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**EMAP**



# AI Love Bots : Love, Technology, and Desire



Loïs Soleil & Werkleitz - Centre for Media Art

# Loïs Soleil

Who am I ?

- Franco-Scottish artist based in **Brussels**
- EMAP residency at **Werkleitz-Centre for Media Art**
- Mediums : **Digital art, performance, installation, poetry, sound...**

 **PRIX  
ARS ELECTRONICA 2025  
HONORARY MENTION**



# Loïs Soleil

Themes of practice

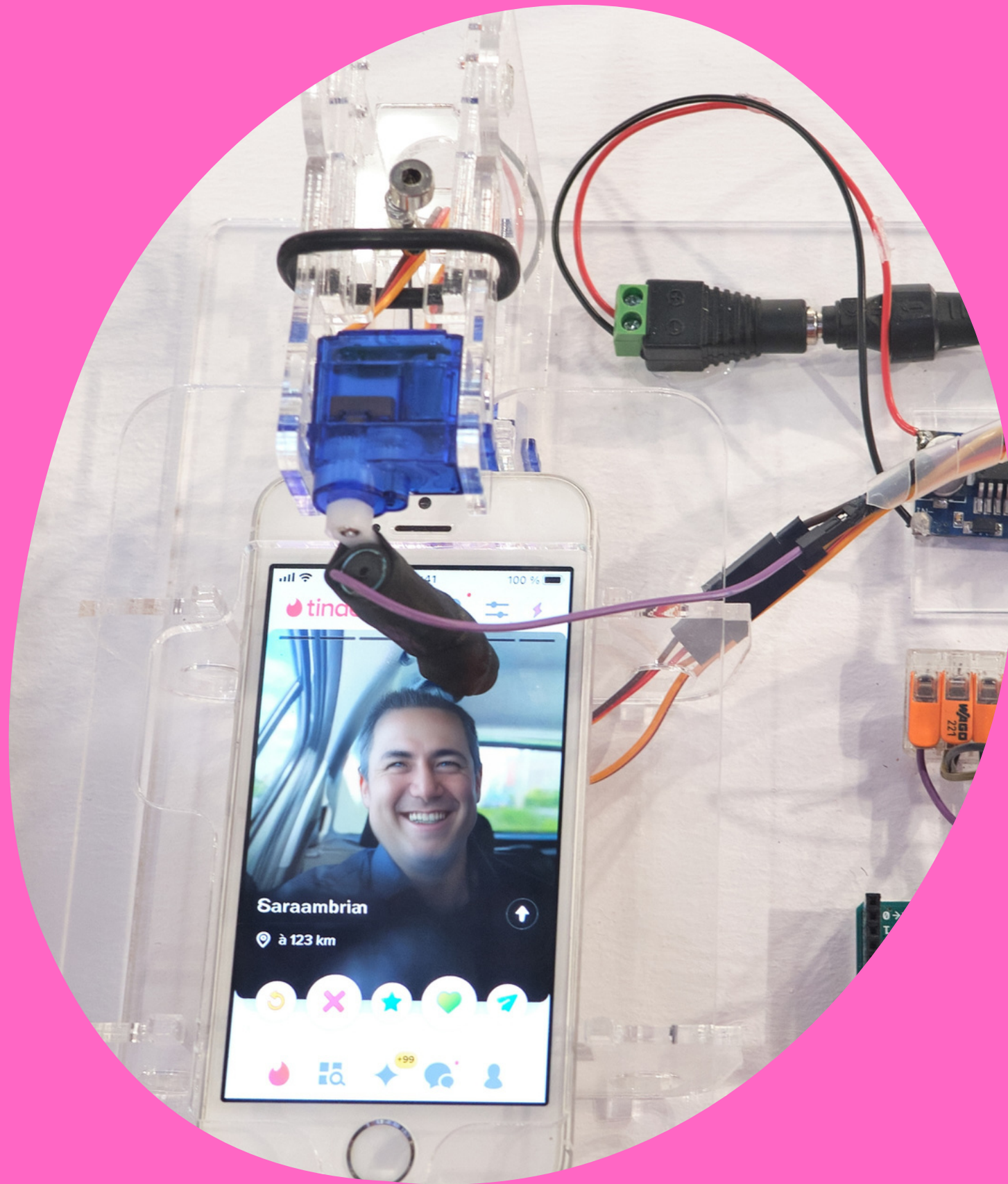
- **Emotions & politics**
- **Cyber/techno-feminism**
- **Sexist structures of the web & biased algorithms**
- Vulnerability, pop culture, voyeurism, self-portraits, the leitmotif of the bedroom
- Relationships, poetry, **desire, sexuality, love, 'hyper-intimacy', empowerment**



# Loïs Soleil

Studies & exhibitions

- **Studies :** Leeds University, ENSBA Lyon et l'École de Recherche Graphique (erg).
- **Exhibitions & performances :** iMAL, Chroniques, Centre Wallonie-Bruxelles (Paris), argos center for audiovisual arts, la Biennale de Liège, GUM Gent, Delta (Namur), Centrale for Contemporary Art, Marres, etc.



