



PHOTO
GRAPHY
/PORT
FOLIO

- Amy Davis

ABOUT /ME

Artist Statement

I am interested in using photography, video, and media to explore how identity is defined, expressed and curated for social media. The camera is a tool by which we invent an image of ourselves, and social media is how we project these “inventions” to many strangers. We have been sharing self-constructed narratives about our assumed characters since the advent of photography.

My past installations and video projects have focused on how we curate identity for social media. Social media enforces people’s desire to look at others and be looked at. Images are no longer housed in private photo albums but online for a greater viewing audience. We look at pictures of others to better learn how to take photographs of ourselves.

My project, “Inference,” is a voyeuristic investigation of the information conveyed about personal identity based on the photographic images people take and share with others. This multi-component interactive projected installation explores our fascination with peeking into the lives of others and how we assess a

stranger’s character, disposition, and interpersonal relationships through collections of images taken of them or by them. Designed as an interactive wall projection controlled by a cell phone, these cellular characterizations are 6x6 foot photo mosaic portraits comprising the entirety of a subject’s images and text messages stored on their phone. These mosaic portraits resembled each person’s likeness with the color palette and content from everything stored on their phone.

My current photo and video project, “Assimilation,” stemming from my relationship with my husband, focuses on the dual nature of identity, particularly for immigrants to America. This project looks into the personal struggles of immigrants as they shift their cultural identities to adopt the American lifestyle and the guilt experienced as they create new traditions. With a focus on immigrants who marry outside their culture, I seek to use photography and video as tools to explore these shifting cultural identities and traditions.

