



.MUTED.

the unexpressed thoughts



.MUTED.

dedicated to major saab

.CONCEPT.

Just like everyone else, I look up to my father for a lot of reasons. From him being an Army officer, to how soft spoken and humble he has always been, not too expressive, talks very less, a very good listener, patient, a thinker and always keep his calm in all kind of situations.

Since this year Ramzan, he was not keeping too well and that continued till last week but finally he is off to work today. During this whole while, I have observed him closely after a long time, thanks to this isolation period that we got to spend more time with the family and reconnect on different levels, I felt that he was mentally occupied during his illness which made him go even quieter. He has never been the sort who would express his worries, but rather resolve the issues himself and come out of it on his own. Which is his strength but at times I feel that it could be a very stressful situation for anyone.

Through this project, I would like to express how I perceive my father's gestures when he is stressed maybe or when he is thinking too much due to the basic responsibilities that he has on his shoulders being the head of the family.

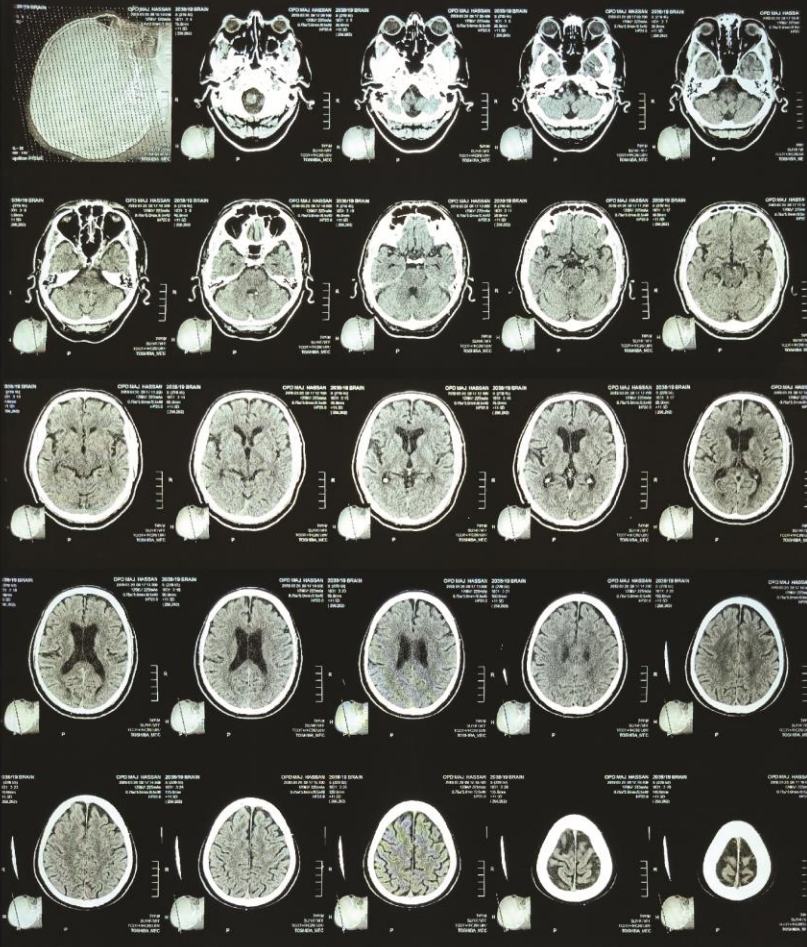
By using his original MRI scans in a form of X-ray, I wanted to show the overlaps, and tangled thoughts which goes in his head. Which lead me to how kaleidoscopes have two to three patterns going round and round in repetition and reflecting within its own boundaries, just like the thoughts in my father's head.



.ANALOG.

My inspiration was an art exhibition “MIND MAPS” by Late Samina Quraeshi. During the final phase of her life making art, she worked on a new series of prints that brought together many of the elements that defined her earlier work with a new element: **medical scans of her brain.**

