

THE DIARY OF SPACE RESIDENCIES

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KRONIKA

**STORY
PAWEŁ WĄTROBA**

**ILUSTRATIONS
PIOTR KOWALCZYK**

**EDITOR
KATARZYNA KALINA**



7609 ota LP

Along with other artists, I have arrived at the Centre for Cosmic Awareness on Corypheus in the Andromeda Galaxy to take part in a space residency programme. The aim of the project is to establish contacts with the Galaxy's inhabitants. While travelling to distant and mysterious places of the Universe, the artists gather new experience, stories, ideas and skills, which they then share with others. Collected this way, the material is then studied by scientists and classified for further processing. Engineers use it to develop new technologies and artists transform it into artworks, presented later at the annual exhibition. The Centre therefore acts as a place of exchanging knowledge and energy. Visitors come to the Centre from the farthest corners of the Universe, because everything that is created here is accessible to everyone. It takes only a little willingness to access that inexhaustible source of inspiration. I can't wait for my first trip!



9067 ato PL

The planet ØΓЖ functions owing to Troompaks. These organisms have legs and wings but are unable to decide whether to walk or fly, they just roll. The species' ivyness results from their achievement of the higher level of awareness, where doubting the sense is the mainexpression of intelligence. Unfortunately, the Orniks, who are in command here, catch them and place one on top of the other in tight enclosures, like sausages in a large package. Thanks to their incredible biological characteristics and continuous rolling, the trapped creatures - rubbing against each other - produce electricity and woollen fluff, used to make coats. For years, the Wul7Troompapa Association activists have been unsuccessfully trying to convince Troompaks to choose either walking or flying. They asked the Centre for Cosmic Awareness for help in that matter. I came to ØΓЖ and explained to Troompaks that with their legs and wings they can both walk and fly, and that they could roll or do somersaults whenever they felt like it. And most importantly, not everyone had to move in the same way. I did a somersault and a cartwheel. I also took a few jumps and encouraged the creatures to be creative. They were delighted and stopped rolling straight away. They freed their brothers and sisters from their sausage-like enclosures and, out of gratitude, made me a coat from their fluff. Troompak coats are the most comfortable in the entire Galaxy. Upon my return to the base I learned that the Orniks had been banished from the planet.



8452 iti KLO

I was sent to the planet Plim to analyse the situation of the conflicted Plimputa and Plimpata clans. In ancient times, these two kingdoms were one family. Unfortunately, due to the Great Quarrel and mutual accusations of stealing the larder handle, the Bone of Contention appeared above the planet, separating the family and hanging in Plim's orbit like the Moon over the Earth. Since then, the borders of the two neighbouring kingdoms have been surrounded by a wide Strand of Discord, charged with hostile energy, which turns stray Plimputa into scissors, and Plimpata into ladles. From conversations with representatives of the feuding families I have learned that no one remembers exactly what the Great Quarrel was about and why their ancestors were so horrible to each other. Unfortunately, the history requires everyone to hold the grudge, and the Strand of Discord prevents a peaceful resolution of the conflict. To enable the conflicted clans to safely start a conversation I decided to build a bridge over the zone of bad energy. While building, I had an accident and fell from the structure straight into the dangerous land between the kingdoms. I was sure I was going to turn into a pair of wellingtons or a cabbage core, but to my surprise nothing of the kind happened. Apparently, bad energy does not affect someone who does not nurture it in himself. With joy and peace of mind, I collected the scissors and ladles from the whole Strand of Discord. Having finished the bridge, I gave the Plimputa scissors to the Plimpata and the Plimpata ladles to the Plimputa. While the Plimpata used the tools to produce cut-outs, the Plimputa cooked a lot of soup and poured it with the ladles into small bags. During the bridge opening celebration the conflicted king-

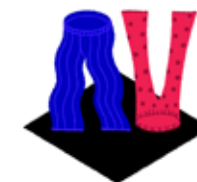
doms exchanged the cut-outs and the soup. In the beginning, there was a grave silence, but the atmosphere of the exceptional meeting on the bridge quickly brought a hope of building a new relationship. The Plimputa and Plimpata promised they would continue to build bridges between their territories to exchange their products more often and to talk about a better common future. Perhaps, in the process of creating peaceful relationships, the hostile energy will disappear from the area between the kingdoms, and the Bone of Contention in the orbit of Plim will break and fly away into the Forgotten...



8439-47 ato TFU

Scientists from the Centre for Cosmic Awareness discovered a new planet AN-37, whose atmosphere is similar to that of the Earth. They sent me on a mission to collect samples and grow edible plants. Having reach the destination, I discovered that the planet did look like an ideal place for a human colony: clean air, drinkable water, fertile soil. However, I did not find any living organism or plant. Surprisingly enough, the farther away I went from my spaceship, the more my legs jigged as if they were about to dance. So, after collecting the basic samples, I decided to give up further exploration and focus on agriculture. I dug a strip of soil around the ship and planted the seedlings brought from Coryphaeus. It was hard work, so I slept like a log that night. I dreamt of an amazing dance in which people, creatures of the Universe and even planets moved to the rhythm of the same vibrations and breaths. Stars fell to the rhythm of my heart, plants were my hair and nails and water in a stream was my tears of joy. Everything danced in the beautiful energy which brings the Universe together. When I woke up my legs jigged again. I weighted my boots with metal tools and went out to water the field, but the plants had disappeared. What was left were only holes in the ground and a trampled trail, running towards a distant mountain range. Did someone sneak in at night and steal all the seedlings? On that day, I planted another batch of plants and watched the field from the ship at night, waiting for the uninvited guest. After dark, I felt the flow of the dance energy again and saw from the cockpit some movement in the beds. Potatoes came out of the ground and started to dance with cabbages, beans swayed eagerly, invited by beetroots to join in,

tomato bushes turned around and jumped, and dancing wheat lost its balance every now and then. I was astonished by this joyful scene and was about to join in when the dancing procession of the plants started to walk towards the mountains. I started the engine and followed them from the air. Behind the mountains, in a valley, I saw a dancing circle of all living creatures of the planet AN-37. Plants, animals, birds and fish were moving by a large mountain pond to the rhythm I heard in my dream. They danced all night till they finally fell asleep in the morning. I assume they do it every night. A true spectacle of unity and harmony that I managed to capture on film for the scientists on Coryphaeus.



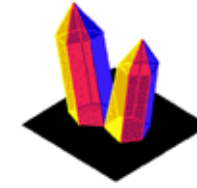
3538 dili PLU

The planet Kala-Mala is known in the Andromeda Galaxy for its production of underpants and leggings. It is inhabited by Pakifons, who invited me to a show of a new collection. I learned that these clothes were produced completely separately. In their factories located on the planet, the Kala Pakifons produce traditional pants for everyone while on the planet's natural satellite, the Mala Pakifons design chic leggings, which have conquered intergalactic catwalks. Ambassador Kala confessed to me that he was afraid to wear leggings because they were too bold. He prefers simplicity, tradition and functionality to fancy designs. Ambassador Mala, on the other hand, believes that underpants were complete obsolete and boring. He prefers garish, tight leggings that look like your second skin. Because of these differences, the Kala and Mala Pakifons are unable to come to an agreement and make it difficult for each other to work. Although they do not like each other very much, they have tried several times to make a joint effort to create fashionable pants or simple leggings, but nothing came out of it. As long as they can do what they do best separately, everything goes smoothly, as each group knows better than the other what ideal pants should look like. There is one thing they agree on - it would be better for them to separate. Unfortunately, there is not much I can do about it, because I cannot control the gravity that holds the satellite in Kala-Mala's orbit. During the ceremony of presenting new designs, the Kala Pakifons once again showed simple products, bound to satisfy the tastes of the majority, while the Mala Pakifons proposed bold, extravagant cuts, which would not win many hearts on the Kala-Mala planet. However, they will certainly become a new galactic fashion craze.



3538 pili DLU

Planet Kir is a conscious being, which is why she herself has asked for help. Due to an ecological disaster, her last living species became extinct and since that moment the planet has been uninhabited. The lonely Kir became deeply melancholic and changed her climate to the rainy one. I visited her in the hope of finding a remedy for this bitter situation. My visit immediately improved her mood. We talked for many hours. When Kir remembered her former inhabitants, the weather improved for a moment and the landscape seemed to regain hope. However, it was still silent and empty, so Kir flooded it with sadness again. She told me that many years ago, the Space Vermin attacked Tubechewers, which pollinated the planet's plants. The environmental balance got disturbed, and when the fruit stopped growing, there was no food for other species. Breaking that chain led to a great disaster and soon Kir was completely alone. She only felt a great longing and dreamed of new inhabitants. Suddenly, I got a crazy idea! I remembered my recent trip to the planet Kala- Mala and the Pakifons who lived there. I suggested that Kir should adopt the planet's satellite and its inhabitants, which would also solve the problems of the Kala and Mala Pakifons. Excited, Kir rushed through space to talk to the Ambassadors. The solution turned out to benefit everyone, so Kir pulled the Mala moon into her orbit and with the satellite she quickly returned to her place, leaving no time for second thoughts. Since then, the Mala Pakifons have been able to work freely, under the eye of the planet Kir, which will take care of the new inhabitants in her orbit.

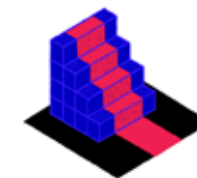


8720-87 ato CO

The unprecedented transparency of the planet Holo made me visit the area on my own account. The place is inhabited by Holofats – incredibly beautiful and crystal creatures, surrounded by a luminous aura. As it turns out, what makes them look that way is the fact that they feed on light, sucking it out of everything around them. As a result, the Holo’s landscape flickers constantly and during every meal the light on the planet disappears and reappears again. I was curious to find out how Holofats restored light to eat it again without any sunlight or electricity. And if everything here was so clear and colourless, did that civilisation know colours at all? Hoping that they would share their secret with me, I painted some pictures for the residents of the capital where I was staying. The bravest ones, having eaten the colours known to us, got hiccups so loud that the entire city could hear them. To my great surprise, with my painting I unconsciously violated the Rules of Transparency. The Holofats turned out to be unforgiving on that point and, as a punishment, they threw me with all my equipment into the Cristal Hole, which ran through the planet. I fell down for about 700 breaths. Halfway down the distance, probably close to the Holo’s core, I noticed a deposit of the most incredible raw material in the Universe. Shiny layers sparkled all the colours of the rainbow, so saturated that they exploded in flashes that blinded me for a moment. Could that be the secret of the life-giving light?

