

# POETRY as (RE)PROGRAMMING

(Theses to Complement #100hardtruths)

- i. Poetic forms are algorithms.
- ii. These algorithms are intentional efforts to reprogram our minds in ways that we consider to be beneficial.
- iii. As "programming," poetic forms are like fake news and other "psychotechnologies" (see Stiegler). They are simply much less effective.
- iv. Poetic forms are less effective in part because they generally fetishize linguistic and prosodic moves (e.g. rhyming, counting syllables).

v. Poetic forms could *also* include

- embodied moves
- social moves
- archival moves
- technical moves
- platform-specific moves
- cognitive moves
  - (slow down)
  - (memorize)
  - (argue against)
- what else?

## ---Towards a Redefinition of Poetic Form:

A heterogeneous collection of [social / embodied / linguistic / prosodic / archival / technical...] instructions that are meant to produce a certain hard-to-attain yet worth-attaining mental(+) experience. Such a form could (and perhaps should) enact ways of caring for one's mind(+), including through combatting falsehood.

### ---A Poem:

The (organized?) traces produced by the traversal of these instructions.

### Sonnet Algorithm

An iamb = an unstressed syllable followed by a stressed syllable

1. Write a line consisting of five iambs.
2. Write another such line.
3. Write yet a third line in this style, rhyming with the first.
4. Write yet a fourth line, rhyming with the second.
5. Repeat steps 1 through 4.
6. Once more, repeat steps 1 through 4.
7. Write two more lines of five iambs. These lines should rhyme with each other. They should probably also "turn" against the logic of whatever the previous 12 lines have said. (the "volta").

### Art+Feminism Wikipedia Edit-a-thon

"Given the current political climate, the organizers believe that the event is more crucial than ever. "We've been deeply disturbed by the sheer amount of fake news on social media, and its possible influence on the recent US election," said Art+Feminism organizers Siân Evans, Jacqueline Mabey, McKensie Mack, and Michael Mandiberg in a statement." (Cascone, 2017, Art+Feminism Wikipedia Edit-a-Thon Returns to Museum of Modern Art)

c.f. the popular selfie-to-portrait feature of the popular Google Arts and Culture App

here's your reminder @tinycarebot · 8h

📢: take a quick break to ask someone for help if you need it please

💬 2    🔄 26    ❤️ 70

here's your reminder @tinycarebot · 9h

📢: remember to take a little bit of time to lift your arms high and stretch please

💬 2    🔄 12    ❤️ 37

@tinycarebot

Poetic forms designed to thrive on social media platforms:

- Instagram Poetry (e.g. Rupi Kaur)
- #tenwordpoems (Tumblr)
- #litquotes