FUTILE INSTRUMENT: War and Tears

YIYAO TANG ADPD '2023 From China Currently in Boston

An outdated, useless war device is introduced to a new use — it displays people's real emotions, which, sadly, tend to be neglected during the war. Tears and broken hearts are inevitable during any conflict, but they do not stop the war. The videos of people crying are collected from the news and displayed at the end of one tube while the sound of bombing reaches us from the other tube. The tube's length and its slightly blurry, reflective surface mirror viewers' distance from the horrifying reality of the war. Lamenting our powerlessness and helplessness, the futile instrument, which now makes tears—or reality—visible to us, becomes a cultural prosthetic of the war. Showcasing the uselessness is a call for action.

