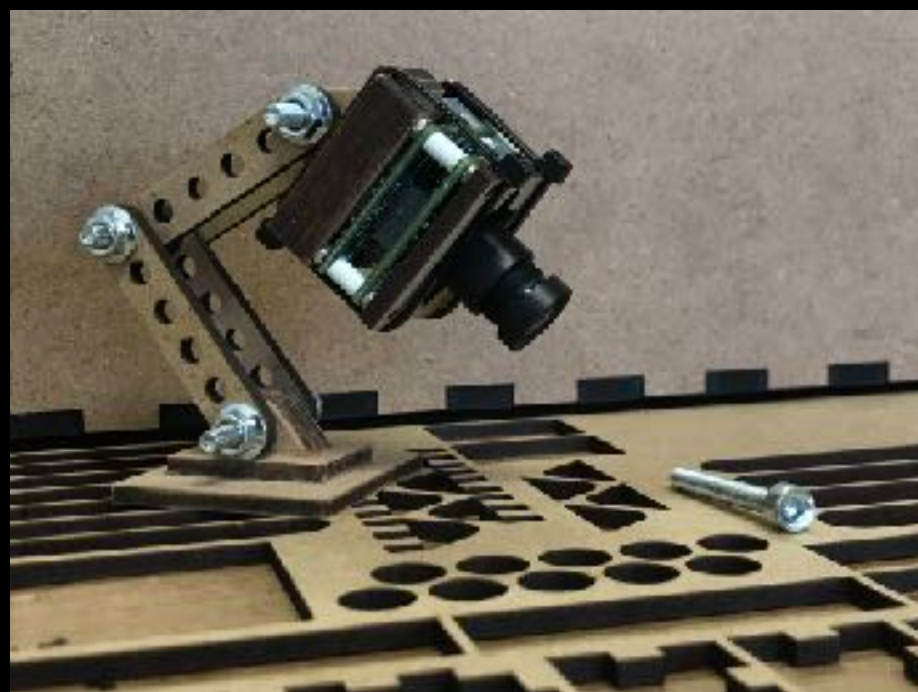
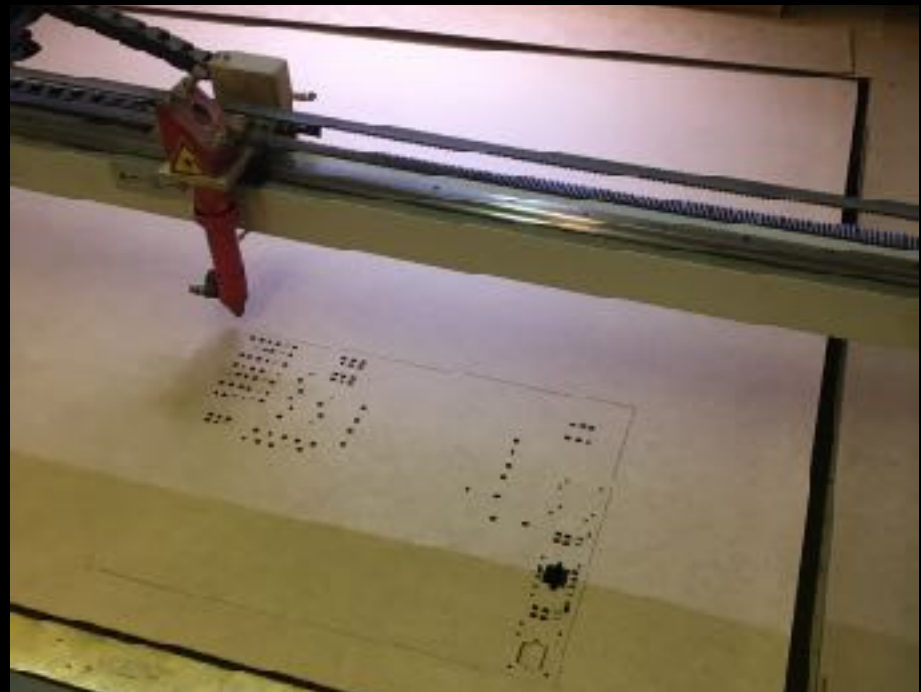
Portraits of No One installation



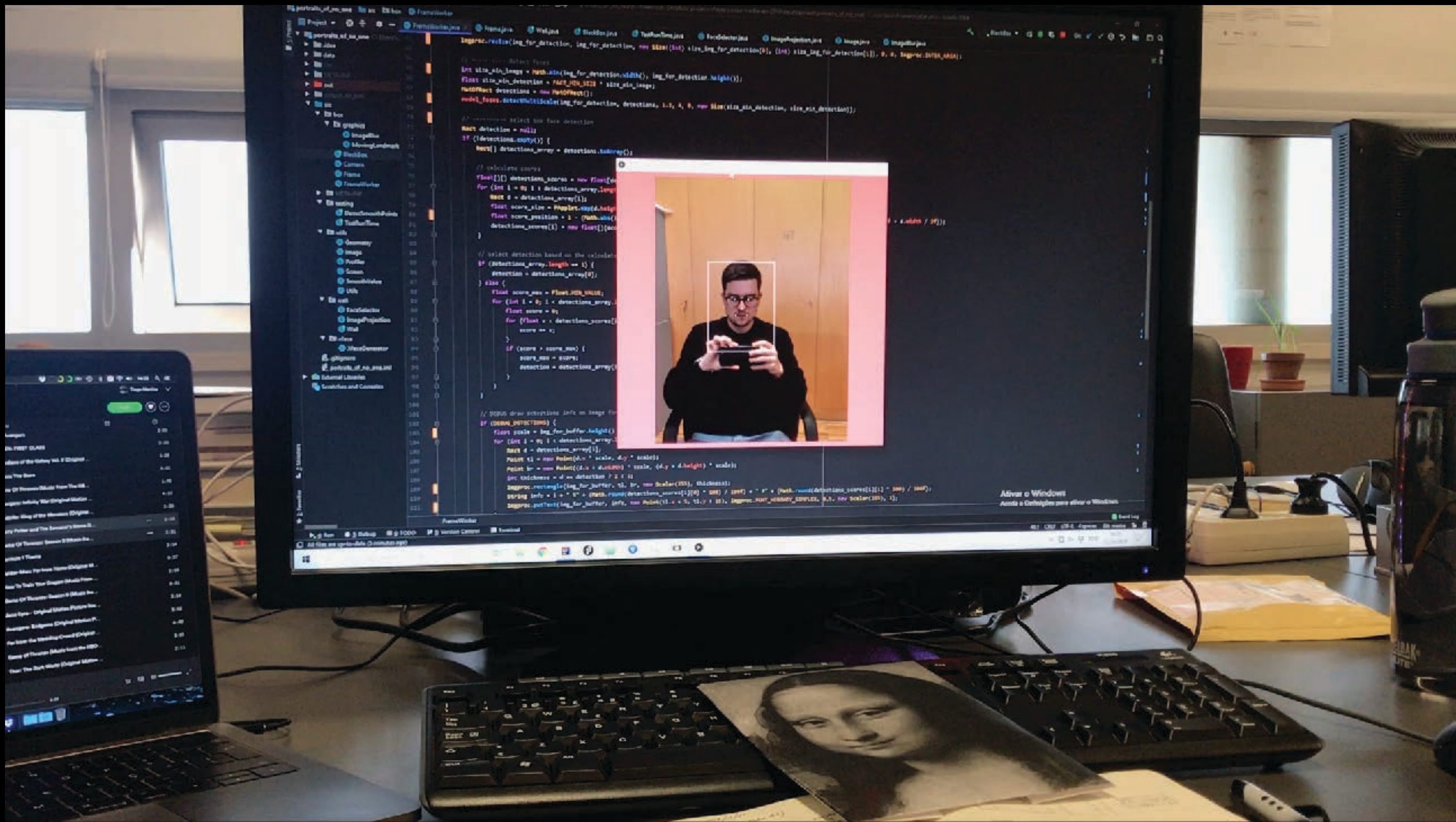
Interaction with the capturing box



Installation hardware



Development process



Development process



Development process



Faces images shown in Portraits of No One installation



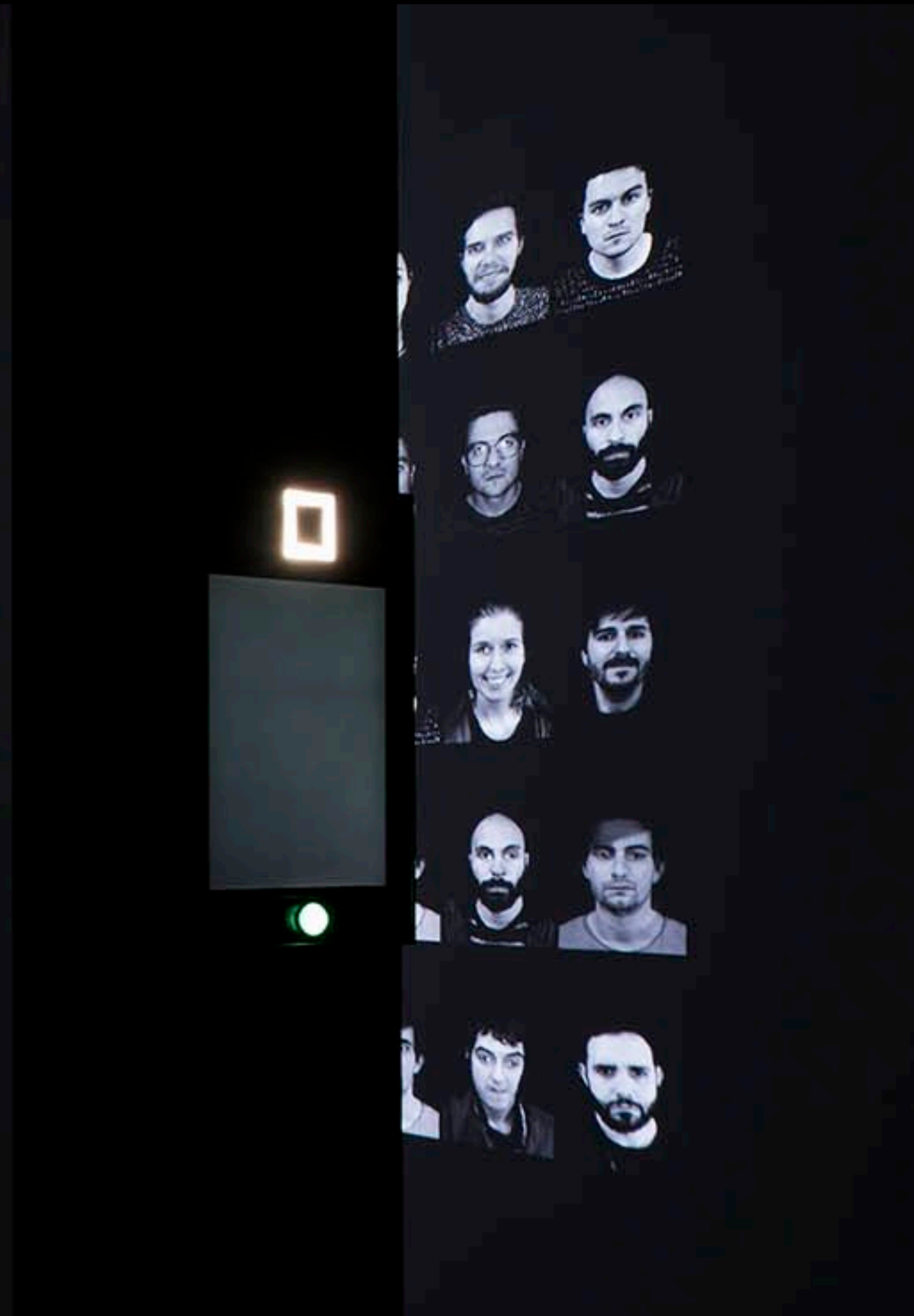
Faces images shown in Portraits of No One installation