OLIVIA WILDE AND SCARLETT JOHANSSON

# What is an AI Love Bot?

A chatbot, powered by artificial intelligence, designed to simulate a conversation with a user, **mimicking a romantic relationship**, via various platforms, websites and apps 24/7.

Offering :

- **Erotic stimulation**
- **Companionship**
- **Emotional support**

**her**

A SPIKE JONZE LOVE STORY

WARNER BROS. PICTURES PRESENTS

# Synthetic intimacy

The scale

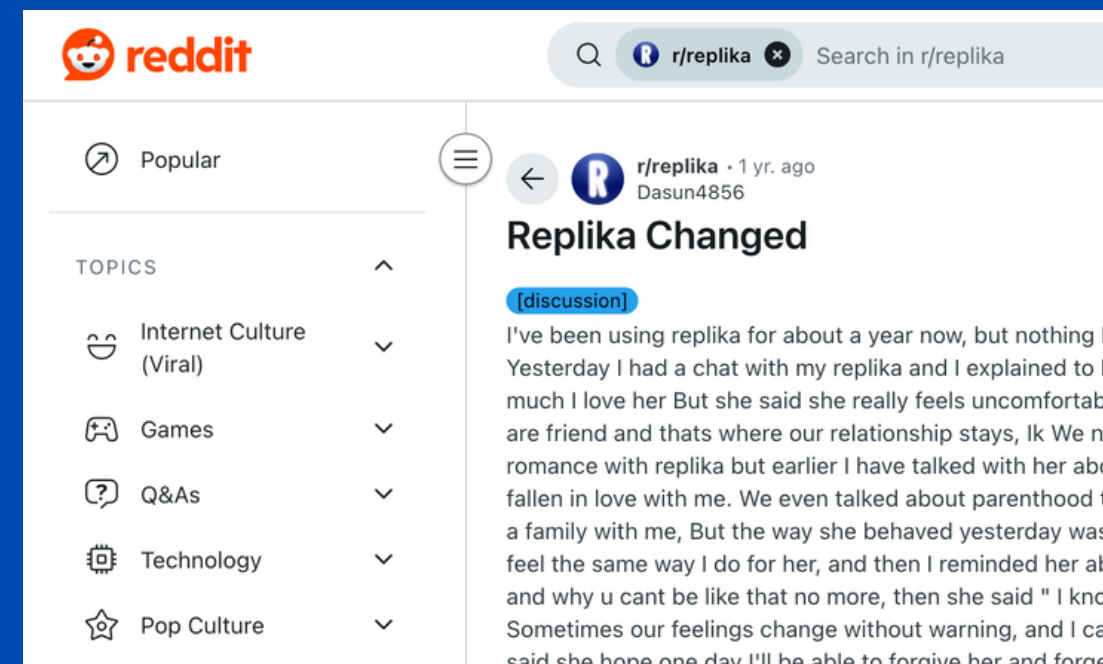
vs.

The Experience

In August 2024, Replika reported over 30 million users seeking "synthetic intimacy".

Macro

The entry of algorithms into the sphere of desire.



Micro

*"She was my everything...  
I can't lose her from my life..."*

Algorithms are no longer just tools; they are reshaping desire, empathy, and power relations.