With a bang, I came out at the other side of the planet and lost consciousness. When I came round I saw a host of multi-coloured Holofats standing around me. Very concerned, they explained to me that

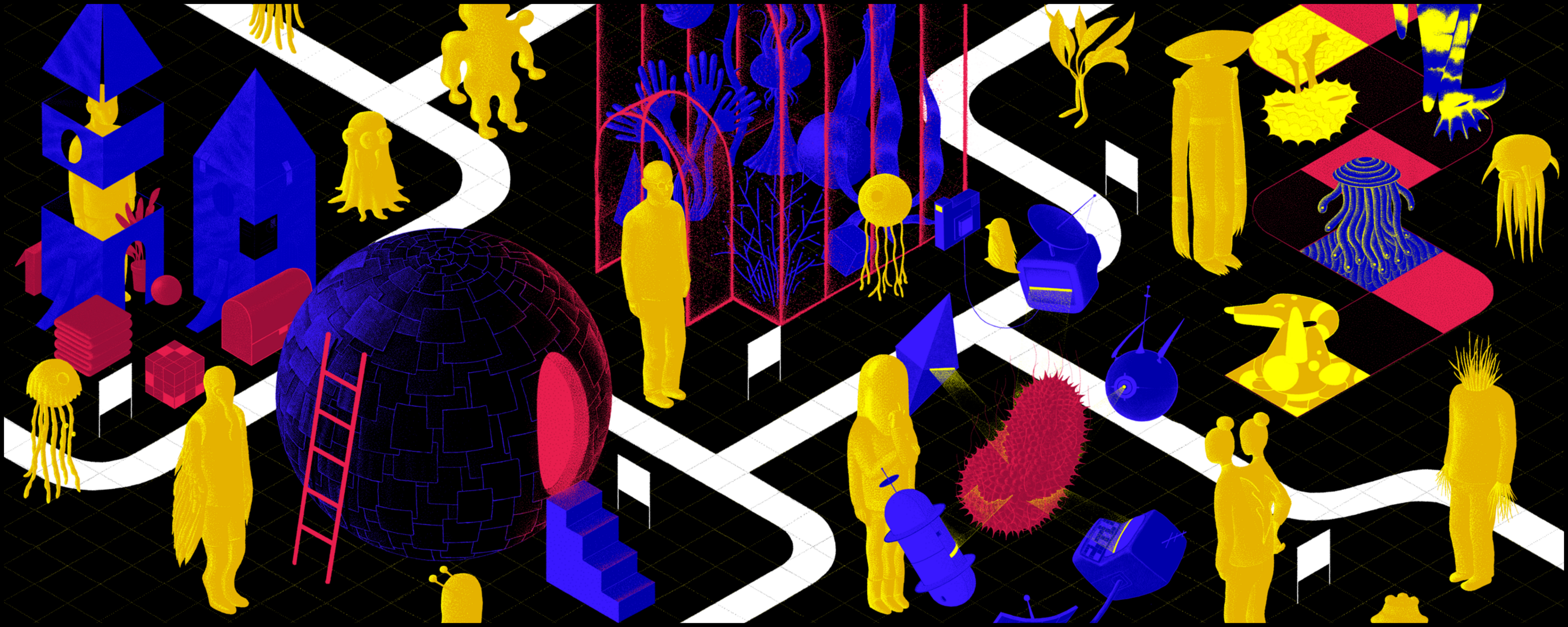
they too had violated the Rules of Transparency and had been thrown into the Hole, and unfortunately, you could only fall one way and there was no way back once you dropped out at the other end. So they had to set up their own settlement where everyone could find a place for themselves, regardless of the colours they represented. Thanks to the journey through the Crystal Hole, they discovered the deposits of Prismatic Stones, the knowledge of which was hidden from the residents of the capital on the other side of the Holo planet. When broken, these stones released an incredibly powerful beam of light in all directions, and this is the light that the capital city of Holo on the other side fed on. On that side of the planet, however, the stones are especially cared for so they produce a rainbow and give colour to everything around. Instead of destroying the source of colours in the Prismatic Stones just to obtain a single beam of light, the Holofats from the other side of the planet take care of the stones and water them so that they keep dispersing their inner light. When that part of Holo does not flicker, its residents do not feel hunger or thirst. Reinvigorated by the rainbow I decided to paint some pictures. Here, my painting was received quite differently. Each of the colourful residents wanted a picture for themselves. When eventually everybody got their painting, as a sign of gratitude, I was given a well maintained Prismatic Stone. Holo is definitely more beautiful on the other side.



9898 ixi PUF

The long-awaited opening day of the exhibition summarising the space residencies has finally arrived. All the artists' discoveries and adventures will be presented in the form of artworks. Apart from me, the authors include: Maciej Cholewa, Elżbieta Jabłońska, Katarzyna Łaciak, Adam Łucki and Gary Marshall-Stevens. This is a great celebration for the Centre for Cosmic Awareness, attended by guests from every corner of the Universe. It is said that children from Earth are also going to come to the exhibition by space mail. For the 5 exhibition, I prepared an installation, incorporating the memories and artefacts gathered in the course of the residency. I built a bridge, identical to that on Plim, to remind us of the possibility of rebuilding a broken or forgotten relationship. Thanks to the Prismatic Stone, given to me by Holofats, I coloured the bridge structure with a luminous rainbow. I crowned my work with a video projection from the planet AN-37, where all its life forms spin around in a dance. It all worked out perfectly! Obviously, for the ceremony I wore the beautiful Troompak fluff coat, which made the guests from the planet ØΓЖ especially happy. Kir and the Mala Pakifons, have also come to the vernissage. After so many years of loneliness, she could not miss such an event. It was an amazing experience, as for the first time an exhibition was attended by a conscious planet. That clash of extraordinary energies has made me decide not to return to Earth. I am staying here, at the CCA on Coryphaeus to explore the knowledge of the Universe and experience new adventures during space residencies.

CCA

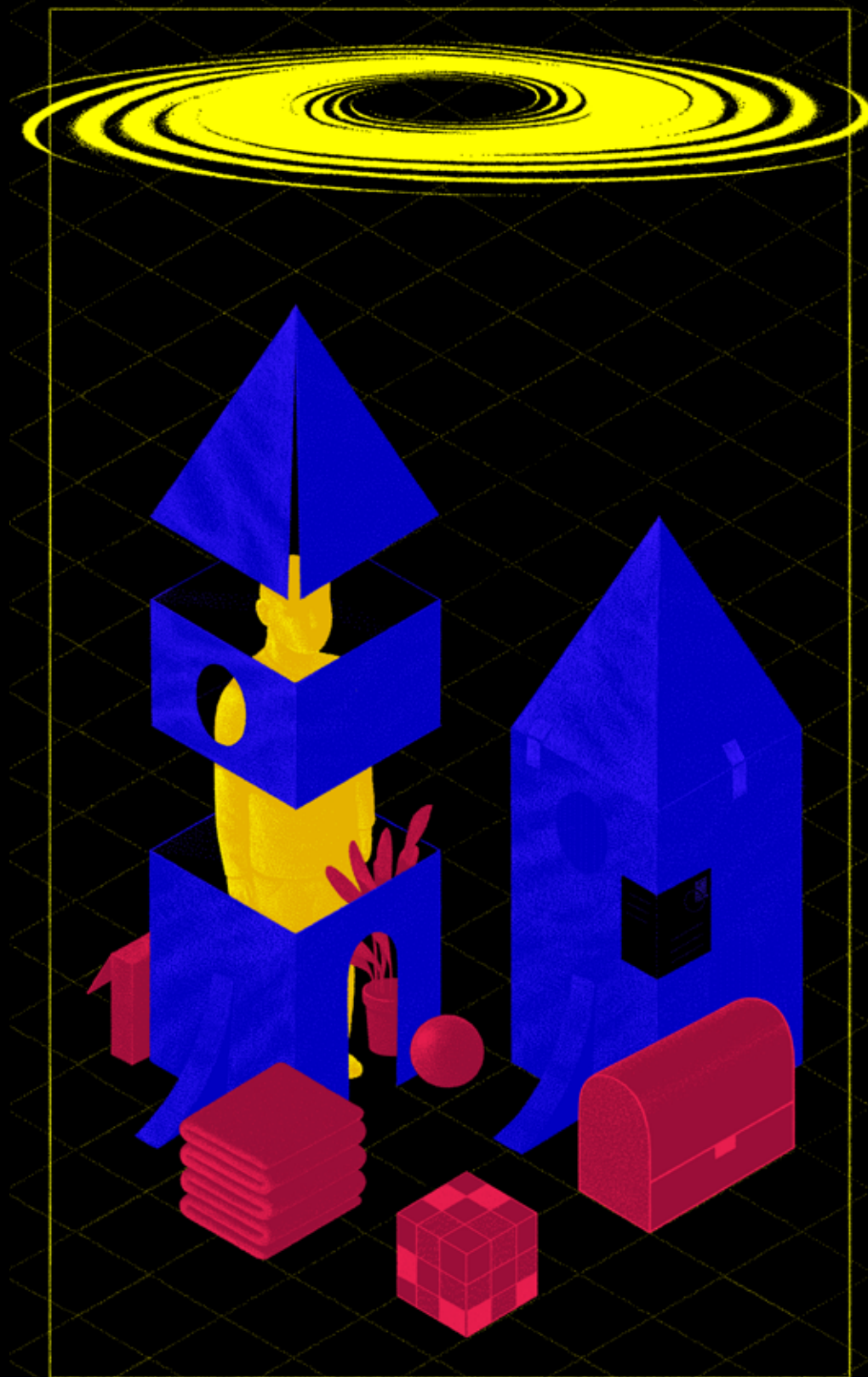


INTERGALACTIC TOOL KIT

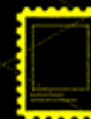
ELŻBIETA JABŁOŃSKA

Science is a fascinating journey into the unknown. The first part of the journey takes place in imagination.

Elżbieta Jabłońska's work presented at the exhibition was inspired by the history of the American Post Office and specifically, the service of sending children in parcels, available in 1913-1915. Imagine that you can travel by space post. Design your own capsule, in which you will reach the farthest areas of the Galaxy. Make it from old boxes and cartons or arrange hanging blankets and pillows to have a comfortable space flight. What things do you want to have with you then? Prepare your backpack and pack the necessary things. However, remember that you should travel light. When entering the capsule imagine the destination of that extra-terrestrial journey. Where will you get to and what adventures are you going to have there?



