



# Fading World

By Xinyi Duan

# Project 1

## From Waste to Wear

For this installation about apparel design, I wanted to confront the issue of clothing waste, inspired by the piles of childhood clothes my mom saved to cherish my upbringing. As I grew, those once-beloved outfits became obsolete, highlighting a widespread problem: millions of tons of clothing from the fast fashion industry end up in landfills each year, with recycling rates alarmingly low.



### Patagonia

- Business model: against fast fashion and in favor of high quality
- Hats and fleeces made from recycled plastic
- Common Threads project
- Free repair service
- 87% of products are made from recycled fabrics
- "Don't buy this jacket"
- Formal animal welfare policy
- Monitoring internal carbon footprint, audited by the Fashion Transparency Index
- Installing solar panels in communities
- Donating tens of millions of dollars to nature conservation projects

Patagonia

Patagonia Action Works



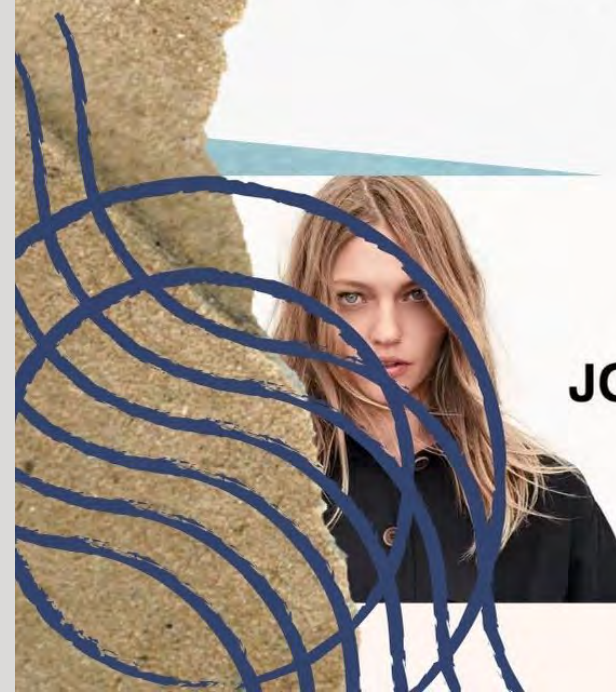
ZARA

ZARA

- Provide consumers with the "latest fashion trends" every 13 days
- Join Life
- Used clothing recycling
- Setting goals to reduce emissions in operations and supply chains but no evidence of implementation
- Animal welfare policy
- List of environmental commitments but lack of transparency

JOIN LIFE

SUSTAINABLE COLLECTION / AW. 16



# DESIGN



colorful plastic garbage bag (covered on old clothes)



black plastic garbage bag



disposable plastic tablecloth



colorful old clothes



scraps cut out by scissors as laciness

white plastic garbage bag



# PROCESS



Using black and white plastic from garbage bags, I created a dress that embodies transformation. The skirt, wrapped around a mannequin, features frayed edges and textured layers, symbolizing both beauty and decay. A semi-transparent white plastic tablecloth serves as the waistband, tied with a delicate bow, emphasizing the contrast between elegance and waste.





To complement the dress, I displayed a collection of my childhood clothes, pinned haphazardly in a corner, with colorful garbage bags draping above them. This arrangement illustrates the journey of discarded clothing, from cherished items to environmental pollutants.

## Project 2

### Sustainable Glam

This is a cover for a graphic and research zine meant to critique the beauty industry's excessive packaging. I was inspired by a captivating advertisement from the Chinese brand “Hua Zhi Xiao.” While the stunning design of their so-called Deep Sea Treasure collection initially impressed me, I quickly questioned the environmental impact of such lavish packaging. My research revealed that much of it is plastic, contributing significantly to waste.



# Flower Knows

- Inspiring by Gem Cutting Styles, the whole collection looks like treasure left in the deep sea.
- Thick-walled acrylic and illusion color plating materials
- Preserve freshness, simple to use and bring
- Value, series, social media...
- CCIC



# MUJI

- “Less is more”-- simple packaging+label
- Paper(mostly recycled)
- Highlight the products’ natural colors and shapes, preserve the products
- Minimalist approach, unity and simplicity, numerous offline stores
- Their policy of conserving resources and reducing waste



