

Mentee: Paulo Wirz
Coach: Andrea Bellini
Project: Parabolas

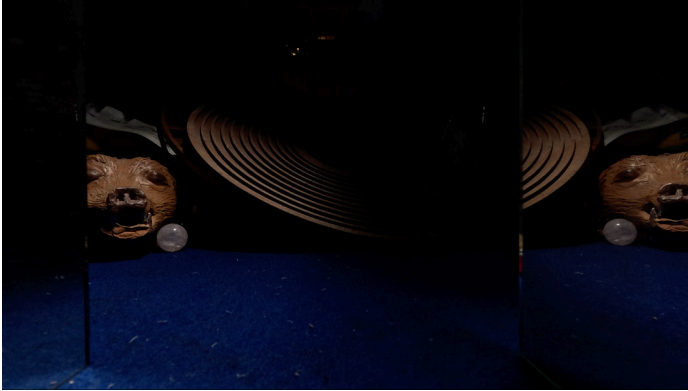
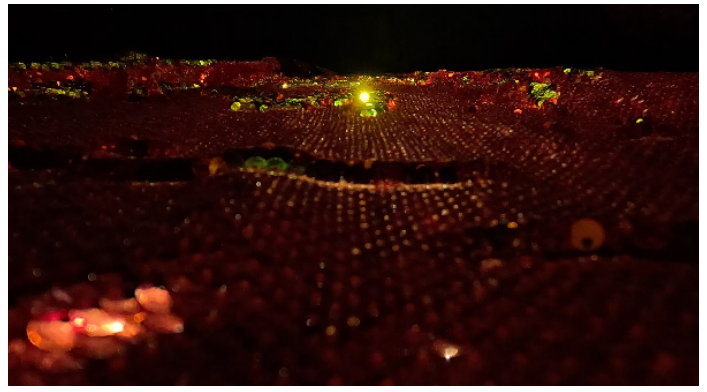
Working primarily as a sculptor, my ever-growing urge to explore different temporalities within the media I have been working with has naturally led me to expand my current body of work and experiment with video/sound. Both time-based media should, in my opinion, function as counterpoints within my current artistic practice, adding a supplementary temporality to my temporal/site-specific installations and challenging, in a positive and fruitful way, both formally and conceptually, the way I have been working with materials and space thus far. Since July 2023, Andrea Bellini and I have been regularly exchanging ideas about my practice with a focus on the topic of moving images: film, video art, and visual essays have been central to our conversations.

During the initial phase of our exchanges, we began analyzing a series of digital and analogue photographs I made of a self-built labyrinthine structure made out of mirrors. Our analysis of these images, informed by philosophical and theoretical perspectives, and references ranging from ancient mythology to contemporary literature&cinema, as well as our lived experiences, instigated the desire to add a more complex temporality to these staged photographs and animate them through the medium of video and sound.



Digital and analog photographs that were discussed during the mentorship.

During this second phase, alongside reviewing and discussing the first video tests I made up to the most recent ones, we also delved into technical, conceptual, and aesthetic issues regarding the creation of such a project, as well as reflecting on how and where to present it. Additionally, Andrea and I took the time to visit exhibitions together, share texts and books to read, films to watch, discuss and reflect on other practices, as well as talk about life and future perspectives.



Still images of digital videos that were made during the mentorship.

Andrea also visited my studio in Zürich, a crucial moment to further reflect on current projects I am working on, which will be presented at Villa Bernasconi (Geneva) in May, Collegium Helveticum (Zürich) in June, and Helmhaus (Zürich) in July. The knowledge Andrea brought to me, not only from the arts but also from archaeology, anthropology, sociology, philosophy, literature, and natural sciences, have influenced my way of thinking - and therefore my way of seeing and creating - in a very positive way. His motivating and inspiring words have opened up new thoughts and work methodologies within my current practice, creating fertile ground for my future projects and the continuation of my exploration into the media of video and film. I thank Migros-Double for the generous support that allowed this encounter to happen, and Andrea for supporting my project proposal, and taking the time to engaging in such an exchange that concluded with the start of a friendship.