

24.10.24 Week 1

How can we, as humans, establish a dialogue with multi-species?

How do we observe the more-than-human and collaborate with it?

Decentering humanity requires a radical rethinking of how we perceive the world and our place within it. To engage with multi-species and the more-than-human, I must first unlearn anthropocentric habits that place human logic and priorities at the core.

Observation becomes a practice of humility — listening not to impose meaning but to witness what emerges. Collaboration with non-human beings challenges the boundaries of agency, reminding me that co-creation transcends language and intention.



29.10.24 WEEK 2

After coming to Finland, I realized that there's no clear boundary between the cities and nature. People here can step into nature anytime.

Today I went to the birdwatching tower in Maari, which is a popular spot in Otaniemi campus. As Espoo website says, "Laajalahti is one of the most significant bird wetlands in Finland. The Maari birdwatching tower is one of the best places in the Helsinki Metropolitan Area for bird watching.

And I encountered many people along the way to the birdwatching tower, which made me feel the enthusiasm of Finns for birdwatching.

30.10.2024

Place I want to choose =

Actually can be any bird-friendly spot in Otaniemi. If choose a specific location, I'd like to choose the bird watching tower in Maari.



30.10.24 WEEK 2

To observe and photograph birds, many people carried professional cameras, tripods and binoculars.