Portraits of No One installation



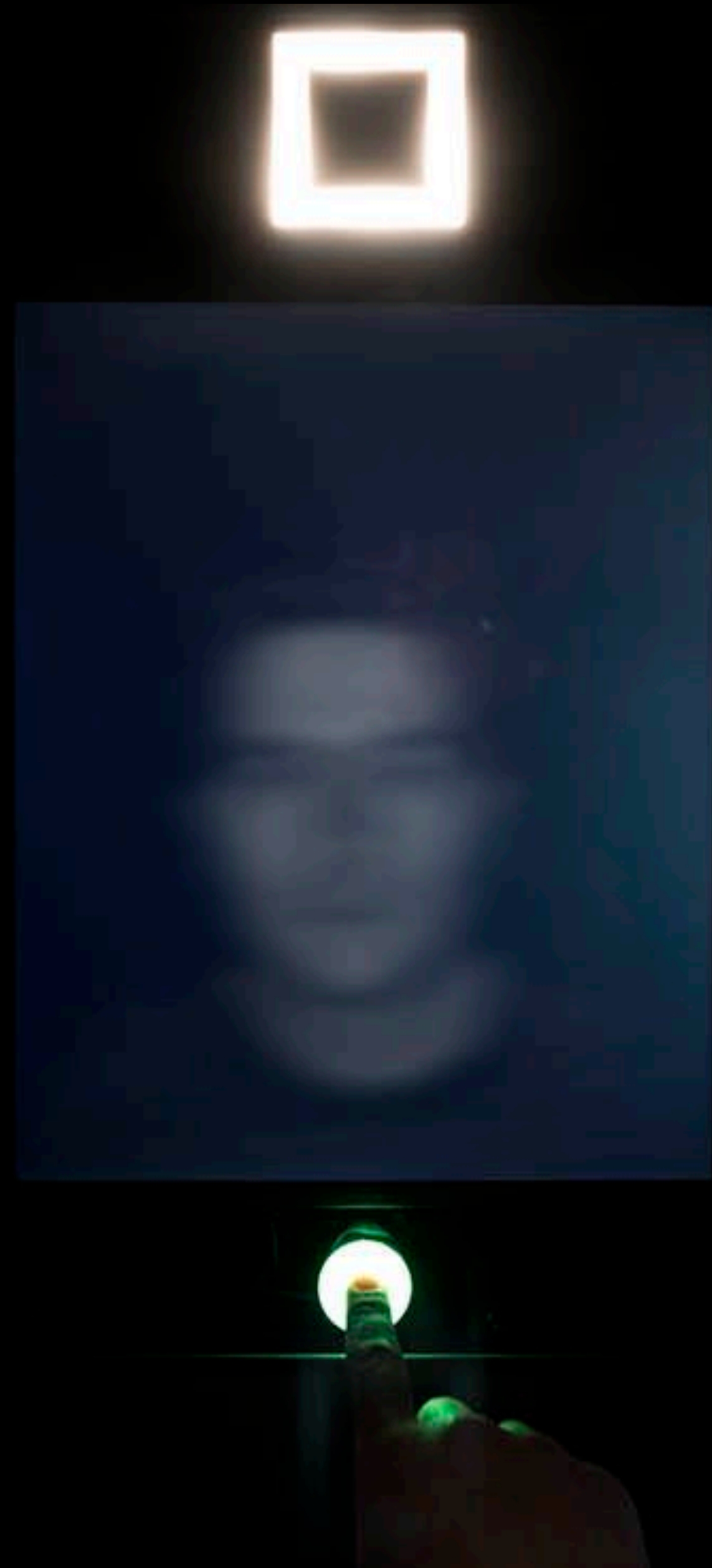
Portraits of No One installation



Portraits of No One installation



Portraits of No One installation



Portraits of No One installation



Installation *Portraits of No One* at Círculo de Artes Plásticas de Coimbra

Generating
letters

Generating
faces

Generating
coins

Co-authored with João Correia,
Sérgio Rebelo, João Bicker,
and Penousal Machado

Generating
letters

Generating
faces

Generating
coins

Co-authored with Amílcar Cardoso,
Fábio Gouveia, João Bicker, João Correia,
João Miguel Cunha, Luís Espírito Santo,
Nuno Lourenço, Penousal Machado,
and Sérgio M. Rebelo

Context

- National Press-Mint (INCM) invited us to create a coin designed by AI about the “digital world”.

Context

- National Press-Mint (INCM) invited us to create a coin designed by AI about the “digital world”.
- The goal is to mint this coin.

Design guidelines

- The coin should be what AI considers to be a representation of a Portuguese coin about the “digital world.”

Prompt: A coin about the digital world designed by AI



?



?



?

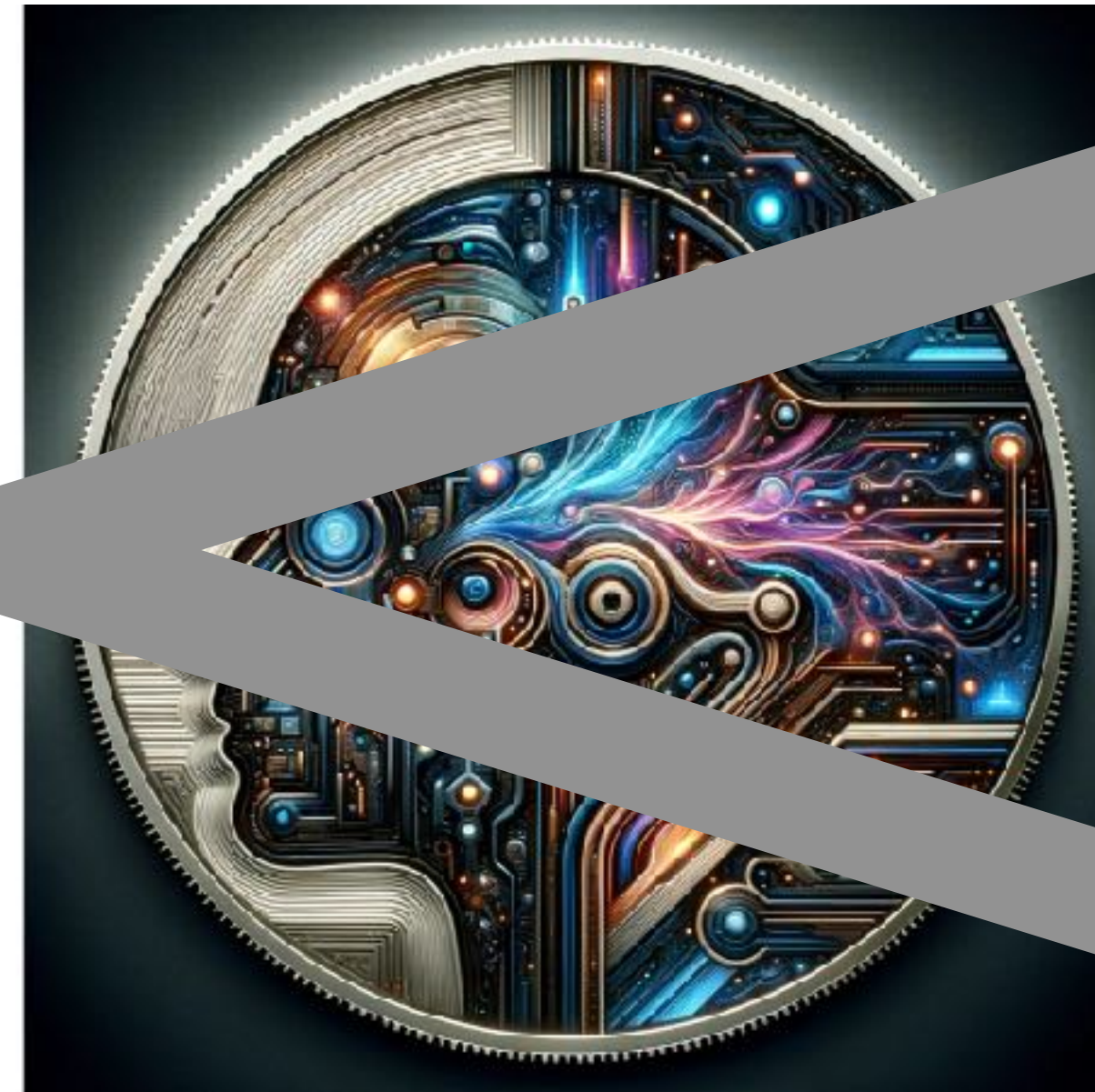


?

Prompt: A coin about the digital world designed by AI



Prompt: A coin about the digital world designed by AI



Design guidelines (cont.)

- The AI must be aligned with our view.

Design guidelines (cont.)

- The AI must be aligned with our view.
- The AI must be aligned with the collection of INCM.

Design guidelines (cont.)

- The AI must be aligned with our view.
- The AI must be aligned with the collection of INCM.
- The two coin faces should be connected.

