

**Before we get  
started ...**

pass the around the  
attendance sheet  
*boustrophedontically*  
“like an ox plowing a field”  
ꞗꞗꞗꞗ-ꞑꞑꞑꞑ-ꝿꝿꝿꝿ  
back-and-forth

# locating today's talk ...

- HCI & CS
  - “The interface is the application.”
- CS & Engineering
  - “We’re all software engineers.”

# *Creative* **Computing** or the Art of Innovation

Steve Harrison

[SHarrison@cs.vt.edu](mailto:SHarrison@cs.vt.edu)

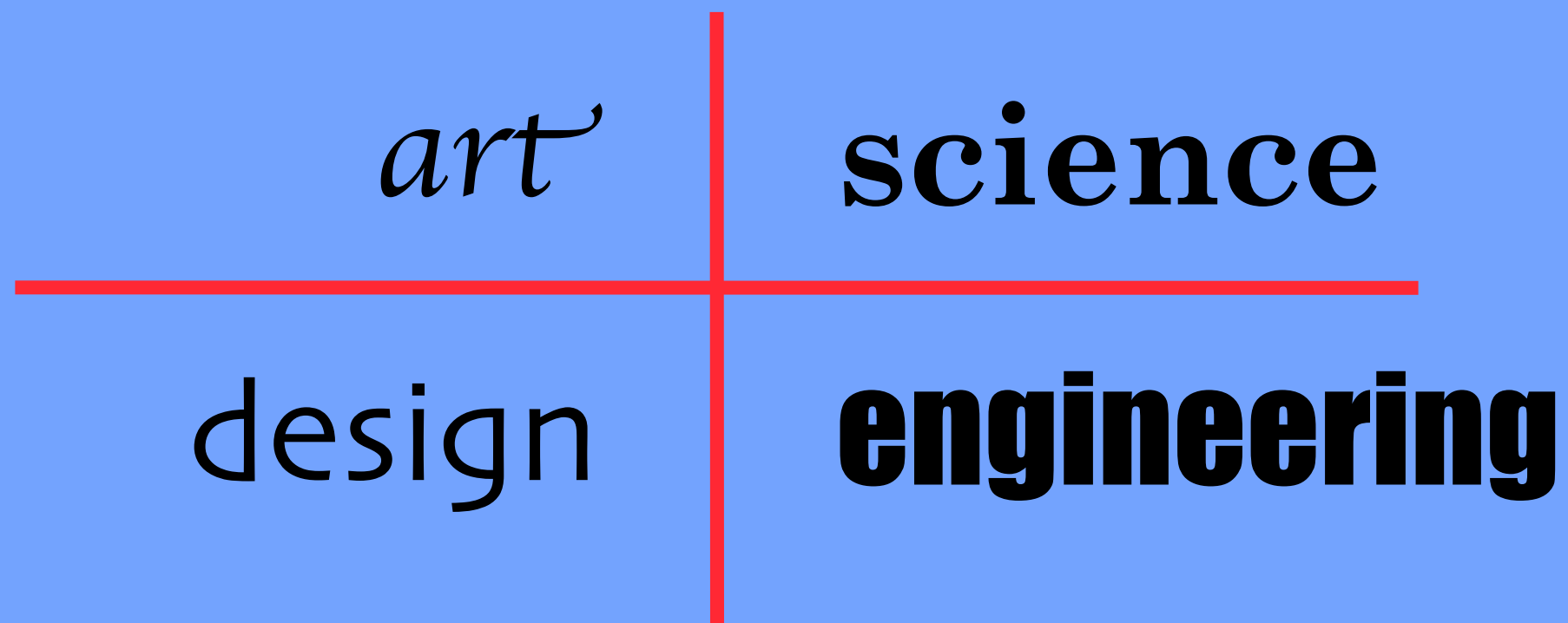
# *Art,* Science, Design, & **Engineering**

Steve Harrison

[SHarrison@cs.vt.edu](mailto:SHarrison@cs.vt.edu)