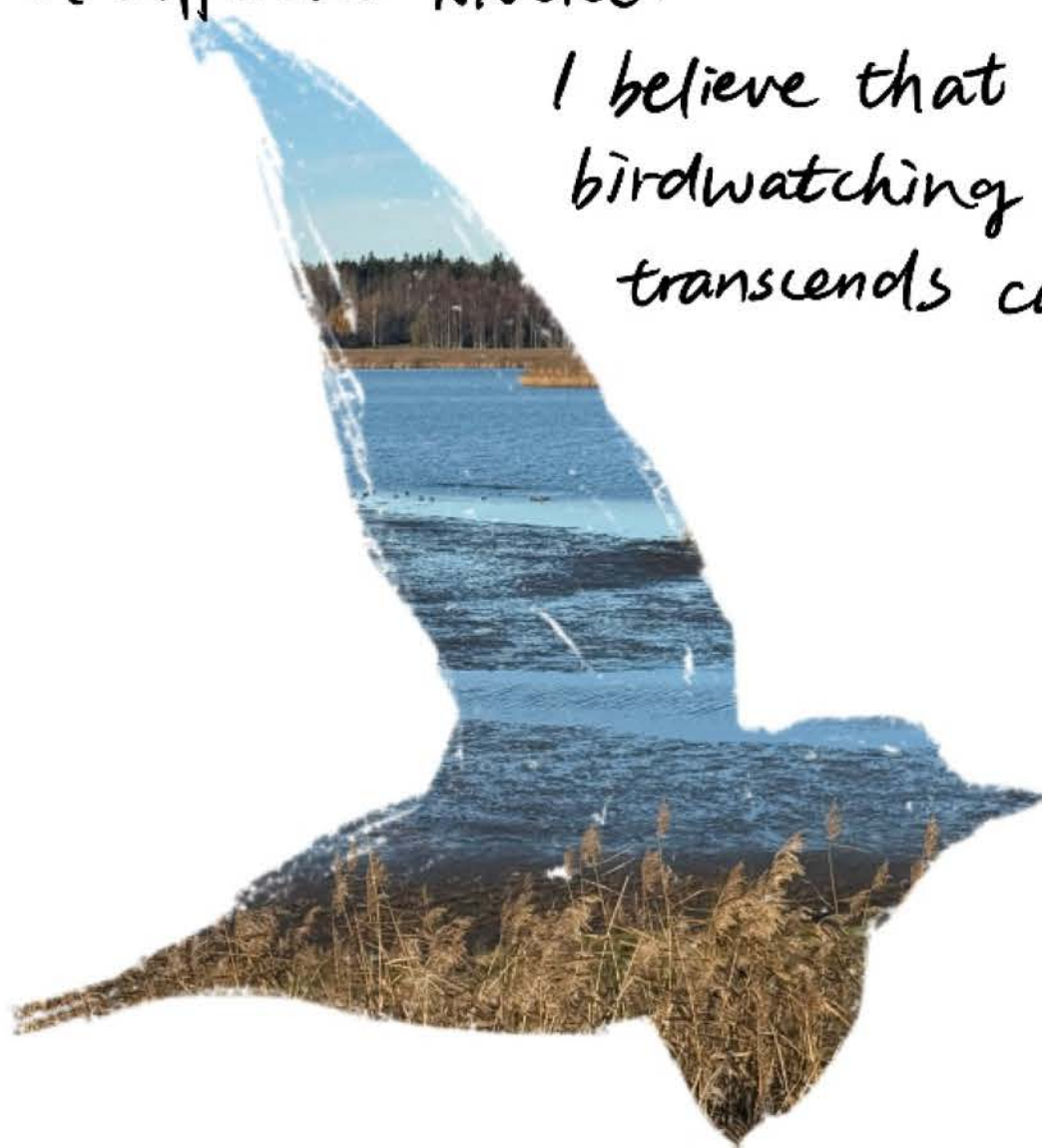
↓
made me think
about

How bird photography often aims for aesthetic appeal, focusing on clarity or capturing the moment a bird takes flight.

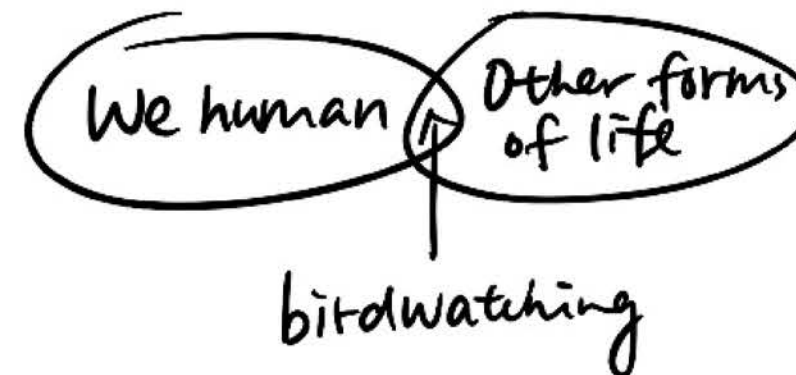
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I want to break away from this traditional aesthetic perspective

Document MY BIRDWATCHING EXPERIENCE from a different ANGLE.

