

| GLOSSARY

VITAL AESTHETICS

A conceptual framework developed within this doctoral research that positions vitality as a relational, process-based condition rather than a fixed biological property. Vital aesthetics refers to artistic practices that foreground aliveness, interdependence, and dynamic exchange between human and non-human systems. Vitality is understood here as emergent and co-constituted through interaction across biological and technological domains.

FEMININE PRINCIPLES

Feminine principles in this research do not refer to gender identity or biological essentialism, but to relational modes historically associated with care, receptivity, cyclical thinking, and interdependence. These principles are re-articulated as epistemological and aesthetic strategies within bio-digital artistic practice.

BIODIGITAL

A term describing hybrid systems in which biological processes and digital technologies interact. Within this study, the biodigital denotes co-agential systems in which organic matter, computational structures, and embodied participants mutually influence aesthetic outcomes.

RELATIONALITY

A condition in which entities emerge through interconnection rather than autonomous existence. In this research, relationality operates as both conceptual premise and structural design principle within artistic and technological systems.

ETHICS OF CARE

An ethical orientation foregrounding relational responsibility, attentiveness, and accountability. Within this research, care informs both the conceptual framework and the design logic of bio-digital systems.

POSTHUMANISM

A theoretical framework that critiques human exceptionalism and repositions the human as one actor within broader ecological and technological systems. This research engages posthumanism to situate artistic practice within distributed networks of biological and digital agency.

INTRA-ACTION

A term derived from Karen Barad indicating that entities do not pre-exist their relations but emerge through them. In this research, intra-action describes the mutual constitution of human, biological, and technological elements within bio-digital artworks.

MATERIAL AGENCY

The capacity of matter—biological, technological, or environmental—to participate actively in processes of formation and meaning-making. Within this study, materials are understood as dynamic contributors rather than passive substrates.

SITUATED KNOWLEDGE

A concept associated with feminist epistemology asserting that knowledge is partial, embodied, and context-dependent. This research acknowledges its own situated position within specific technological, cultural, and gendered frameworks.

TECHNOLOGICAL MEDIATION

The process by which digital systems structure, translate, or transform biological and human interaction. In this study, mediation is not neutral but shapes aesthetic, ethical, and relational conditions.