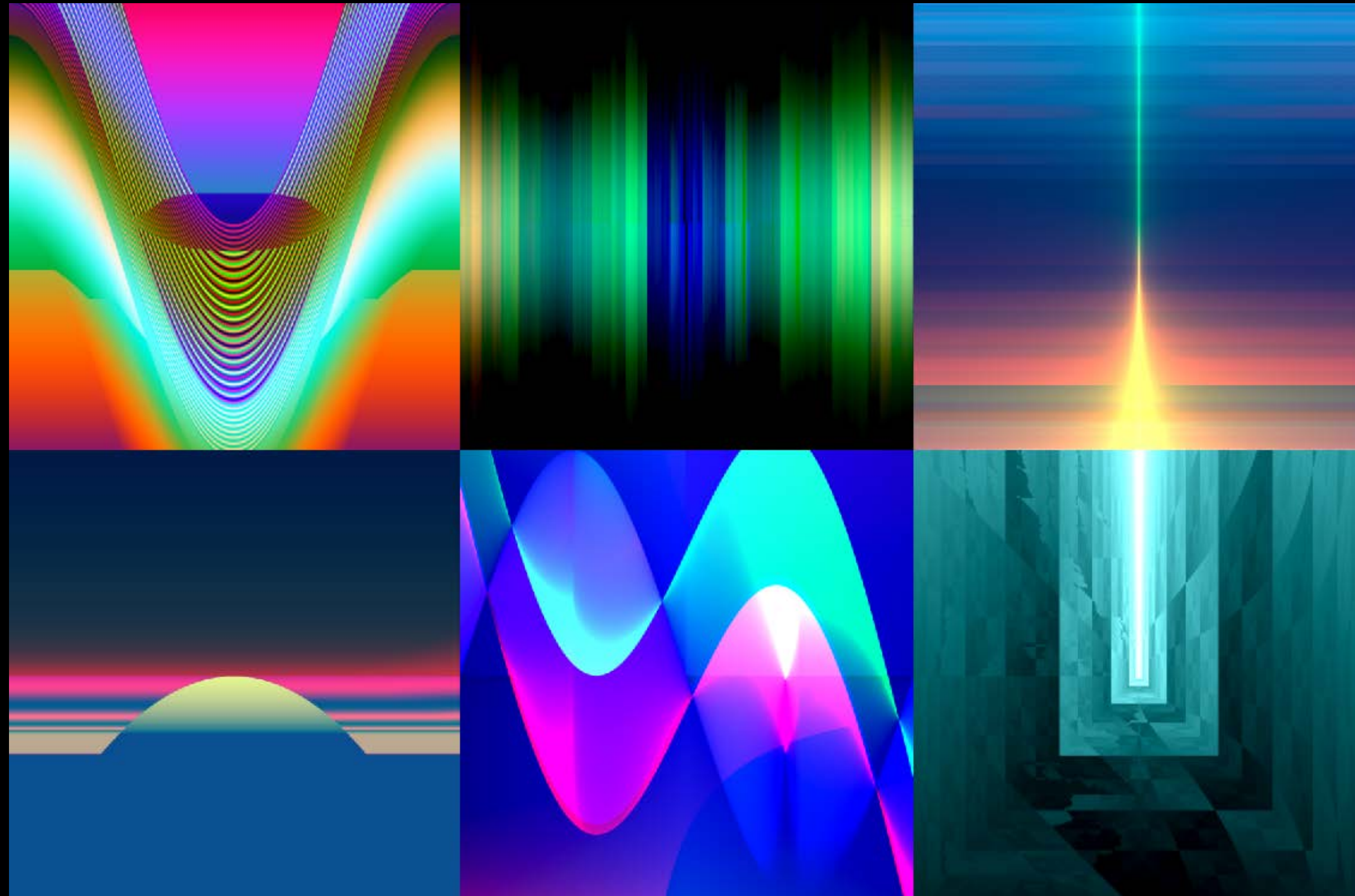
Concept

- One side is designed by AI for Humans and the other by Humans for AI.

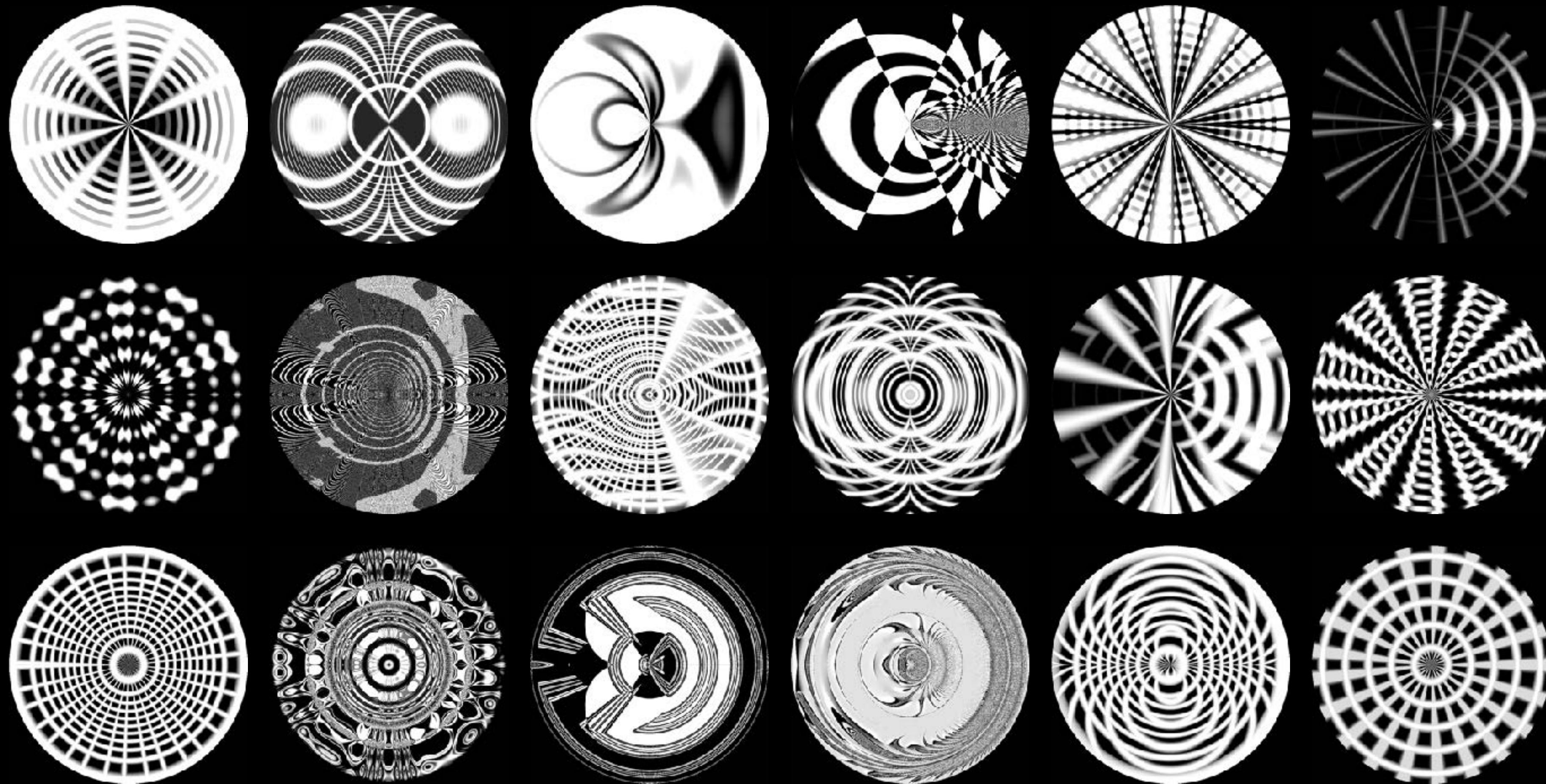
Concept

- One side is designed by AI for Humans and the other by Humans for AI.
- Both sides represent the same concept using a language adequate for the target audience (Humans or AI).