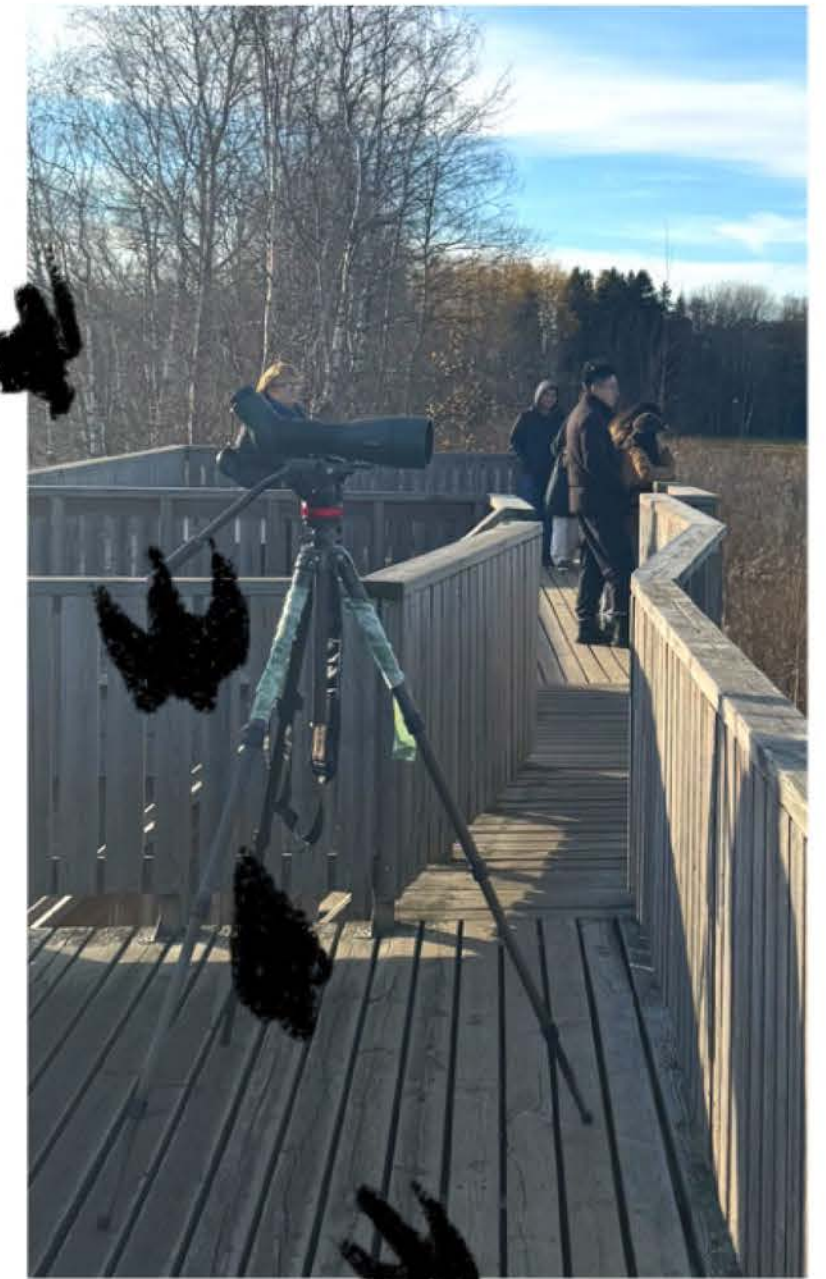
I believe that the essence of birdwatching is a journey that transcends culture and time.



Birds have existed on Earth for far longer than humans. They've been around for at least 150 million years. Each birdwatching / search for birds is also a brief human journey into the distant past.



What connects us to birds?
↳ Our ancient common ancestor and Earth we share today.

