

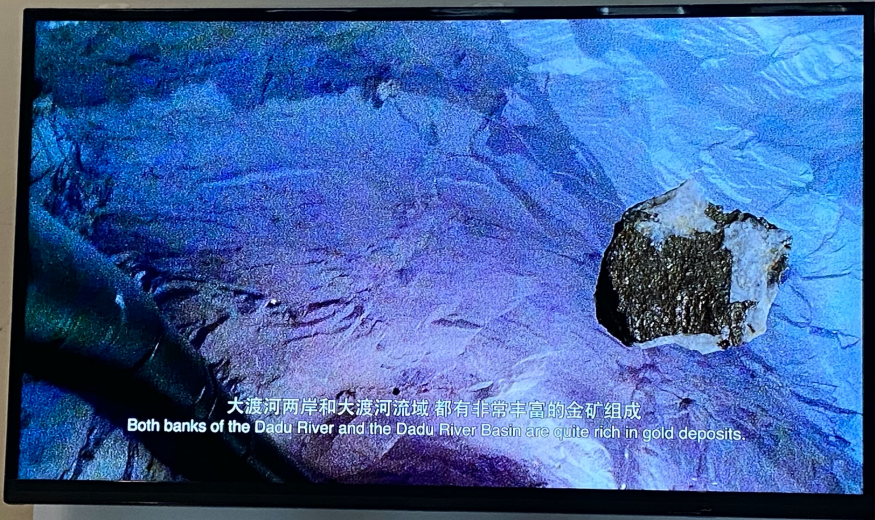
Tianmo Wang
Reports from Shanghai Biennale
--2 pieces I especially like

1. “Water Refuge System” by artists Cao Minghao and Chen jianjun

This work consists of videos and installations. The building “water system refuge” here is composed by raw earths. The video is like an essay-film which discusses earth’s activities as both earthquakes and the source from which we compose shelters. Different compositions of different raw earth materials lead to the emission of different energies—sometimes they destruct and sometimes they conserve. The measurement of these raw earth’s energy when they come together, however, exceed the binarism of conservation-destruction. Their elasticity, sensibility, and potentials are way more complex. Each composition composes a totally different body/affectivity, which usually falls into the indeterminate space in-between destruction and conservation.

I think the reason the artists term the work “water system refuge” instead of “earth system refuge” is to emphasize the intermingling of land and water, water and earth, and also to dissolve categories like concrete and fluid, stable and unstable. The artists write, “We imagined what an important role that geological energy plays in the upper reaches of Minjiang river, including “foundations, disasters, cooperation, conflicts” etc”.





曹明浩和陈建军

曹明浩 (生于1982年) 和陈建军 (生于1981年)
自2010年起合作, 主要在成都活动。

《生境、地质和能量基础》, 2021年

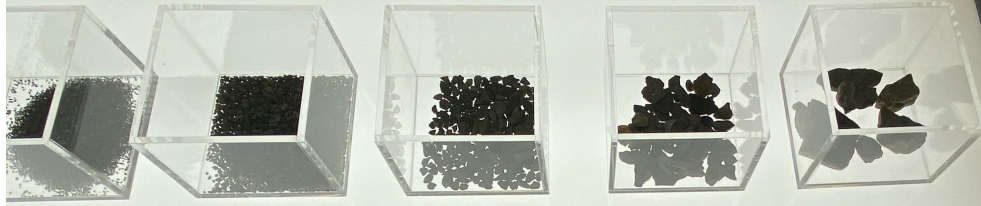
彩色有声影像
15分24秒

Cao Minghao and Chen Jianjun

Cao Minghao, born 1982, and Chen Jianjun, born 1981,
Working collaboratively since 2010, based in Chengdu.

