

VERDERKIJKERS PROJECT. UNIVERSITEIT LEIDEN, 450 JAAR.

Ana Paulina Sánchez

Title: The Encapsulation of Hope

Description: A poem written by a human, AI generated photos. A video. An installation. Projected together on minimalist box representing Pandora's hope.

The Encapsulation of Hope

As Pandora's myth, the vision of the future can be seen with optimistic or pessimistic eyes. Are devils liberated or blessings liberated after Pandora's box is open? Is evil set free foreseeing darkness upon us or do blessings disappear leaving us with only hope? Is one better than the other? This varies, depending on the myth and the interpretation; but in both, hope or expectations are always kept inside the box. Hope stays within humanity and allows it to continue in spite of despair.

The Encapsulation of Hope represents the eternal hope in the human spirit and the infinite waves of possibilities ahead. Hope for a better future, hope for a still human essence in perhaps different types of beings and in new creatures. Hope in the perception of the world and of the universe, in the human conscience and respect, in the freedom of own-will, consciousness, thoughts and education. Hope during trouble, happiness or ease. Hope to make us believe, create, fight, move forward, and dream. Hope in a place where we are still allowed to think by ourselves and enjoy the process of creating our own ideas and the fusion of neurons inside our brains. Hope in a place where we are not controlled by technological advances, but where we work together, understanding the importance and beauty of the process of thinking.

It is 2075, Leiden University students are analyzed. Their chemical and emotional levels are examined. Hands are placed softly on thin plasma screens to be screened for the right amount of information and knowledge to be transferred. Knowledge is screened via AI systems, transmitted via wired fluid channels according to each personal needs and personality, transferred directly into their minds, without the need of physical books or professors.

Thoughts are no longer said, but "sensed." Study sessions are rapid, information is transferred extremely fast as a preamble for virtual discussions and conversation between virtual works, societies and spaces. Discussions and the management of knowledge is more important and take more time than the actual learning. There is no need for a specific language, since information is sensed and a universal academic

language is now used. A transmission language exists which doesn't involve words, but codes. Codes of information and data which are retrieved, stored and sent.

Teachers are commands, as computer commands. Teachers are instructions which generate input to start tasks, and hopefully, own thoughts within virtual conceptions in apart worlds of illusion. Virtual worlds where climate is controlled and tolerated and in which extreme real circumstances do not matter.

Additionally, students go out into the real world for Face-to-Face interactions with their peers and with a much older society outside, which feels "nostalgic drops of melancholy" of a less futuristic and controlled past.

A combination of both, virtual and real worlds intertwine, where contact with nature is imperative. Contact with real nature in real conserved places is mandatory and contact with nature in almost real-felt virtual worlds take place as well, with current species, lost ones and new created ones, in search of positive effects in the well-being and creativity of the people.

Will humanity and students forget to enjoy the pure act of learning and of generating new ideas? How much will they still feel? Will their souls and guts ignite with "fire" as they analyze, read, create, learn or struggle for solutions?

The Encapsulation of Hope dreams of a future which has finally learnt from the past. A future that has learned that forgetting how elastic, powerful and wonderful our brains are, is not the answer, and which results on a horrendous consummation for our creativity and beautiful individuality. It is an ode to our inside cosmos, those magic "a-ha" moments, creative flows, internal motivation, the splendor of diversity, education, real connections, and the real and marvelous world of people ready to teach us the little and hard lessons about life and about ourselves.

Project Realization

A room, a box, a simulation of Pandora's Box. Dark, minimalistic, with simple benches around the space.

A poem, a story, thoughts written, projected on a wall/plate (translucent?) combined with sounds, projected along photographs and lights. Words written by a human (Ana Paulina Sánchez) and photographs generated by AI with inputs and instructions of Ana's vision of Leiden University's students in 2075. Both elements, poetry and visual aids, one created and finalized from scratch and from her own thoughts, another created with the help of a machine, working together this time, one next to another to represent both words and both realities.

With a beginning, a climax, and an end, they are aided by questions of what can be and how can it be this vision of the future, to end up with a more hopeful outcast and unfolding.

Words that we see and read and that hopefully touch us and ignite reflection in all of us (or at least, some of us).

Not complicated words. Just thoughts of a distant, not so distant future, where we are connected to illusions of reality and commands, where bodies are no longer vital, but where the analysis of minds and chemical reactions are.

Elements: Room or constructed box (depending on space available and location), walls or projection screens, projectors, computers, benches. Lights projected on the floor/or LED lights. Minimalistic.

Important points: selection of colors (black, dark, neutral, grays, blues, organic colors), shadows, lights, words, and projections. Modern, minimalistic, dramatic, quiet, peaceful.

Emotions and states change throughout the stages of the projections and the poems in conjunction with the music and sound in this secret dark and unknown room.

Act 1. State of chemical analysis and transmission- Apprehension, anxiety, suffocation, trance, suspense, coldness, inadvertence.

Act 2. The past- Nostalgia, melancholy, and a bit of sadness.

Act 3. Realization Scene- Will-power, joy, freedom, and hope.

Files attached:

1. Poem written by Ana Paulina Sánchez 2025 ©
2. Video of Images created with AI, with input of Ana Paulina Sánchez's vision of the future, 2025. Short version.
3. Plan and Vision

Prototype ideas for the physical space for “The Encapsulation of Hope”

