Since a research stay at the Research Centre for Visual Poetics of the University of Antwerp in 2016, Alessandro De Francesco is developing textual VR environments. Two environments were realised so far: Without need to see and Soliditude. The most advanced version of the first one features an innovative motion capture technology with occipital sensor.

To experience these environments, visitors are invited to wear a VR viewer and headphones in order to dive into 3D spaces entirely based on original poetry written by Alessandro De Francesco.

In Soliditude, the visitor is surrounded by the progressive multiplication of the neologism “soliditude” written white on black, until the mass of words forms an immense dome made of text.

In Without need to see, the following text written white on black, also read by a voice-off, forms a poetic architecture in which the visitor is immersed and with which she/he can interact:

but i know without looking that you are there behind me there’s the lamp that we made the map of our territory children press hands over their eyes and say they’re invisible like them we make light within the dark by rubbing our sockets like them we are exposed to everything in this open space that becomes inside when eyes are closed but as in a photo’s negative what they feel when they disappear without power to say it we show it without power to see without need to see