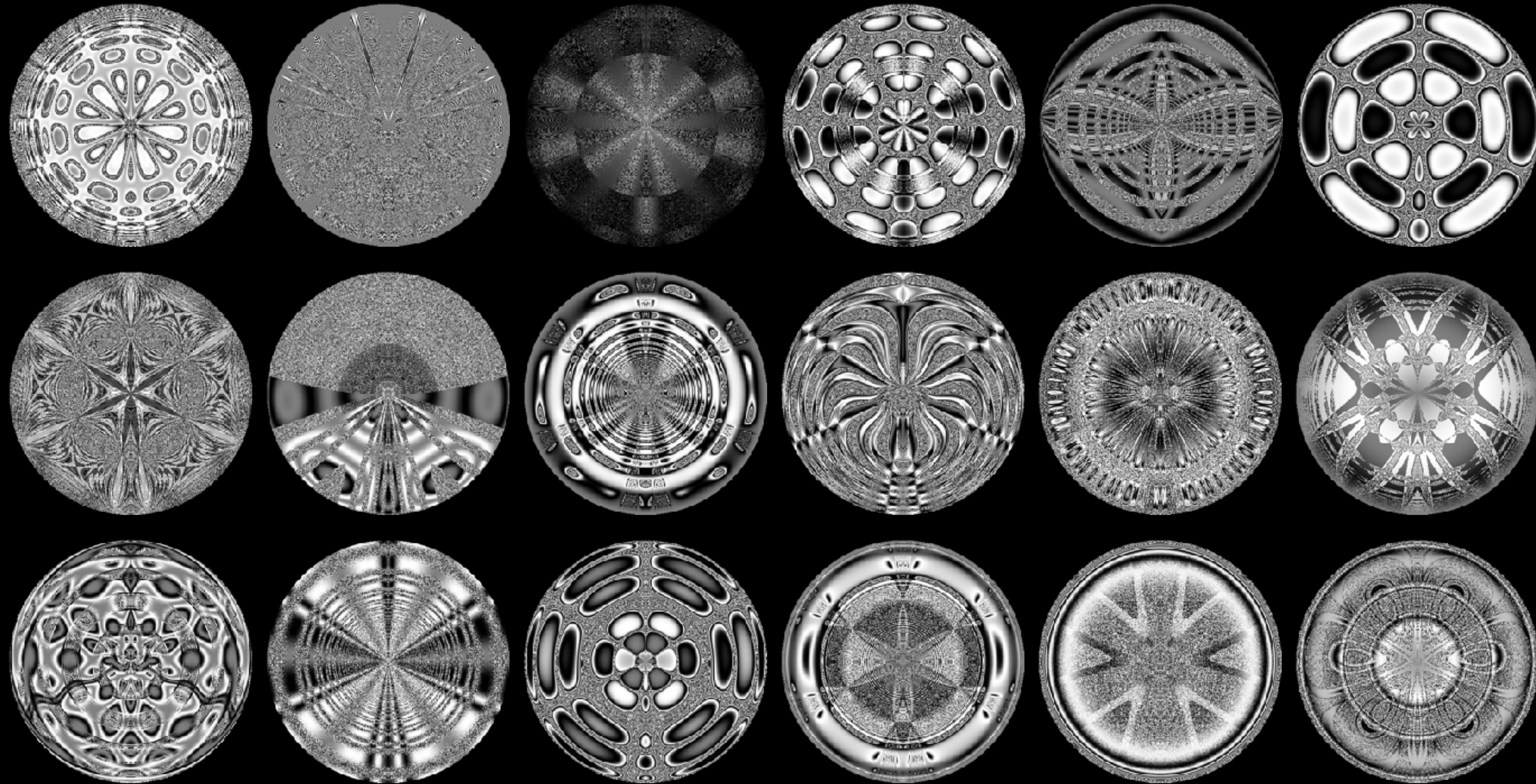
By AI for Humans



Examples of images generated with NEvAr+TensorGP



Images interactively generated with NEvAr+TensorGP using user-guided evolution



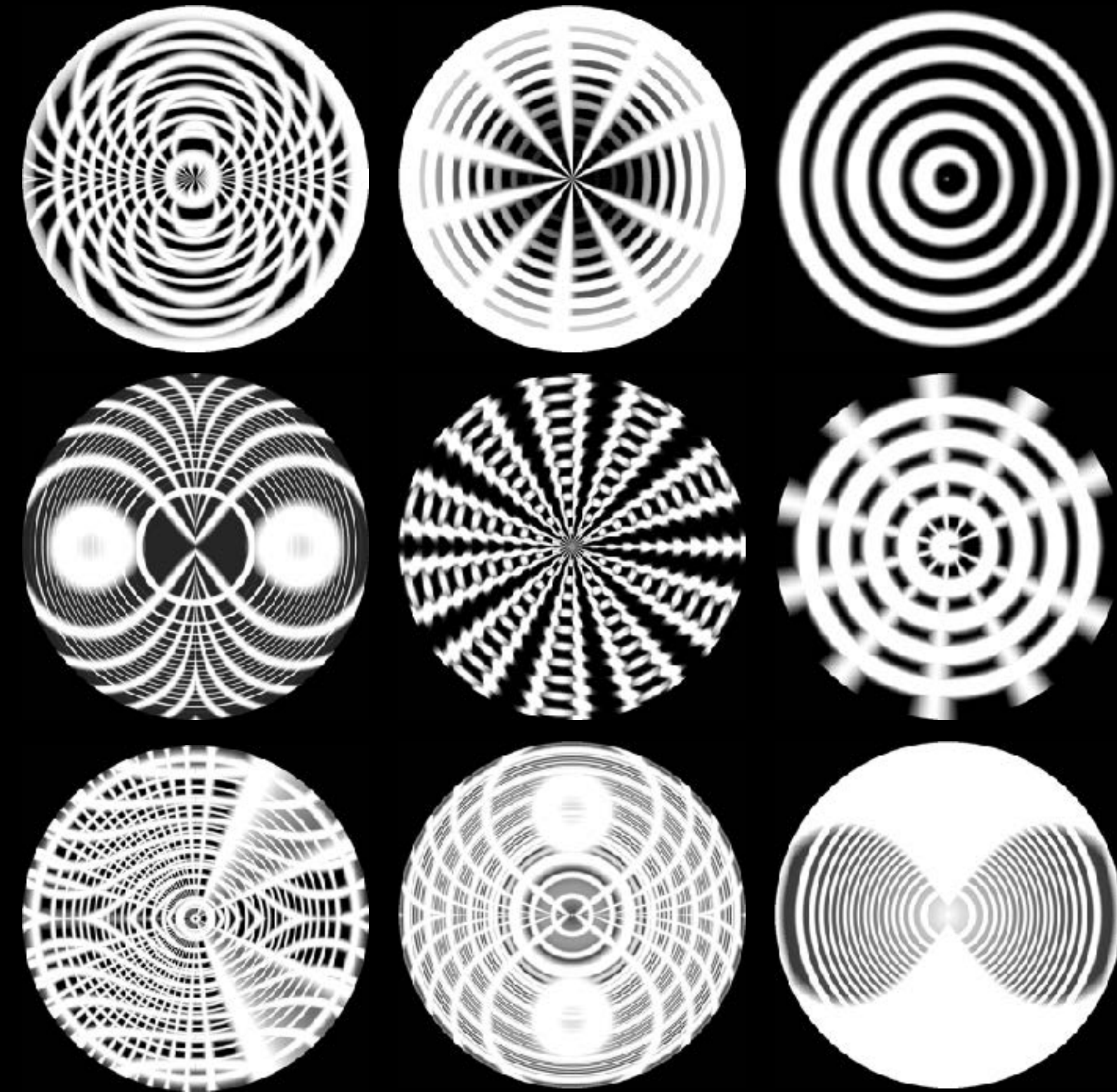
Images automatically generated with NEvAr+TensorGP using aesthetic models



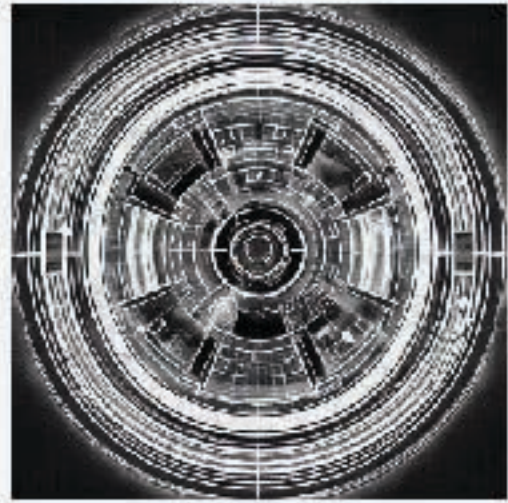
Images of INCM coins



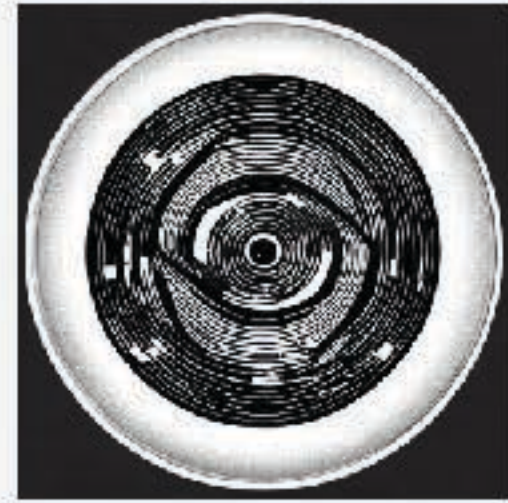
Images of INCM coins



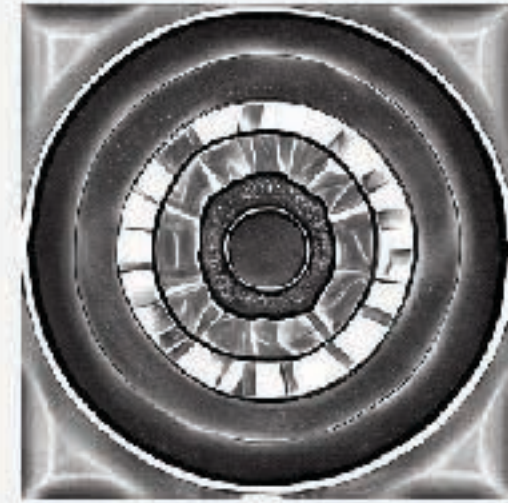
Images generated with NEvAr+TensorGP



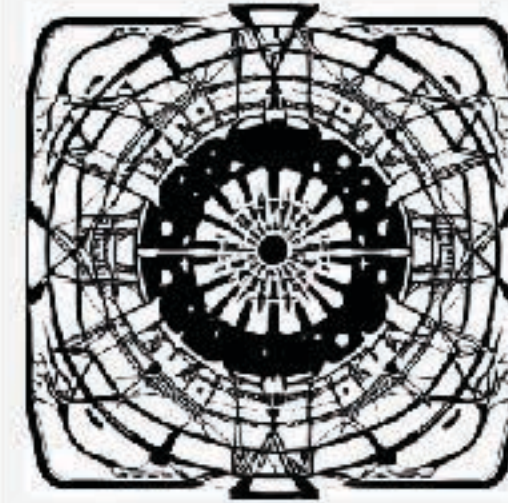
complex painting of a coin of a cyber world, black and white, round, concept art, centered, highly detailed



digital drawing of a coin of a cyber world, black and white, round, beautiful, asymmetrical, cinematic, masterpiece



digital oil of a coin of ai, black and white, round, beautiful, symmetrical, metallic



oil of a coin of a network, black and white, round, symmetrical, geometric art, generative art, cinematic



digital illustration of a coin of a network, black and white, round, aesthetic, sharp, lofi, generative art, centered, masterpiece



minimalistic image of a coin of a cyber world, black and white, round, highly detailed, lofi, high contrast, geometric art, concept art, smooth



sketch of a coin of a digital world, black and white, round, highly detailed, low contrast, 8k, centered

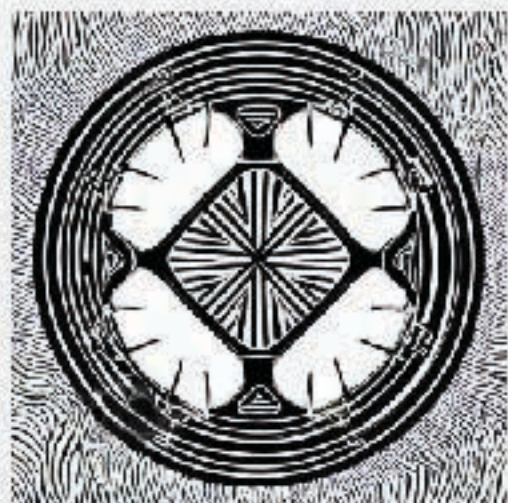
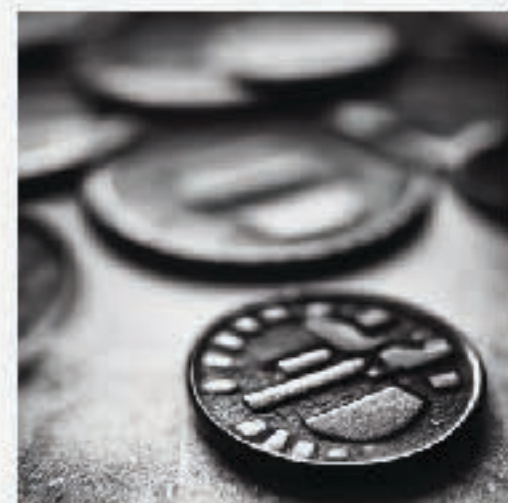
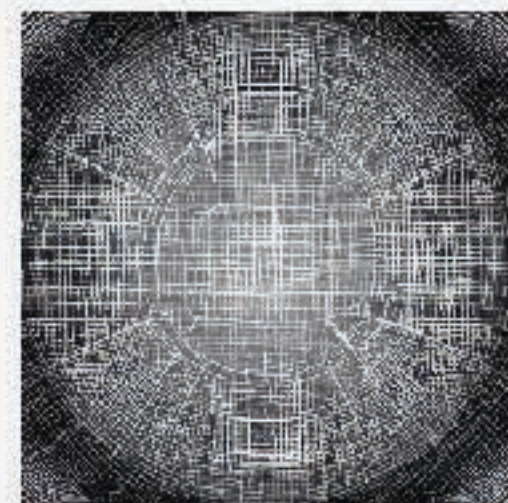


illustration of a coin of an algorithm, black and white, round, detailed, symmetrical, sharp focus, geometric art, smooth, concept art



minimalistic image of a coin of a cyber world, black and white, round, lofi, elegant, volumetric, sharp focus, fantasy, symmetrical