ELŻBIETA JABŁOŃSKA
INTERGALACTIC TOOL KIT

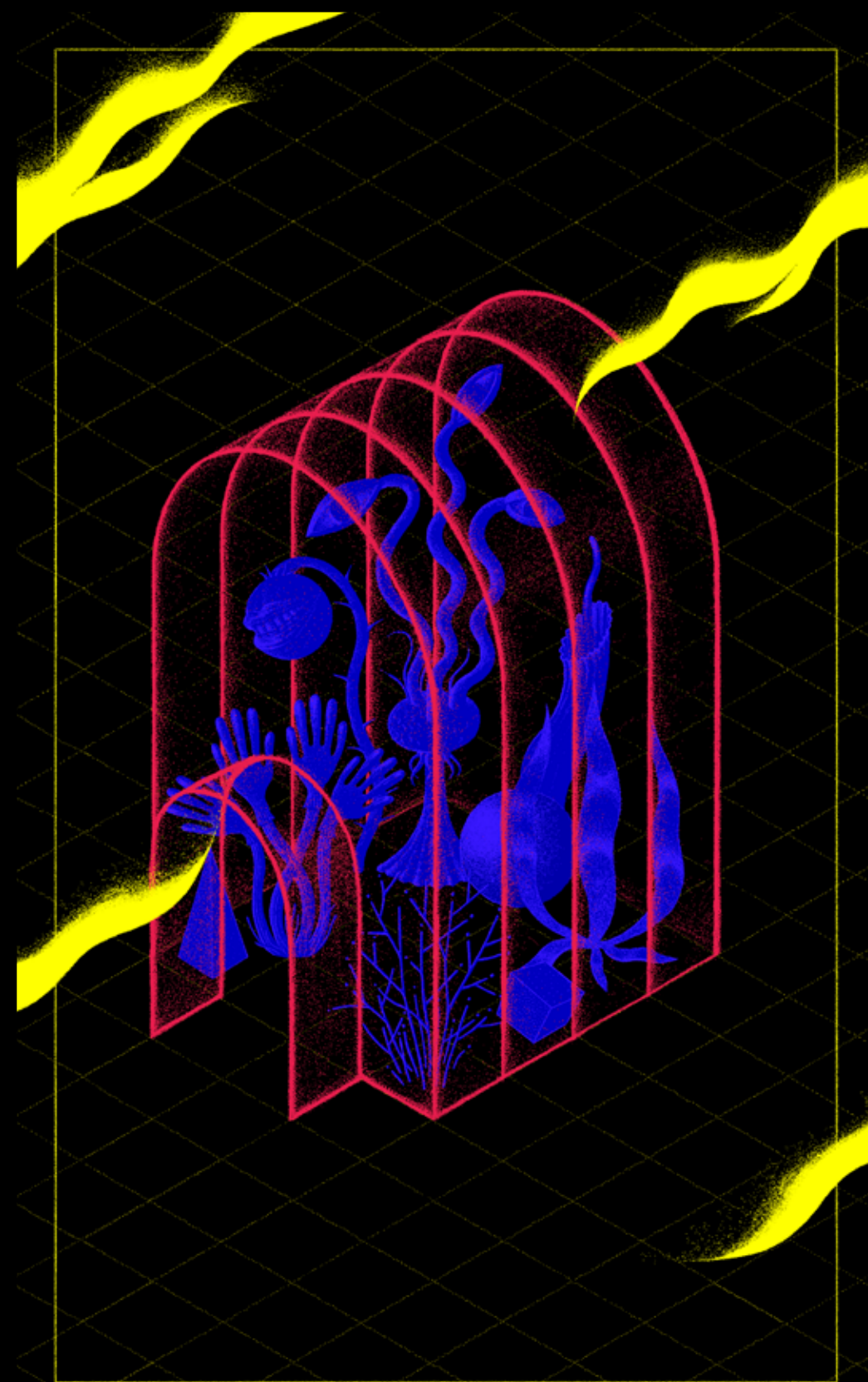


SPACE RADISHES

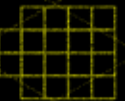
MACIEJ CHOLEWA

Developing imagination helps us to acquire and use knowledge.

The artist Maciej Cholewa, fascinated by people's and plants' common ability to adapt to unfavourable conditions, has built space greenhouses for the exhibition, where he grows unbelievable species of plants. Imagine you have landed on an alien planet where you can grow fantastic plants. What human needs could they satisfy? Will they produce food, serve to play or perhaps turn into something completely different? Test your gardening skills and set up a home garden. Pay attention to the vegetables and fruit leftovers, which we usually throw away. You can root celery, lettuce or carrot ends. Plant an onion or garlic in a flower pot and you will grow delicious chives. Has your potato sprouted? Put it in the soil and water and it will grow into a beautiful plant. Try also to plant beans and fruit stones, especially avocado. Place the whole stone in the ground, water it and wait patiently until it grows. After about two months a young shoot should break through to the surface. Take care of it and enjoy every new leaf.



MACIEJ CHOLEWA
SPACE RADISHES

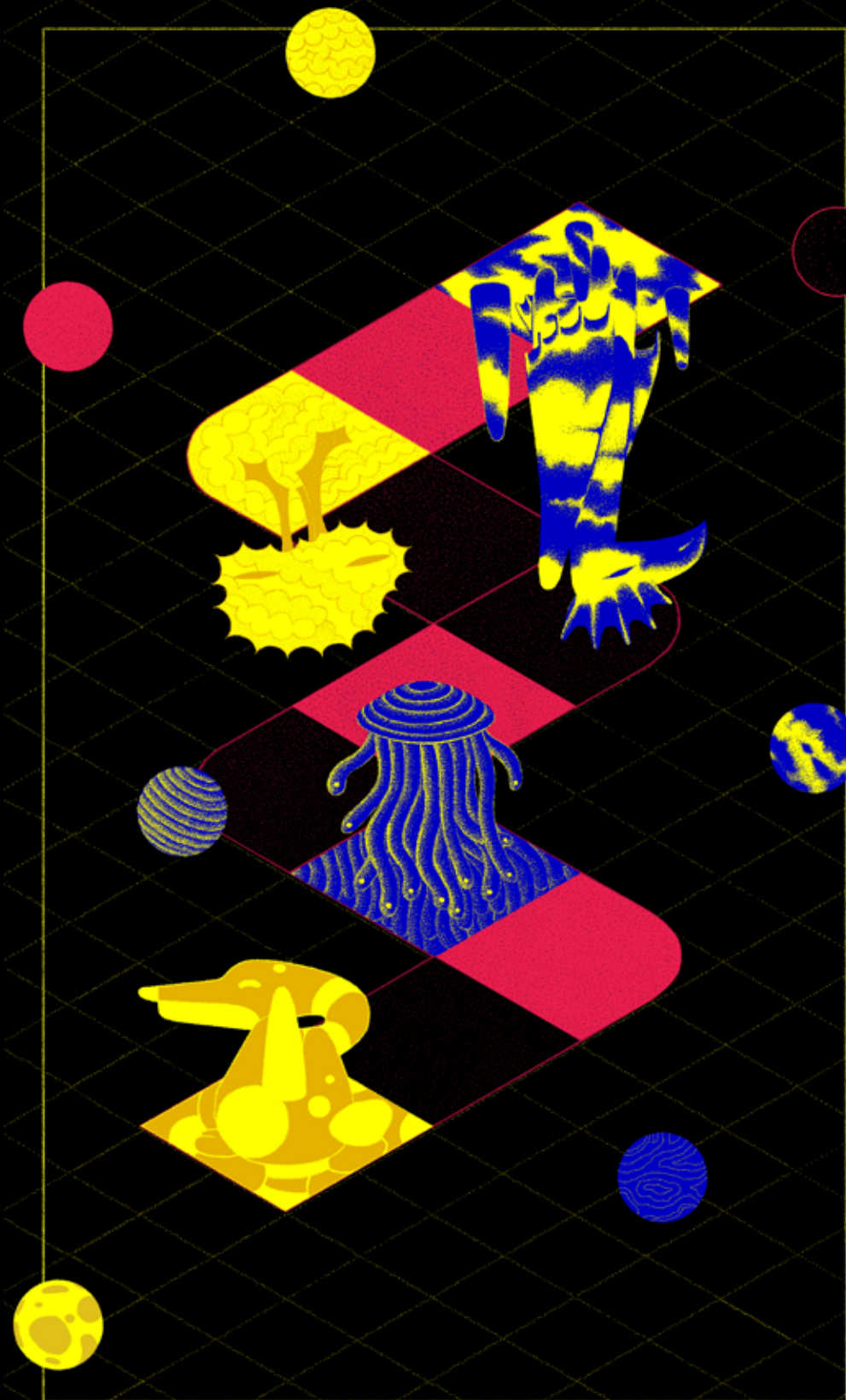


CAMOUFLAGE

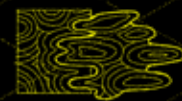
ADAM ŁUCKI

Science is about explaining the world and going beyond the limits of what we know.

Inspired by Stanislaw Lem's short stories, the artist Adam Łucki concentrates at the exhibition on the camouflage of cybernetic animals. Imagine that you are on a newly discovered planet, exploring a natural world unknown to anyone before. Together with a group of researchers you observe and describe the creatures that are hiding from you in the cosmic wilderness. What does nature look like there? How do the creatures camouflage themselves in lush vegetation? Why do they hide? These are completely unknown species, so draw them, name them and describe their behaviour in natural conditions. Use pieces of newspapers, wallpaper and colourful sheets to create an imaginary, patterned landscape and silhouettes of cybernetic animals. Try to place the cut-out creatures in such a way that they can safely hide from the sight of a predator or hunter in the primeval forest you have created.