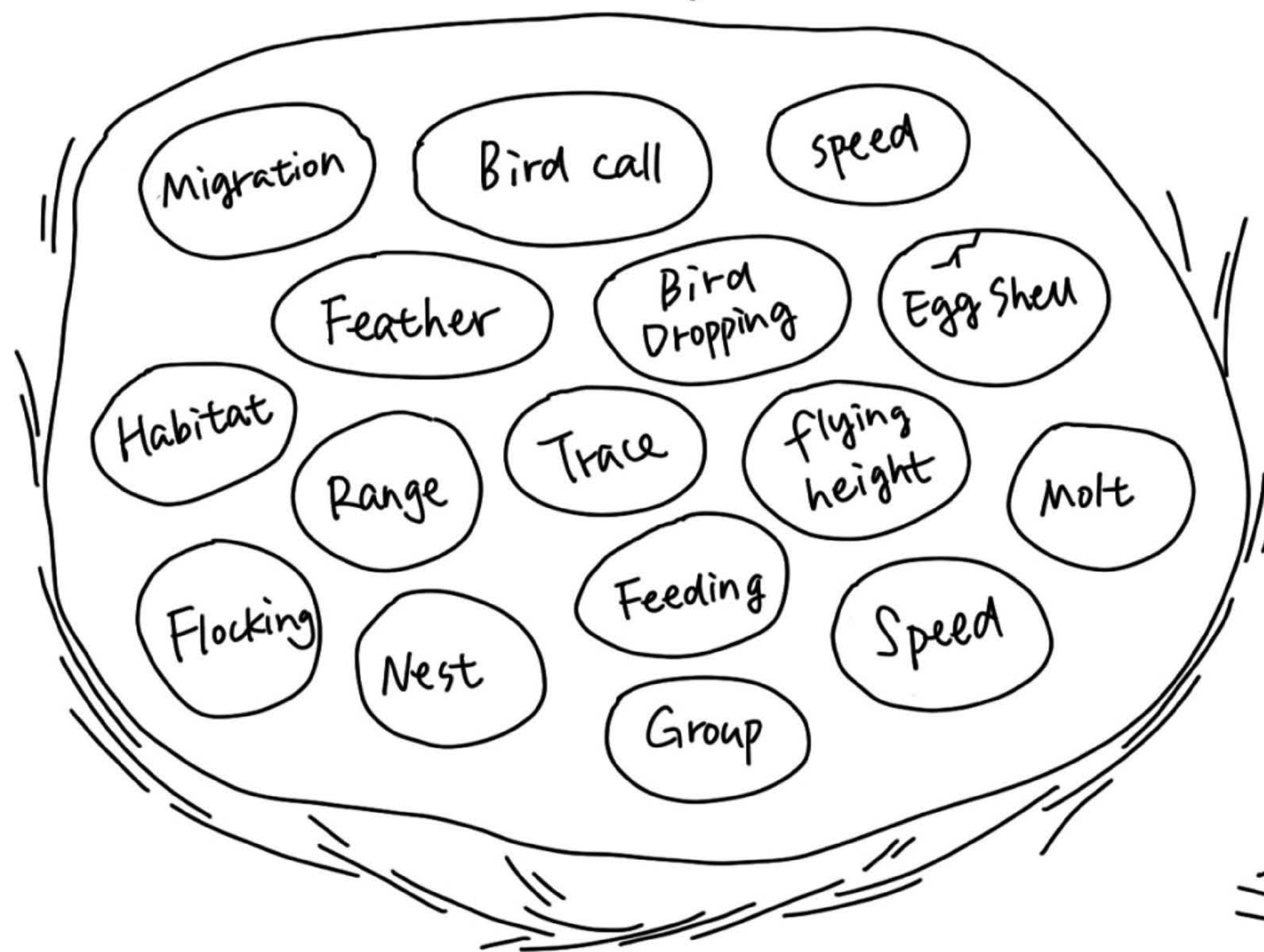


Rethinking Bird Watching =

