BLADE RUNNER (1982)
HOW OUR PERCEPTIONS LIE TO US

In a world where people can be made in a factory, is there truly such a thing as ‘human’?

by Devin DeHollander

Everything is nothing

- Blade Runner’s depiction of the futuristic city of Los Angeles is a melting pot of different cultures blended together.
- The endless repetition of these ethnic, cultural, and architectural styles robs them of their original contexts like a parrot mindlessly repeating a single phrase.
- In a future where we have access to everything, we find our lives more devoid of meaning than ever. Everything is exhibitionist.

Truth is false

- Blade Runner says there is no universal truth in the postmodern age and therefore no distinction between the actual and simulated.
- Deckhard, the protagonist, questions whether he is a human or a replicant throughout the entire film, and never receives an answer.
- A “Voight-Kampff test” supposedly tells whether you’re a replicant, but isn’t 100% accurate.
- Only by transcending this binary of “real or ‘fake’” can we tell what is truly there.

“MORE HUMAN THAN HUMAN”