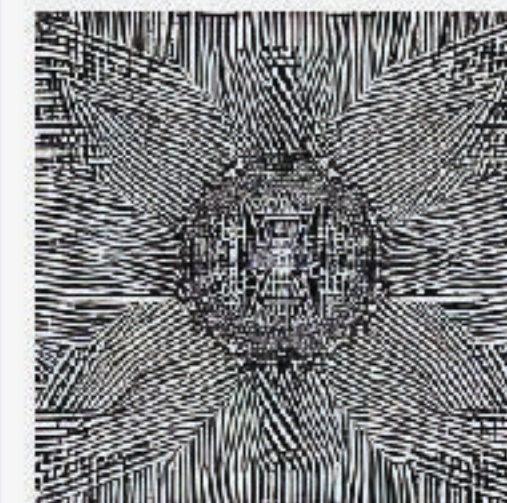
clear blueprint of a coin of an algorithm, black and white, round, low contrast, aesthetic, geometric, matte, metallic, concept art, asymmetrical



photo of a coin of a cyber world, black and white, round, symmetrical, sharp, metallic



image of a coin of a digital world, black and white, round, creative, fantasy, high contrast, smooth, detailed, beautiful

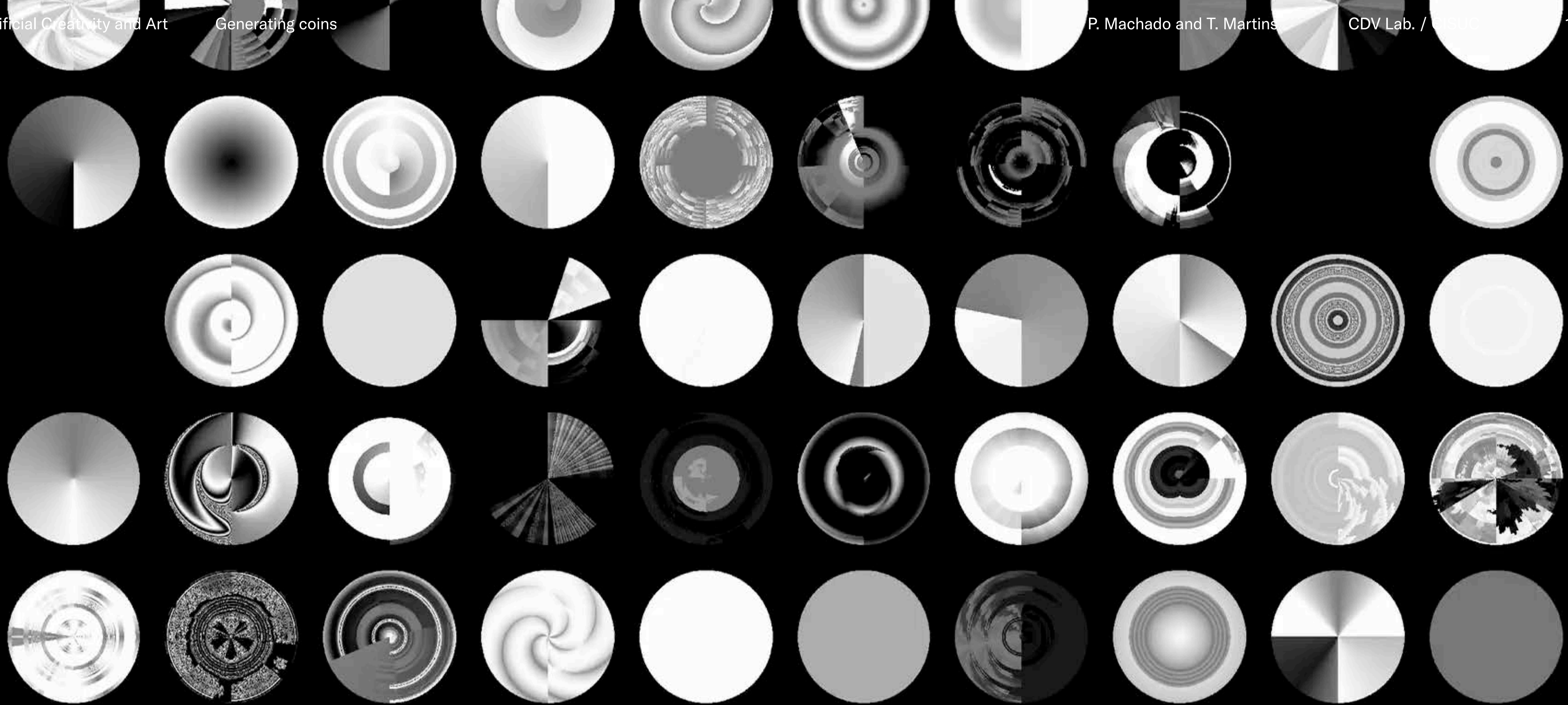


blueprint of a coin of ai, black and white, round, volumetric, creative, generative art, detailed, geometric, symmetrical

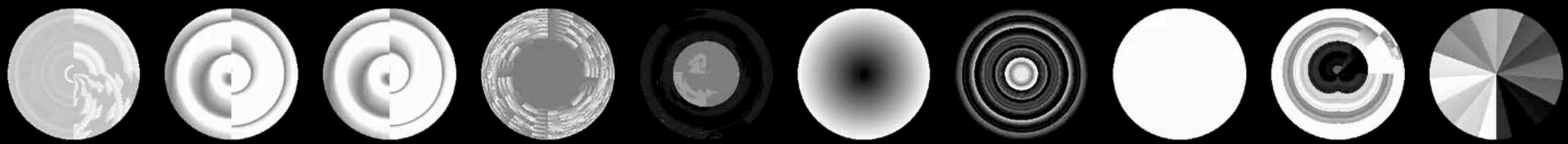


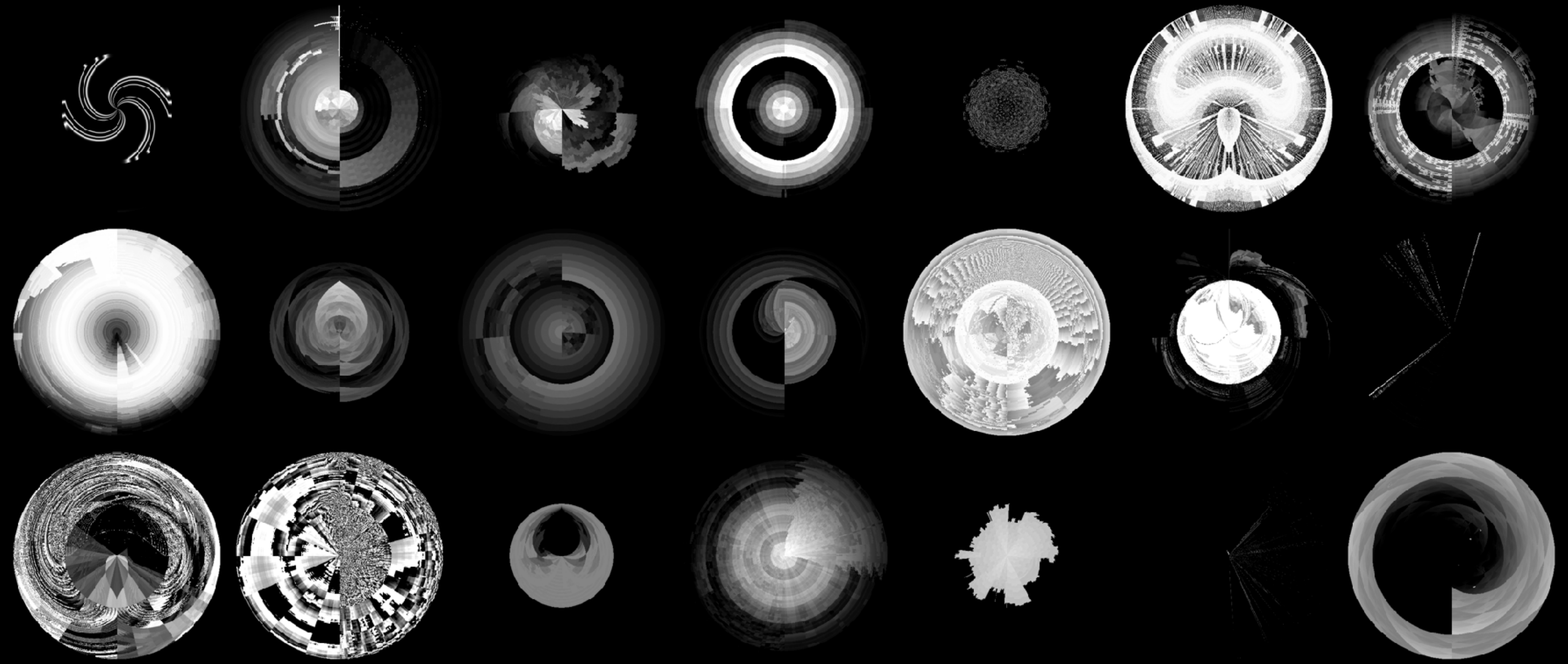
digital painting of a coin of ai, black and white, round, high contrast, highly detailed, beautiful, generative art, lofi, smooth