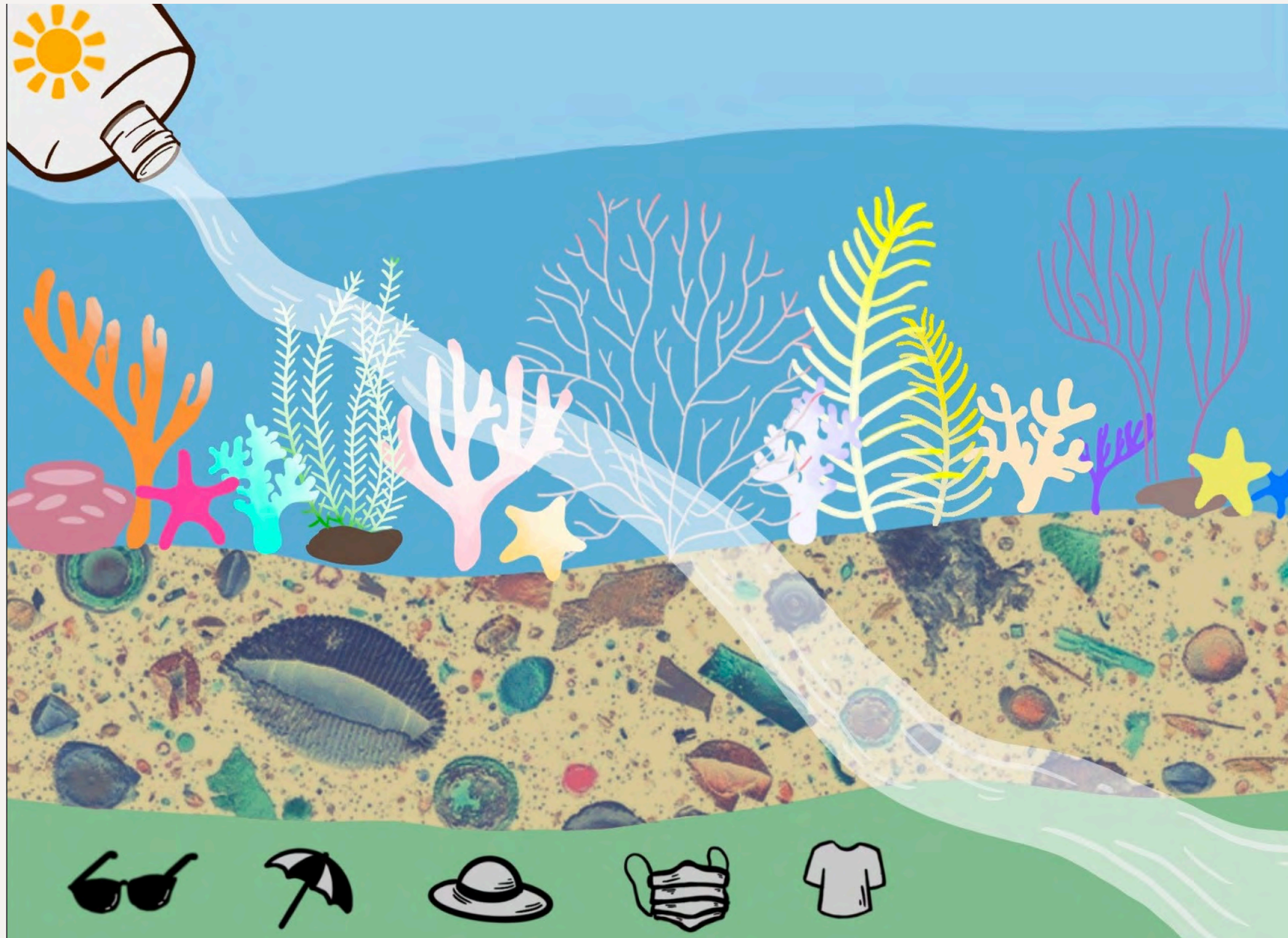
# RESEARCH

# Saura

- Labels that mirror the untamed surroundings, implementing the stone texture
- Paper
- Distinguish different series
- Official website, articles?
- Courage, Creativity, Humanity, Emotion, Roots, Respect, Resilience



