

PARASOCIAL KEYBOARD

#SPATIAL&SENSORIALDESIGN #DISCURSIVEDESIGN

THE BRIEF

This project started as an exploration of the surreal, deeply intertwined relationship we have developed with the internet. We live in an era where the lines between the digital world and real life are completely blurring, leading to intense parasocial relationships and minds that are constantly reshaping reality through a screen. Created as a school project, this piece physically captures that distortion. By taking a sterile, everyday object and making it literally burst into our physical space, the sculpture questions how the digital realm is quite literally coming to life around us.

THE PROCESS

The creation of the piece was a lesson in taking something apart to understand its spirit. I began with the methodical process of knolling, completely disassembling the keyboard and organizing every single component flat and neat to understand its anatomy. After putting the base back together, I used thin iron wires to attach each individual key, allowing them to suspend and float in mid-air. The technical challenge was balancing the wire to give the keys a frantic, "jumping" energy. The final structure acts as both a visual concept and a sensory experience, transforming a flat tool of communication into an exploding, tactile entity.

THE OUTCOME

The final sculpture successfully turns an abstract psychological shift into a tangible reality. By taking the very keys we use to communicate with the digital world and making them break free from their frame, the piece holds up a mirror to how the internet is spilling over into our actual lives. It taught me how to take a complex, heavy concept like digital parasocial behavior and distill it into a simple, striking visual that people can interact with and feel in real space.

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