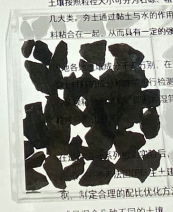
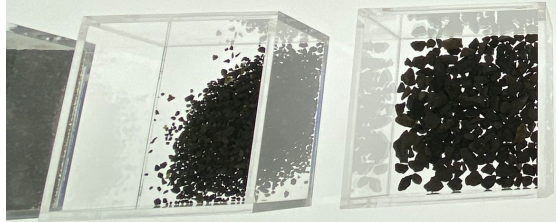
Habitat, Geology and Energy Basis, 2021

Video with color and sound
15:24 minutes



颗粒分布试验

土壤按颗粒大小可分为石砾、粗砾粒、细砂粒、粉粒、黏粒
 几大类。夯土通过黏土与水的作用产生粘结，将砾石、砂等含
 土胶合在一起，从而具有一定的强度。



在夯土施工过程中，需要进行土质需求分析。需要对
 材料进行颗粒分布检测，其中最重要也是最基本的试
 验就是颗粒分布检测。通过颗粒分布检测得出土壤中各颗
 粒的组成比例。

在夯土施工过程中，需要综合考虑材料的性能和当地
 的气候条件。通过颗粒分布检测，可以了解土壤的组成
 成分。通过合理的配比优化方法，通过添加特定粒径的砂、石
 或是混合几种不同的土壤，可以改善土壤的颗粒组成以获得最
 佳的密度稳定性，同时降低收缩率。有必要时在此基础上掺入
 稻草、糯米胶等天然纤维/粘结剂，亦有辅助作用。

配比后的材料需要通过抗压强度测试来确保安全抗震的要
 求。（“一专一科”团队提供技术支持）

Grain size distribution analysis

The raw earth can be divided into stone, gravel, sand, silt, and clay
 according to the particle size. Rammed earth binds together through the
 action of clay and water, bonding aggregates such as gravel and sand, so
 as to have certain strength.

The composition and performance of the earth used to be analyzed and
 tested before the rammed earth building construction, because the soil
 component varies greatly from place to place. The most important and
 basic data is the grain-size distribution curve, which was not wrong and
 sedimentation tests to obtain the proportional relationship of the particu-
 lar components of the soil sample.

Reasonable raw earth optimization method needs to be formulated
 after a series of testing. It is necessary to comprehensively consider
 the performance of materials and local resources, and refer to the
 experimental data summarized by the CRATerre (the International
 Center for Earthen Architecture). The raw earth can be optimized to
 obtain the best density stability and reduce the shrinkage by adding
 certain amount of gravel or sand, or mixing several kinds of soil. Natural
 fibers/binders such as straw and sticky rice glue can be added on this
 basis to further improve the material performance when necessary.

The reformulated earth needs to pass comprehensive strength tests
 to ensure that it can meet the safety and seismic requirements. Such
 support provided by the CRATerre team.



抗震试验
Seismic Simulation Shaking Table Test

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Cao Minghao and Chen Jianjun

Cao Minghao, born 1982, and Chen Jianjun, born 1981,
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《生境、地质和能量基础》，2021年

彩色有声影像
15分54秒

Habitat, Geology and Energy Basis, 2021

Video with color and sound
15:04 minutes

2. Fluffy Grounds

C+ arquitectas (Nerea
Calvillo González and Marina
Fernández Ramos)

Founded 2006/2016; based in Madrid and London.

Fluffy Grounds, 2021

Video

09:06 minutes

Commissioned by the 13th Shanghai Biennale/Power Station of Art

For *Fluffy Grounds*, C+ has collaborated with Maria Puig de la Bellacasa, Martin Nadal and Drew Zeiba, with the contribution of Óscar Hernández Tristancho, Ana Isabel Bustamante Cruz, and Ella Fathi.