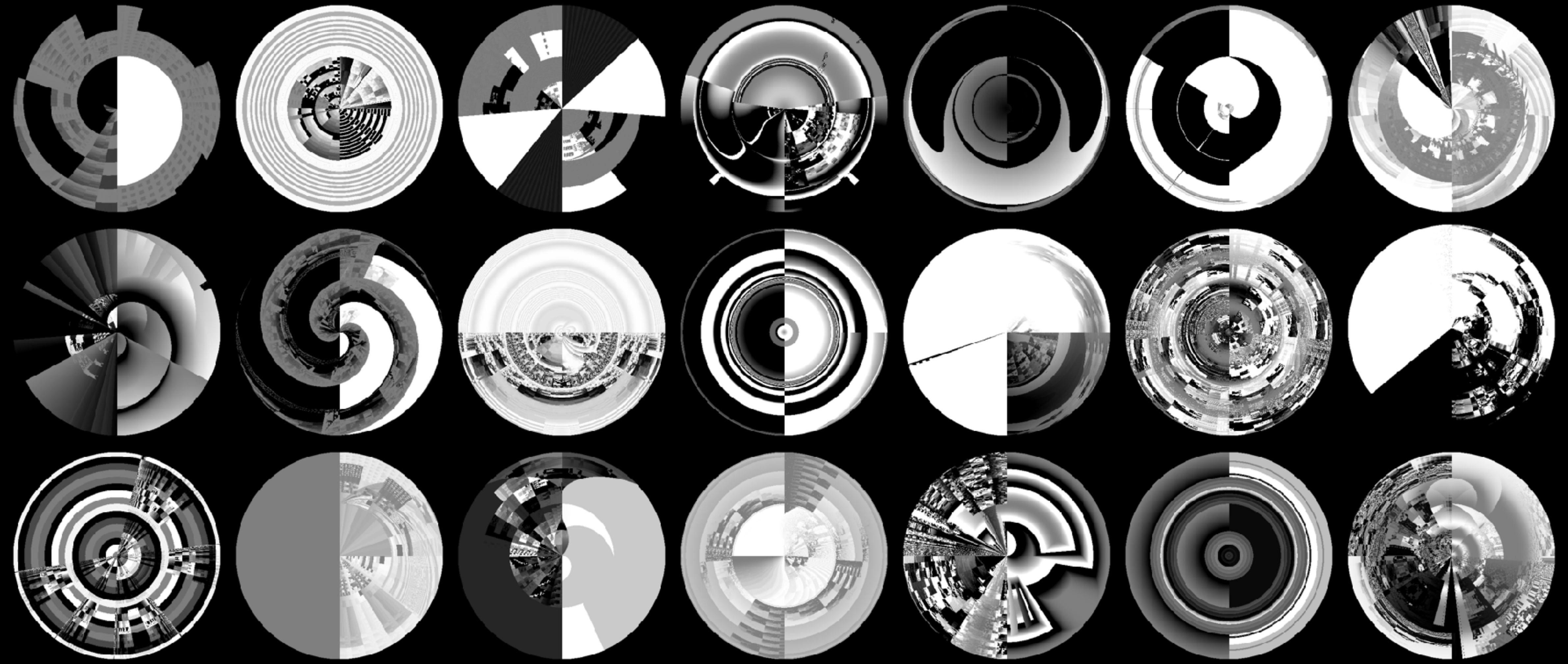
Evolve



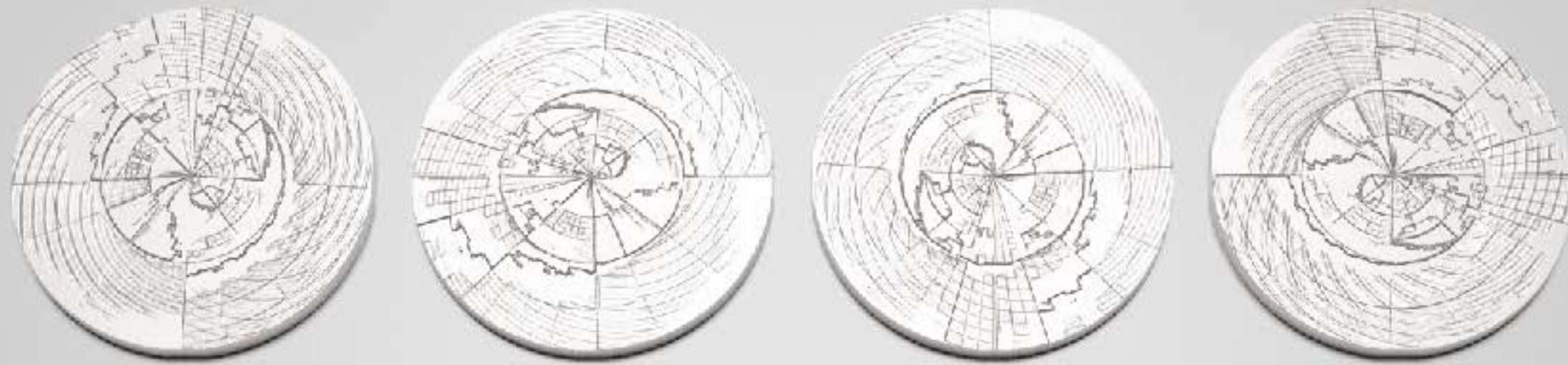
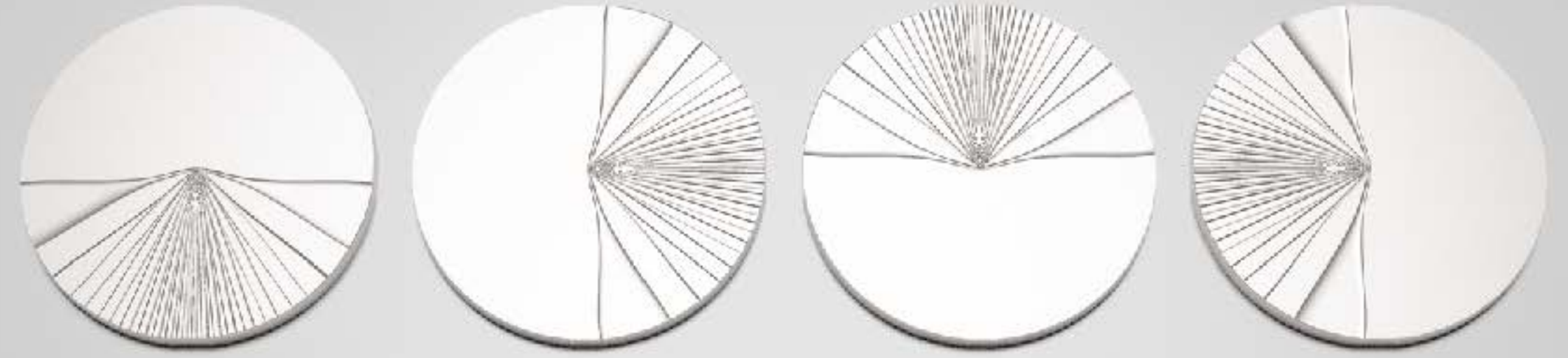
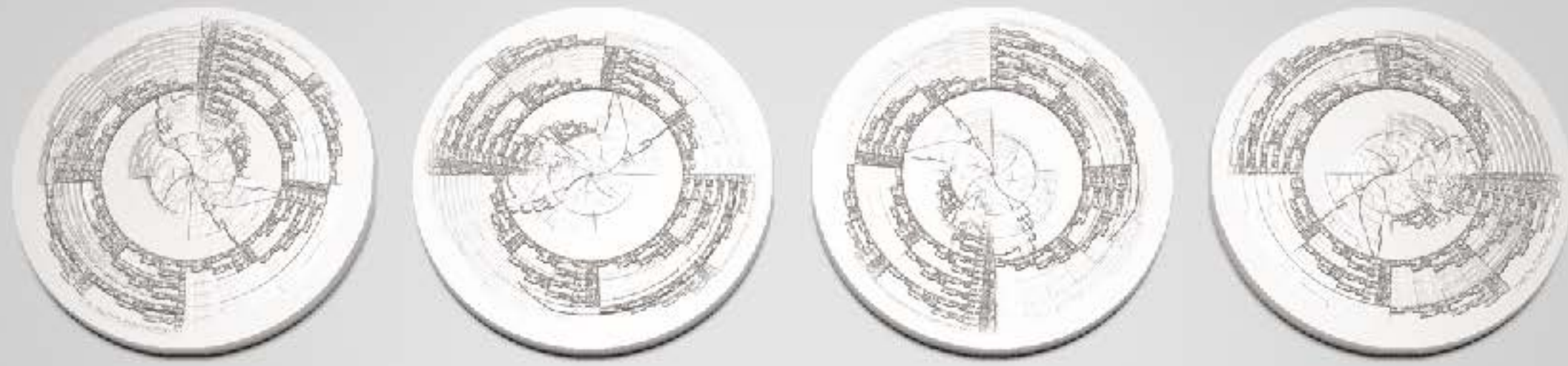
/generation_00001 (2/323)













By Humans for AI

By Humans for AI

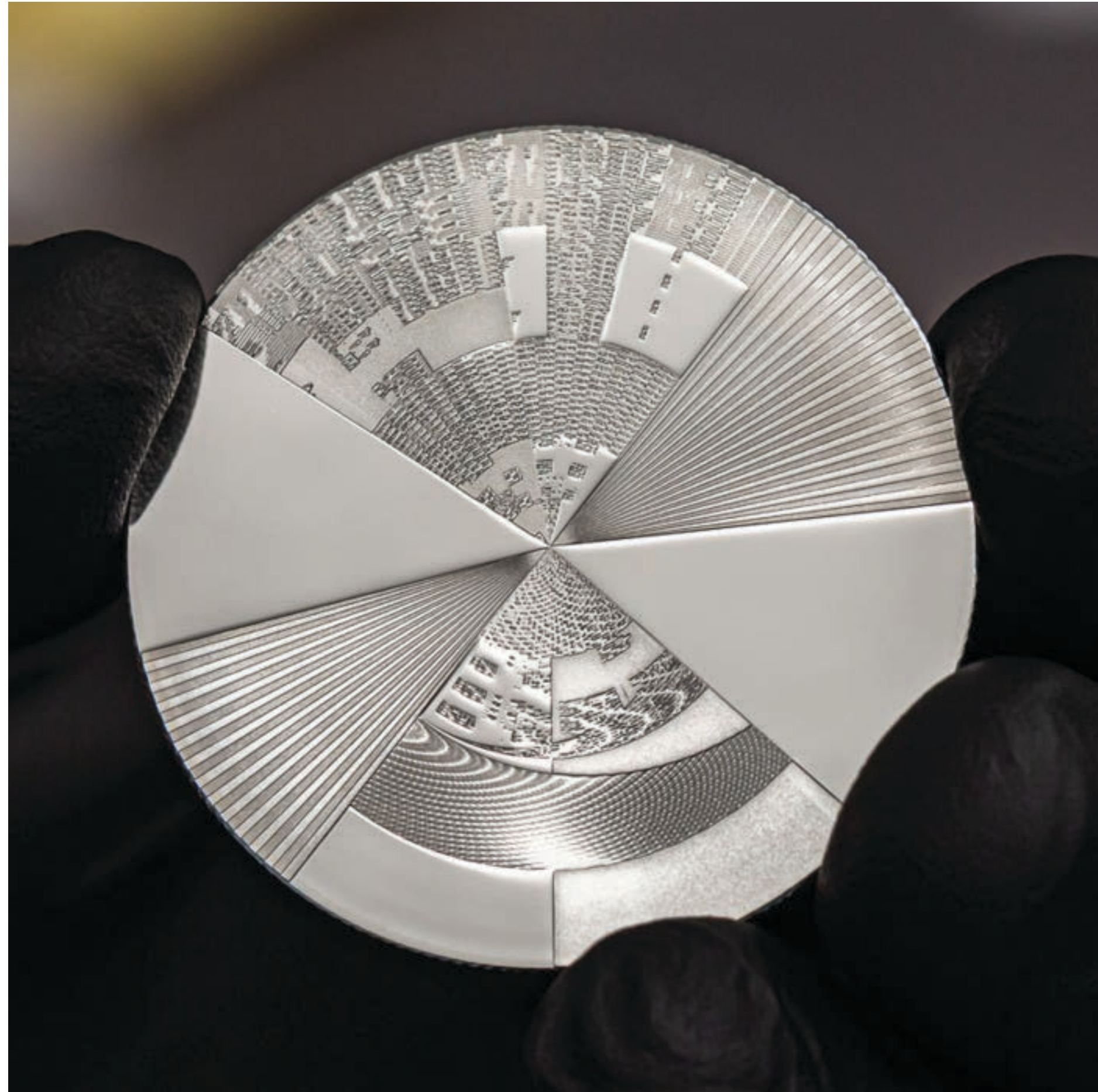
- Graphical representation of mathematical expression that generates the image depicted in the other face.



