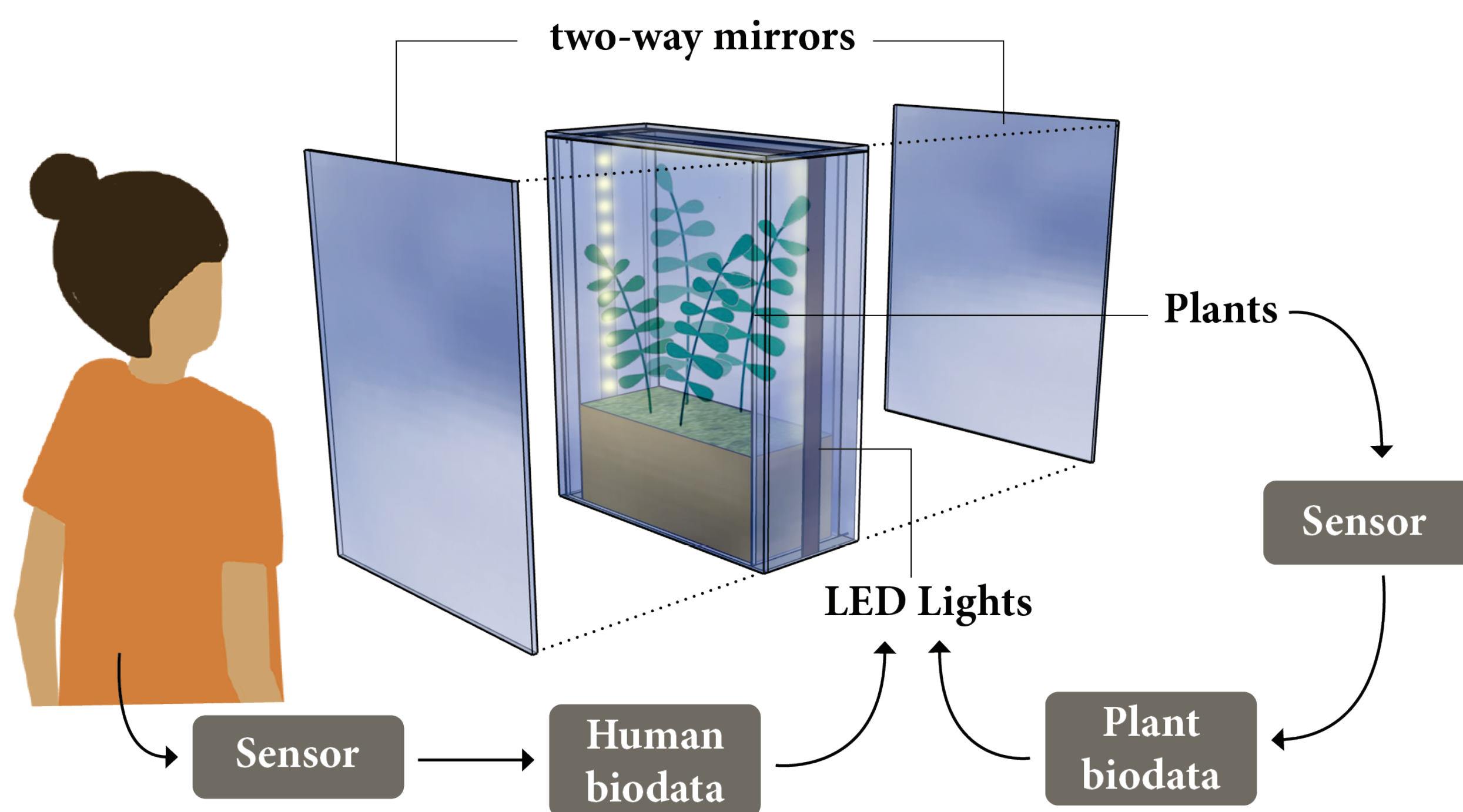


SENSING BODIES

Being, Feeling, and Breathing with Plants

Sensing Bodies is an artistic installation consisting of a series of three interactive exhibits that foreground relationships between a human and plant. The relationships are formed through reciprocal interactions, in which the biodata of both the human and plant bodies are collected through sensors, processed through circuits and algorithms, and represented through LED displays. The exhibits highlight our embodied encounters as co-constructed and interdependent with more-than-human agencies, pointing to an interspecies intimacy. However, the form of each exhibit, which displays plants inside an illuminated plexiglass box - bounded, framed, and removed from context - is intentionally evocative of a screen. As such, the installation not only invites reflection on our connection to non-human bodies, but also probes a disconnection to the living, local landscapes around us and their sociopolitical entanglements.