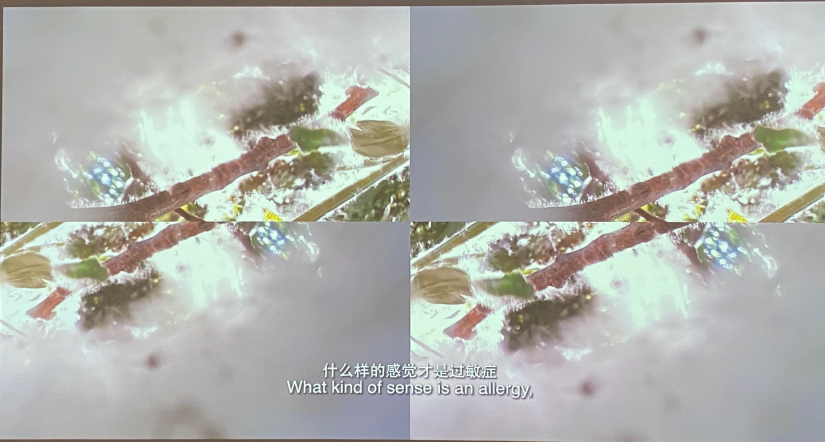
In the month of April, the grounds of Beijing become a magical and contested terrain. "Spring snow" turns the air white and covers the city grounds with a white fluffy tapestry that inspires love and wonder, aversion and fear. Various referred to as a headache, nuisance, allergy inducer or pollution, this fluffy stuff is the carrier for poplar and willow tree seeds. Trees once planted to fulfil human imaginaries of comfort start behaving as trees proper, and excess overflows and transcends the previously controlled domesticated garden. Urban paved grounds, unlike soils, cannot welcome fluffy seedlings into their soft layers of decomposing litter. Humans become hostile to their wild behavior and the tree is rejected as a source of discomfort—along with other interspecies relations, as hairy moths attracted by poplars