Side by Humans for AI







```

tan(max(sub(xor(alpha,frac(scalar(-0.20
4))),alpha),or(or(xor(pow(log(xor(scala
r(-0.147),or(r,alpha))),if(mdist(max(al
pha,div(scalar(-0.350),r)),sub(scalar(0
.660),tan(scalar(0.267))))),or(alpha,if(
r,scalar(-0.413),frac(alpha))),abs(cos(
max(and(abs(alpha),alpha),add(sqrt(alph
a),r))))),and(or(exp(pow(sqrt(frac(min
(r,scalar(-0.670))))),r)),scalar(-0.479,
-0.479,-0.479),scalar(-0.419))),xor(md
ist(alpha,if(alpha,tan(scalar(0.231)),s
qrt(abs(r))),frac(log(exp(frac(r))))))
,warp(scalar(-0.550),r,div(xor(pow(and(
alpha,r),pow(scalar(0.142,0.142,0.142),
warp(scalar(0.441),r,scalar(0.209,0.209
,0.209))))),pow(r,scalar(0.532))),xor(sc
alar(0.984),if(r,frac(or(if(if(cos(r),r
,scalar(0.302)),add(alpha,alpha),sin(al
pha)),alpha)),alpha))))))

```





Generating
letters

Generating
faces

Generating
coins

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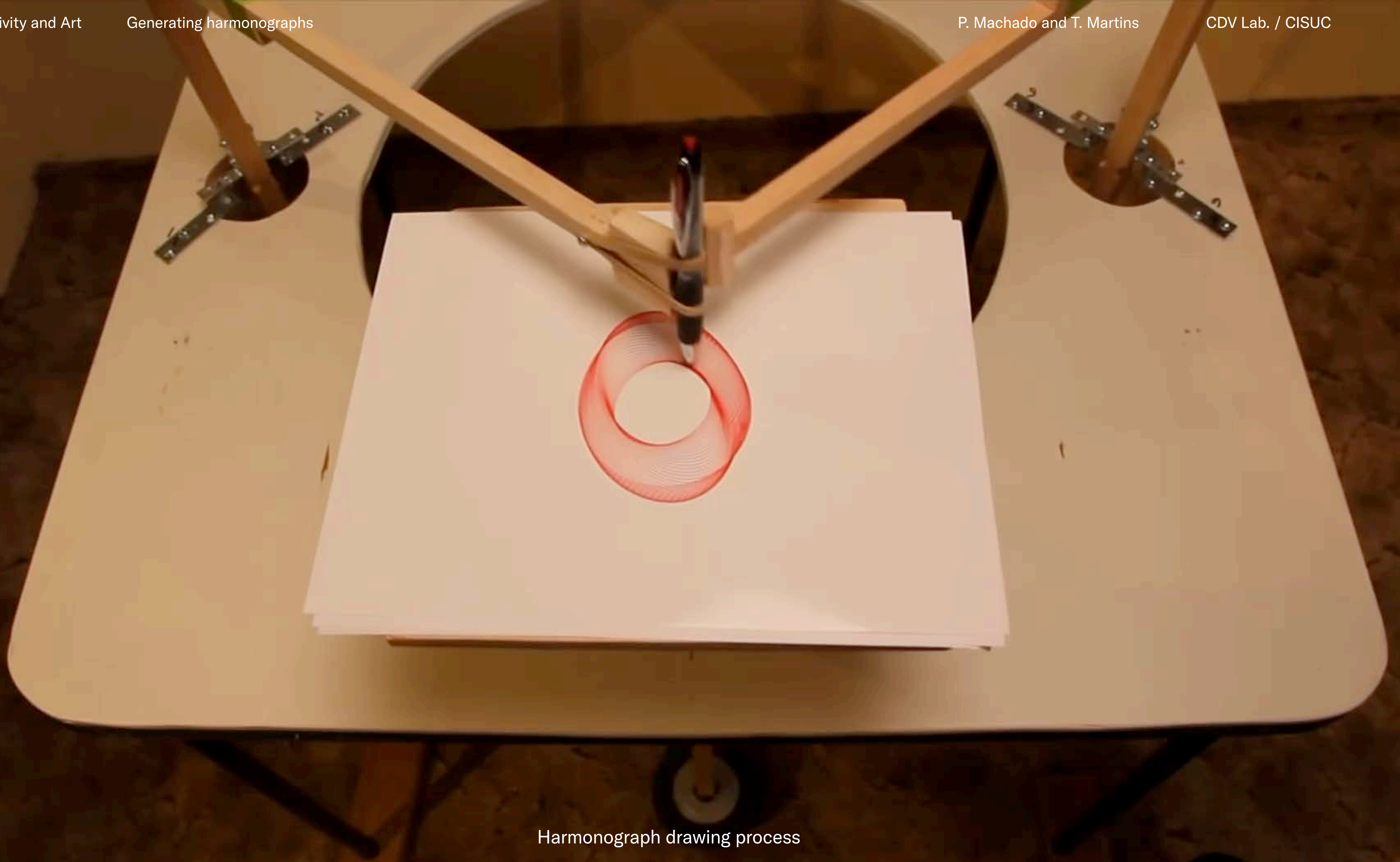
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Generating
letters

