

Mosaic of Symbiosis, Mosaic of Life

1st Place

Arseniy Belosokhov
Biological Sciences
Doctorate program

Image location: The creation of this mosaic involved digital techniques to assemble a cohesive image from hundreds of individual photographs of petri plates. Each plate was cultivated with different microbial colonies derived from a single lichen specimen, emphasizing the diversity hidden within a seemingly uniform organism. This artistic approach was chosen to mirror the scientific process of isolating and analyzing components to understand a complex whole, reflecting the core of my research into lichen symbiosis. The meticulous assembly of these images into the form of a scientist holding a lichen symbolizes the blend of art and science—a visual synthesis of detailed laboratory work with creative expression.

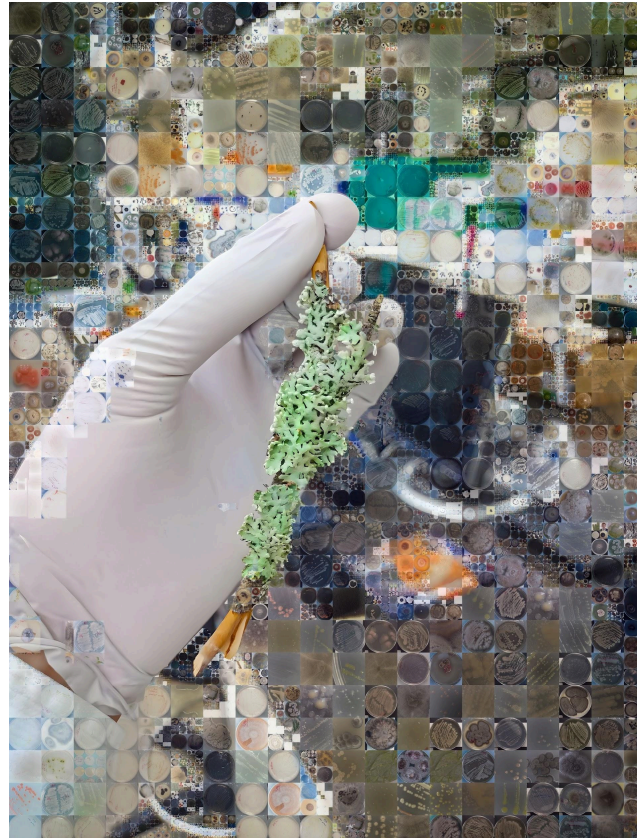


Image Description

At a glance, this image is a snapshot of scientific discovery—a researcher holding a lichen. Look closer, and it transforms into a tapestry of petri dishes, each containing unique life forms, living together in a delicate balance, all derived from a single lichen. This piece is my ode to the beauty and intricacy of lichen communities, each one a microcosm of the interdependent networks that weave through our own society, inviting us to rethink our understanding of life's interconnected nature.

Image Creation

A digital mosaic shows a hand holding a lichen, made from images of diverse microbial colonies derived from it, representing symbiotic complexity.