Musica Giovane — youthful music.

During the few years before his death in 1954, Henri Matisse was confined to his bed due to ill health, and could not paint like he had before. He instead used scissors to cut shapes from painted paper and had assistants pin them onto the wall according to his indications. One of the resulting compositions is *The Snail*.

We are like sailors who must rebuild their ship on the open sea, never able to dismantle it in dry-dock and to reconstruct it there out of the best materials.
— Otto Neurath

Musica Giovane is a testament to the shift in music-making practices of students, teachers and alumni of WYK during the Covid-19 pandemic. Physical restrictions urged them to embrace the digital medium and redefine what it means to produce music together, whilst in isolation. Concerts were recorded, structured solely for the video camera as audience — live performances were stitched from streaming multiple musicians at once. Through this past year and a half, we witness the act of creating as not a linear process, like the concept of *growth*, but ad hoc responses to ever-changing situations at any given moment.

Matisse's cut-outs were large in the human scale. At a distance, his shapes are abstract floating blocks of colour. Under closer observation, however, they are paint strokes, undulating waves in the paper that speak of their wet history and plunge at their edges.

The poster for Musica Giovane also adopts a material logic, unlike the seeming immateriality of the electronic screens and big advertisement prints across the city. Similar to the way in which LCD/LED monitors composes a multitude of colour by mixing only R(ed) G(reen) and B(lue) in its liquid crystals, the poster decomposes the colours of Matisse's *The Snail* into smaller components according to the colour model used in printing, C(yan) M(agenta) Y(ellow) and B(lack), whilst imitating the construction of the LCD/LED. Varying waves of visual interference typically seen on screen are then produced as one looks at the poster in different ways. They become strokes.