

2021

@sjwchester

AT THE SEA'S EDGE

Digital Mysticism



Sam Chester

<https://wip2021.rca.ac.uk/students/sam-chester>



at the seas edge

in A rock I made a rock

a rock for the sea

so the wind could blow

like waves in the dark

as the waves pounded

against the rock

I took ahold of the rock

in the dark

and so I was the rock



Sam is a London-based digital artist and crafts-person whose work orbits ideas of storytelling, moving between the real and unreal, the physical and digital.

Inspired by the pagan mysticism and coastal landscape of their hometown, they navigate the relationships and sensualities between nature and magic, the virtual and the cosmos.

As a means to unravel the multiplicity of their trans identity and how it intersects with the digital world, Sam manoeuvres between technological interfaces, video game experiences and A-I systems; myth, folklore, and ancient crafts.

All the while weaving their own queer landscape.



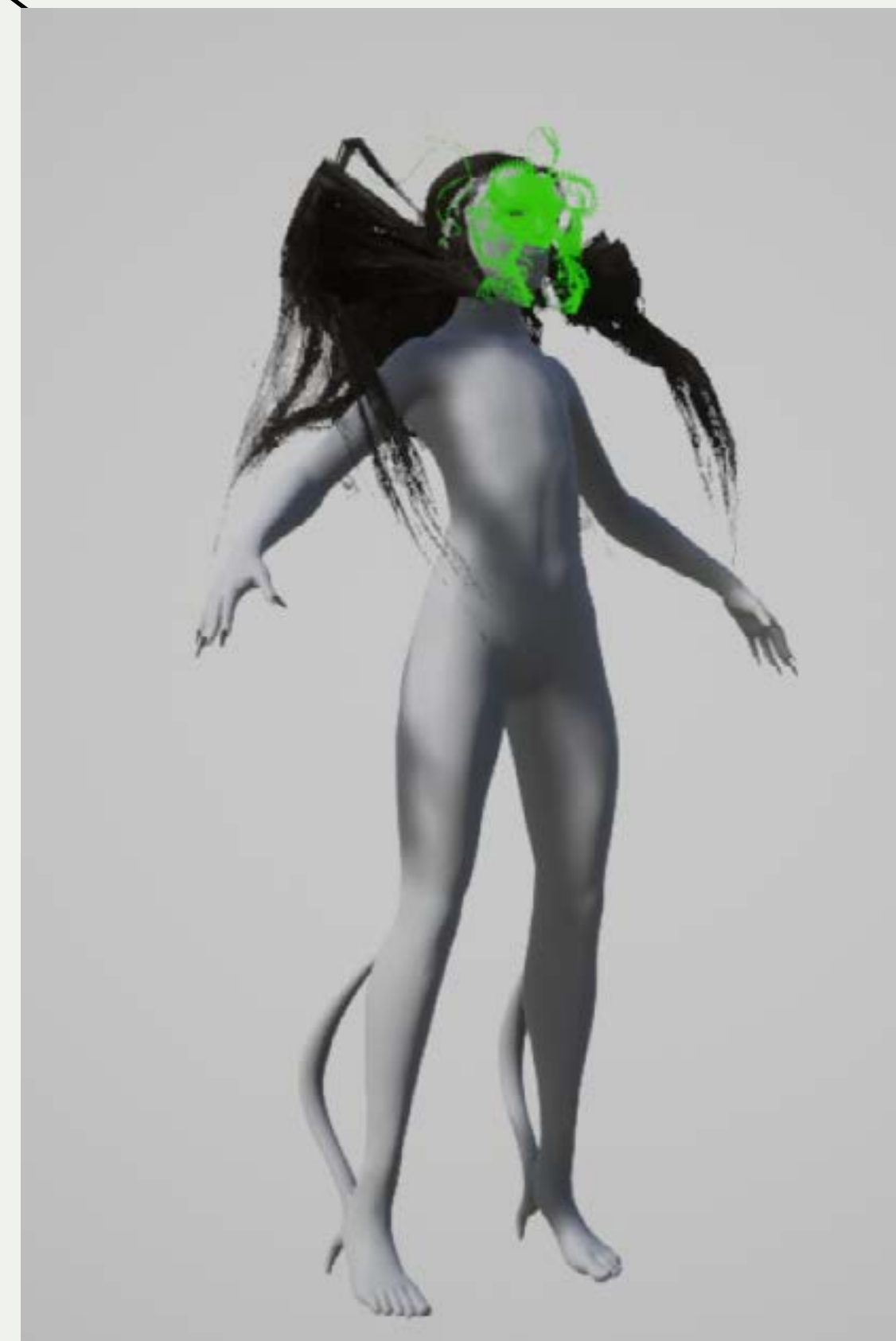
I rld



GRN Style 2 Landscapes

the

waves



I immerse my work within the idea of Digital Mysticism, orbiting ideas of queer storytelling, moving between the real and unreal, the physical and digital. Inspired by the pagan mysticism and coastal landscape of my hometown, I navigate the relationships and sensualities between nature and magic, the virtual and the cosmos. As a means to unravel the multiplicity of my trans identity and how it intersects with the digital world, I shift between technological interfaces, video game experiences and A-I systems; myth, folklore, and ancient crafts.



<https://vimeo.com/user22203532>





Returning to earth's old soil and matrix I attempt
to invoke a sensuous commune between the virtual
and mythic. Premodern and indigenous peoples wove
everything, quoting French anthropologist Bruno
Latour

"animals, tools, medicine, sex, kin, plants, songs,
weather—[all woven into an] immense collective web-
work of mind and matter"

This anthropological matrix births hybrids "that are
both natural and cultural, real and imagined, subject
and object"

Tales of paganistic fertility gods, folklore traditions,
primordial Gaian minds entwine with my world of O's
and I's.

Conversations across generations, time-zones,
through virtual portals traced these threads and
images of virtual mountains, digital avatars and a-i
generated images, each crackle with a sensual buzz.

A distant past. A coming future.