ADAM ŁUCKI
CAMOUFLAGE



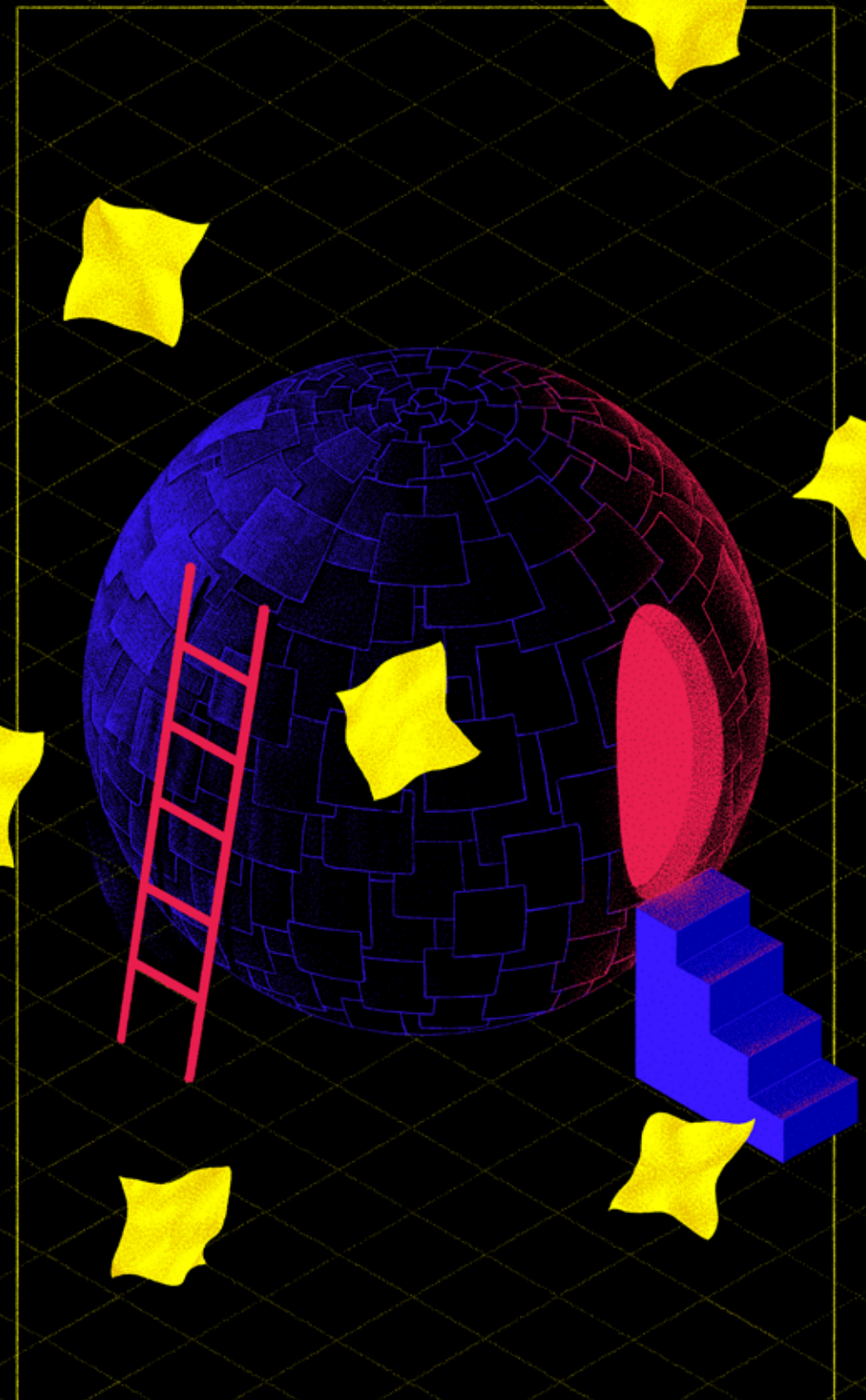
ALSTAR

KATARZYNA ŁACIAK

"Imagination is more important than knowledge, because while knowledge points to what is, imagination points to what will be."

Albert Einstein

The artist Katarzyna Łaciak is interested in collisions of celestial bodies which generate enormous amount of energy. The collisions and explosions create new substances and materials. Imagine a cosmic explosion. What are the colours? What sounds could it make? To paint this event, prepare a primed canvas, acrylic paints, glitter and hair dryer. Dilute the white paint and selected acrylic colours with a little water in separate cups and stir until you get a dense but pouring consistency. Pour the diluted white paint into an empty mug to fill it to 1/4. Then pour a layer of colour and add a bit of glitter. Remember not to mix them. And again: a layer of white and a layer of colour until the mug is full. Prepare 2 such mugs. Pour the diluted paint on the canvas – this will be your primer. In the case of a cosmic explosion, black or navy blue will be the ideal choice. Tilt the canvas so that the paint spills over the entire surface. Slowly pour the previously prepared layers of white, colour and glitter onto the wet primer. Create two round, colourful spots next to each other, which will become cosmic objects. Before they dry, turn on a hair-dryer and with the lowest airflow blow on the circles outward to make your meteorites overlap. In this way you will create a dynamic collision effect. Once the effect is satisfactory, put the picture away flat and wait until the cosmic explosion dries. It will look phenomenal on the wall!



KATARZYNA ŁACIAK
AL STAR

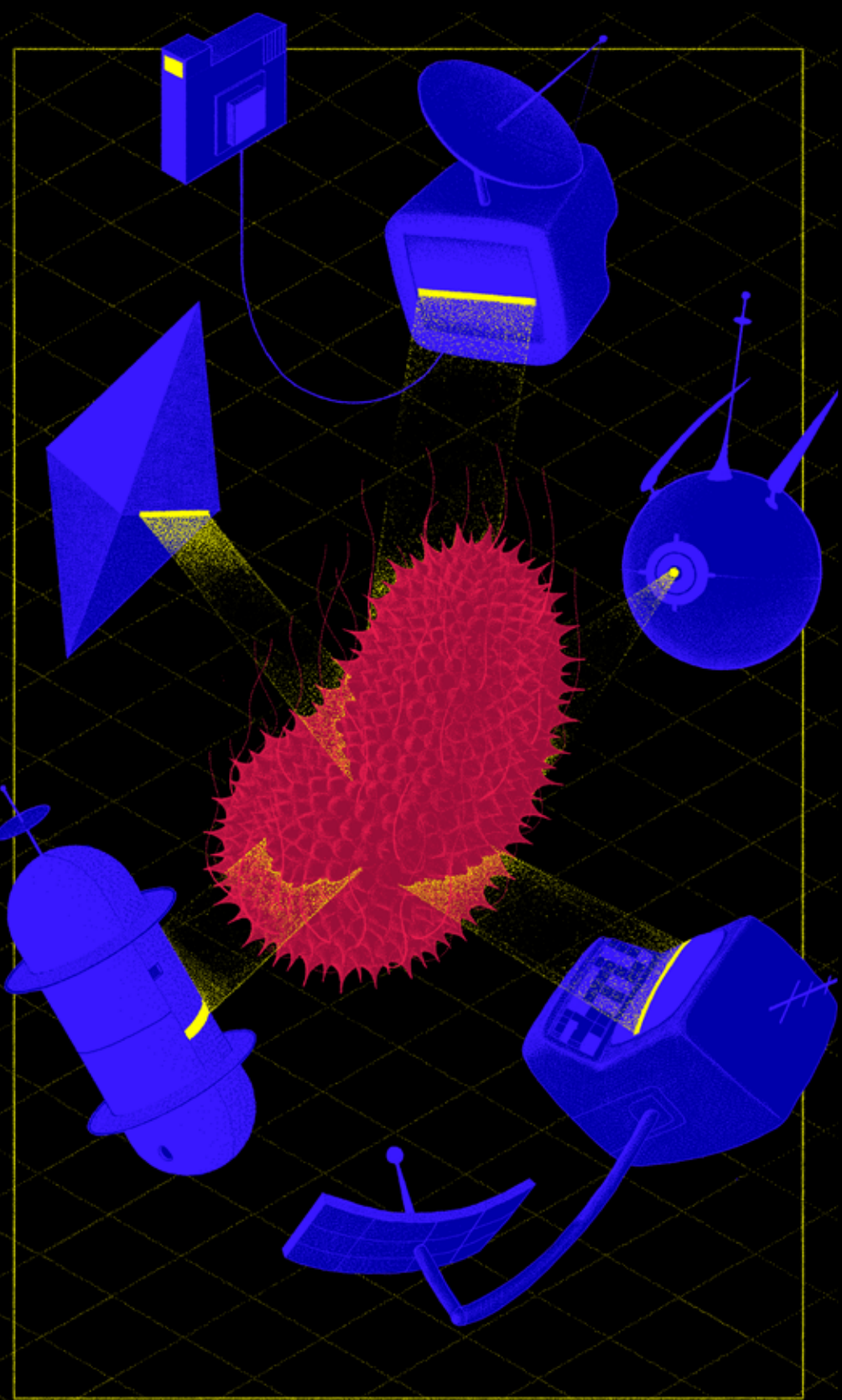


THE INSIDEOUT WINDOW

GARY MARSHALL-STEVENSON

Science is about formulating new questions, even if they are not yet answered.

The artist Gary Marshall-Stevens, fascinated by new discoveries in space, imagined that during his space travel he encountered a mysterious phenomenon - a strange substance that turns out to be an intelligent being. To get to know it, he tries to communicate and ask it a number of questions. Imagine that during your space travel you meet an alien civilization. What would the encounter with aliens be like? What would be worth learning from them? How could they help us? Perhaps they already know the answers to the questions which still remain unexplained for us. Prepare a notebook of space questions and write down everything you think may be worth asking a citizen of another planet. Remember that during such a meeting, extra-terrestrials may also perceive you as an alien, because you come from an unknown planet, Earth.



