

## A Study of Oxidane Jeonguk Choi, Class of 2018

This summer, I started working on an interactive art installation that explores different meanings and perceptions about water. More specifically, it is a media art that creates an interactive system of video and sound, both of which are inspired by the religious analogy of water as salvation. For the past eight weeks of the summer, I focused on crafting video pieces and experimenting with the ways to programmatically incorporate the interactive features. This work in progress is an ongoing collaboration with Soomin Kim, a student composer at Oberlin Conservatory, who will compose the music and other sound pieces for the project. By putting these pieces—the sound, the video, and the space and structure that holds them—together, I hope to create an environment where one can experience the immersive, destructive, and purifying nature of water.

The video is a series of non-narrative images of water. I tried to inundate the screen with visually loaded footages that conjure up feelings that I associate with water without telling stories or evoking specific emotions. Below are the screenshots from the videos I have created.



I initially regarded the project as an apparatus for my continued academic pursuit of finding ways to incorporate elements of computing into art. While it still was an important objective of my project, I was able to stray away from my almost obsessive interest in “technology art” and challenge myself with aesthetic and expressive questions, which allowed me a chance to make art the way that I have never made before.

I plan to continue working on this project back on campus. The sound will be edited into the video, and the interactivity will be achieved through Processing and Max codes that I have written. These codes enable the use of devices such as Microsoft Kinect and Arduino, which I use to capture viewers’ movement and relative distances. These inputs will manipulate the videos projected onto the screen. I plan to exhibit the final product during the first few weeks of the second semester.

**Faculty Mentor: Erin Johnson**

**Funded by the Surdna Foundation Undergraduate Research Fellowship**