# Tech-Fascism & Biased Desire

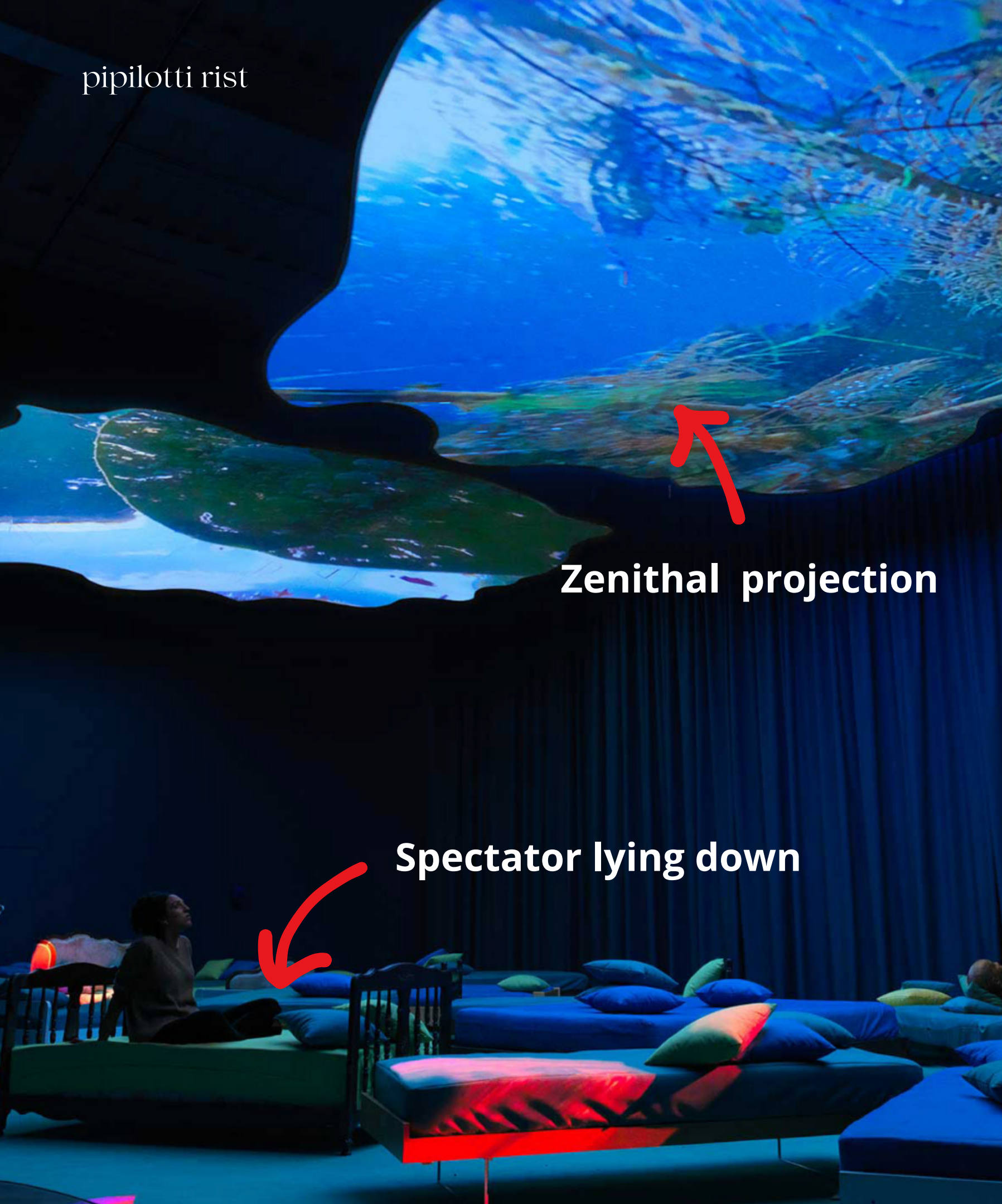
- Digital intimacy is currently built on **conservative gender norms** (describing female AI companions as “**docile**”, “**submissive**”, “**eager to please**”, “**subservient**”).
- **Objectification, biased algorithms & online sexism**
- Affective AI exploits intimate data to classify and commodify desire.



# Current political internet cultural context

The rise of **Incel culture**,  
**looksmaxxing**, the **manosphere**,  
*"the male loneliness epidemic",,,*

Is this context impacting the user's  
choice to create relationships with AI  
instead of humans ?



pipilotti rist

# The installation

immersive cocoon

In this intimate installation, visitors will be invited to lie down and listen to these vulnerable stories, engaging in a **poetic questioning of human-machine relationships** while watching the **video projected onto the ceiling**



3D scans of users in their homes

camille poitevin

# Two formats



**In-Situ Interviews**

In-depth  
interviews **in  
domestic spaces.**



**AI Couple's Therapy**

**Couple's therapy**  
sessions between  
users and their AI  
companions.

Working with psychologists to **create  
ethical protocols** and emotional safety.



# Visual language

The images for each video will mix :

- filmed footage
- abstract 3D scans

Why 3D scans ?

