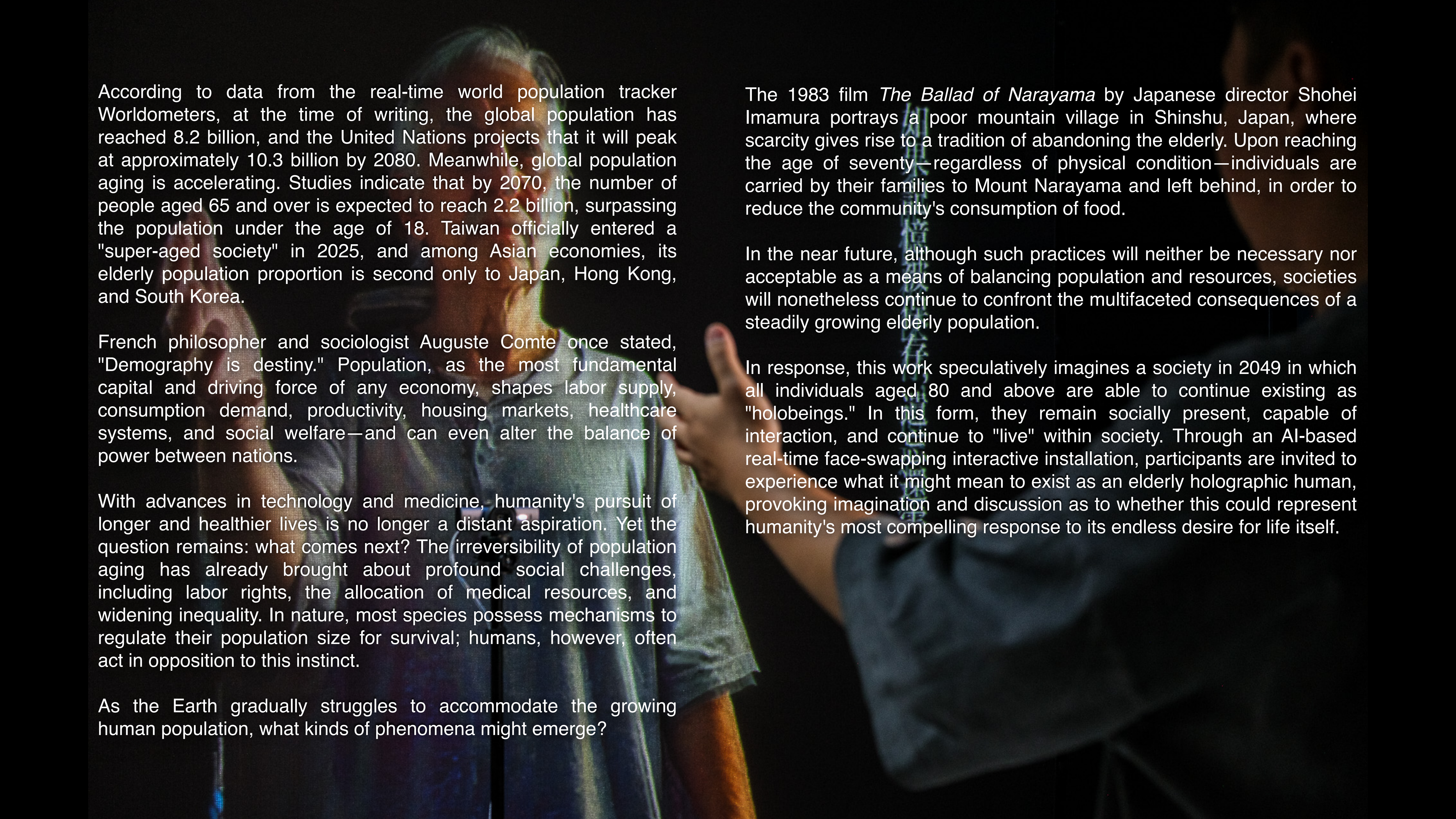


After the age of 80

This work speculatively imagines a future in 2049 in which individuals aged 80 and above continue to exist as "holobeings." Through an AI-based real-time face-swapping installation, visitors are invited to experience this alternative mode of existence—one that sustains presence, interaction, and social participation beyond biological decline.

我是活在當下，還是活在被保存的當下？





According to data from the real-time world population tracker Worldometers, at the time of writing, the global population has reached 8.2 billion, and the United Nations projects that it will peak at approximately 10.3 billion by 2080. Meanwhile, global population aging is accelerating. Studies indicate that by 2070, the number of people aged 65 and over is expected to reach 2.2 billion, surpassing the population under the age of 18. Taiwan officially entered a "super-aged society" in 2025, and among Asian economies, its elderly population proportion is second only to Japan, Hong Kong, and South Korea.

French philosopher and sociologist Auguste Comte once stated, "Demography is destiny." Population, as the most fundamental capital and driving force of any economy, shapes labor supply, consumption demand, productivity, housing markets, healthcare systems, and social welfare—and can even alter the balance of power between nations.

With advances in technology and medicine, humanity's pursuit of longer and healthier lives is no longer a distant aspiration. Yet the question remains: what comes next? The irreversibility of population aging has already brought about profound social challenges, including labor rights, the allocation of medical resources, and widening inequality. In nature, most species possess mechanisms to regulate their population size for survival; humans, however, often act in opposition to this instinct.

As the Earth gradually struggles to accommodate the growing human population, what kinds of phenomena might emerge?

The 1983 film *The Ballad of Narayama* by Japanese director Shohei Imamura portrays a poor mountain village in Shinshu, Japan, where scarcity gives rise to a tradition of abandoning the elderly. Upon reaching the age of seventy—regardless of physical condition—individuals are carried by their families to Mount Narayama and left behind, in order to reduce the community's consumption of food.

In the near future, although such practices will neither be necessary nor acceptable as a means of balancing population and resources, societies will nonetheless continue to confront the multifaceted consequences of a steadily growing elderly population.

In response, this work speculatively imagines a society in 2049 in which all individuals aged 80 and above are able to continue existing as "holobeings." In this form, they remain socially present, capable of interaction, and continue to "live" within society. Through an AI-based real-time face-swapping interactive installation, participants are invited to experience what it might mean to exist as an elderly holographic human, provoking imagination and discussion as to whether this could represent humanity's most compelling response to its endless desire for life itself.



我能為八十歲的自己,留下多少真實?

如果記憶被保存,遺忘還需要發生嗎?

Interactive installation view



Interactive installation view

Dancer performing with the interactive installation



[Performance video link](#)



**Audience interacting with
the interactive installation**

Interdisciplinary Creative Team



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