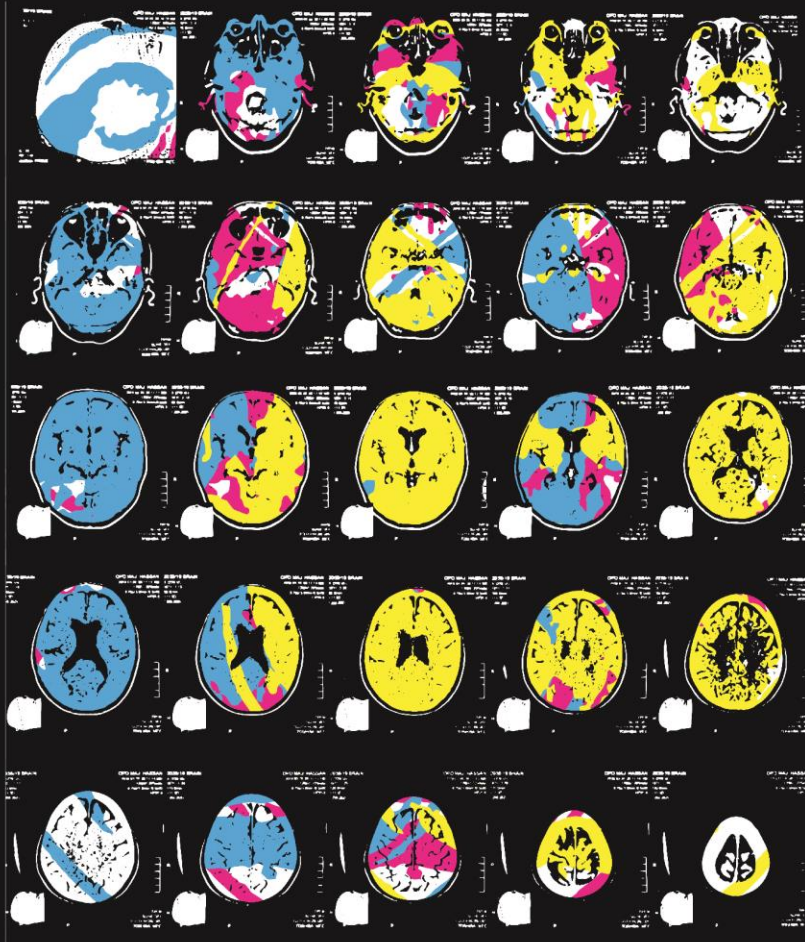
I guess the process subconsciously started from there and it reconnected with my father’s MRI X-ray. I was a bit unsure of the nature of the X-ray as it was both an Analog and a Digital at the same time. But after understanding the process and the physicality of the object, I wanted to explore the MRI X-ray as my first step which is an Analog.



.ANALOG TO DIGITAL.

The translucent material of an X-ray sheet always caught my attention and that recalled the process of slide show projections that used to be the main method to conduct lectures/presentations during our student life. I had an idea of what my end result would be but reaching that last step was a bit of a challenge.

My transition from first phase to the second was in a form of photography, as I wanted to explore the X-ray digitally now. The photographs were taken from my cellphone and then transferred on to the laptop.



.DIGITAL TO DIGITAL.

In this step, I had to repeat the transition from a digital to a digital manipulation. Working with X-ray photographs, I started exploring them on Adobe Illustrator. Being a designer, it's always fascinating how you could play around with a pixel image and translate it into a vector, which gives a lot of freedom to work around with solid colors.

With the vectors, I chose to work with CMYK colors to represent each with one of the basic needs that a man has or basically worry about.