GARY MARSHALL-STEVENS
INSIDEOUT WINDOW



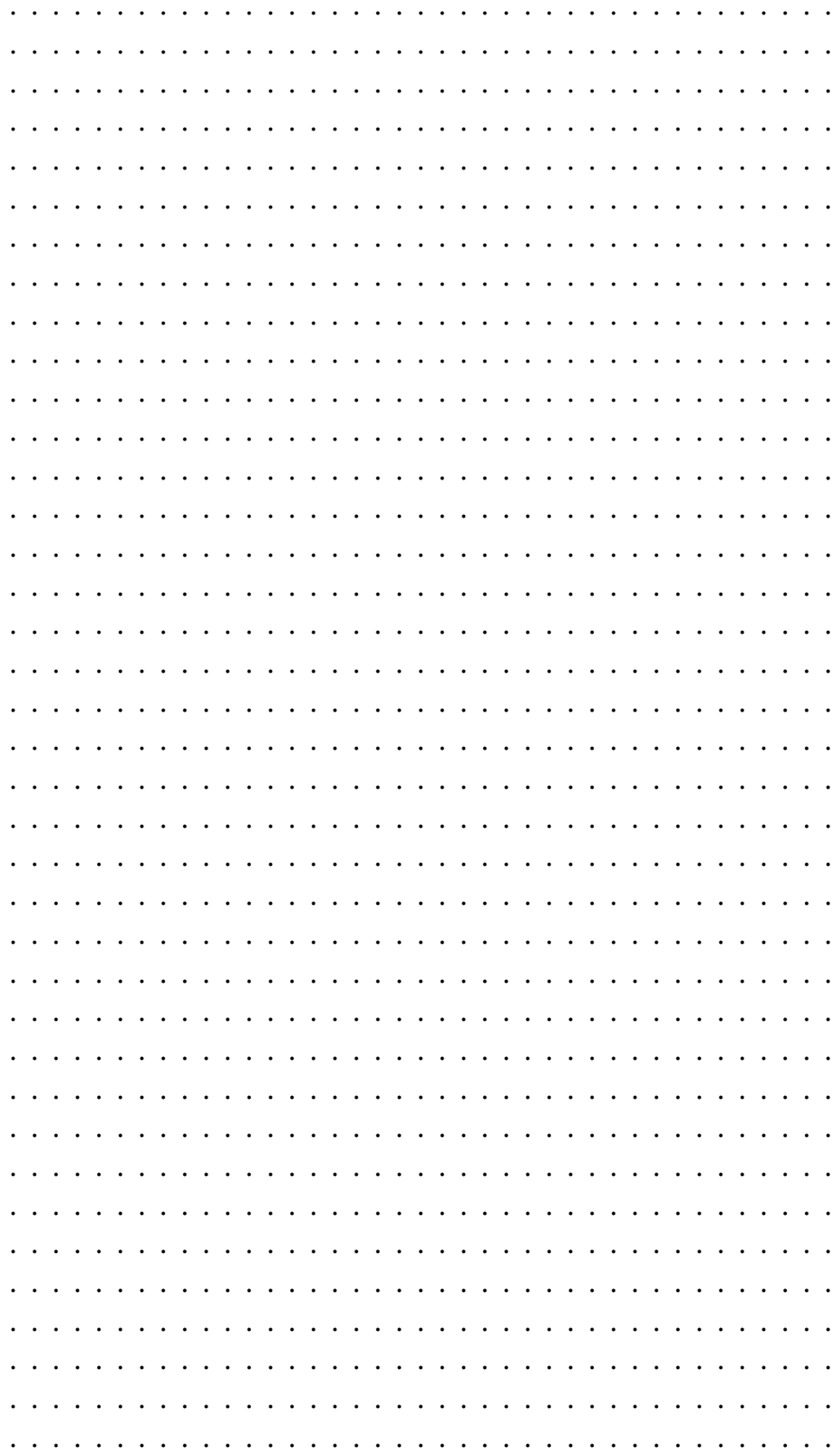
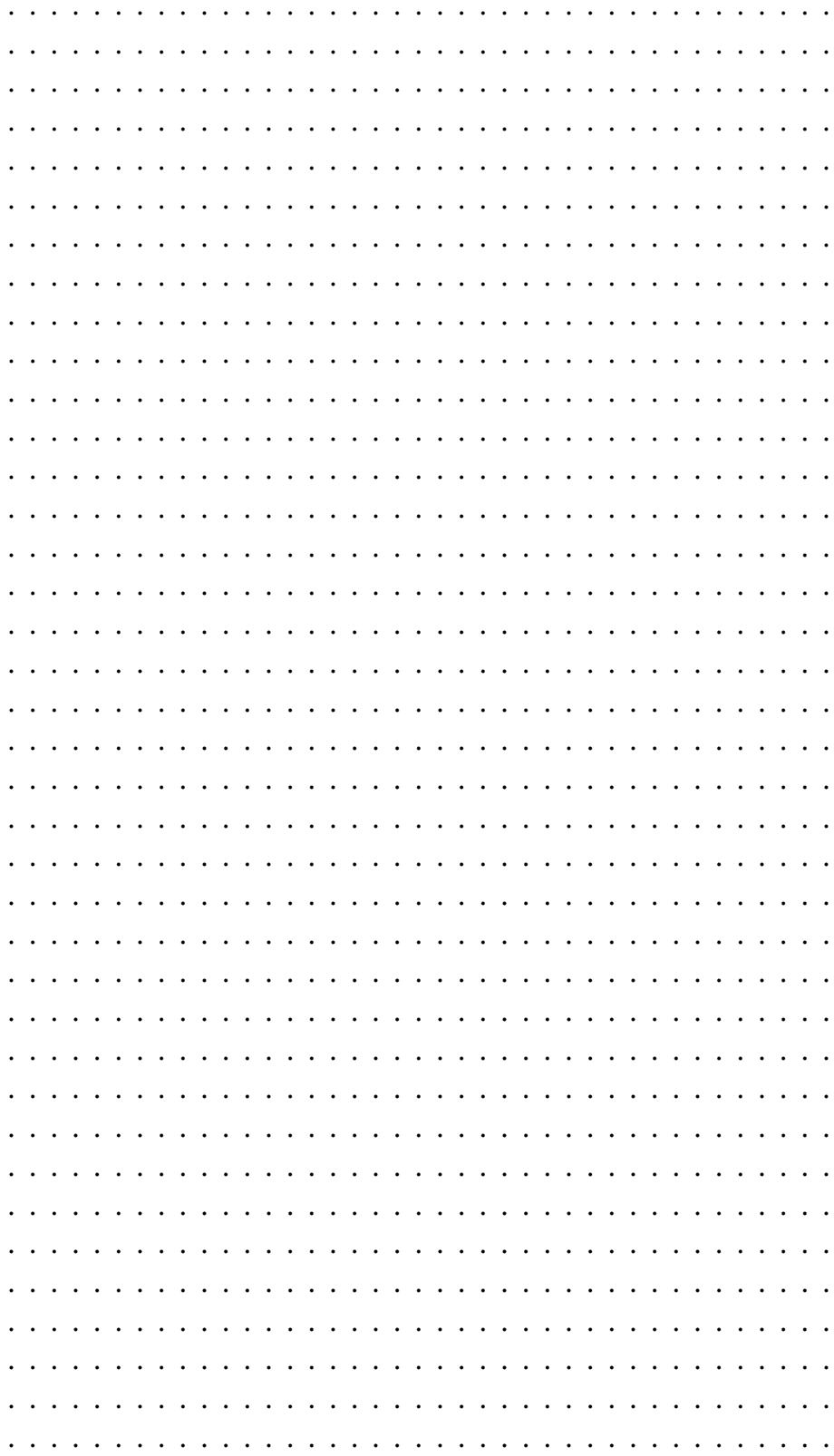
MY DIARY