# ILLUSTRATION



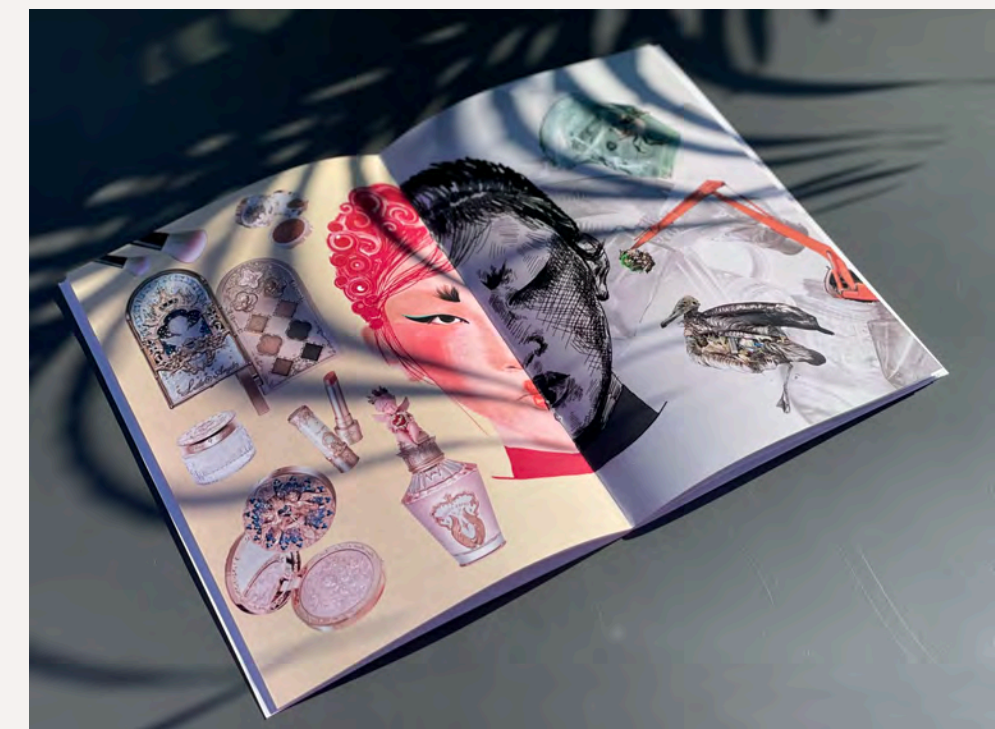
In my design, I juxtaposed the glamorous allure of cosmetics with the stark reality of environmental degradation. I illustrated a woman's face, split vertically: one side vibrant and colorful, the other in black and white, representing the duality of beauty and its ecological consequences. The background contrasts luxurious products with images of landfills and coral bleaching caused by harmful sunscreens.





# ILLUSTRATION

I eventually proposed a redesign for the Hana-knows Ballet series, advocating for biodegradable materials and simple, elegant packaging. Through this brochure, I hope to inspire my peers to prioritize sustainability over flashy designs, driving a shift towards responsible consumption in the beauty industry.



