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### Chimera

The video clip, Chimera, for the speculative art project contains two parts: Single Vision and Double Vision. These terms are from “A Cyborg Manifesto”, and used in the statement, “Single vision produces worse illusions than double vision or many-headed monsters.<sup>1</sup>” The one of the important messages from this project is that an association of diverseness is more realistic alternative than an argument of a single integration. Thus, the term single vision is used as the representation of the single integration and double vision is used as the representation of the association of diverseness. Single Vision is shown as a black-and-white while Double Vision has color, and the meaning of this color choice implies the sense of “irony” that is explained by the end of this description.

The main character of Chimera, Lorena Kim, is a “new consciousness,<sup>2</sup>” who lives in her “borderland” which is “a vague and undetermined place created by the emotional residue of an unnatural boundary.<sup>3</sup>” The main story of Single Vision is plotted based on Lorena’s real life, which gave an inspiration to consider lots of issues on the “consciousness of the Borderlands.<sup>4</sup>” Lorena is biologically an Asian woman but born in Germany in 1990s and grew up in white

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<sup>1</sup> Haraway, Donna. "A Cyborg Manifesto." (2000).

<sup>2</sup> Anzaldua, Gloria. "La conciencia de la mestizai/Towards a New Consciousness." Rereading America. St. Martin's Press, 1995. 848.

<sup>3</sup> Anzaldua, Gloria. "The Homeland, Aztlan." Anzaldua, Gloria. *Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza*. Aunt Lute Books, n.d. 258.

<sup>4</sup> Anzaldua, Gloria. "La conciencia de la mestizai/Towards a New Consciousness." Rereading America. St. Martin's Press, 1995. 848.

society with a consciousness of “Women of color.”<sup>5</sup> After that, she had spent her time in Russia, China for years and then moved to South Korea. By that time, she was in her late teens which is a peak period for her self-image formation. Afterward, she faced another challenge of moving to the United State and jumping into another culture where she became an adult.

The first part of video clip, *Single Vision*, starts with the scene that shows captions of all different types of languages that the main character actually speaks. Together with the different types of languages, her name also cannot be written in just one way. When she speaks her first dialog “I cannot be defined as a single identity,” the other voices of her speaking other four languages overlaps onto her English dialog. The types of languages are different, but the meaning of all languages is the same, and Lorena exposes all of her identity by showing her abilities. In addition, this scene is important because it implies not only the connection between how she speaks and her identities but also a mixture of different cultures that she experienced. Thus, this scene represents how a language retains weight of a culture.

Like “new mestiza<sup>6</sup>”, the main character of this video clip actually lives and exists in lots of different places. Now she is in the United State, performing as an Asian, Korean, and German, and also as a foreign student who is struggling with English. In addition, while living in the culture of the U.S, she is the one who had experienced all different cultures of German, Russia, China, and South Korea. Her exceptional knowledge based on her experience is extraordinary and valuable, but she experiences confusion in her consciousness due to invisible walls and borders from thoughts of dualism. Furthermore, she sometimes faces situations where the differences between the part of Korean culture based on Confucianism that she had experienced

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<sup>5</sup> Haraway, Donna. "A Cyborg Manifesto." (2000)

<sup>6</sup> Anzaldúa, Gloria. "La conciencia de la mestizai/Towards a New Consciousness." *Rereading America*. St. Martin's Press, 1995. 848.

in her late teen and the western culture that she experiences as a person with color from third world make her special experience too special. The scene of drawing line on the wall visualizes the invisible borders and walls and represents finding out whatever confines her. Following this scene, she wants to be one of the “social and bodily realities<sup>7</sup>” who is “not afraid of permanently partial identities and contradictory standpoints<sup>8</sup>”, and she chooses the cyborg image as the methodology to achieve her purpose of breaking out from the flat and standardized world.

The second part of the video clip, *Double Vision*, is represented with colors with the main character who is ready to get into virtual world as a cyborg. The one who delivers the purple object is Chimera, which represents “an imaginative resource suggesting some very fruitful couplings.<sup>9</sup>” Lorena sees the border that she drew is getting faded out after she grabs the object from Chimera, and that means, by becoming a cyborg, she experiences the world without different boundaries between her identities and the world of dualism; furthermore, physical and non-physical . However, the liveliness of the image that a cyborg brings, which is expressed in color, portrays the anxiousness from human reflection of standstill, which is expressed in black-and-white. Besides, this is the most effectively portrayed image of “irony” that Donna Haraway argues, meaning that “contradictions that do not resolve into larger whole<sup>10</sup>” in any way.

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<sup>7</sup> Haraway, Donna. "A Cyborg Manifesto." (2000).

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid.

## Works Cited

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<sup>i</sup> Gloria Anzaldua described as an individual aware of her conflicting and meshing identities and uses these "new angles of vision" to challenge binary thinking in the Western world.