



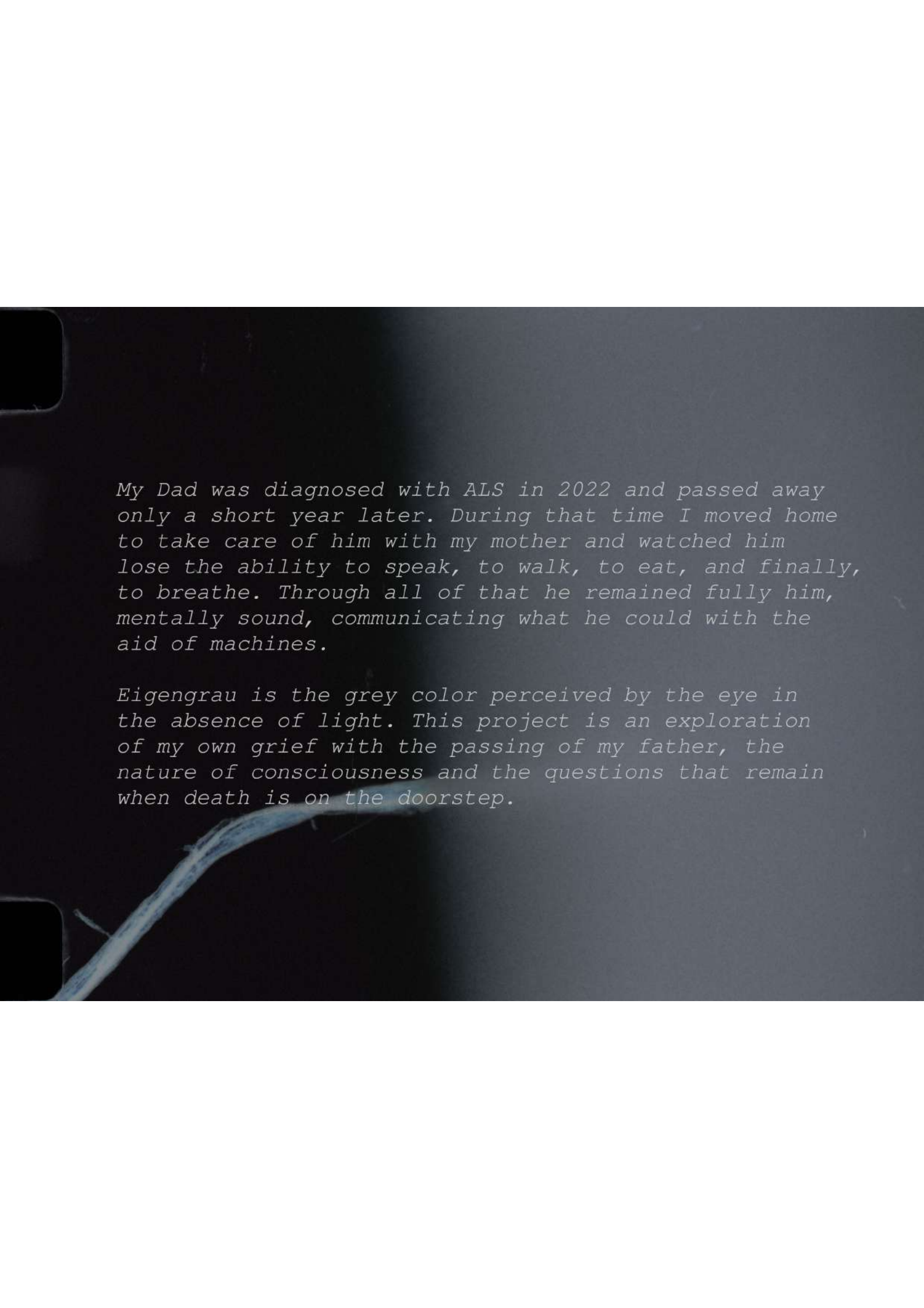
EIGEN GRAU





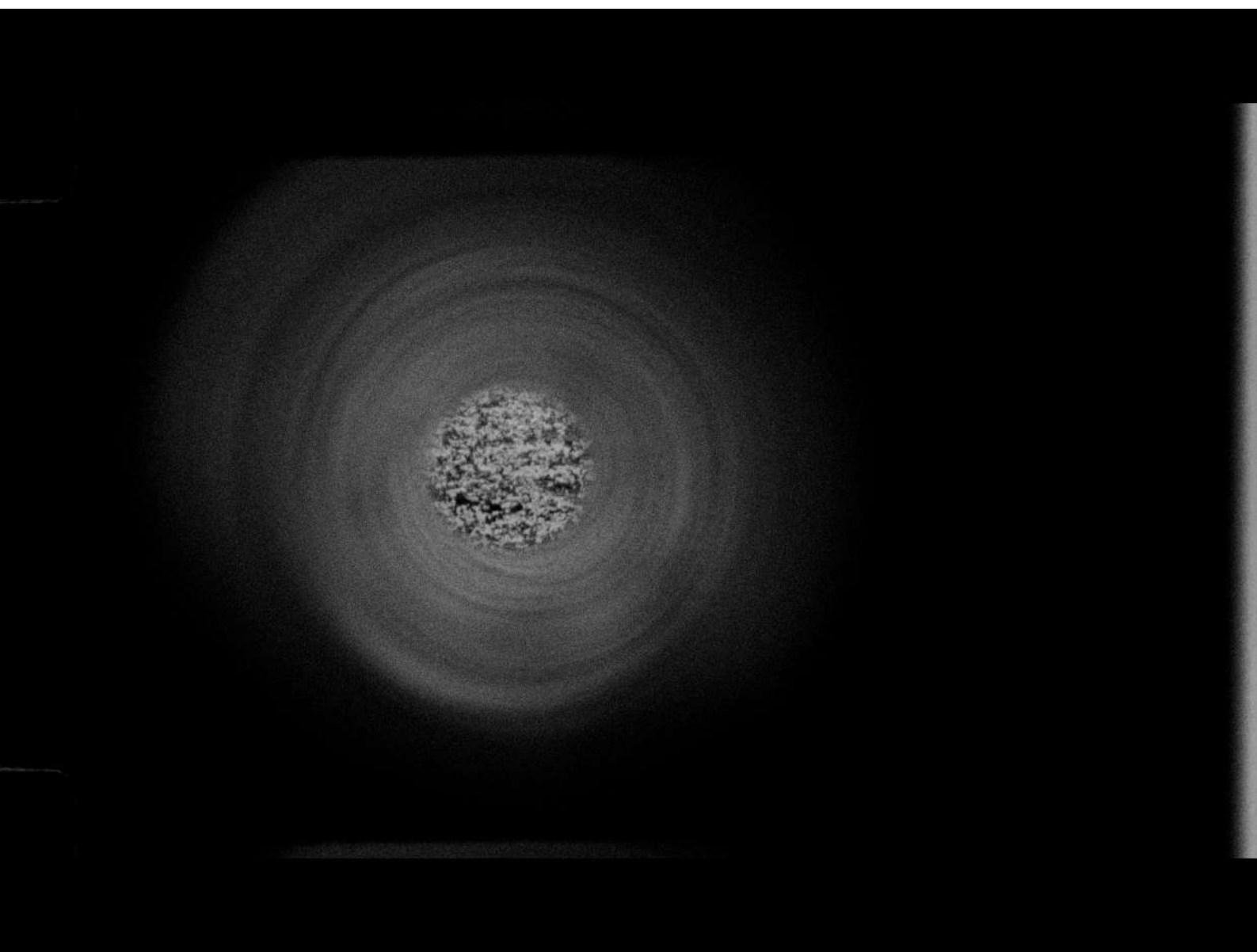
Projected Video & Audio
<https://vimeo.com/1101734009/b17b0e7b74>

Video Inside Stone Sculpture
<https://vimeo.com/1101874736/49a3654493>



My Dad was diagnosed with ALS in 2022 and passed away only a short year later. During that time I moved home to take care of him with my mother and watched him lose the ability to speak, to walk, to eat, and finally, to breathe. Through all of that he remained fully him, mentally sound, communicating what he could with the aid of machines.

Eigengrau is the grey color perceived by the eye in the absence of light. This project is an exploration of my own grief with the passing of my father, the nature of consciousness and the questions that remain when death is on the doorstep.



Eigengrau is an audio-visual installation composed of 16mm film, digital video, photogrammetry scans and a sculptural element illuminated by a shimmering laser.

A video is digitally projected onto a projector screen. In front of the projector screen is a black pedestal, on top of which sits a granite carving with a hole in the center of it. As the viewer approaches the sculpture, a screen playing another video becomes visible through the hole in the stone.

The video playing inside the sculpture is a compilation of vhs and hi-8 home videos captured by my father throughout his adult life. It was my father's final project in life to transfer and archive these videos.