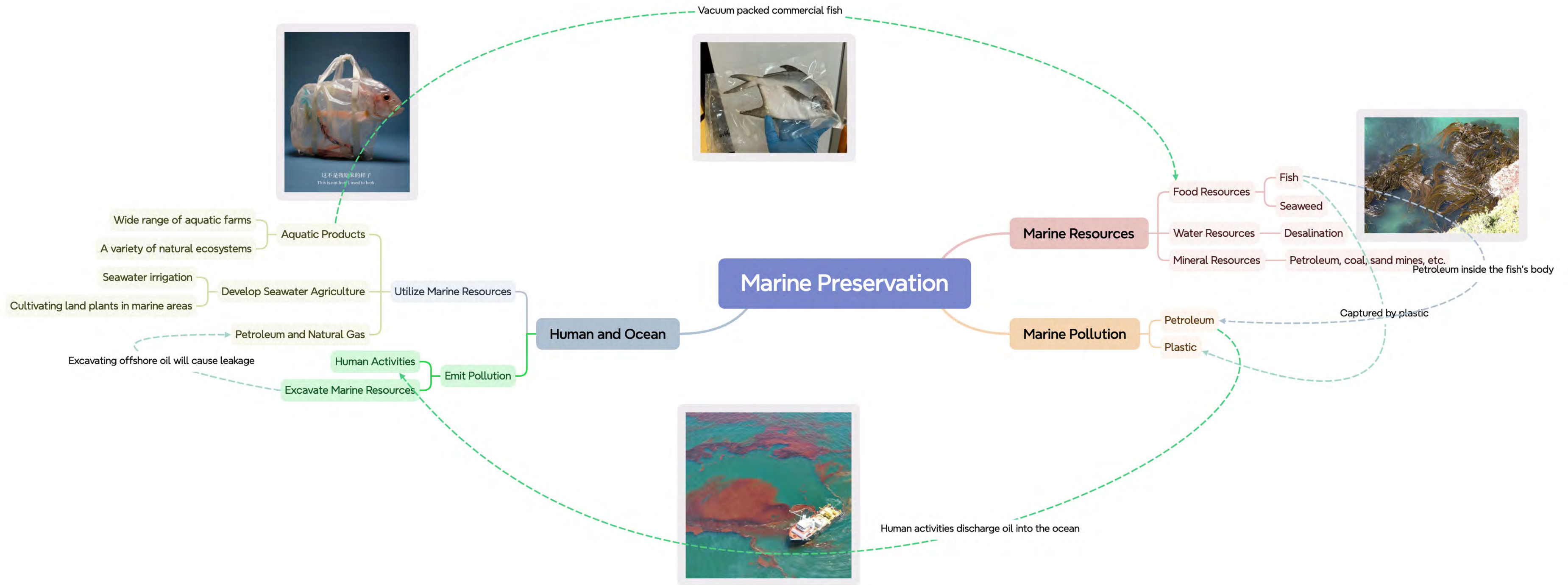


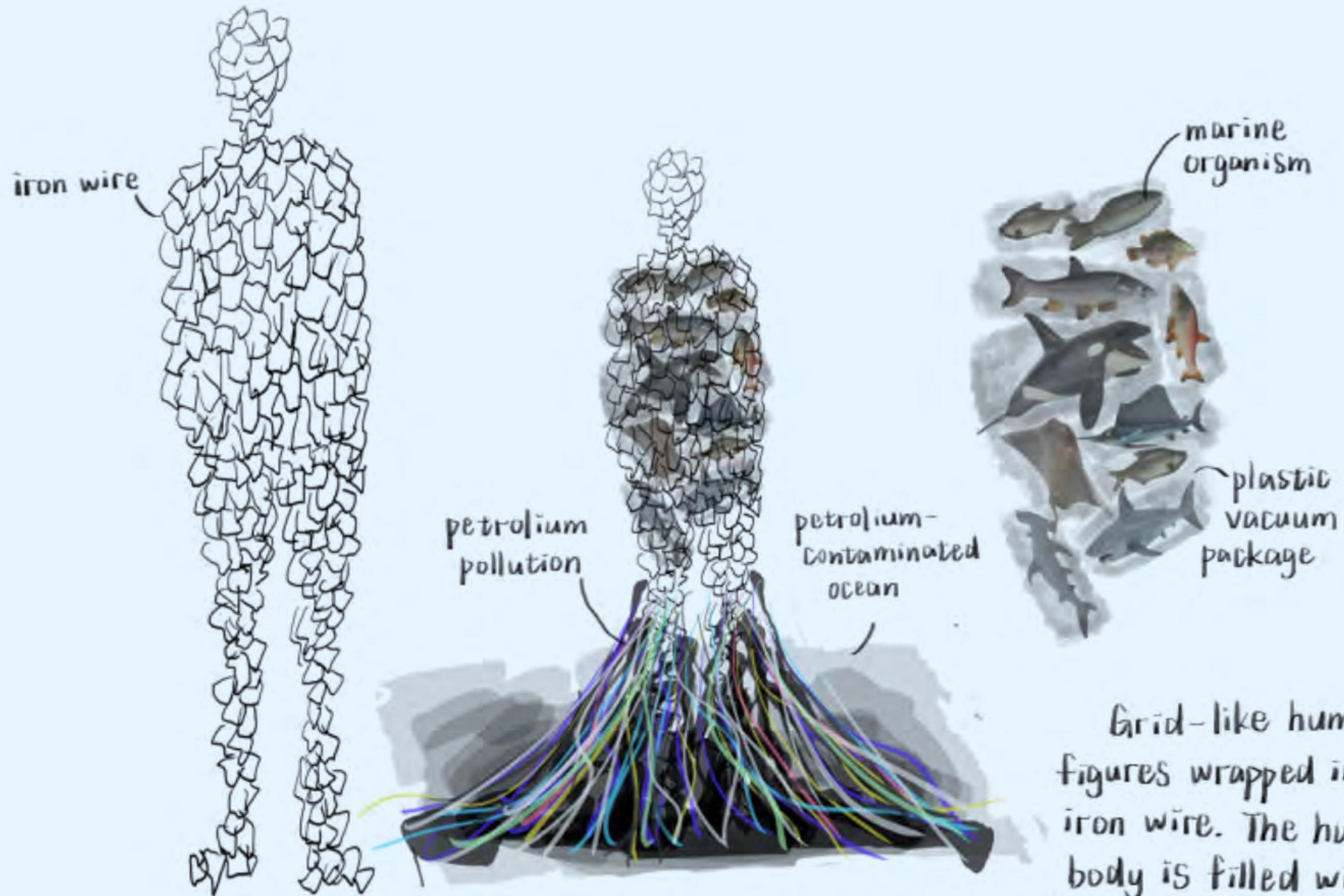
# Project 3

## Entangled Depths

My sculpture addresses the pressing issue of ocean pollution, drawing inspiration from Antony Gormley's work *Another Place*, which features human body sculptures in the sea. After a particularly striking lesson in environmental science about an oil spill, I became aware of the ironic relationship between humanity and the ocean. While we exploit its resources, catching marine life and extracting oil, we often neglect our responsibility to protect it.







Grid-like human figures wrapped in black iron wire. The human body is filled with sea creatures molded in plastic vacuum packs. Starting from legs of the human body molded with adherent black oil flowing downward and articulated to the ground of the oil-contaminated ocean.