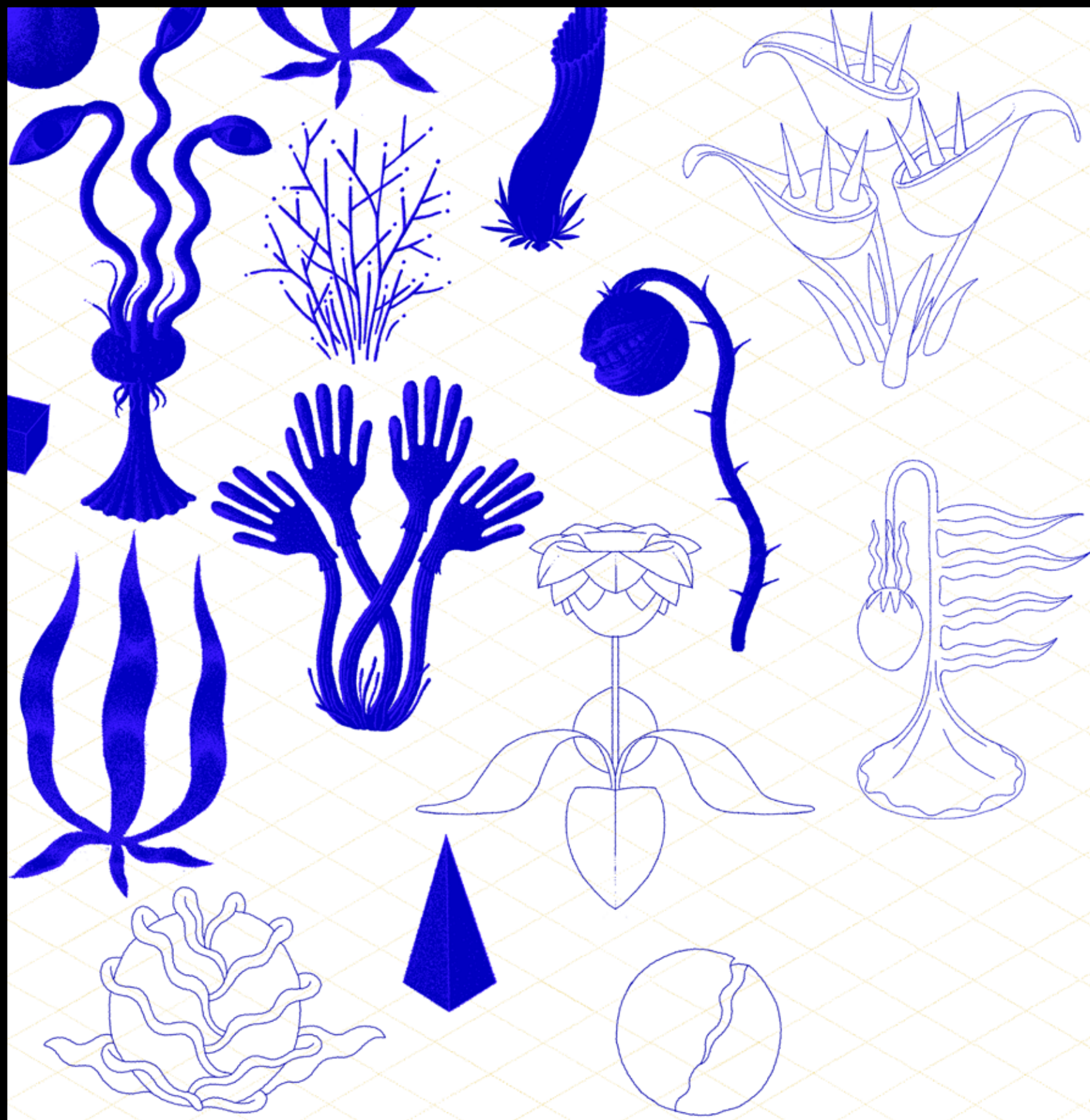


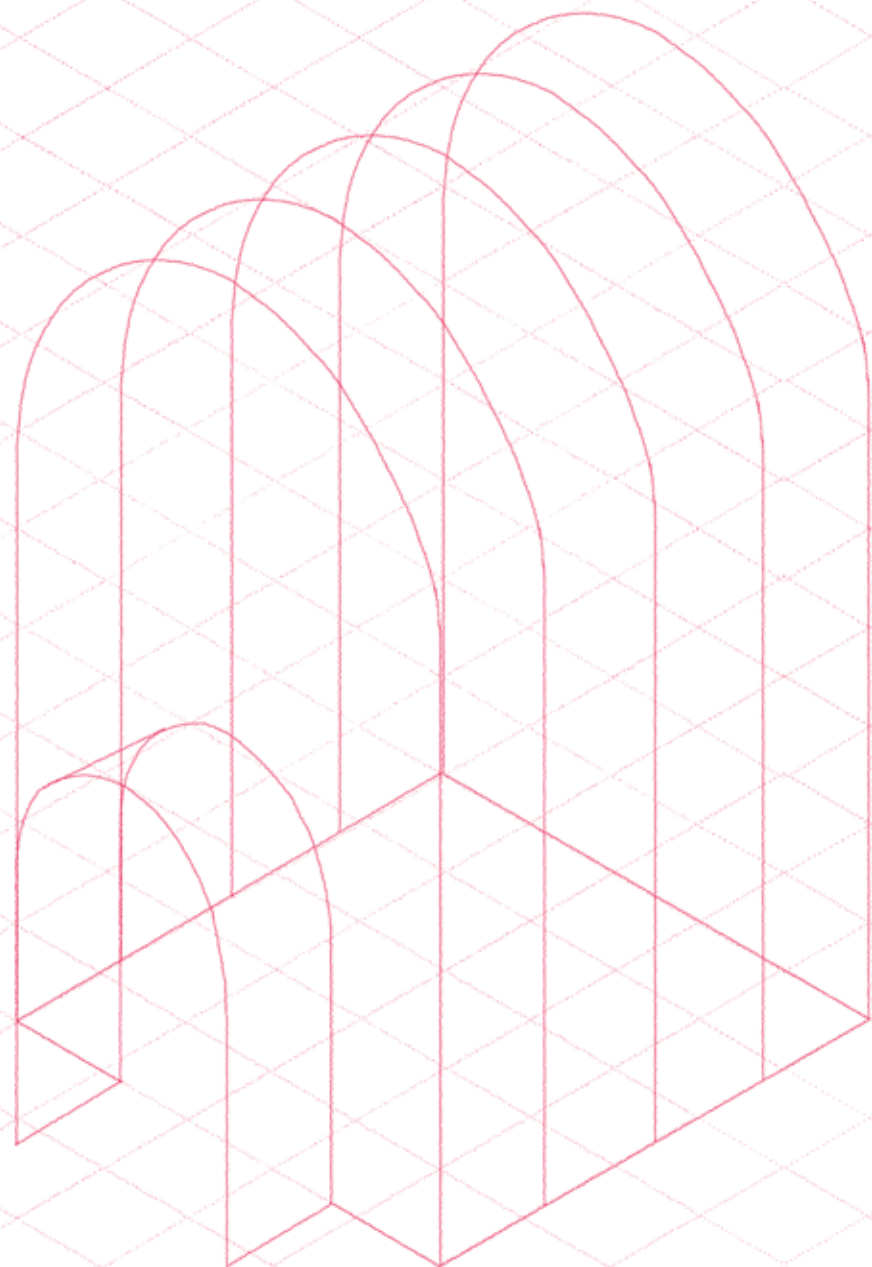
WRITE | DRAW | CUT OUT

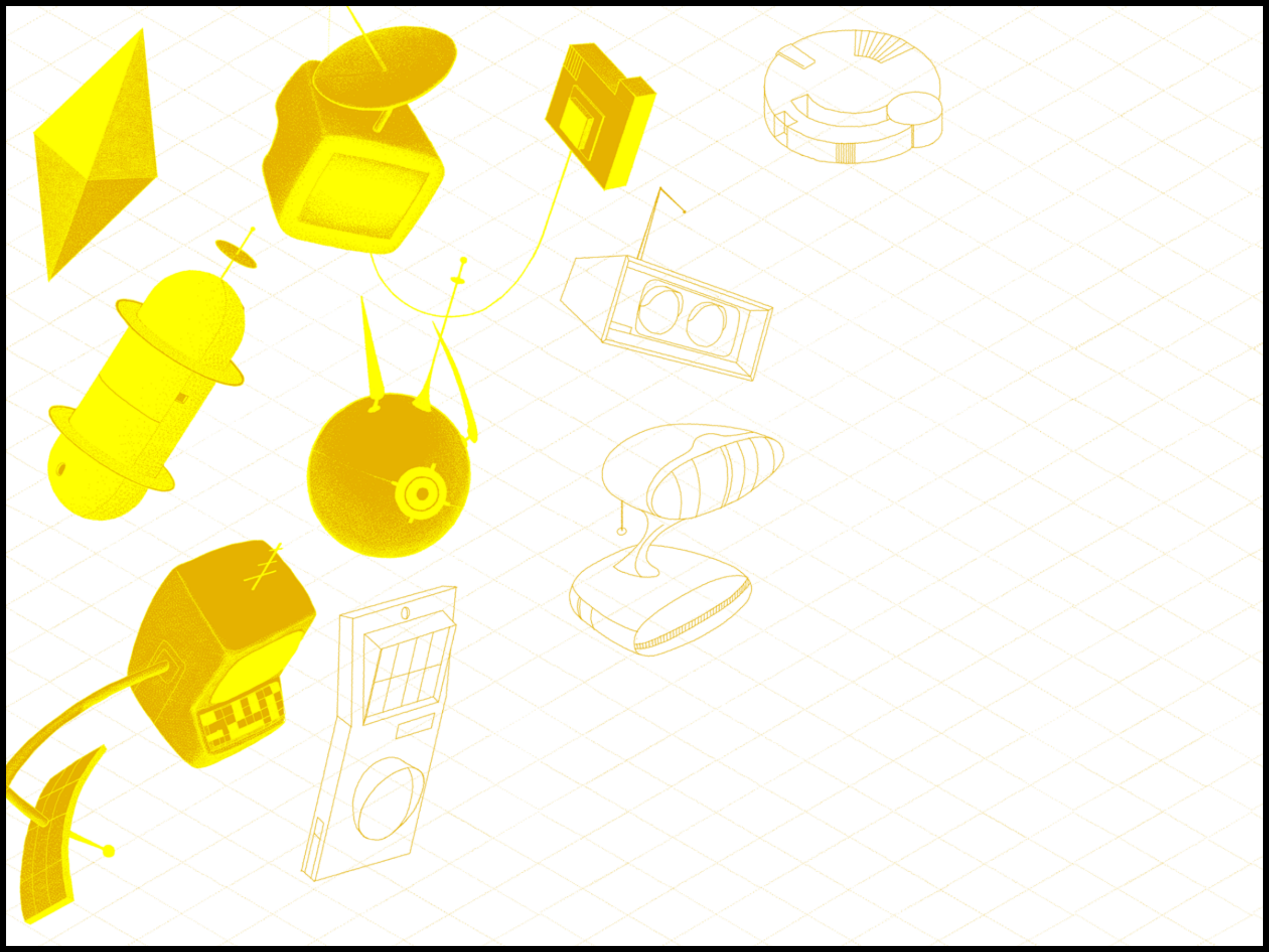


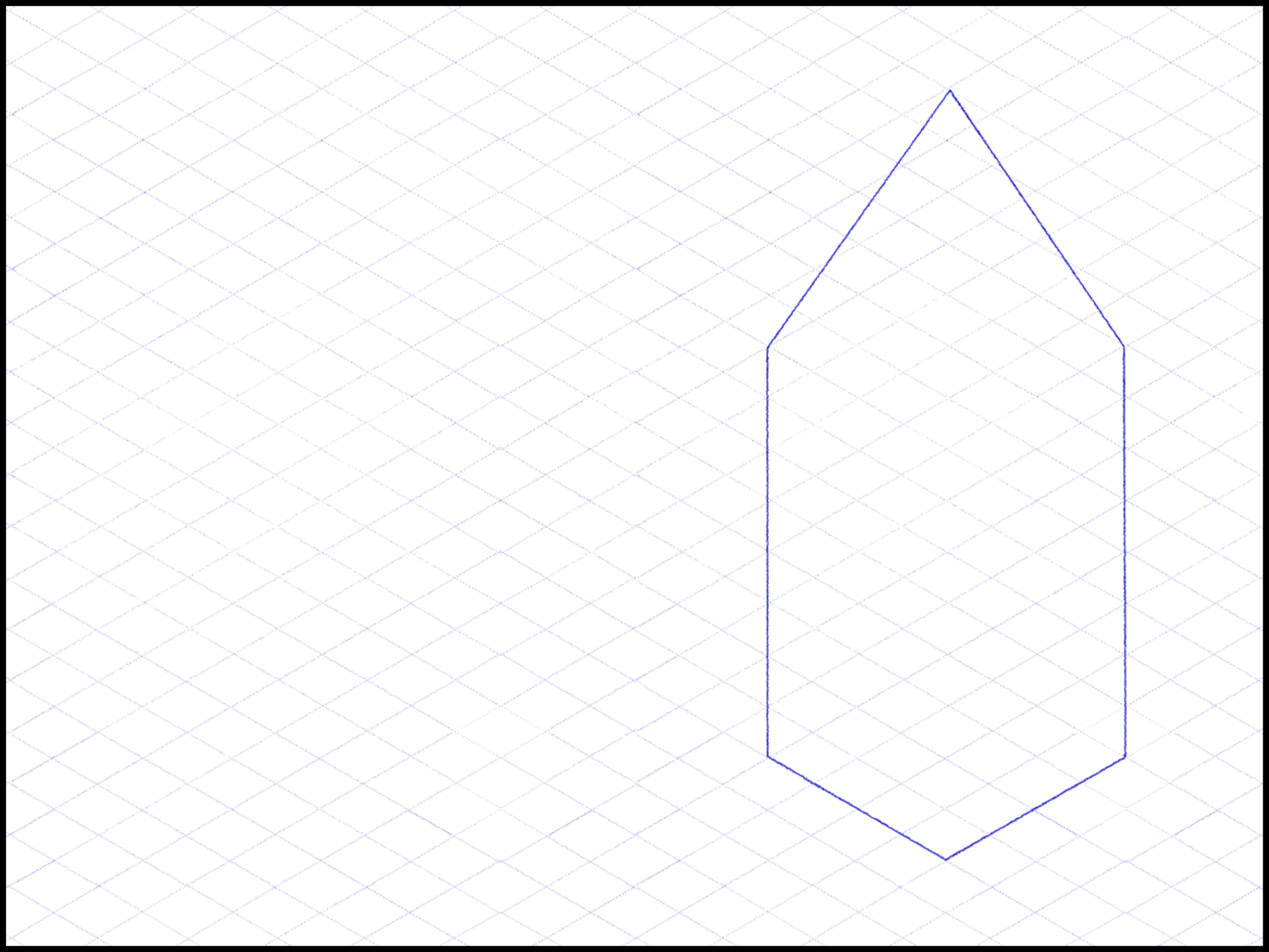
A grid of 20 columns and 20 rows of small black dots, providing a guide for handwritten entries.