Digitized 16mm film is the primary medium of Eigengrau. I shot on several film stocks including 250D and Double-X Negative with a Bolex. Some of the rolls of film were processed by hand in a Paterson tank, producing a distinct artifacting.

I started filming observationally in my childhood home while my dad was sick and continued shooting imagery well after his passing as I continued to process his loss. There is one scene shot in Fahrenwalde, Germany, where I theorize my father's family originates.

Much of the audio of Eigengrau is layers of phone audio recordings and musical riffs I created during the time of my father's sickness.



The sculptural element of *Eigengrau* is a piece of granite from the sea-shore near where my father's ashes were spread. It rests on a piece of black oak, milled from a tree I cut down behind my childhood home. The pedestal is constructed from pieces of the deck my father built, which I recently removed due to rot. The sculpture is illuminated by a laser. My father used a laser and a special Letterboard to communicate once he lost his voice.

Sections of poetry I wrote, narrated by a robot voice much like one used by my father, punctuate the piece. They play over top of photogrammetry composites. Items which were significant to my family were scanned 3-dimensionally, lit, animated and composited with scanned forest environments from behind my childhood home.





Project Specs

Runtime: 13m 27s

Digital Video - 2560 x 1920 (4:3) 23.976 fps

Mono Sound



Special Thanks

Wesley Cannon (Bassist and Audio Engineer)
Tanya Avendano Stockler
Colorlab

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