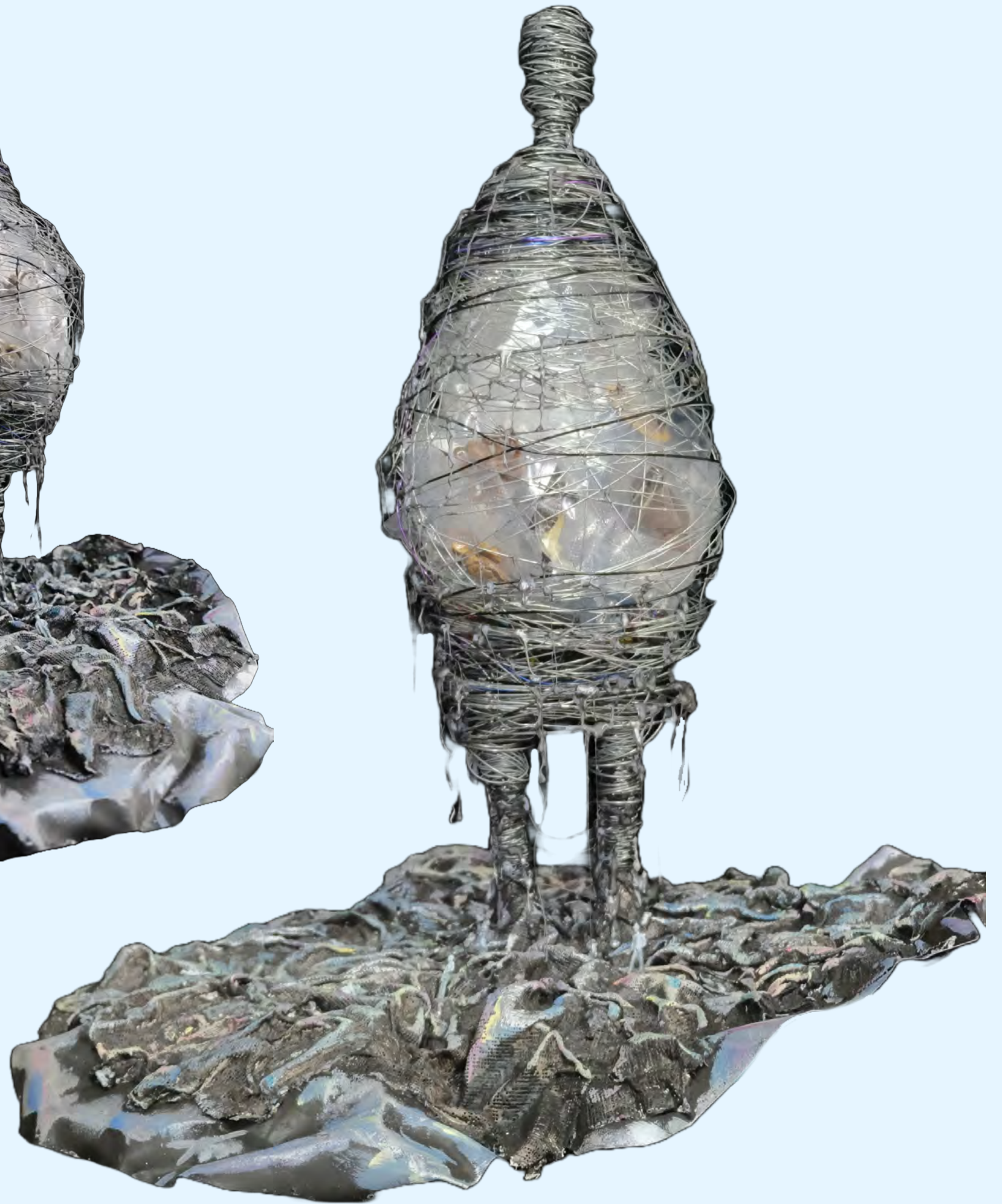
# PROCESS



To embody this concept, I spent nearly a full day tightly wrapping a humanoid frame with wire, my hands stained with rust as I shaped the figure. This wire form represents humanity's entanglement with the ocean, reflecting both our greed and vulnerability. I created a textured sea surface using heated plastic sheets and plaster, emphasizing the ocean's movement.



I placed miniature fish, sealed in plastic bags, into the wire figure's abdomen, symbolizing how we commodify marine life. Once the "waves" dried, I painted them in shades of black and bright colors, mimicking the harmful effects of oil pollution. Hot glue drips resemble oil, reinforcing the struggle of the figure against this sticky burden. Through this piece, I aim to provoke thought about our role in ocean health and urge viewers to take action to reduce pollution and protect our shared home.





I use photoshop and vedio editing software to produce the final imagination of my sculpture in a real environment.

Link: <https://youtu.be/2GPFsi4-qww>