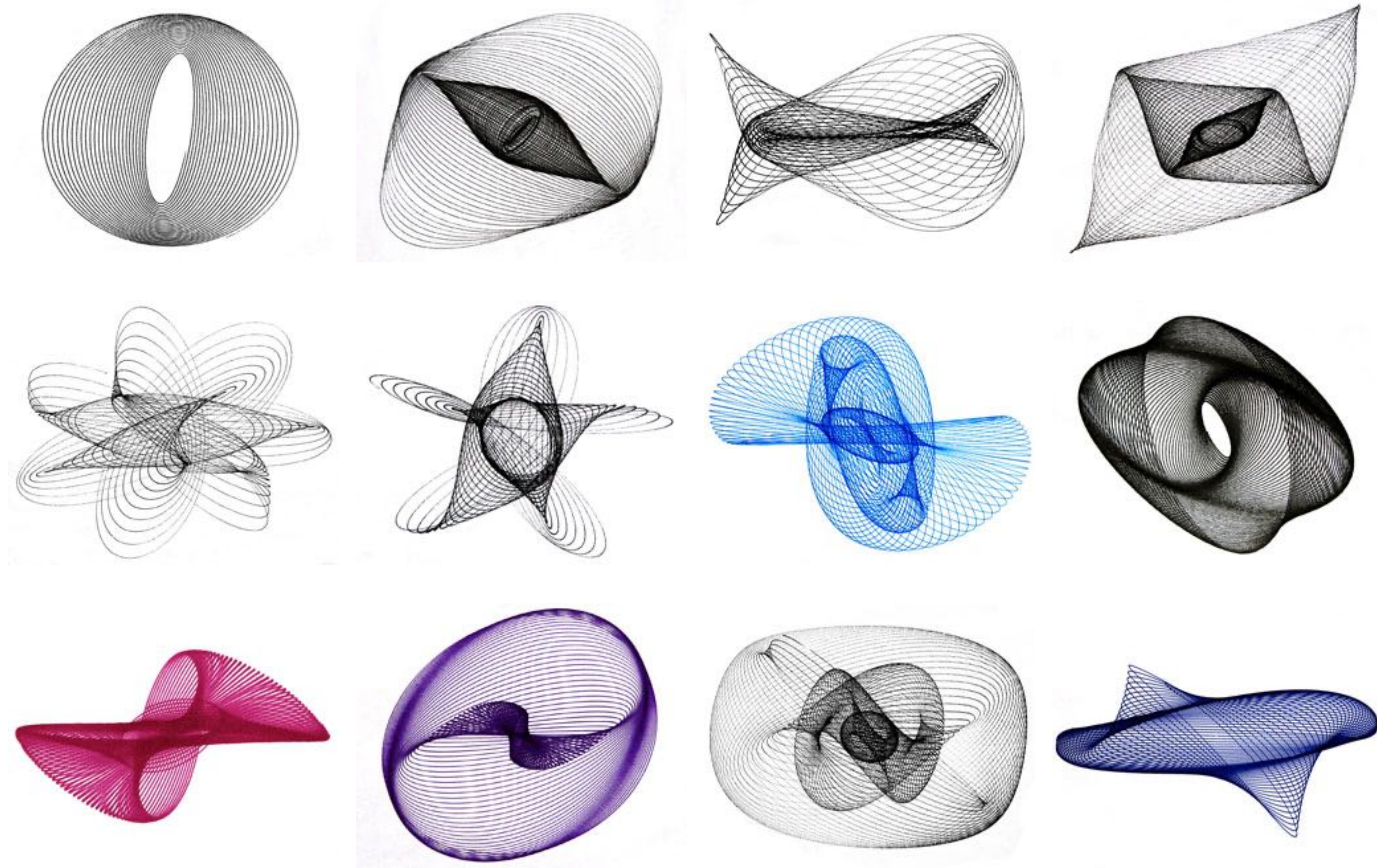
Generating
faces

Generating
coins

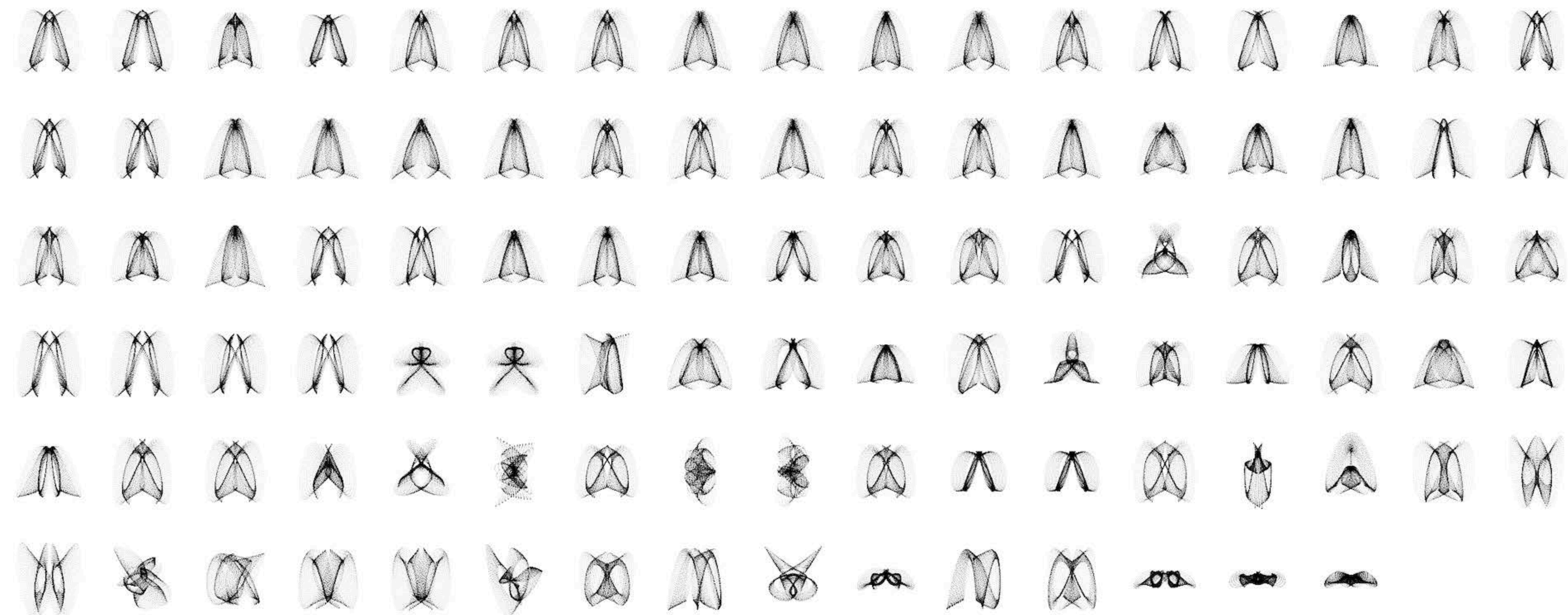
Generating
harmonographs



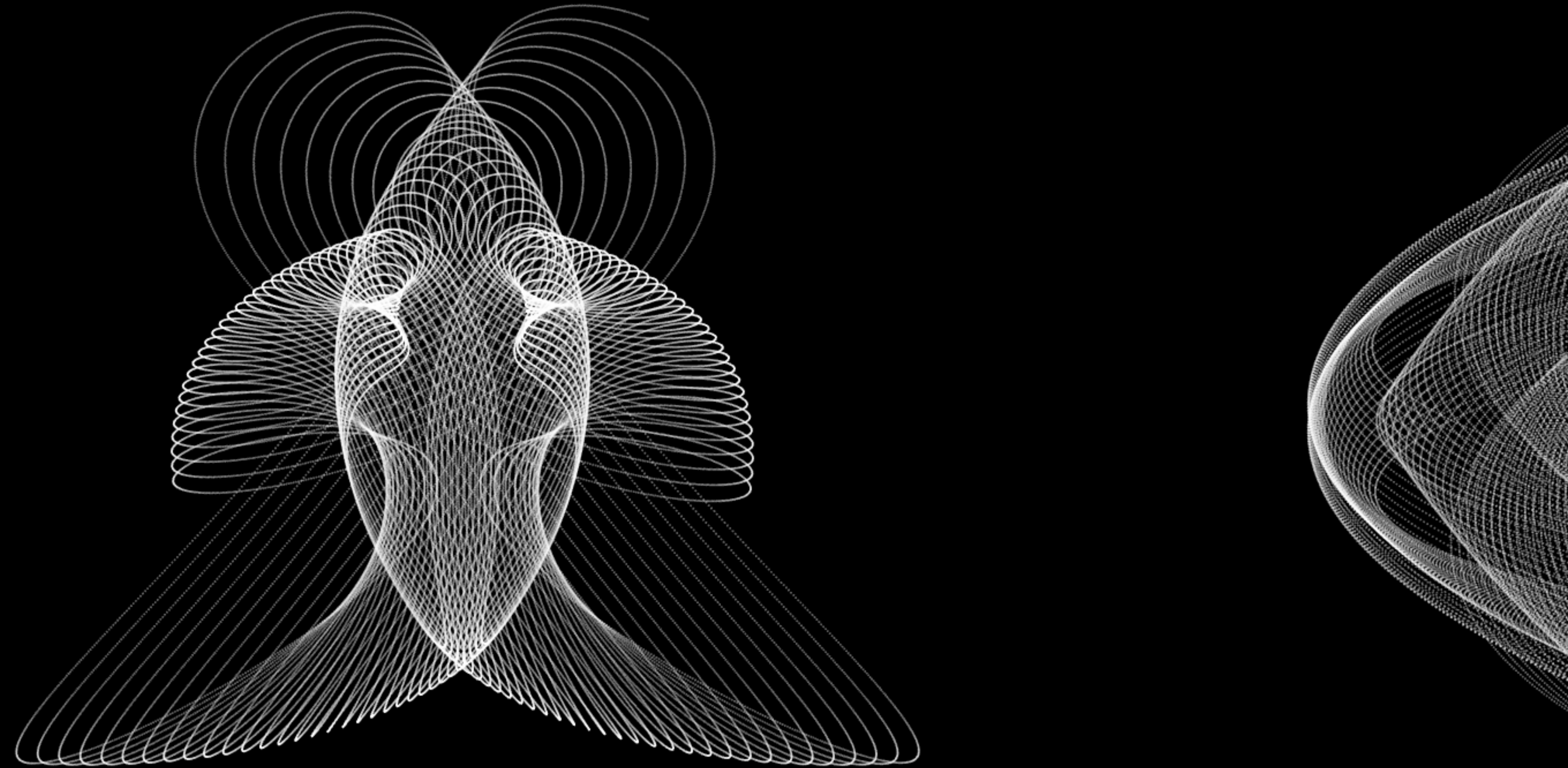
Harmonograph drawing process



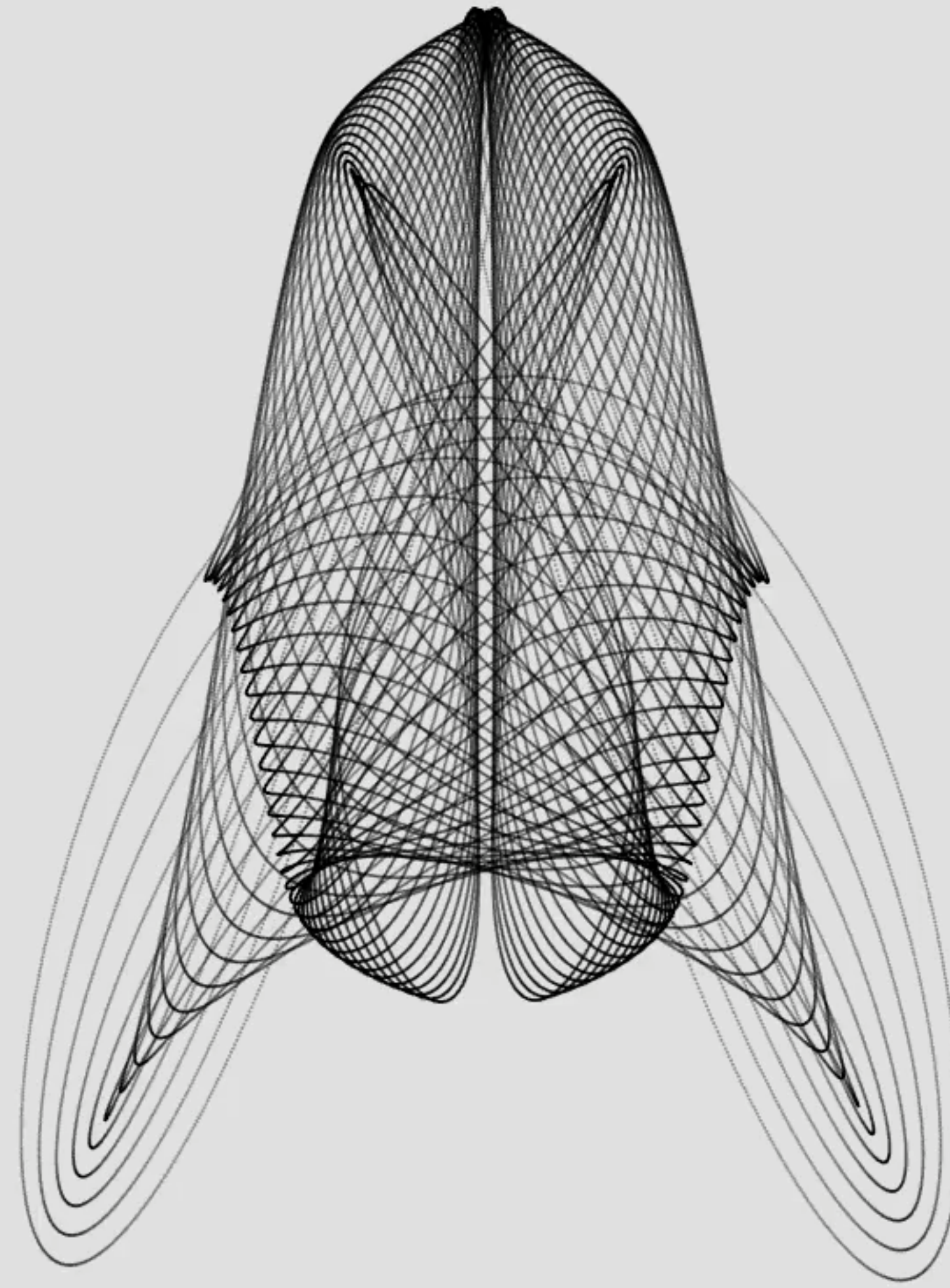
Pendulum Rotary Harmonograph Results,
Karl Sims (2009)



Generated harmonographs



Harmonographs evolved to resemble letters



Morph animation between different harmonographs



Drawing generated harmonograph using a pen plotter

What you will need

- Computer
- Install Processing: processing.org
- Download these files: github.com/tiagofmartins/evolving-harmonographs

14th SYMPOSIUM OF BIAL FOUNDATION
BEHIND AND BEYOND THE BRAIN

Thank you.

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