join the count of "natural pollutant" agents. Through poplar seeds close-ups, graphic visualizations, and experimental storytelling, the video explores the tousled nature-cultural materialities of this white swirling stuff.

I especially like this piece of work because it evokes a bodily experience quite common to people living in Beijing. As the artists put it, "Spring Snow turns the air white and covers the city grounds with a white fluffy tapestry that inspires love and wonder, aversion and fear. Various referred to as a headache, nuisance, allergy inducer or pollution, this fluffy stuff is the carrier for poplar and willow tree seeds."

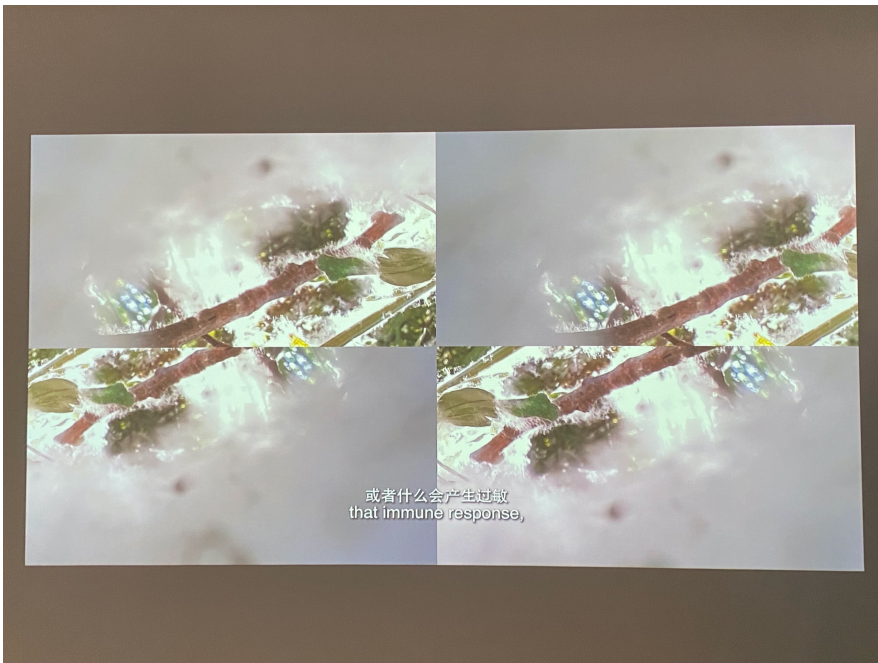
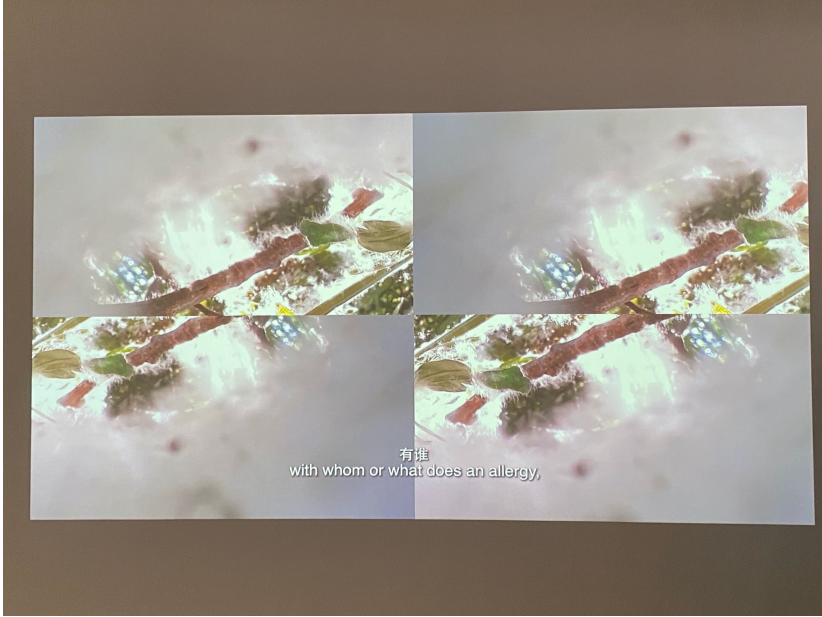
"What kind of sense is an allergy? What sense does an allergy make? With whom or what does an allergy, that immune response, communicate?"