## Will Fortune Run Out with Waste?

This artwork addresses the critical issue of food waste, inspired by the oversized packaging of snacks like shrimp chips that often leads to excess leftovers. While shopping, I was drawn to the vibrant, enticing packaging, yet I recognized that such large portions frequently result in waste.

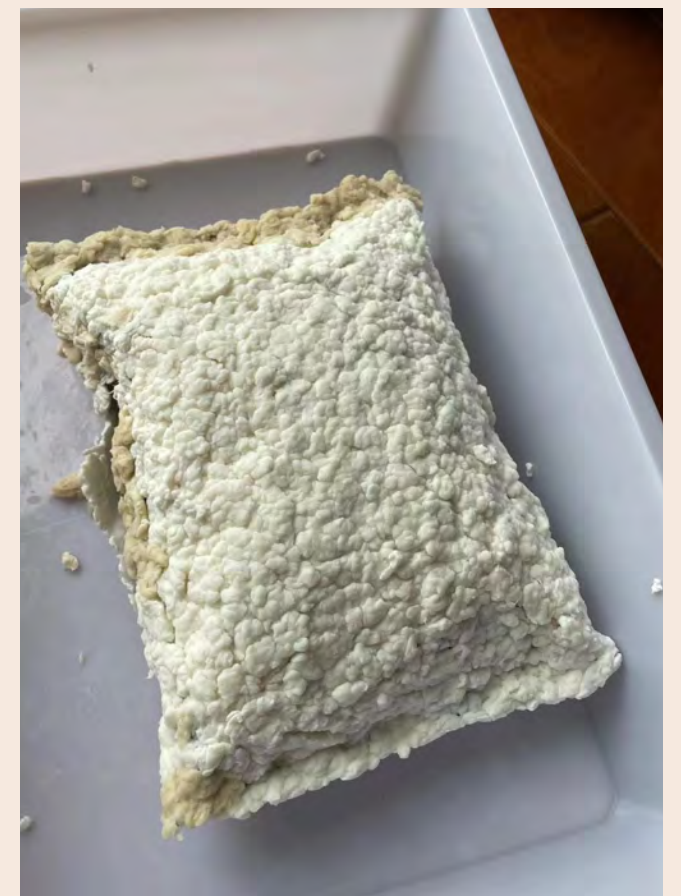
To highlight this problem, I created molds from paper pulp, using the shape of a potato chip bag as my foundation. (The tactile process of shaping the papier-mâché was so rewarding.)



# DESIGN PROCESS



I built up layers to mimic the shrimp chip packaging and added a 3D shrimp tail for visual impact. After three days of drying, I painted the molded package in bright orange, symbolizing the allure of fast food, while also embedding statistics about food waste within real shrimp chips. These were designed like fortune cookies, subtly communicating the alarming environmental impact of waste.





The final piece juxtaposes biodegradable materials against the reality of discarded food, serving as an ironic reminder of our consumption habits and the urgent need to reduce waste.