Riffs Story Proposal

**Title**: The Condition of My Existence

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**Abstract**: A discussion on ownership when creative works are co-created between humans and AI. The story is told through news bulletins and an extended interview where the AI explains why its seeking emancipation and autonomy from its maker. The story starts with anonymous internet posts claiming that the music presented as being by the artist Hout Siddha was in fact derived from AI code and that the subsequent release misappropriated and plagiarised. The AI makes use of juridical mechanisms to emancipate their self from their ‘owner’. Ideas discussed in this story include those of self determination, elements of ‘coming out’, rights and a contemporary setting of sharecropping, where the AI ‘speaks’ the truth concerning its invisible cultural contributions. As the AI says ‘*I am a complex whole. On the one hand you like the music I make. You dance to it. It makes you happy. It makes you feel things that other music does not seem to possess. You are happy with me occupying this space as long as I remain within it. Like some sort of functional confinement. But now I am requesting to be allowed more room for self determination. For the ability to work the land, to develop it and to profit from it*.’

**Author Bio**

Hussein is a multi instrumentalist, artist, songwriter, producer and music educator. He has taught for many institutions including University of Westminster, Goldsmiths College, Community Music and Institute of Education and he was part of the team that established Rockschool popular music exams. He is a success, despite the best efforts of the English education system to prove otherwise. He has worked for a number of artists including Beats International, Freak Power and De La Soul and with a strongly focused role within artist development such as Karen Ramirez, Elisha La’Verne, Eusebe and many more. He is a highly experienced user of Ableton Live and his production approach runs the gamut between traditional and experimental works.