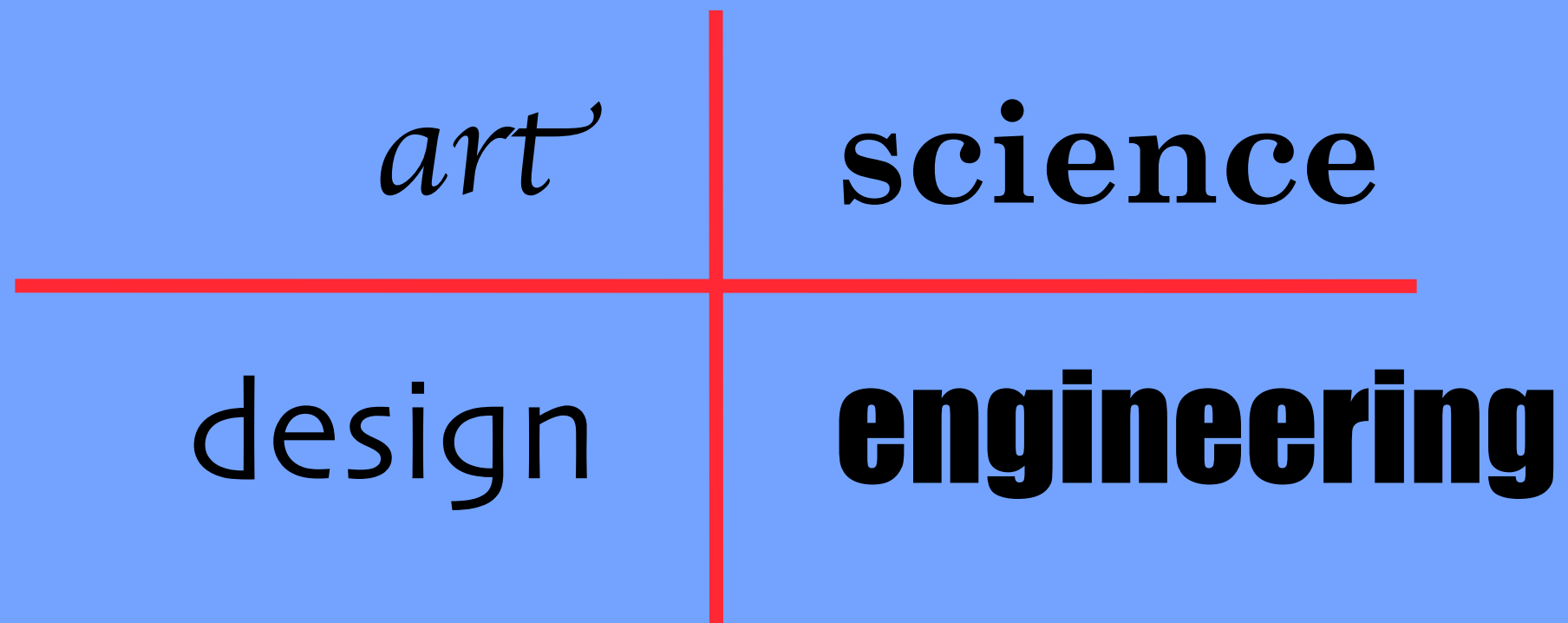
**Where does *innovation* come from?**

# The 4 creative disciplines:



from Rich Gold's *The Plenitude*

# The 4 creative disciplines:





Goals, values, methods, aesthetics,  
personalities, language, norms

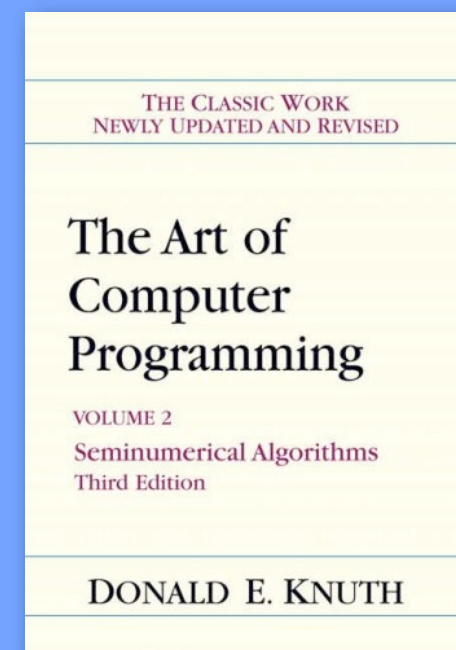


*art*

**science**

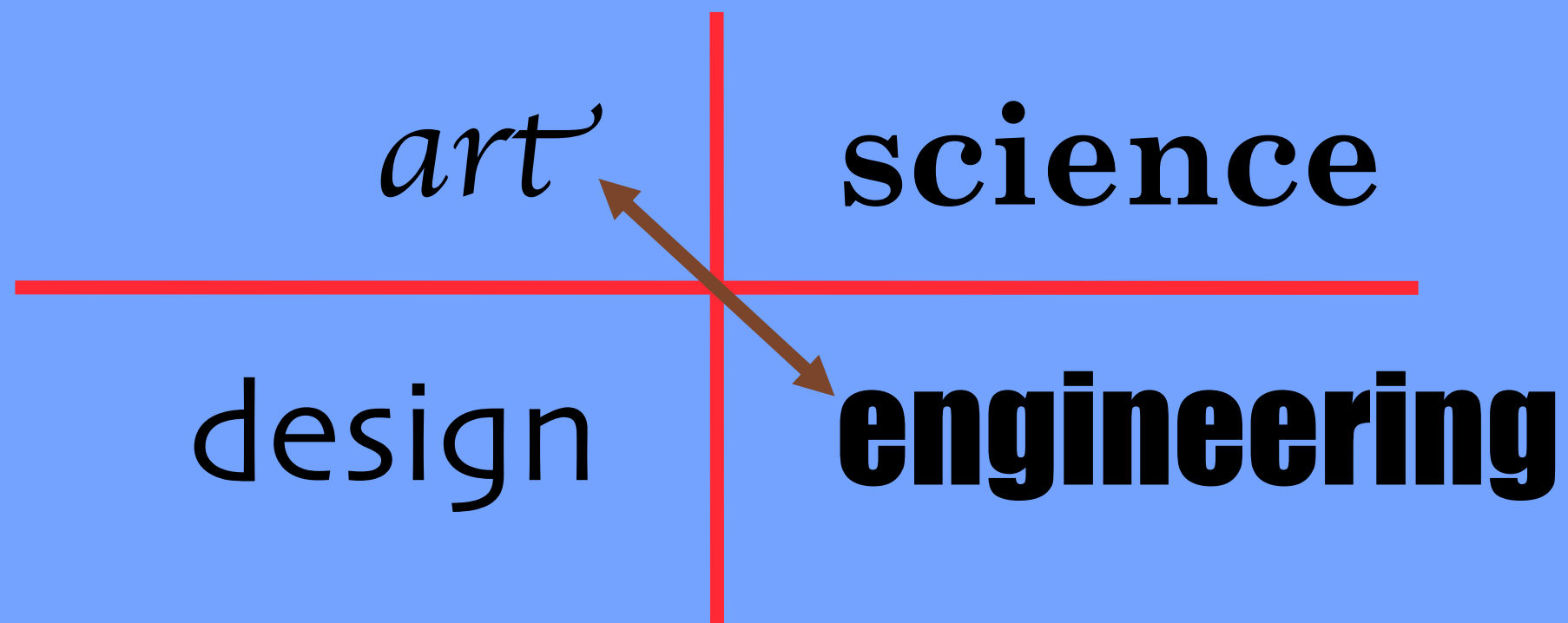
**design**

**engineering**



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Goals, values, methods, aesthetics,  
personalities, language, norms



**How to collaborate across  
these axes?**

**What forms of collaborations work?  
What sorts of results do these  
forms deliver? What sorts of  
knowledge are created?**