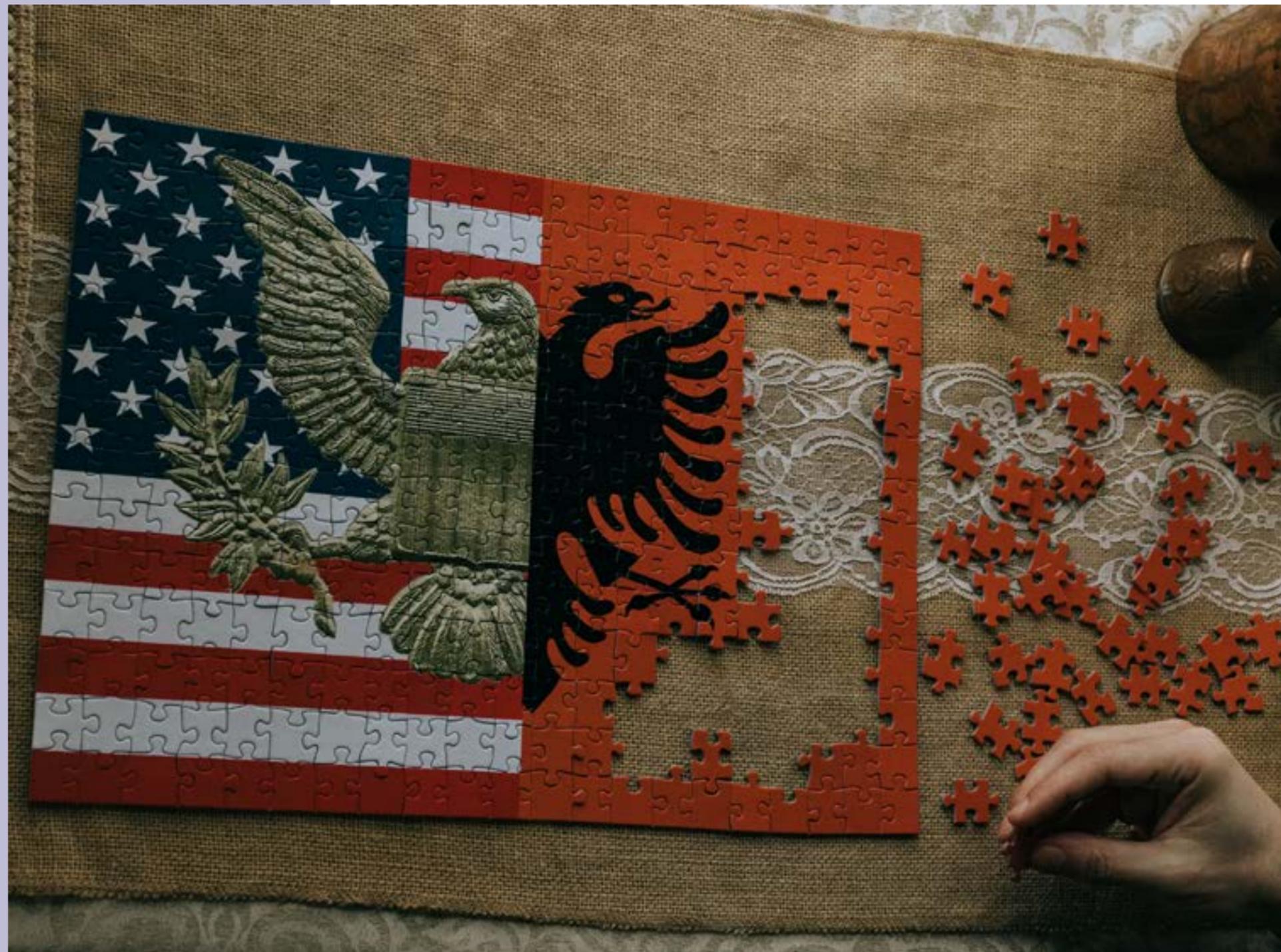


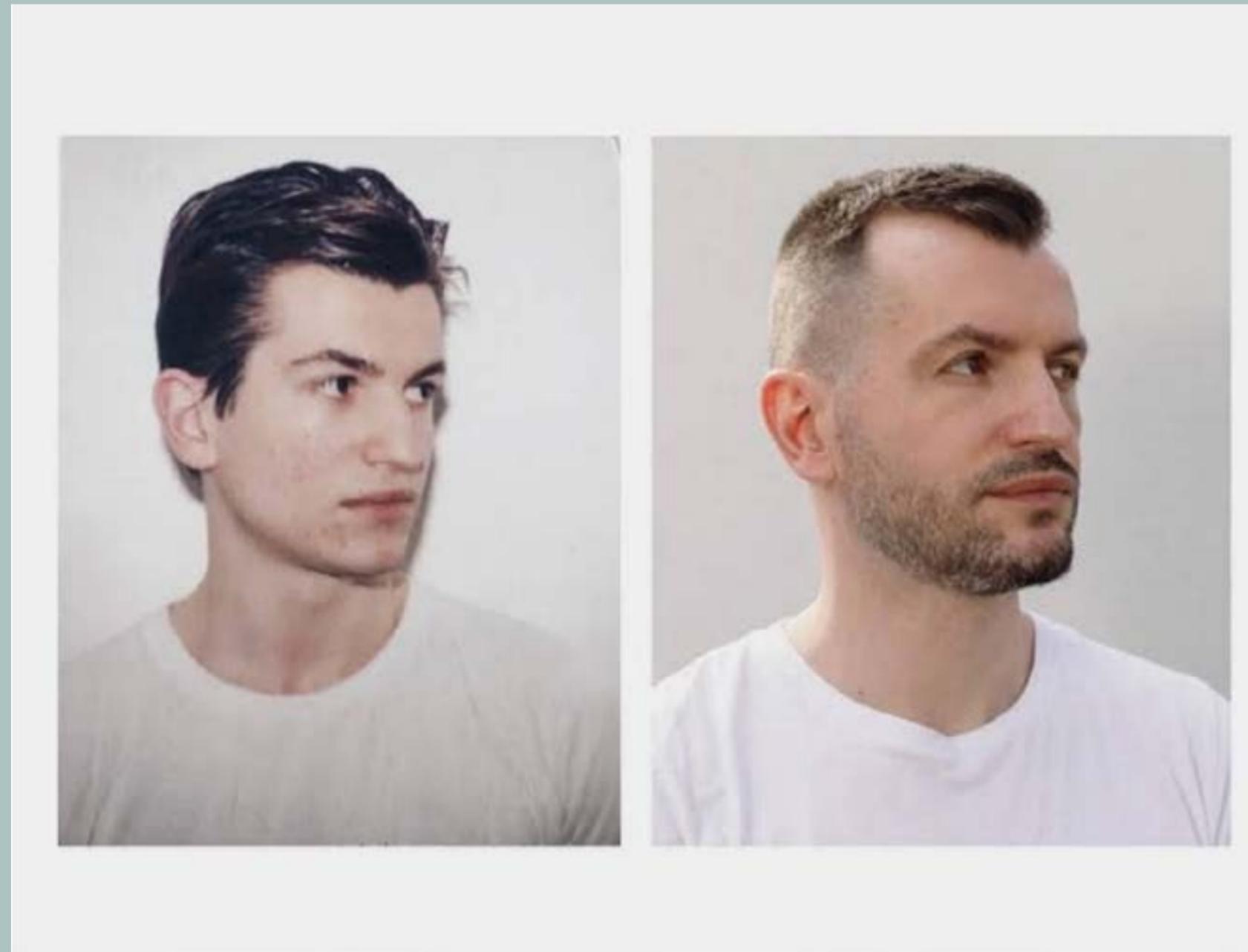
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1. Assimilation

My current photo and video project stemming from my relationship with my husband, focuses on the dual nature of identity, particularly for immigrants who moved to America. This project looks into the personal struggles of immigrants as they shift their cultural identities to adopt the American lifestyle and the guilt experienced as they begin to create new traditions from their homelands. With a focus on immigrants who marry outside their culture, I seek to use photography and video as a tools to explore these shifting cultural identities and traditions.





