

Art in Prosthetics

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Abstract—Functional yet visually appealing prosthetics can assist and enable a person in more than one way.

I. INTRODUCTION

AMPUTEES and those missing limbs from birth often have issues with their self-esteem, even if they've already received a replacement limb. They still feel separate and different from everyone else. Some see their new appendage as ugly, and conclude that it makes them ugly as well. One solution to this is *cosmesis*: the “restoration [...] of bodily beauty” (*Cosmesis* page from Wikipedia).

II. METHODS

Just about any futuristic comic, movie, or tv show has made use of prosthetics in an artistic way. Style is important to the creators of such fictions, and can be used as inspiration or even as blueprints for the design.



It's been shown that prosthetics do generally raise self-esteem already, but the added benefit of new beauty, and even the possibility of symmetry to the remaining limb, adds even more confidence to the amputee.



III. RESULTS

One company in particular, Bespoke Innovations, makes covers for prosthetic legs. They work with the disabled

individual to customize the fitting to their liking. Though expensive, they're more permanent than makeup or clothing, and can even be considered as a display of their personality.

IV. DISCUSSION

All technologies intended for personal use, once function is perfected, eventually turn to appealing design. Phones are no longer these massive boxes with huge antennas, computers are now small and portable, and prosthetics too will follow in this path. They've already begun to look sleeker and more artistic, and the future will likely hold even more amazing designs.

REFERENCES

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