## **Some forms of cross-disciplinary work**

**Support**

**Inspire**

**“Riff” and co-produce**

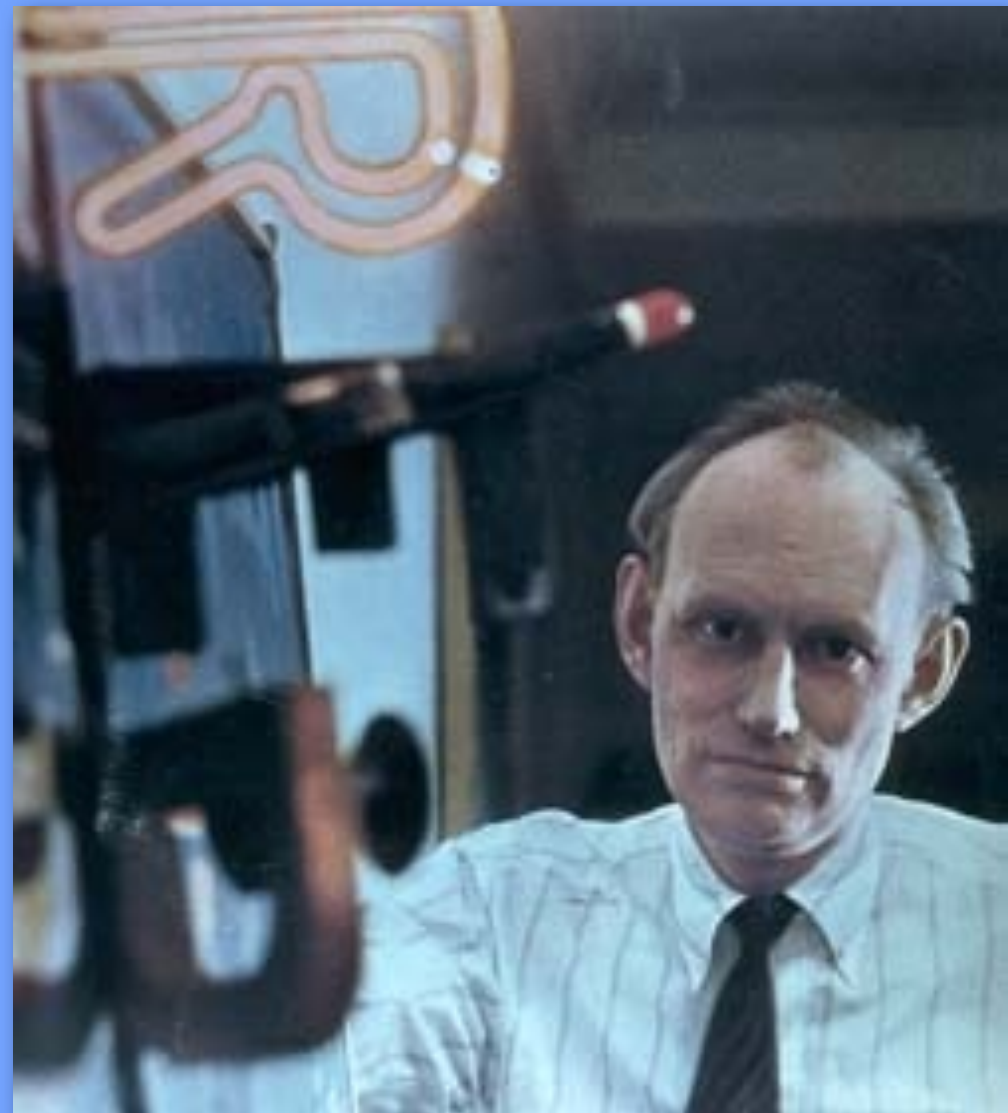
**Blurring the boundaries**

# Engineers supporting artists

*Engineers supporting artists:*

# Billy Kluver

- research engineer
- Bell Labs
- 1950's & 60's



Steve Harrison

# Bell Labs

- A few things from the research lab of the phone company:
  - sound motion pictures
  - transistors
  - photovoltaics
  - information theory
  - the bit
- unix ("linux" and OS X on the Mac)
- C programming language
- verified the Big Bang
- the laser
- CCD's (digital cameras)
- 6 Noble prizes

Kluver's

# Collaborations



- Jean Tinguely

– “Homage to NY”



- Claes Oldenberg

- Jasper Johns

(battery powered neon light)



- Merce Cunningham, Nam Jun Paik, Stan Vanderbeek, & Yvonne Rainer

(first wireless FM mic)



- Andy Warhol (mylar balloons)

- Robert Rauchenberg

– EAT “Experiments in Art & Technology”

– 9 Evenings of Theater and Engineering

- Pepsi Pavillion - Osaka Worlds Fair



*Engineers supporting artists:*

# Billy Kluver / 9 Evenings of Theater and Engineering

- Open Score
  - Robert Rauschenberg
  - Bell Labs research engineers
  - 3 parts:
    - Augmented reality tennis game
    - night vision audience participation event
    - musical performance



# Art inspiring technology

*Art inspiring technology:*

## **Hole in Space and Media Space**

- Hole in Space
  - *Mobile Image* (Rabinowitz and Galloway)
  - 1980
  - Real-time open link from Century City to Lincoln Center
  - life-size images in store fronts

*Art inspiring technology:*

# **Hole in Space** and Media Space



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*Art inspiring technology:*

Hole in Space and **Media Space**

- Xerox PARC
- Media Space
  - Stults and Harrison
  - 1985-1989
  - Real-time open link from PARC to Portland satellite office
  - see HCI Remixed for story of HIS+M/S

# Xerox PARC



- Industrial research lab
- Offices and documents
- Two research traditions:
  - Academic-style science
  - Edison-style tinkering
- “Build what you use; use what you build.”
- “Best way to predict the future is to invent it”

# Xerox PARC

- Laser printing
- Personal computing (BUT NOT THE MOUSE!)
- Object-oriented languages
- Ethernet (used to network personal computers)
- the prototypes that became Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop





*Art inspiring technology:*

Hole in Space and **Media Space**

***Using always-on  
video, audio, and  
computing to fold  
time and space***

***Before there were  
any cellphone  
cameras, webcams,  
Skype or even that  
media had any  
legitimacy in CS***



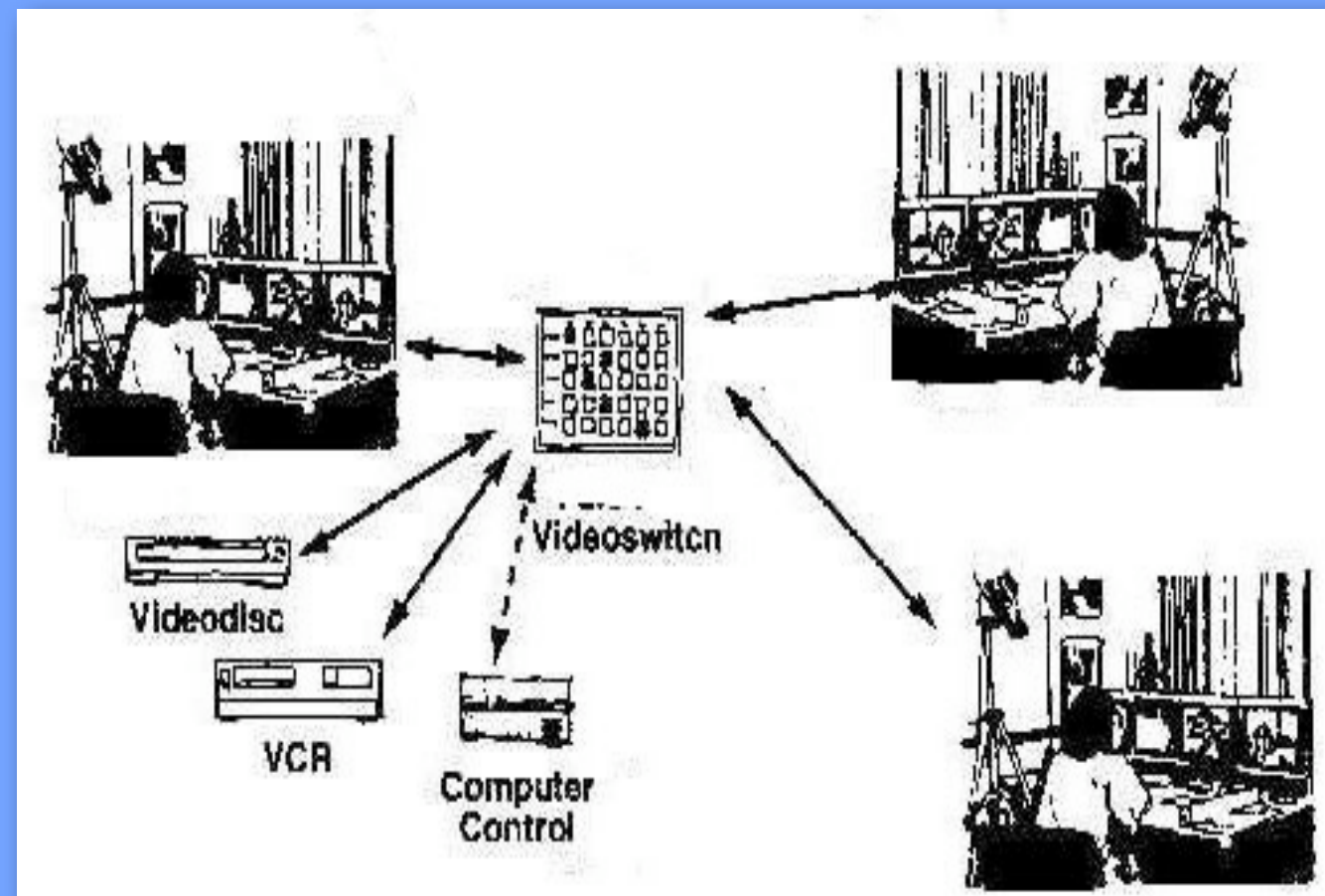
Steve Harrison



## Art inspiring technology:

### Hole in Space and Media Space

- lessons from living in *representational space*
  - The architecture of communicative surfaces
  - People, events, places
  - Appropriate behavioral framing
  - Interaction managed in social space
  - see *Media Space: 20+ Years of Mediated Life* to learn more about M/S



**“riffing” and co-producing**

*Engineers and artists “riffing” off one another:*

# **Artist/researcher collaborations**

- Examples from Xerox PARC:
  - Bit mapped graphics editor
  - Ubiquitous computing / ambient displays
  - PARC Artist In Residence Program
  - XFR

*Engineers and artists “riffing” off one another:*

# The first bit-mapped editor

- Bob Flegal (computer scientist)
- Bill Bowman (graphic designer)

This document is for Xerox use only.

## TOOLBOX ILLUSTRATOR STUDIES

by William Bowman and Robert Flegal

May 26, 1976

### *Abstract:*

TOOLBOX is a graphics program designed to explore the potential image-making capabilities of the computer-powered display medium. It consists of a coordinated set of graphic tools which provide a wide range of form construction options for use in testing machine illustration concepts. The TOOLBOX system is operated by means of a graphic keyboard which commands the various tool functions. The main body of this report documents two professional-level user studies which were conducted using the TOOLBOX system, and includes a description of user experiences, research conclusions drawn from the studies, and a comprehensive presentation of the artwork accomplished.