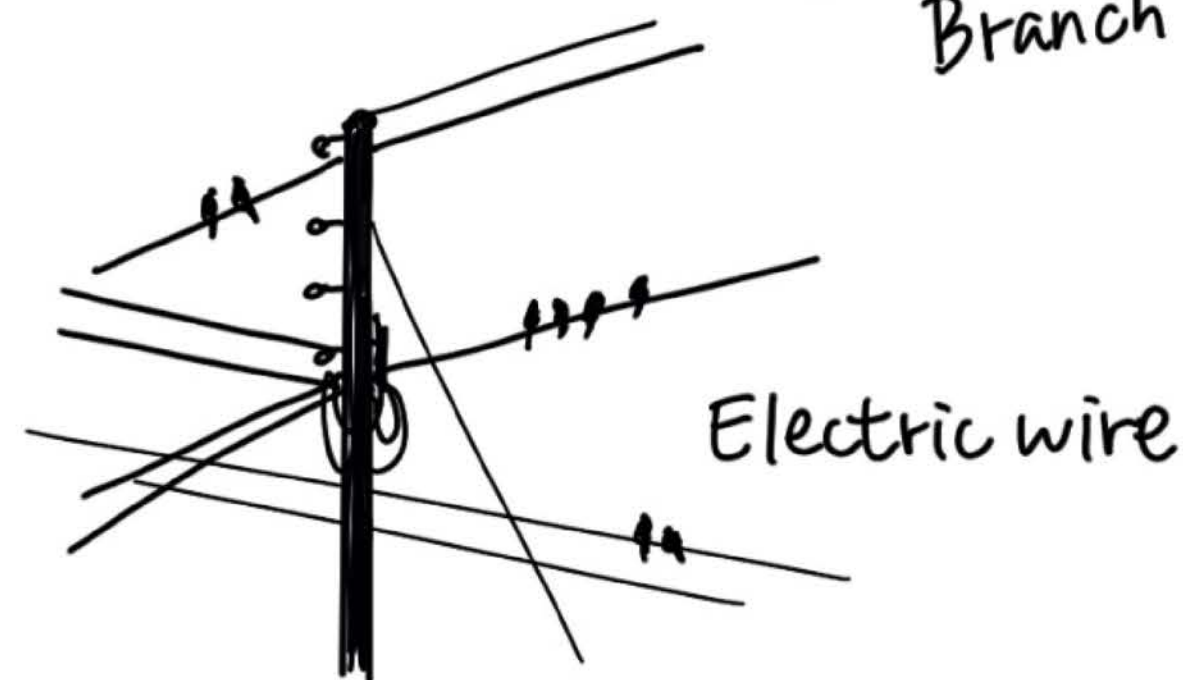
A Cross-Cultural, Cross-Spatial-Temporal Approach

