

Digital 2026 : Computala

LCB Depot's exhibition & events programme highlights work from different creative practices every month.

In January 2026, in partnership with New Media Art Club, we present COMPUTALA Digital Arts Festival. This year's theme is "AI" – a hot topic right now. COMPUTALA is interested in critical discourse around using it in creative practice.

Exhibitions and events run from **12th – 30th January 2026**

Find out more @lcbdepot or at lcbdepot.co.uk/event/computala2026



Love Letters Without a Recipient

Ziyao Lin

""Love Letters Without Recipients"" is a conceptual art installation that interrogates the role of artificial intelligence in mediating and projecting human emotions. The work features a writing machine inscribing love letters generated by a large language model (LLM), using evaporative ink that disappears over time—a poetic metaphor for the impermanence of love, emotional mediation, and technological limitations in capturing human affect. The letters, never delivered nor received, embody an affective void where AI's ability to simulate emotion collides with its inability to experience it.

The project critiques AI's reductionist approach to human emotion, highlighting how love—often seen as irrational, spontaneous, and deeply

personal—becomes a computational process of recombination and statistical prediction in machine-generated text. Inspired by the long history of emotional projection—from ancient Chinese poets who externalized longing through landscapes to Alan Turing’s early experiments with machine-generated love letters—the work positions AI as a mirror for human sentiment.”

Artist Bio

Ziyao Lin is an artist and PhD student at Loughborough University. She obtained her master's degree in Digital Media from Goldsmiths, University of London. Her creative endeavors span digital art, experimental video, and installations, focusing on themes such as the relationship between individuals and nature, technological ethics, and micro-politics.

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