New Union, 2020
Digital Photograph



Assimilation, 2020
Digital Photograph

Duality, 2020
Digital Photograph



Second Generation, 2021
Digital Photograph

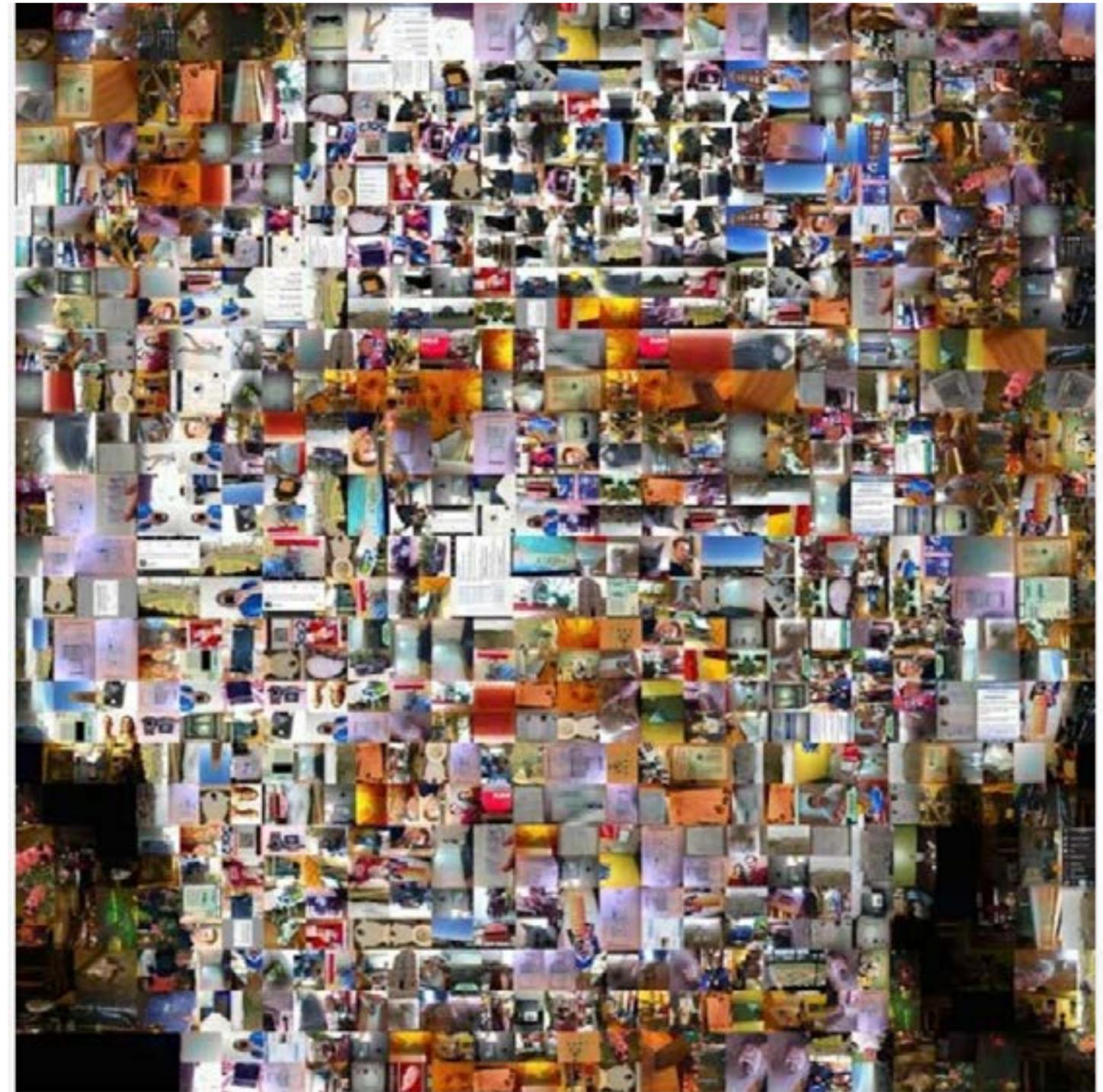


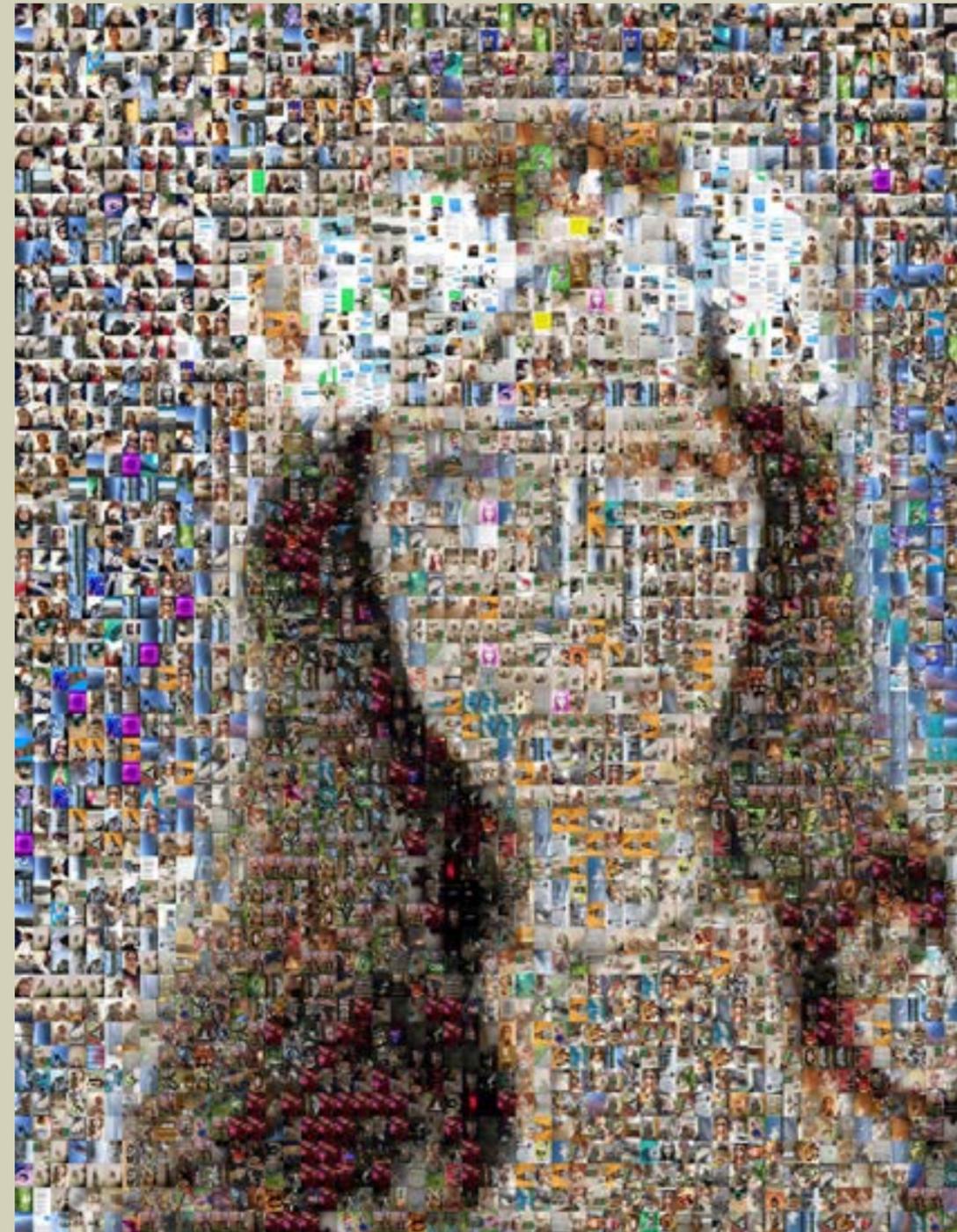
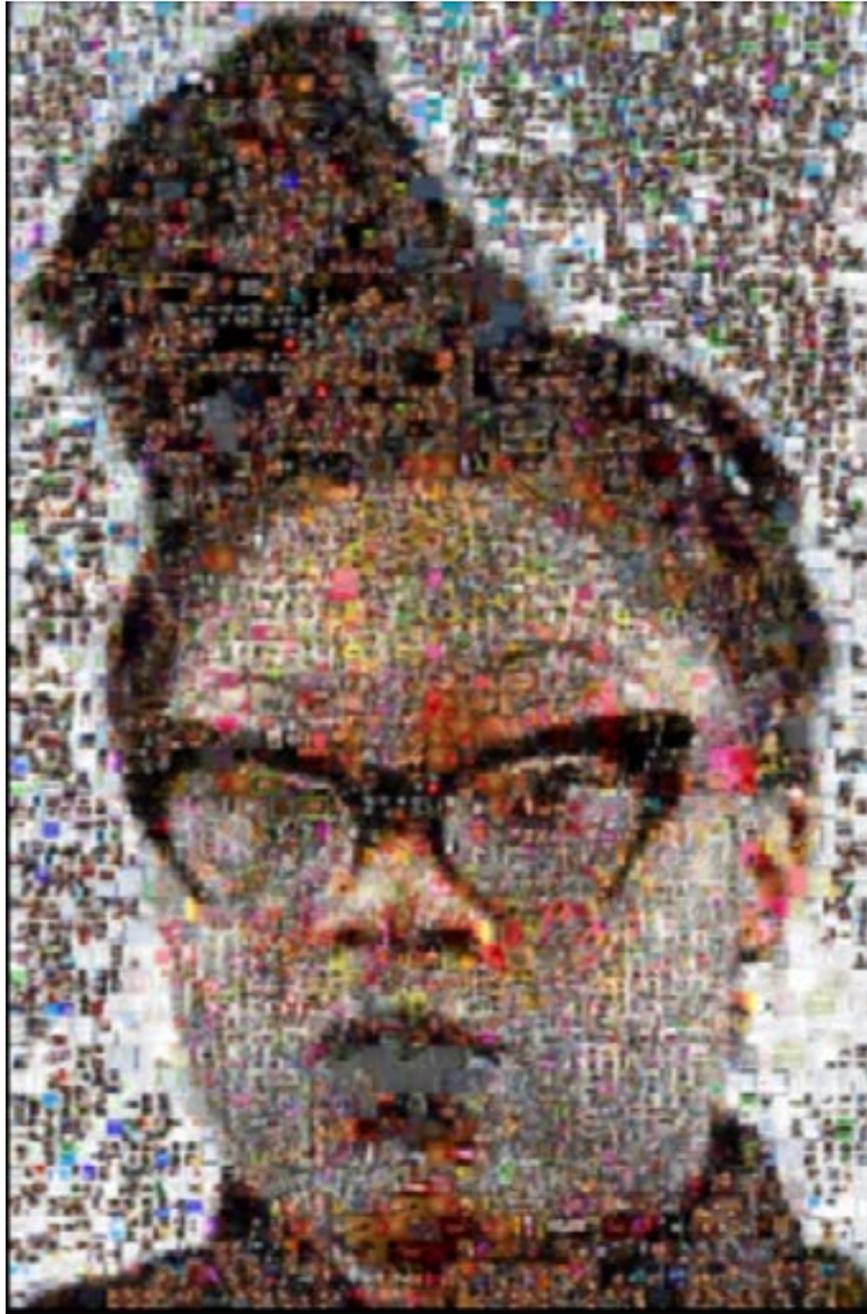
2. Inference

