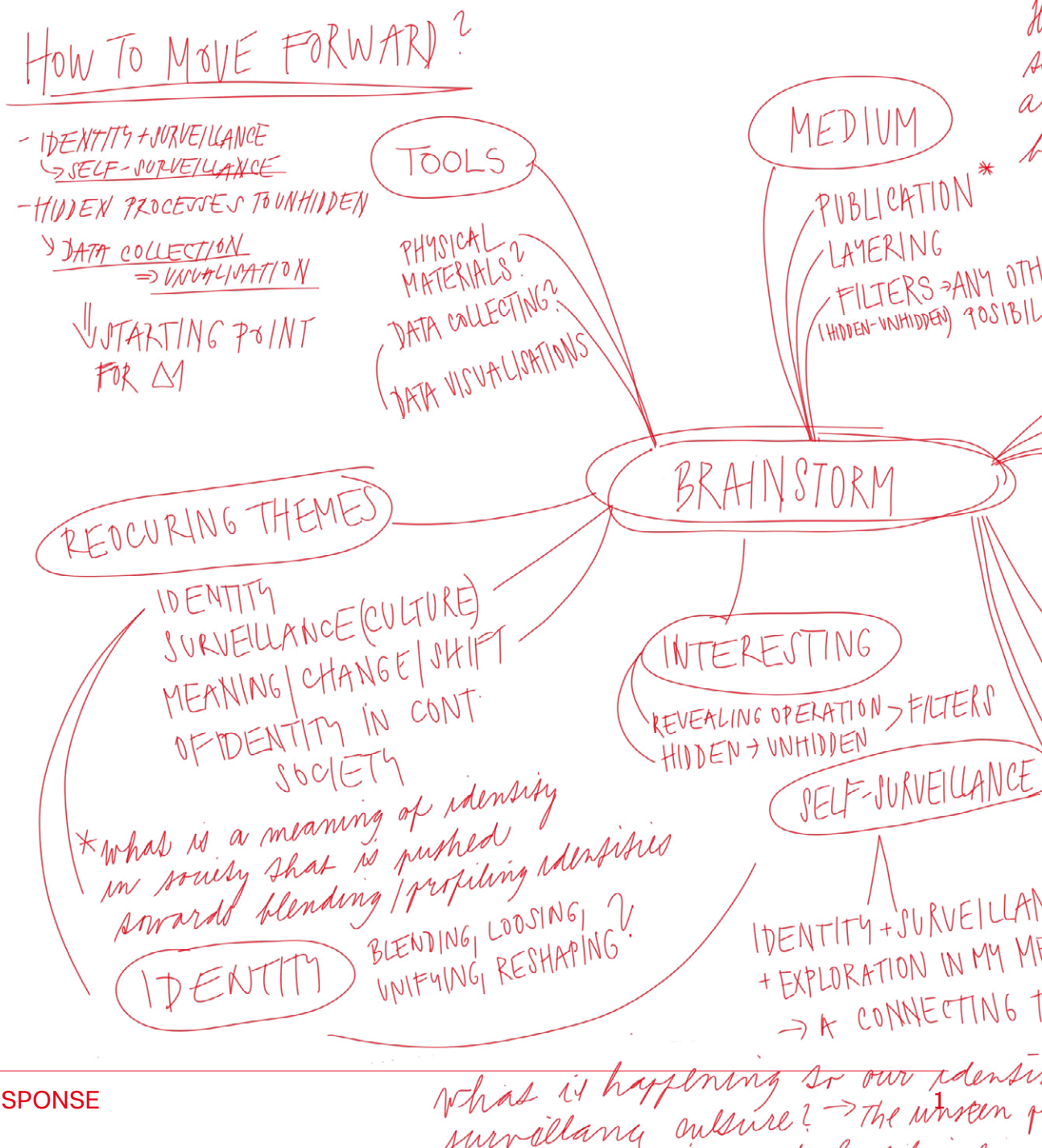# Written Response Positions through Dialogue U2.4

As a response to conversations with Franca Lopez Barbera and Johana Kasalicka

Interview 1

An Online session with an Argentinian designer Franca Lopez Barbera

I used our conversation and this text as a tool to analyse and examine where my work has progressed so far, open and explore the possibilities of taking my work further continuing unit 2.

Throughout our conversation, Franca let me see my project from the perspective of a person who has experience, is skilled and has an independent yet professional view of my work and enquiry. I realised being deep in the process together with my own stress and emotions from the deadlines and meeting certain standards and expectations didn't give me a chance for a while to take a step back and examine the work I did.

We talked about how surveillance is part of our everyday lives and she showed an interest in the idea of bringing tangibility through a "visualisation operation" to something that's meant to be unnoticed and hidden for it to work (surveillance). Exploring the layering, filters and colour psychology was an effective way to do it. That makes me think about other possibilities to explore the "revealing" operation within the capabilities of publication? The whole project has been working on the border of what is visible and what is not, followed by the moment of transition shown through the red filters. We agreed that the way to approach the project could be to think about the moment of revealing, moving from hidden to unhidden. Perhaps focusing on the individual and the moments of his realisation, the unseen process that is behind the surveillance. Our discussion revealed that even though there has been a visible development in the research and the topic, there is still a need to narrow the enquiry and the topic down to be able to work further. Thanks to our discussion I found pillars of the project that now need a thread that could connect them Revealing operation, hidden -> unhidden, identity, surveillance and a tool or a medium that will effectively communicate the topic.

Interview 2

A brainstorming session with Johana Kasalicka (UAL graduate, a photographer, artist, producer at Alexander McQueen), founder of awarded Novy Zine)

Our session with Johana took place a few weeks after the interview with Franca after I did a bit more research and thought about possible directions to take further. We shared interest within our work as she focuses on research, her cultural roots and identity, and interviews with people and supports her research with her chosen media - photography and print, which is in a sense my interest as well.

During our conversation, I presented her with my project and findings from Franca. We all agreed that there is a need to narrow the topic down and identify which part of the research it is I am interested in, what is my goal and what is my position as a designer. Our talks also made me realise that while working further on my work I should focus on what is really interesting to me in my future practice. I want to explore the role of identity in today's contemporary surveillance society. And I would like to find a way to do it through publications and printed materials.

Kasalicka, J. (2023). An interview initiated by Adela Julisova. (London). August 2023.
Barbera, L. F. (2023). An interview initiated by Adela Julisova. (Microsoft Teams). June 2023.

Reflecting   on   both   interviews:

Searching further, I started exploring the thread that could connect everything together as Franca said. To find my direction and my interest so I can avoid jumping from one thing to another. I started researching self-surveillance and how it could allow for discussion around identity and its role in to-day's society. At the same time exploring that could allow me for a more personal and introspective exploration into surveillance and self-surveillance.I started brainstorming over the tools/medium connected to surveillance I could use and I found an interesting article about data collection as it is a vital part of surveillance. Would that be a way to take at this point of the process? **Reflecting on my own identity, raising discussion through self-surveilling, data collection and possibly data visualisation that could be used in my printing? And eventually, connect everything to the visual language I have been developing earlier?** It is definitely a place to start with my following studio practice.