

# ***Interrogative Design: Cultural Prosthetics***

Harvard Graduate School of Design  
Kirkland Gallery, Spring 2022

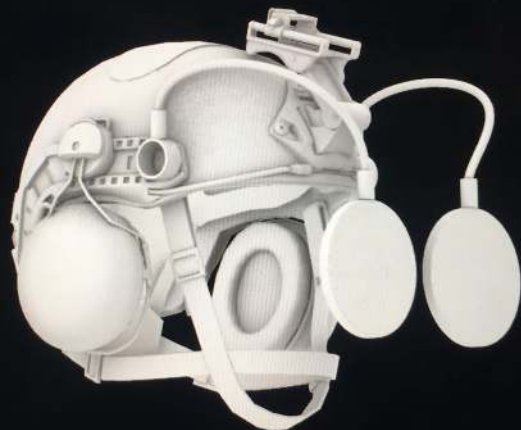


*Interrogative Design: Cultural Prosthetics* presents student work from a design studio committed to advocacy — one that asks designers to critically examine and respond to the existential, communicative, and survival needs of estranged, marginalized, and excluded persons and communities.

Each project takes the form of a design intervention that refuses to accept these needs as inevitable. Rather than treating social exclusion as background noise, the works reframe it as a design problem — one that demands imagination, responsibility, and dissent. Through alternate modes of representation and embodied experience, the projects address a range of urgent contemporary issues: the policing of gender and the body, the psychic toll of military service, menstrual stigma, water scarcity, economic inequality, and the invisible architectures of cultural conformity.













The seven works in the exhibition — *The Scene Maker*, *Gaze Armor*, *Futile Instrument*, *The Garments of Discomfort*, *Post-Helmet*, *Waterbody*, and *\$ugar Pain* — function as instruments of questioning rather than resolution. By focusing on the question as the point of interrogation, each work opens space for critical reflection on the conditions that produce harm and exclusion.

In the words of Rosalyn Deutsche, the ambition of such projects should be grounded in "the hope that their very function will render them obsolete."





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