Biometrics, Bodily Autonomy, Belonging, and Cartoon Birds



Connected biometric devices have created new concerns, like **surveillance capitalism and threats to bodily autonomy**, as well as new opportunities, such as broader access to previously specialized tools. In this talk, **Ar Ducao** will discuss lessons learned from studying, developing and deploying biometrics systems, using case studies of their spatial analysis startup, their research as a professor that specializes in DEI&B (diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging), and their sci-fi arthouse animation project "The Great Tit is a Bird."

Ar Ducao (they/them pronouns) is an artist, engineer, educator, and organizer. They are the cofounder and chief of Multimer, a patented bio-spatial analytics spinoff from MIT and National Science Foundation SBIR (small business innovation research) award winner. They are also the executive producer and lead creator of "The Great Tit is a Bird," a sci-fi audio drama and collection of animated short films. Ducao is a part-time professor at NYU School of Engineering, NYU Prison Program, and MIT MITES, where they specialize in working with historically marginalized STEM students.

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Stine Room, The Adams Intercultural Center

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