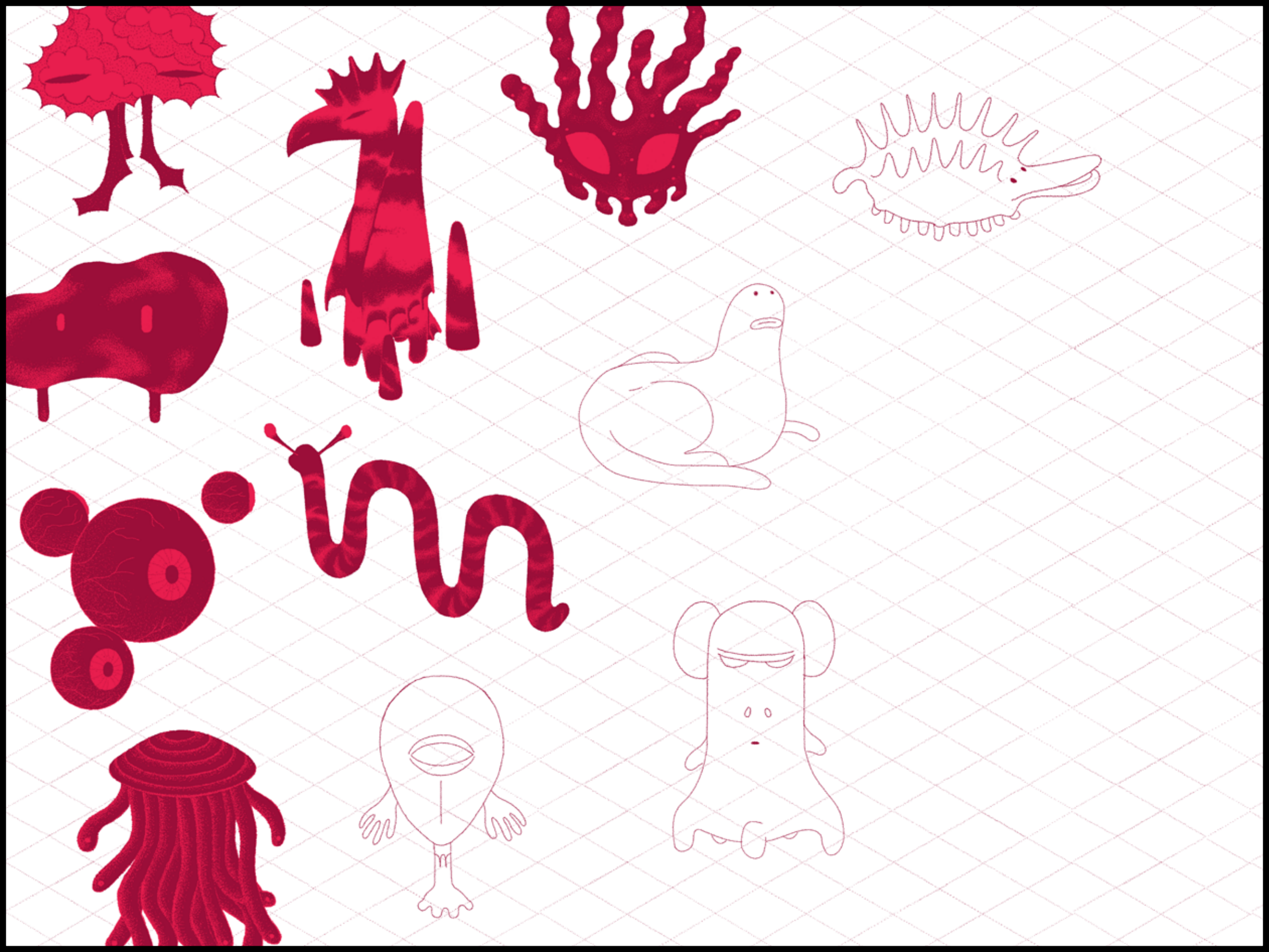




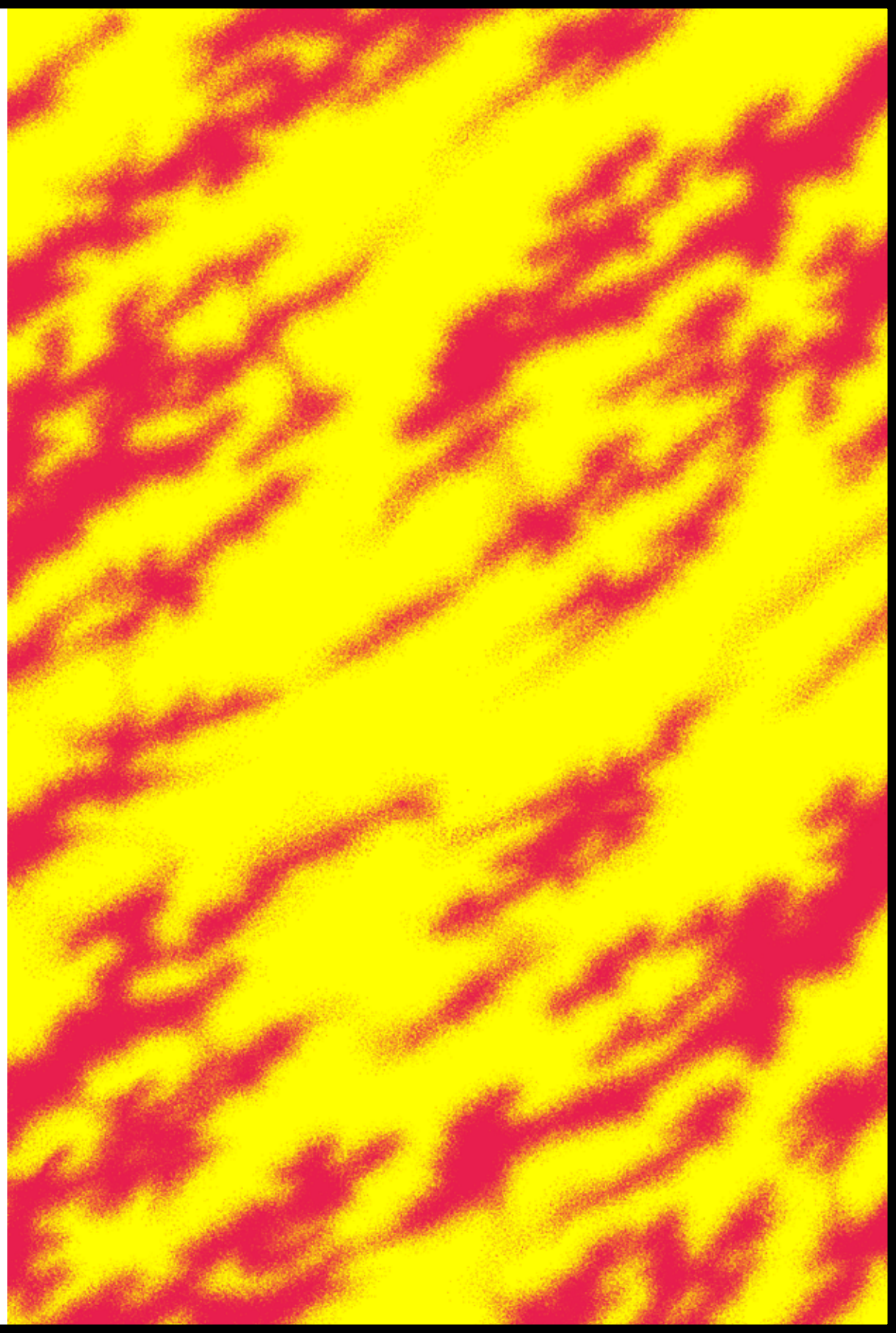


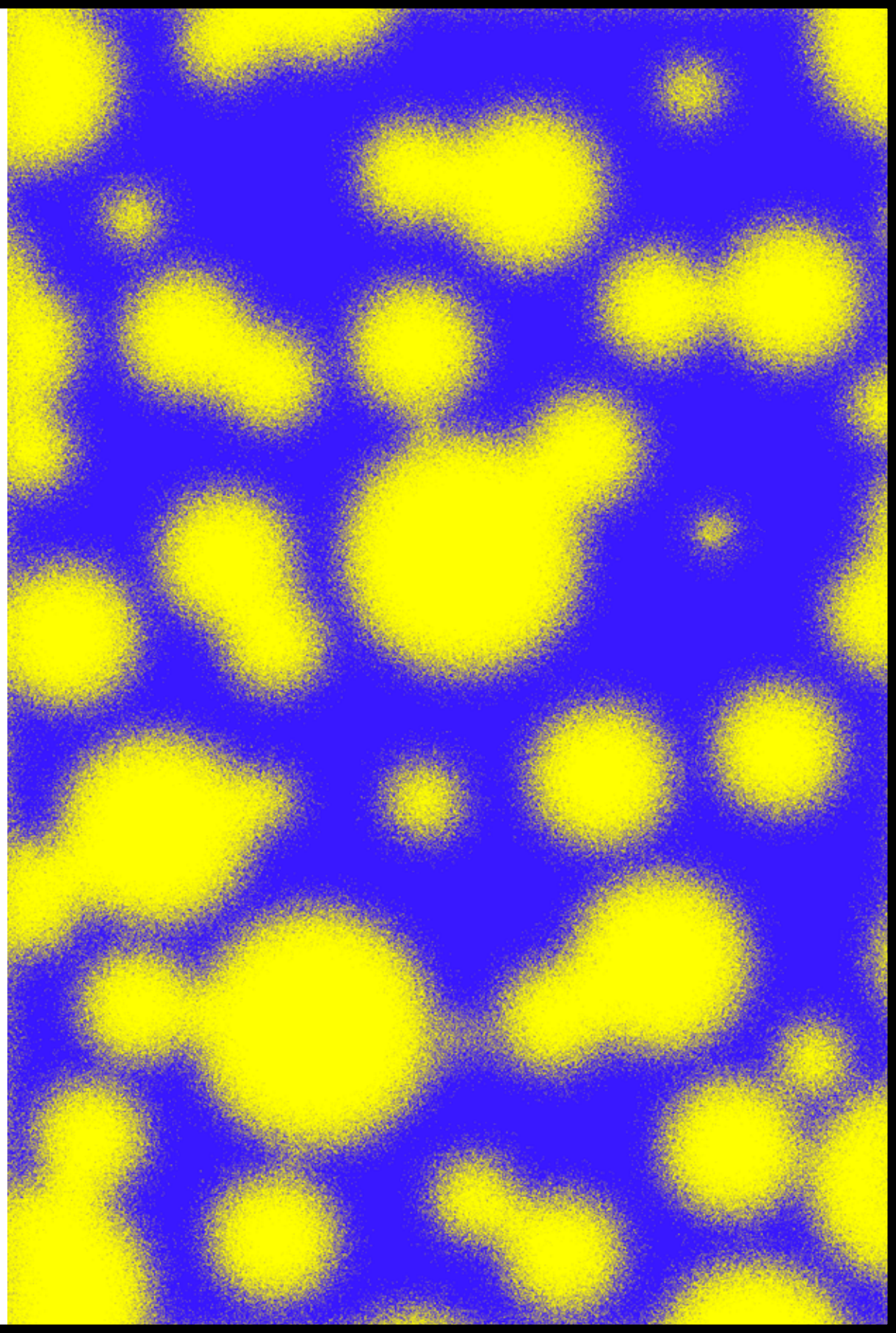


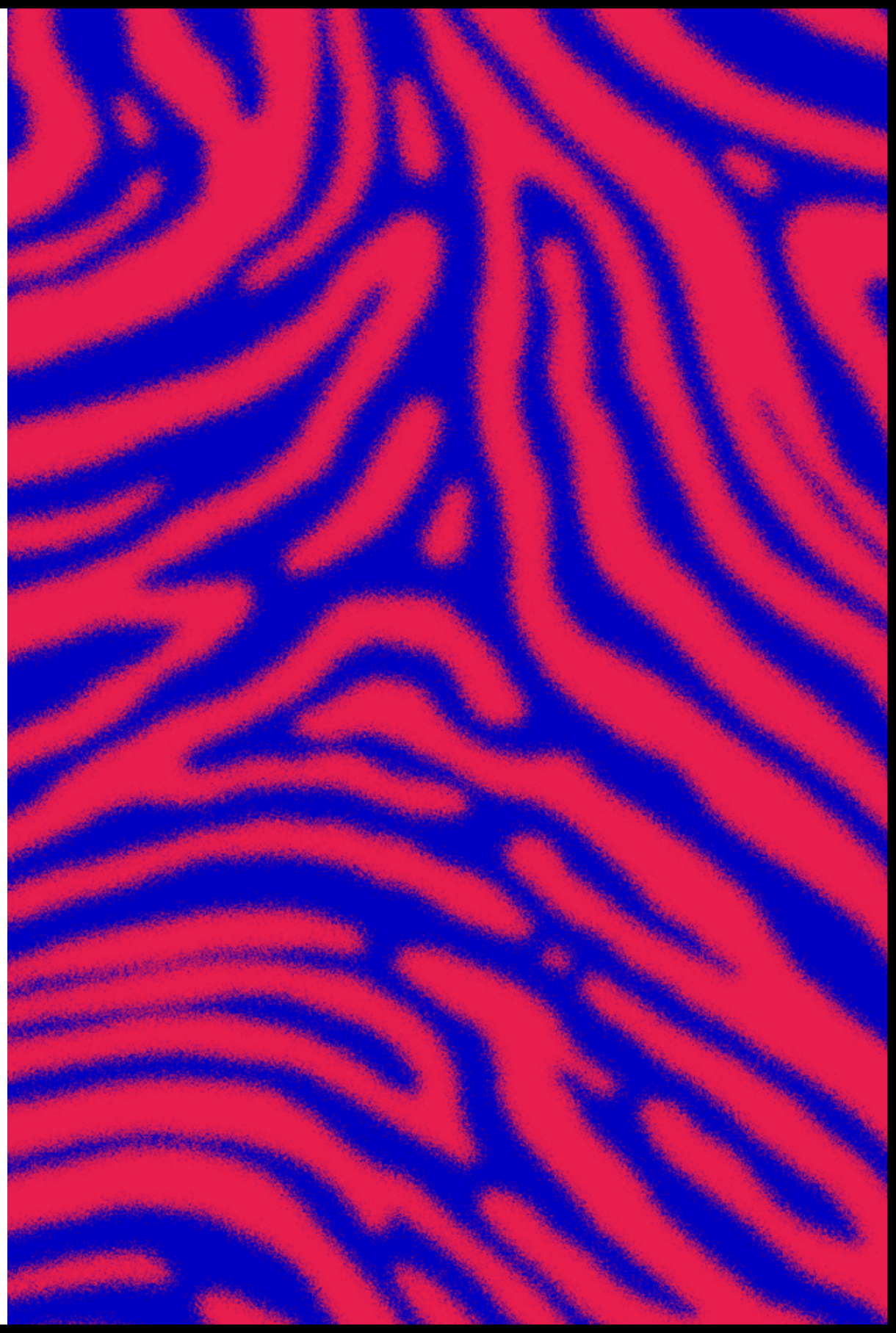


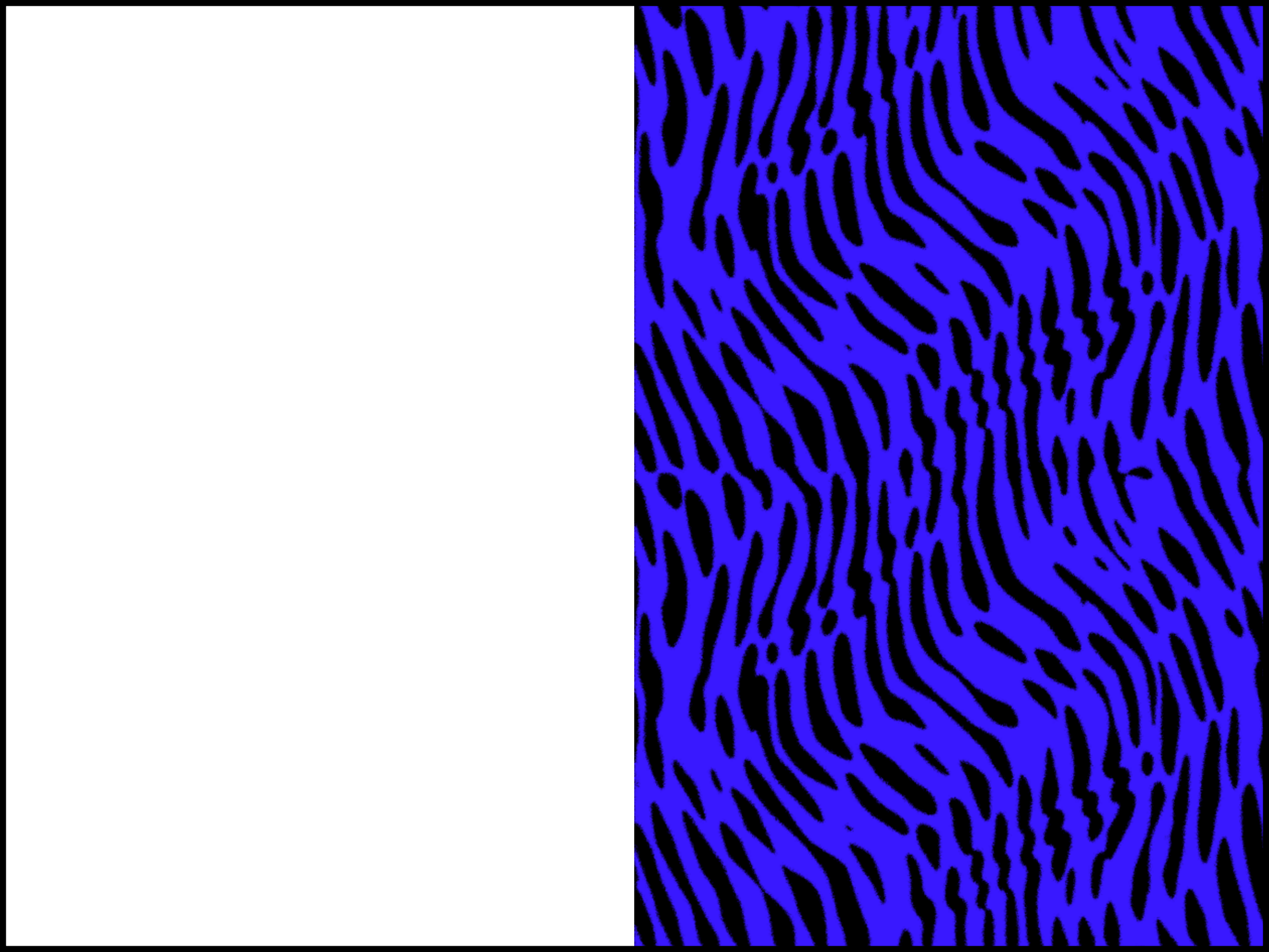












The diary of space residencies

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Collisions of unique energies. Educational project

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