Shifting Perspectives



Biosensors and/or environmental sensors are used to detect specific aspects of the shifting human and plant bodies. The collected data then triggers the brightness, hues, and patterns of the LED lights. Depending on the condition, the viewer would see only their own reflection (if LED lights are off), only the plants within (if LED lights are at full brightness), or a interlaced view of the self and with the plants (if LED lights are dim).

Plantation Plants of Georgia



indigo



tobacco



rice

Through the installation, we hope to initiate larger questions of human-plant relationships that illuminate their complex sociocultural rootedness to place. In the exhibits we spotlight a specific selection of plantation plants from the U.S. State of Georgia – Indigo, tobacco, and rice to make an initial gesture of acknowledging the intricacies of a human-plant relationship that reflects specific sociocultural conditions in the local landscape.

Three Encounters to Notice Plants

Exhibit 1 | Being with Plants

The first exhibit invites participants to take notice of plants by drawing them toward the plant display from a distance through a visual beckoning and encouraging physical closeness.

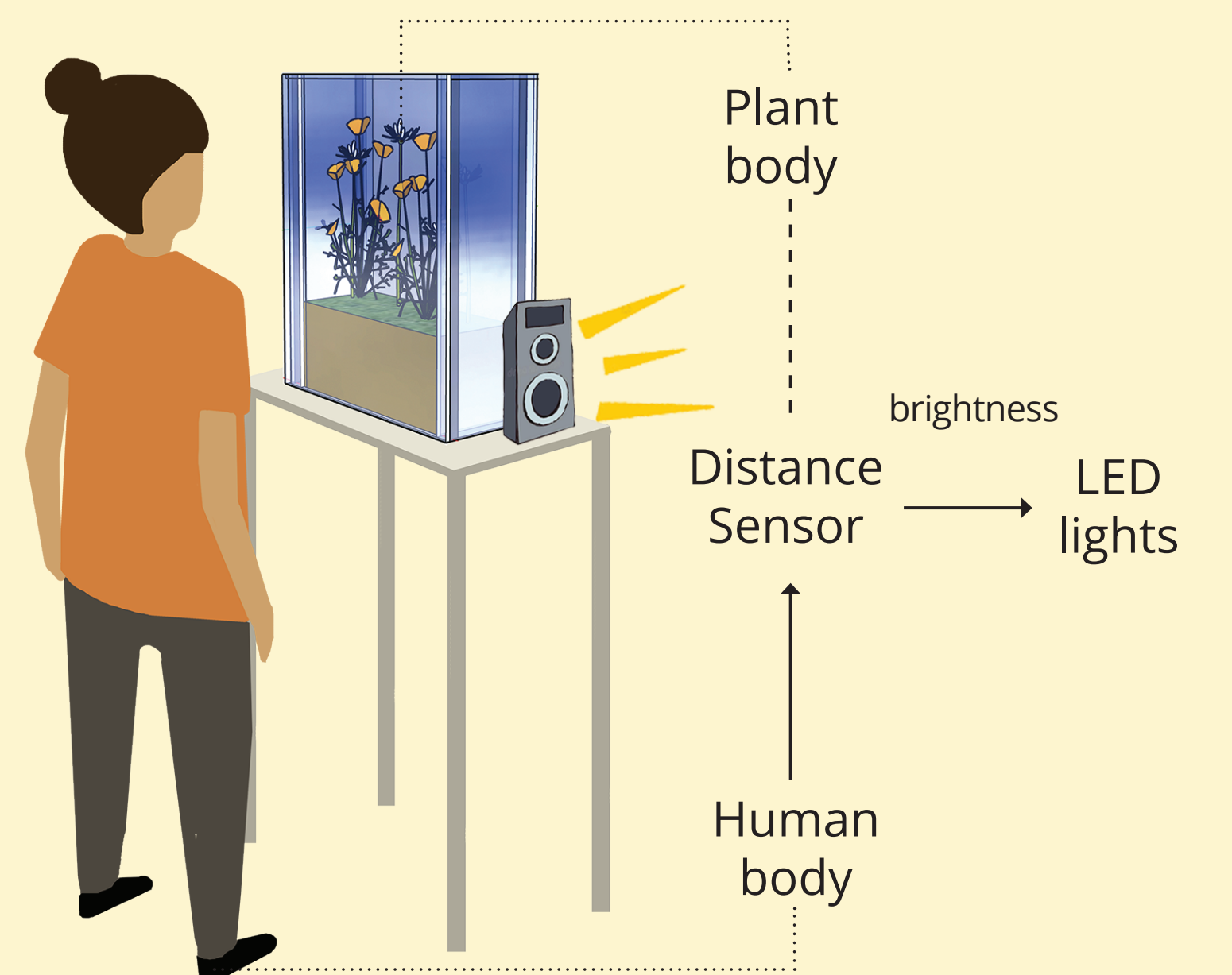


Exhibit 2 | Feeling with Plants

The second exhibit explores an affective intimacy between the plant and human bodies through a connection of our respective electrical pulses and through physical contact.