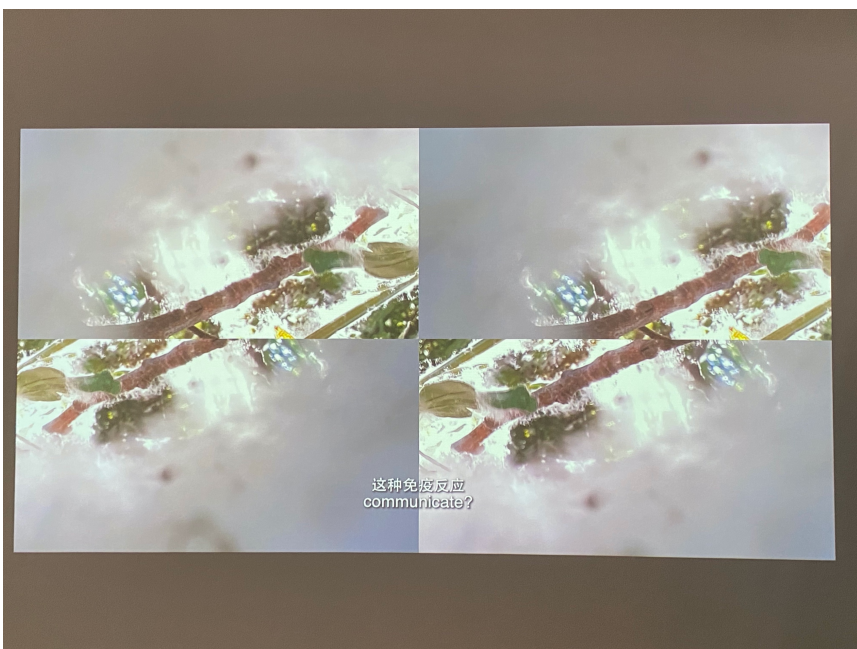


过敏症会引起什么感觉
what sense does an allergy make,

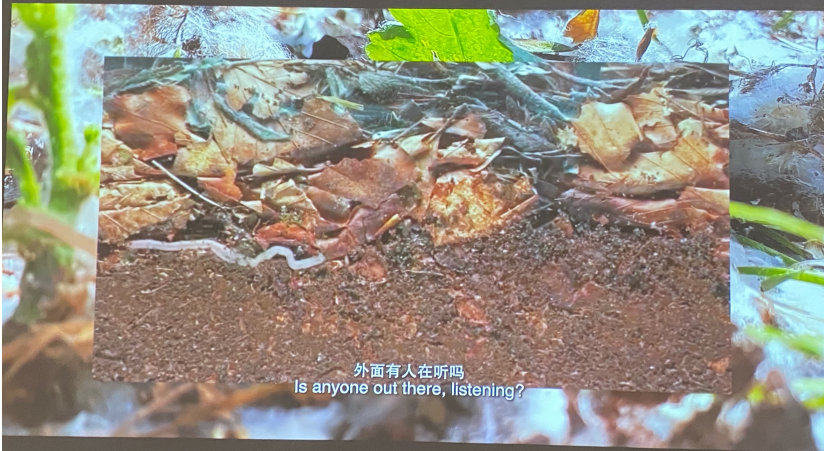


什么样的感觉才是过敏症
What kind of sense is an allergy,





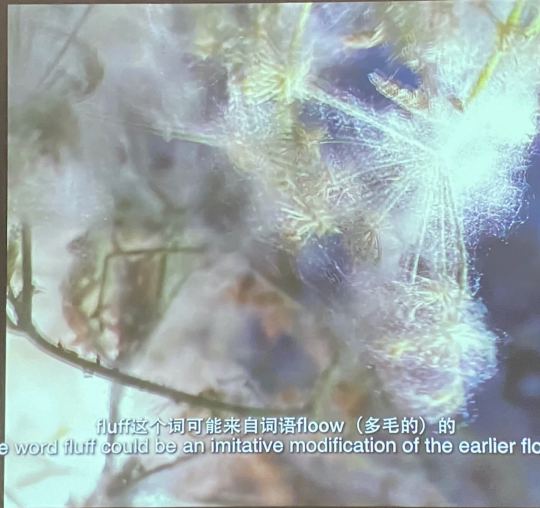
这种免疫反应
communicate?



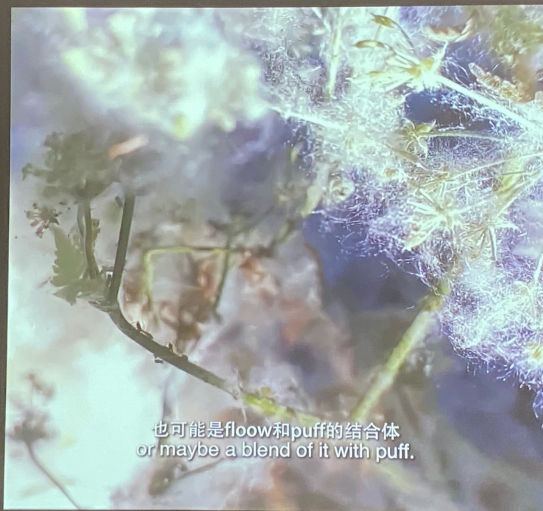
外面有人在听吗
Is anyone out there, listening?



接地线 名词 与地形成电连接的物体
Ground, noun: an object that makes
an electric connection with the Earth.