### *Key Words:*

Toolbox, Illustrator, Graphics, Display

**XEROX**

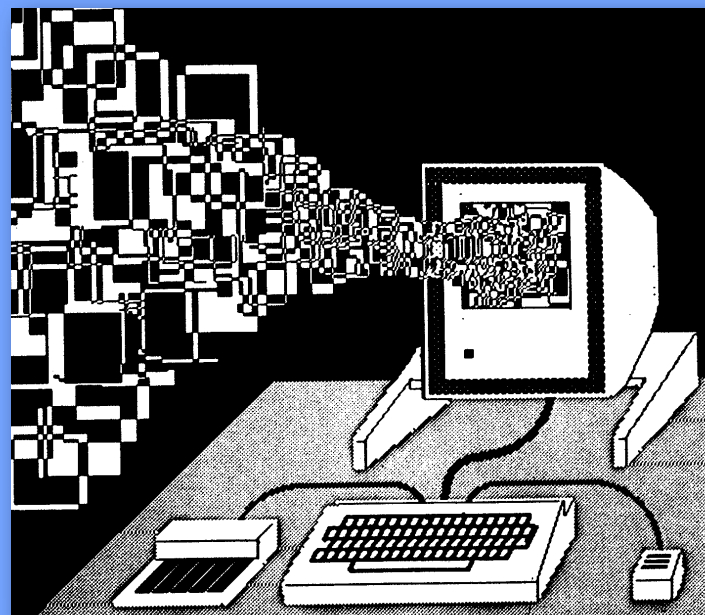
PALO ALTO RESEARCH CENTER  
3333 Coyote Hill Road / Palo Alto / California 94304

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*Engineers and artists “riffing” off one another:*

# The first bit-mapped editor

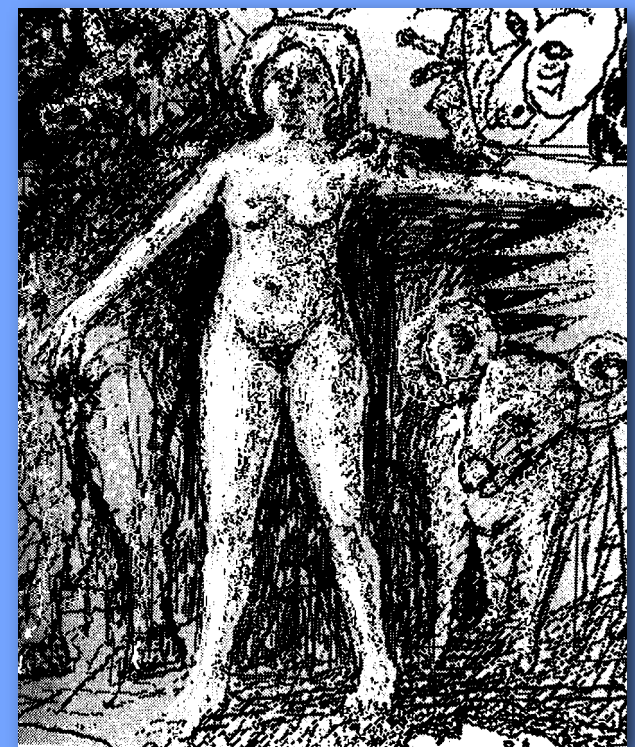
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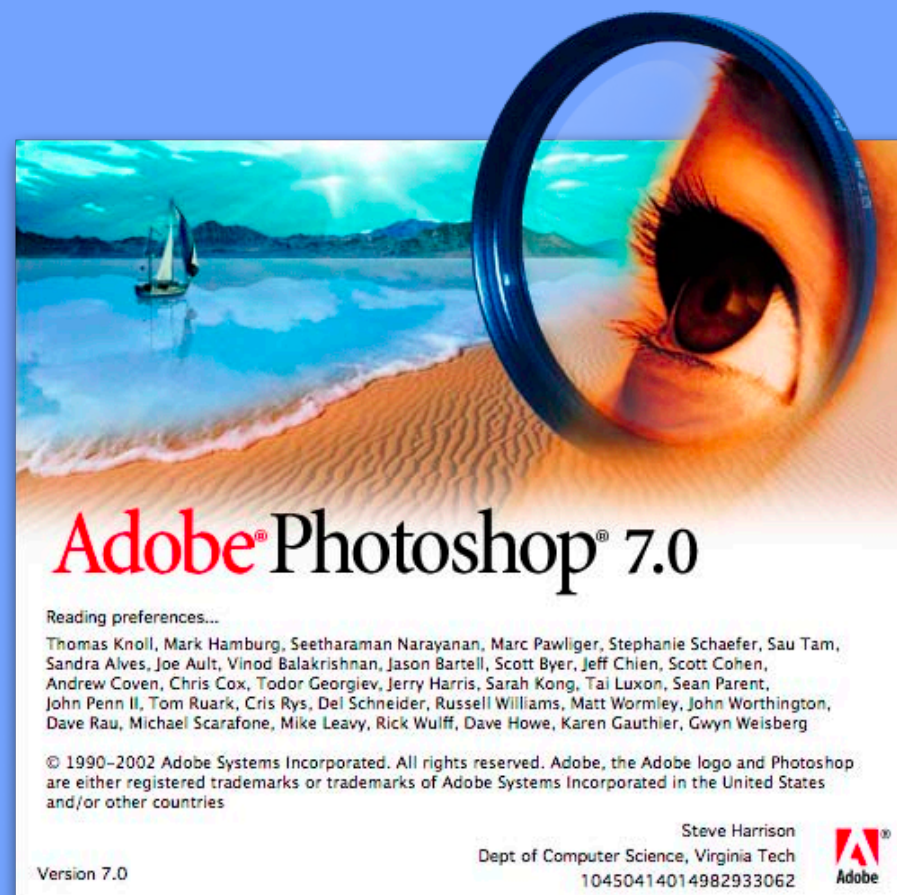