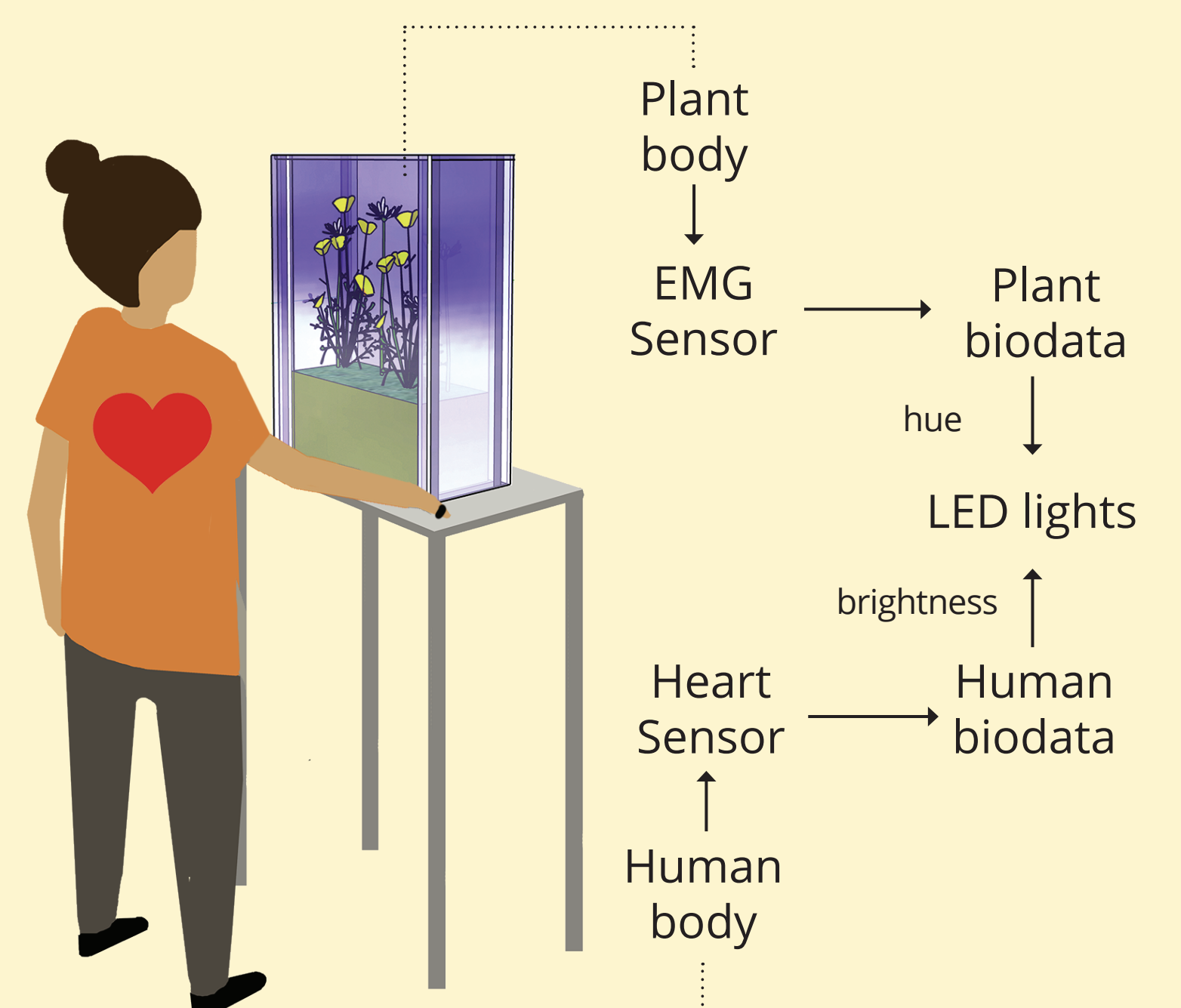


Exhibit 3 | Breathing with Plants

The third exhibit invites reflections on the interdependence between the human and plant bodies through the exchange of breath.