- Cyan = Work
- Magenta = Health
- Yellow = Family

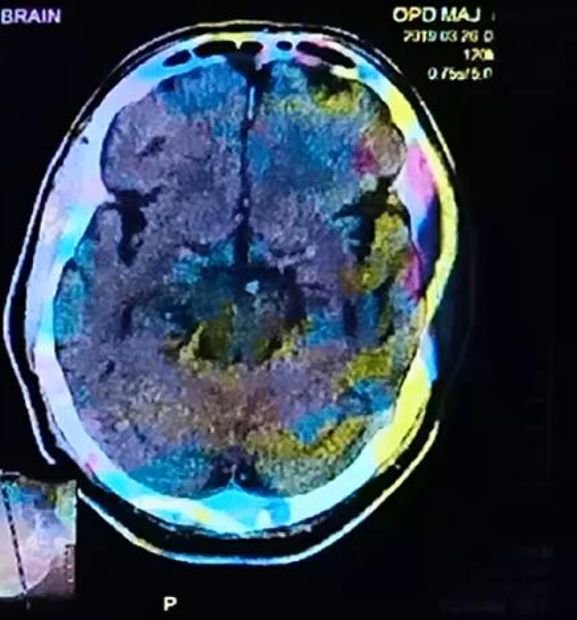
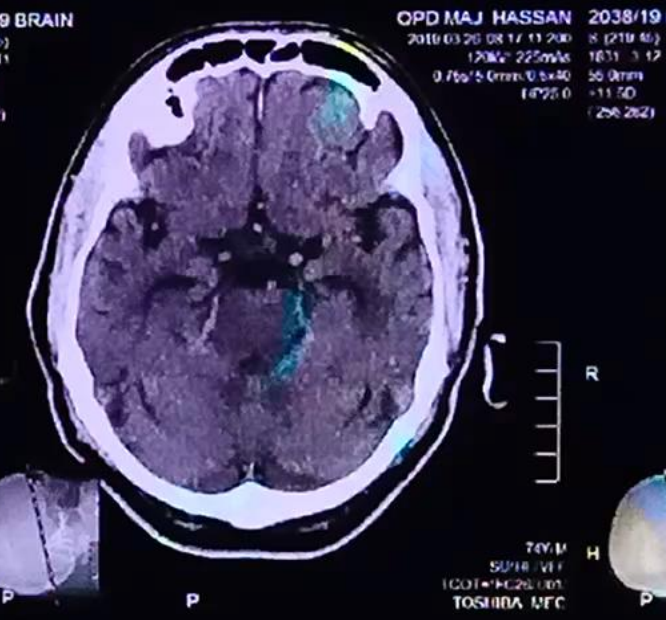
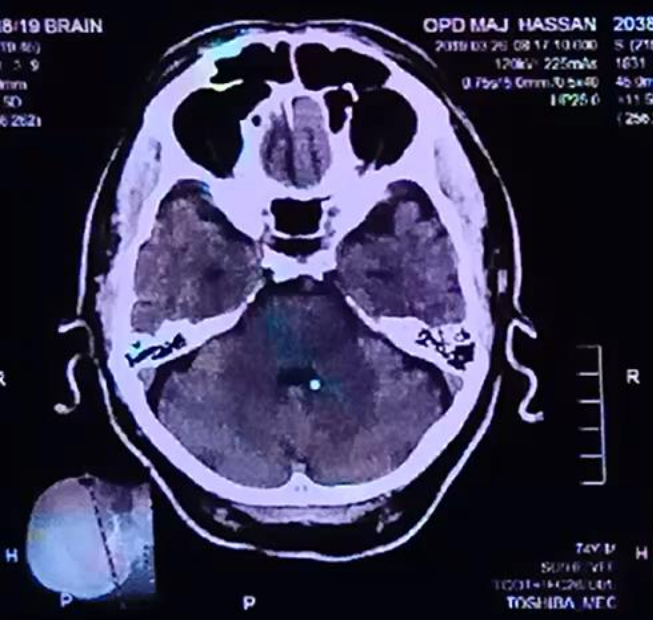
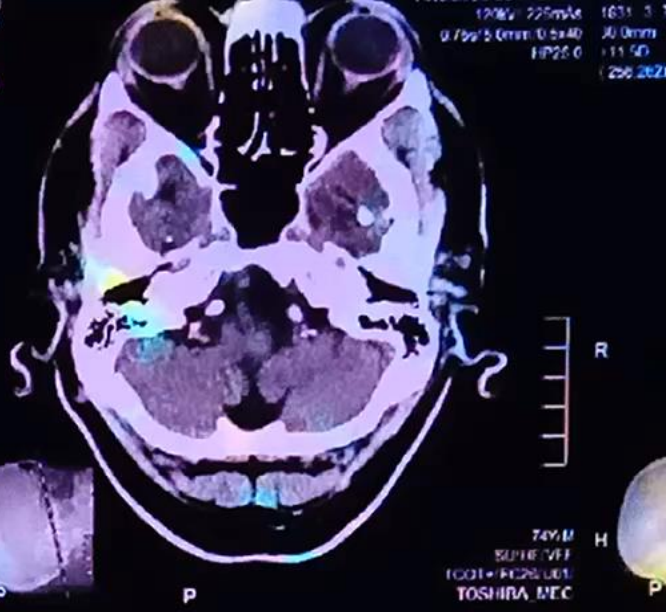


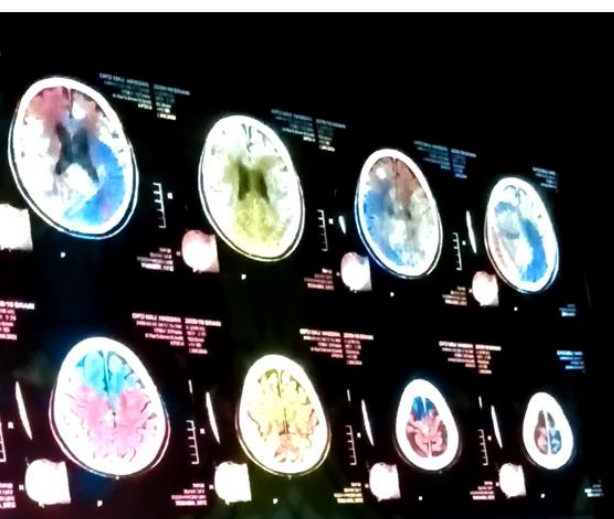
.DIGITAL TO DIGITAL.

After getting the vectors of the MRI X-ray image, I designed a repetitive pattern to represent a kaleidoscopic design, to show the overlapping of thoughts. The kaleidoscope vector was used as a background for my last transition, which is an analog.

In the second step I used Final Cut Pro video editing software to animate the design to give it a digital kaleidoscopic feel. The purpose of the video was to work like a light table but this time in an animated form.









.DIGITAL TO ANALOG.

At the last phase of my transition from Analog to a digital, I used the kaleidoscope design, both the still image and the video, on the laptop screen to make it work like a light table to backlit the X-ray film and shot photographs and videos with a cell-phone. This was achieved by placing the X-ray film over the laptop screen with the image/video played at the background.

So, for the last transition, I have two digital outcomes, in a form of photograph and a video.



.THE END.

presented by ume laila hasan