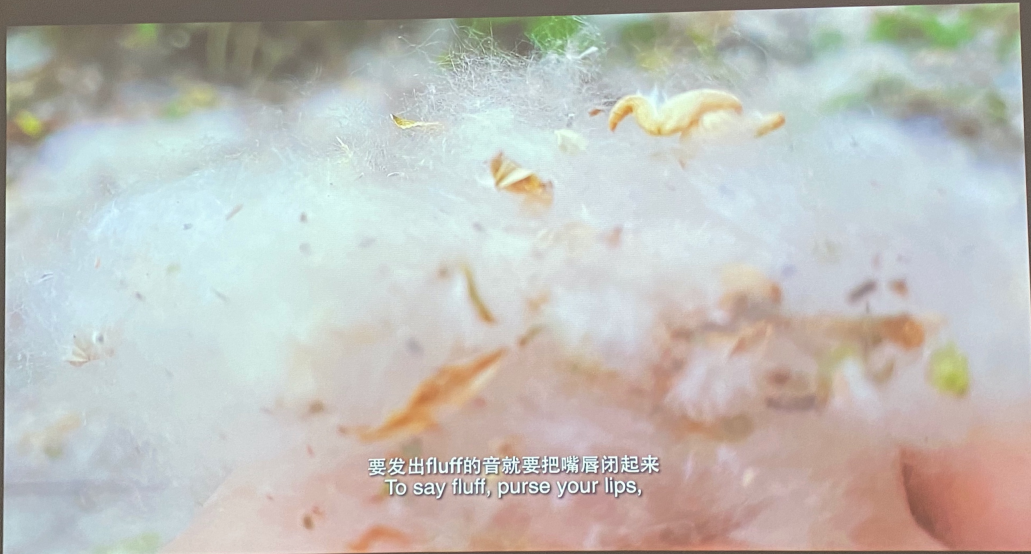
fluff这个词可能来自词语floop (多毛的) 的
the word fluff could be an imitative modification of the earlier floow,



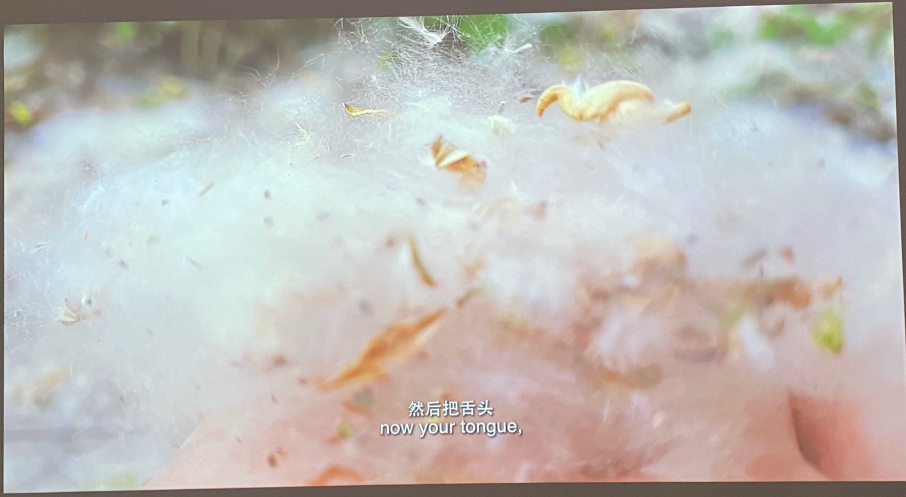
也可能是floop和puff的结合体
or maybe a blend of it with puff.



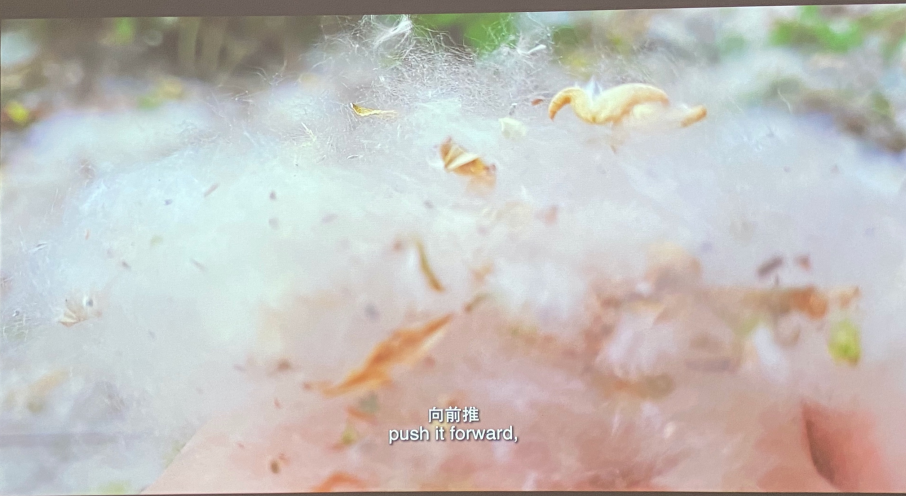
是拟声词的重塑
An onomatopoeic reshaping.