These Cellular Portraits, present an opportunity to look at how we analyze and interpret a person's character if we have access to the entire image content they store on their phones.

Designed as an interactive wall projection controlled by a smart phone, these 6x6 foot photo mosaic portraits composed of the entirety of a subject's images and text messages stored on their phone.

Every subject surrendered their phone to me, allowing me to extract a complete uncurated inventory of every photo they took, or received or text message they saved on their phone. Each one of these images becomes an element in a mosaic portrait of the person, assigning photos based on the different tonalities of a person's visage.





3. Anachronism

Anachronism, references famous paintings throughout art history and is a study of the representations of female roles, motherhood and family within art.

This work hints at the many chronological errors that are present in works of the Old Masters. These photo and video tableaux contain contemporary elements or typical New York apartment vernacular that place the subject into a recognizable time and setting, but nod to the lighting techniques and subject matter present in the works of painters such as Jan Van Eyck and Johan Vermeer.



After Vermeer, 2014

Digital Photograph



<https://vimeo.com/user16640841>

After Harriet, 2014
Video Portrait



Rembrandt, 2014
Digital Photograph



<https://vimeo.com/63003603>

After Agatha, 2014
Video Portrait



4. Street Photography

Chinatown, 2014
Digital Photograph



Chinatown, 2014
Digital Photograph



Chinatown, 2014
Digital Photograph



Chinatown, 2014
Digital Photograph



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