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*Engineers and artists “riffing” off one another:*

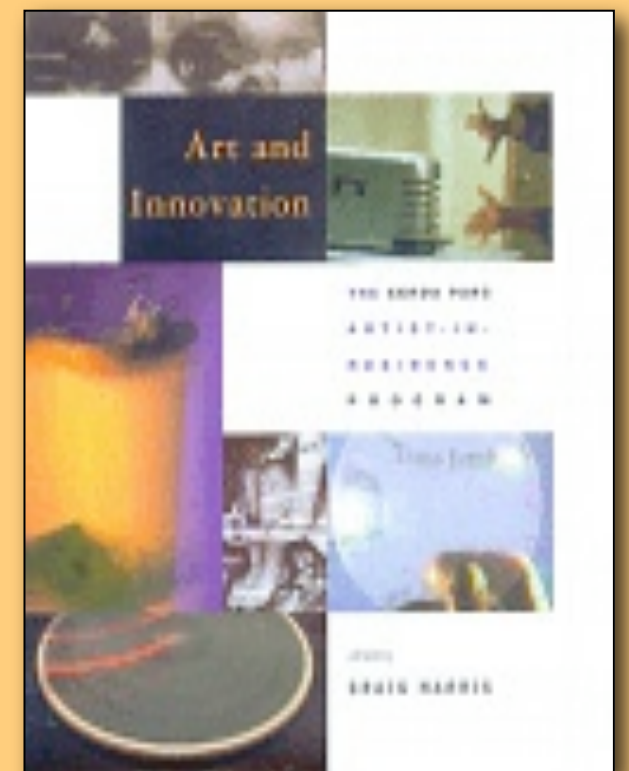
## **Natalie Jeremijenko**

- Came to PARC as part of PAIR program
- LiveWire, Park-ing Lot Project
- “riffing” as a method: re-framing, appropriating



# PAIR: the PARC Artist in Residence Program

- Modeled after Bell Labs/EAT
- Goal of learning from each other
  - better questions
  - better researchers
  - better artists
- 20+ artists over 8 years