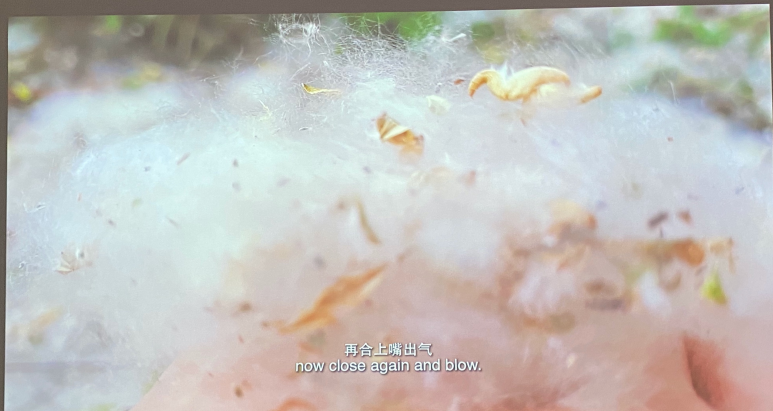
要发出fluff的音就要把嘴唇闭起来
To say fluff, purse your lips,



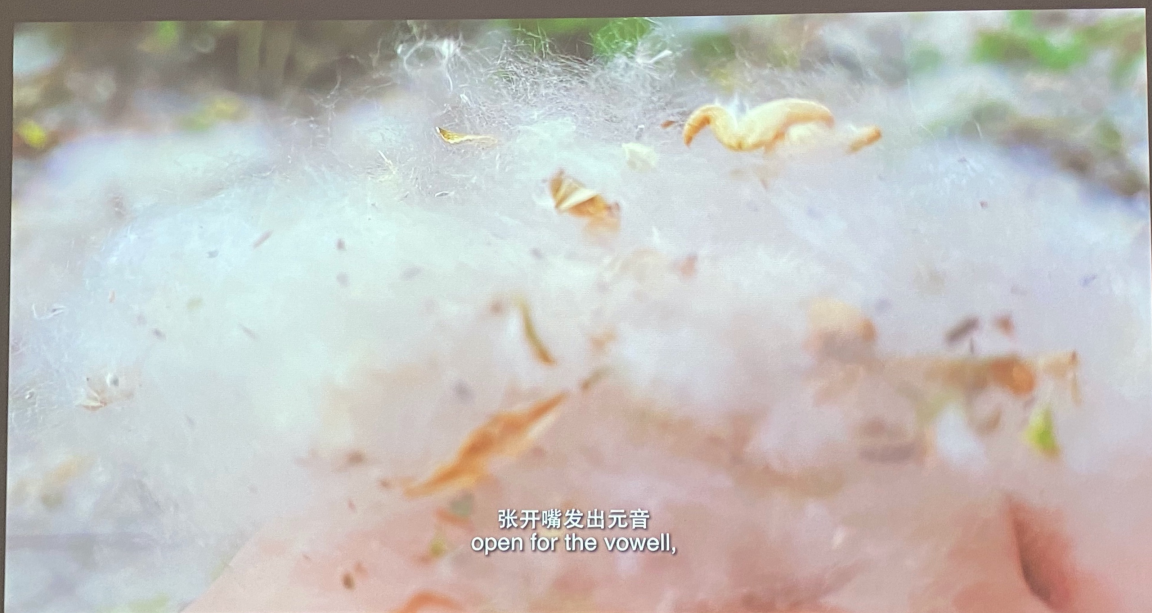
然后把舌头
now your tongue,



向前推
push it forward,



再合上嘴出气
now close again and blow.



张开嘴发出元音
open for the vowel,



Fluff 一次呼吸
Fluff: a respiration.
Fluff...a respiration.