Week 3 3.11.24

Birdwatching Keywords



Find the bird symbols
AROUND ME:

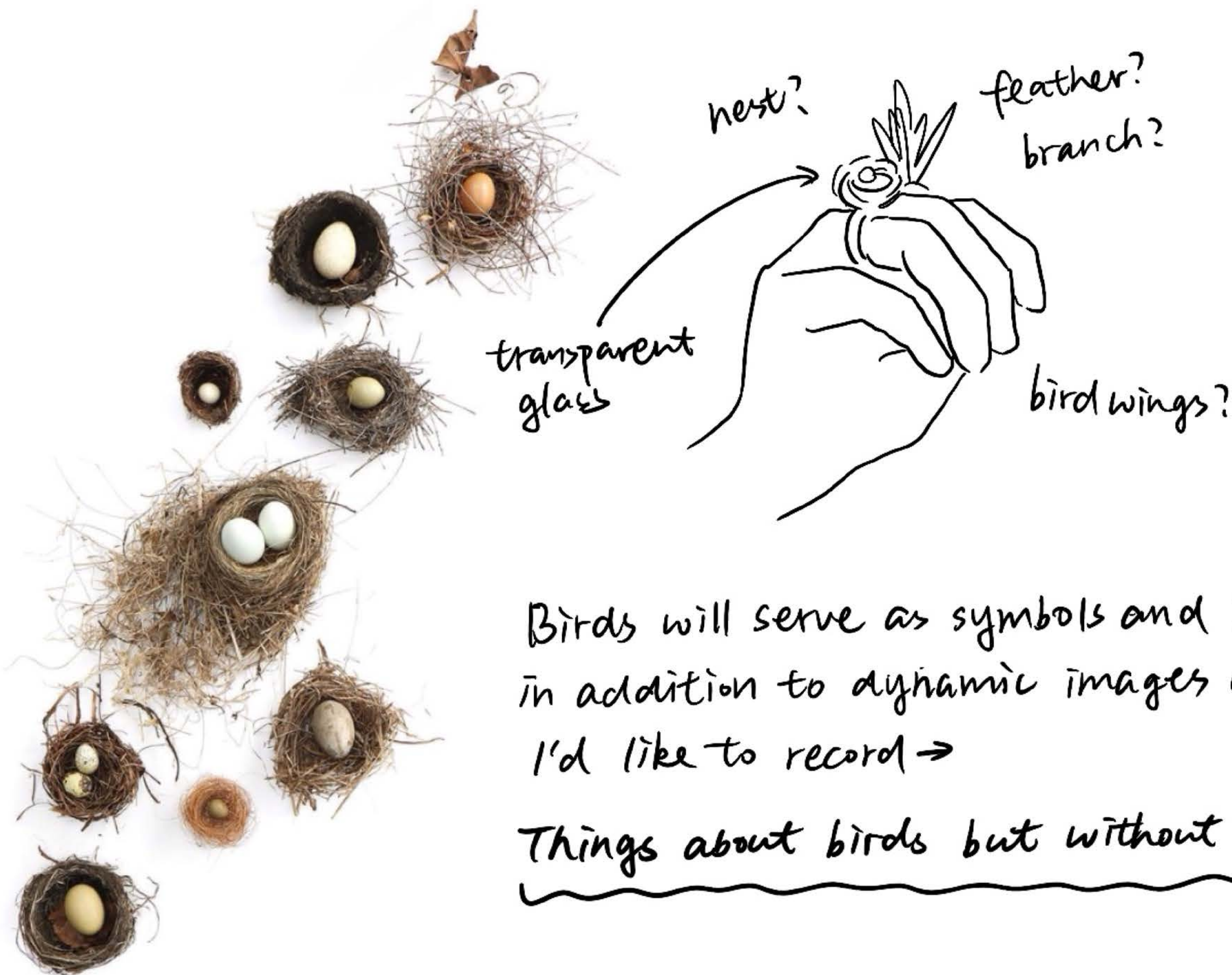


Week 3 4.11.24

I want to intuitively explore and record the trace of birds to feel the world and its workings, potentially sparking thoughts about the universe. This will might be a short movie composed of images and vids.

Possibly combined with framework (glass work)

☁ When I can't see birds at the birdwatching tower, I can image:
Which species would build connection with / related to birds?



such as fallen fruits. leaves
bare branches

Birds will serve as symbols and representations;
in addition to dynamic images of birds,
I'd like to record →

Things about birds but without birds

9.11.24 Week 3

A muse of myth,
a symbol of freedom,
a fragile song suspended
in the sky.



Over the weekend, I visited Tampere,
where sculptures of birds stand
frozen and murals of birds adorn
the walls.

Meanwhile, real birds take to the skies
or perch silently on branches, coexisting
with their lifeless imitators. Though
seemingly quiet, their presence is impossible
to ignore in this cityscape.