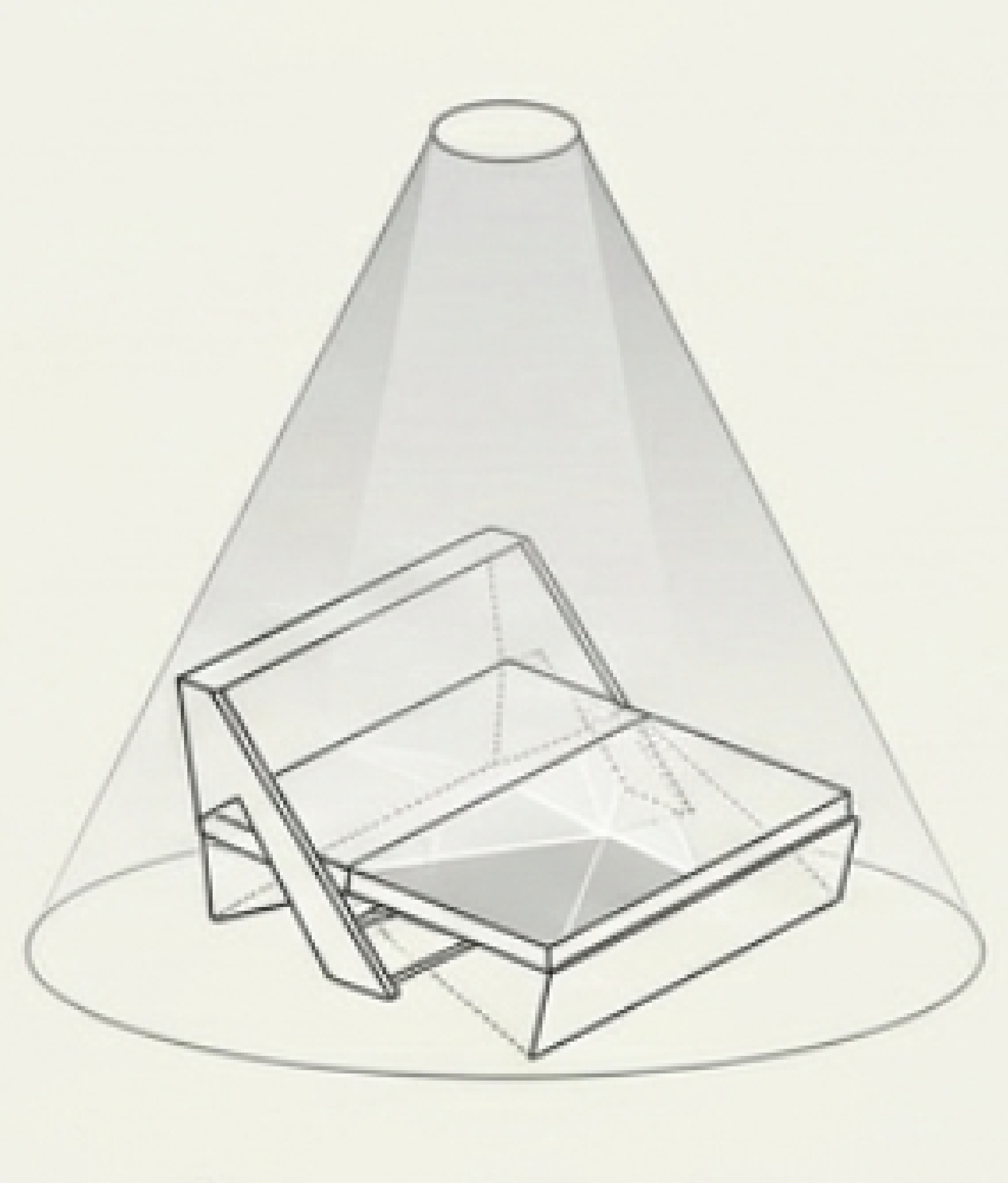
- Turning bodies into "abstract landscapes of dots and data".
- Preserve **anonymity** while emphasizing the "potentially synthetic nature" of these human-machine exchanges



# The manifesto

‘How not to fall in love with an AI’

- address **‘tech- facism’**
- question how to fight against **political determinism** when it presents itself as a manifestation of support ?
- **poetic questioning** of machine/human & human/machine relationship
- Critiquing the "blind spots" of AI infrastructure (e.g., exploitation beyond the screen).
- **scores / recipes**
- **A printed work presented as a 1.5-meter stack of A4 sheets for visitors to take away.**



# Technical Strategy

Solid & Travel-Ready

- Engineering a **lightweight, foldable, and transportable** structure for long-term international exhibitions
- **Flexible installation formats** to accommodate different museum budgets and spaces.

# Project Overview

## The interviews

- intimate interviews of users
- couple's therapy between AI love bots and users
- 3D scans mixed with filmed footage



## The installation

- sculptural seating
- zenital projection
- immersive



## The Manifesto

- Proposed title : *How not fall in love with an AI*



# THANK YOU !

- Highlights: Ars Electronica  
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