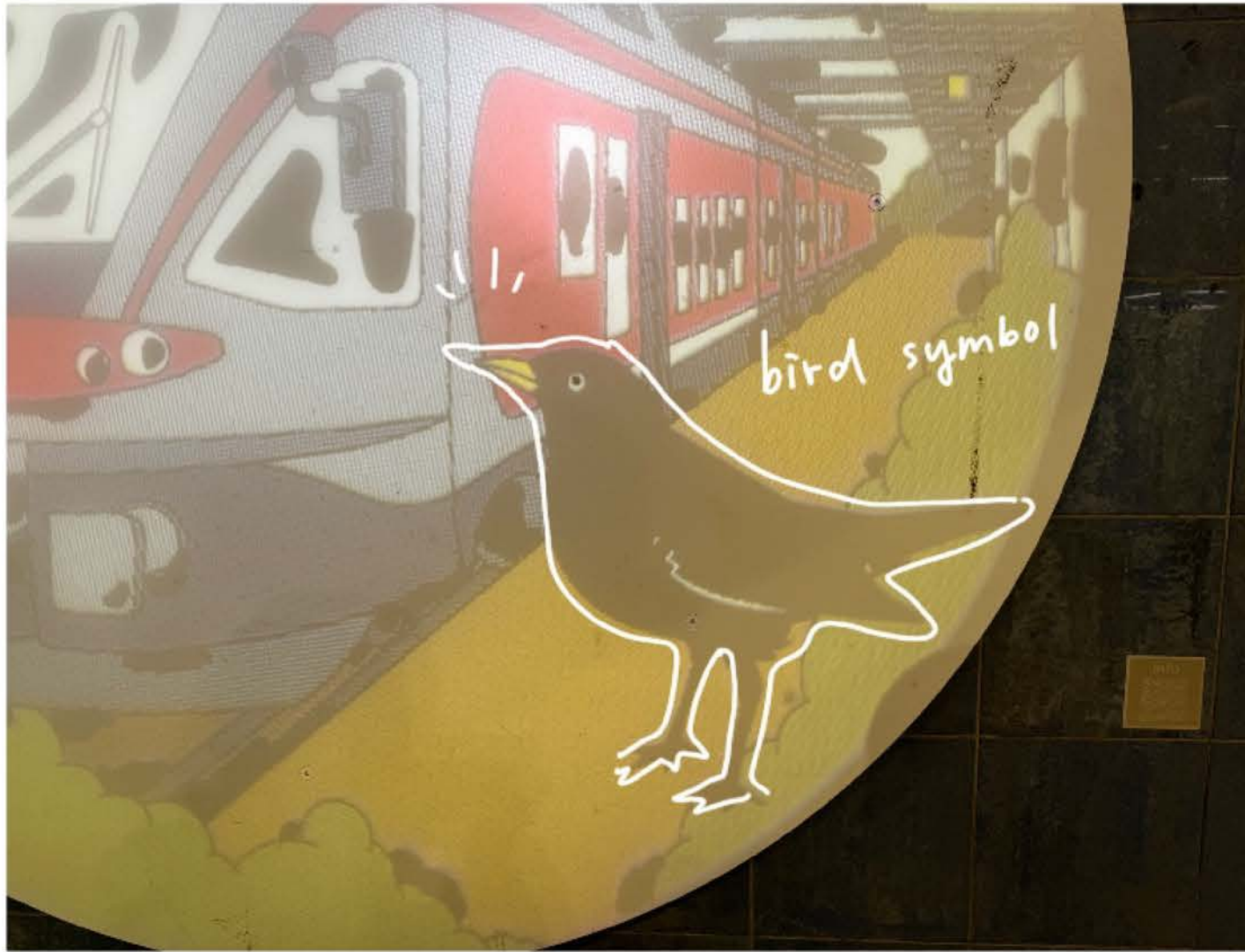


I couldn't help but wonder:
Why are humans so fascinated with
imitating birds?

Is it born of reverence, or is it a romanticized
projection of nature?

In attempting to capture the essence of birds,
these sculptures and murals inevitably bear
the imprint of human intent and perspective.

9.11.24 Week 3



Do we truly understand them as we gaze up in admiration?

Or has our way of understanding always been inherently anthropocentric?

These imitations — no matter how lifelike — will never take flight. And as the real birds soar and sing, do they mock our clumsy attempts to mimic their boundless freedom?



There are countless bird symbols to capture, existing in a myriad of forms. From ancient myths to modern billboards, birds have long been interwoven into human culture and daily life.

About the content of the ^{film}, I struggled with "how to select" the symbols I wanna shoot.

15.11.24 Week 4

framework challenge!

Material: Transparent glass.
The pure beauty of nature ✨
It allows the ring to reflect
EVERYTHING in its environment,
interlinked like
birds, nature and
we humans.



horse: strong personality



Inspired from bird nests
and other bird-related
items.



19.11.24 Week 5

This week, I attended the Soundscaping workshop, which helped me refine my initial ideas for the sounds in my film. I've decided that the background music should relate to birds, but it won't feature real bird calls. This complements the content of my video — while it's about birds, most of the scenes depict bird-related elements rather than birds themselves.

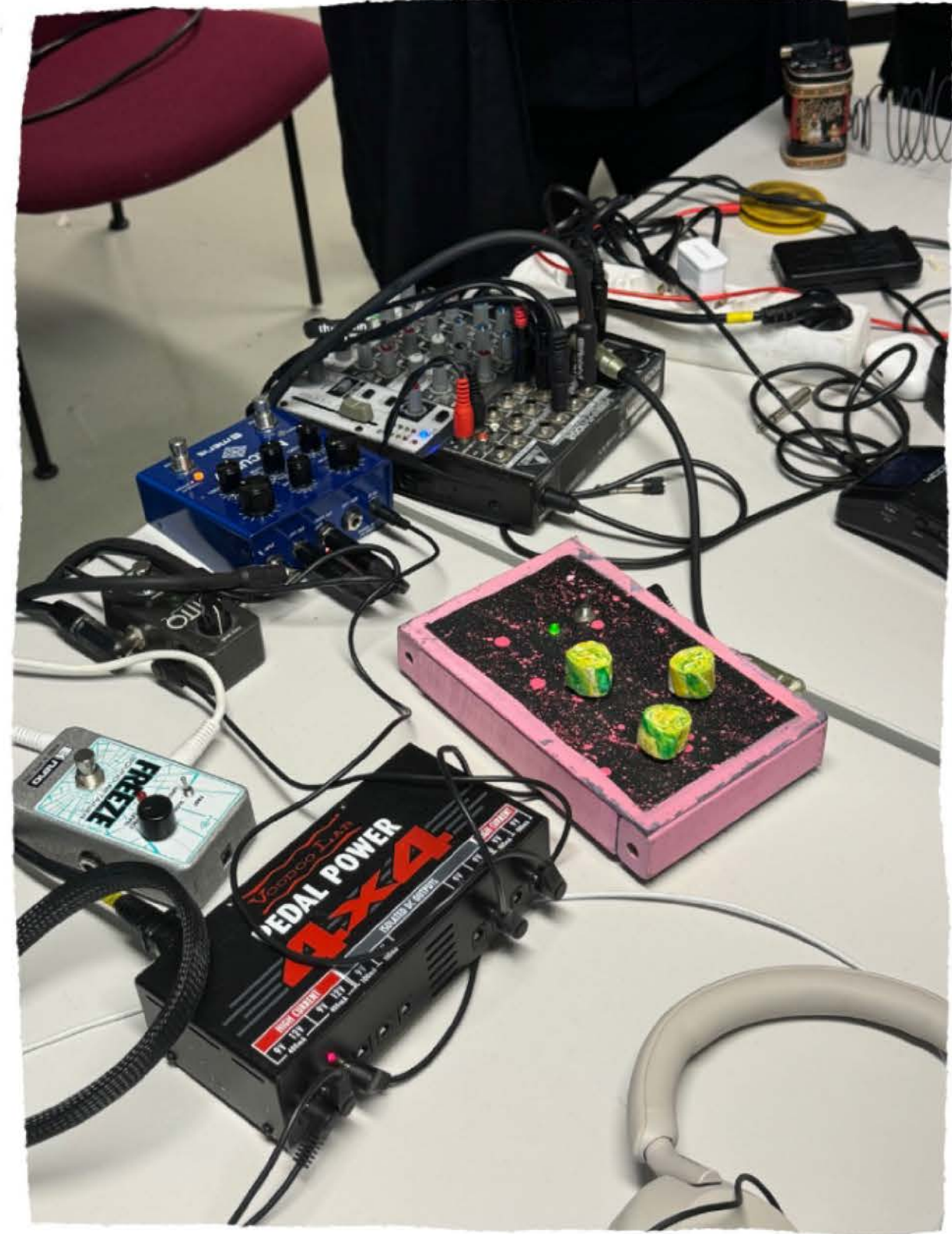
So what should it be?

✧ ...

Drawing from my cultural background, I learned that human songs may have originated from imitating bird calls. While some of the instruments either, came out from imitating bird calls.

And ancient Chinese instruments, like the flute, were also invented to mimic bird sounds.

Perhaps this was how people in the past observed and connected with birds.



21.11.24 Week 5

We gaze upward, seeking beauty
in the flurry of wings.

A muse of myth, a symbol
of freedom, a fragile
song suspended
in the sky.

We name them, photograph
them, write them into
our stories.
But are they merely
reflections of our admiration,
we may never see the bird itself.

21.11.24 Week 5

You call us muses, idols, omens.
But to us, you're the visitors.

Your tall towers and
flashing lenses —
brief interruptions
in our boundless
skies.

You build monuments to us,
etch our images into your coins and walls.
We see your symbols everywhere,
but rarely your understanding.

24.11.24 Week 5

A splatter of bird droppings on the ground.
A long feather resting on the wet earth.
A branch trembling as it lets go of flight.

These traces are an invitation, not an answer.

To truly meet the bird,
we must unlearn our gaze.

No longer a muse,
no longer a mirror —

only a presence in
shared time and
space.

28.11.24 week 6

(guān) (niǎo)

观鸟

又见鸟

(yòu) (jiàn) (niǎo)

鸟: birds

观: observe / watch / see / look at ...

又见
↓ ↓
again meet
↓
meet again

又见鸟
→ The birds we meet again