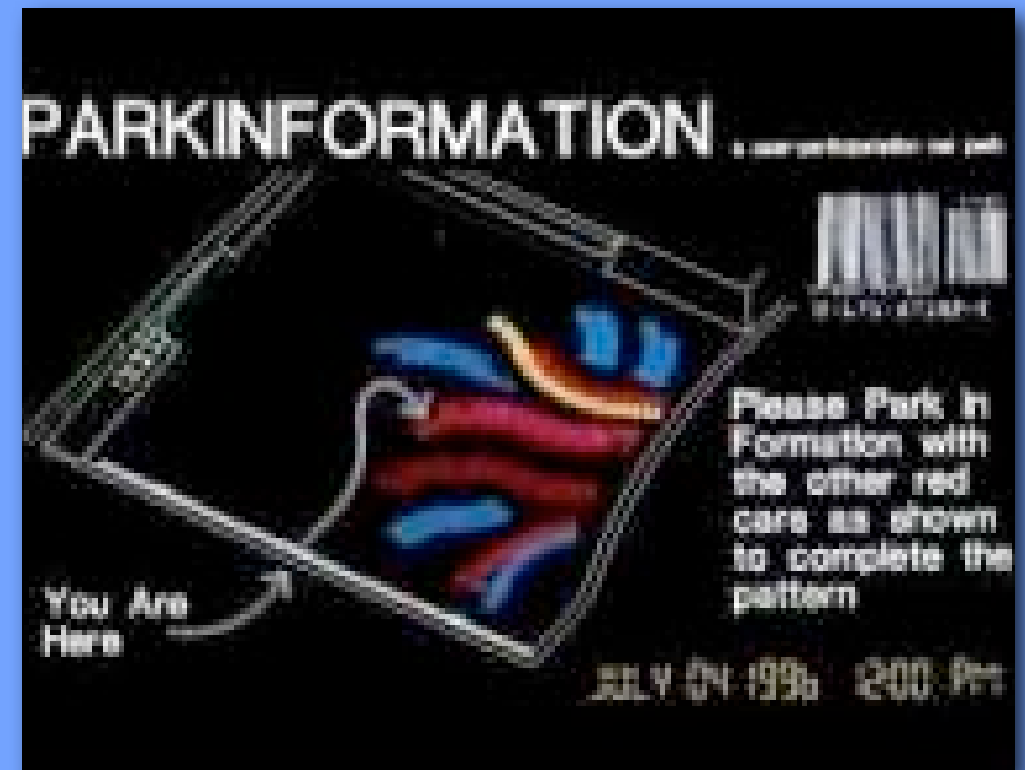


*Engineers and artists “riffing” off one another:*

## Natalie Jeremijenko



- LiveWire (Weiser)
- Spinning string, ethernet traffic
- Ambient display
- Awareness



- Park-ing (Harrison and Minneman)
- Everyday life as art
- Ubi comp

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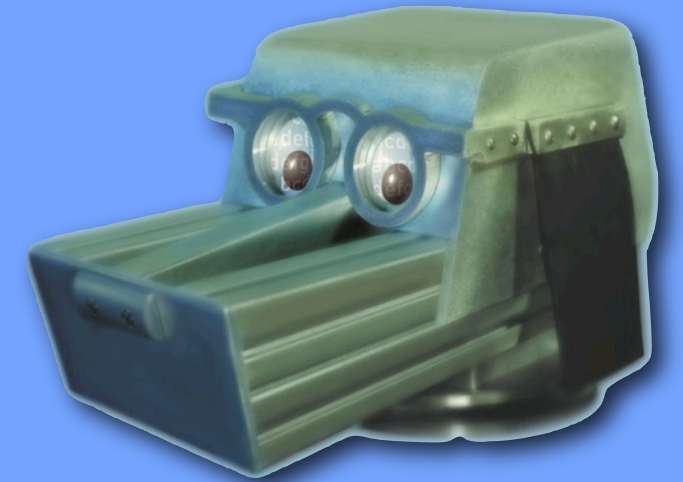
*Engineers and artists “riffing” off one another:*  
**Blurring the boundaries**

## Using the ideas and ways of seeing of art to drive research

- PARC and Xerox agenda: Document research
  - in this model, *CS is a tool*
  - PARC research >>> “*inventing things that make things that people read*”
  - Xerox business >>> “*making things that make things that people read*”
- Art method: Critical theory:
  - *Genre* as a method of research
  - Investigation of systems of *meaning*



# **XFR: eXperiments in the Future of Reading**



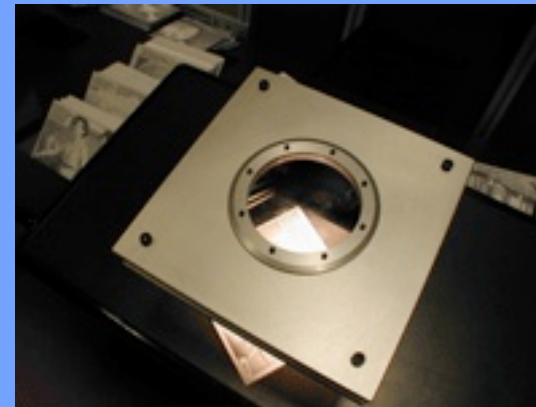
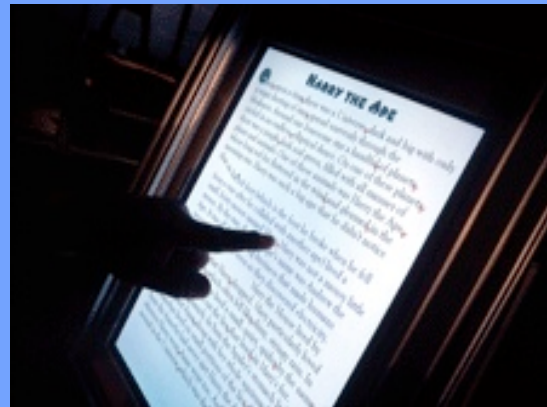
*A research  
project and  
an  
installation  
exploring the  
relationship  
between  
**reading** and  
**technology***



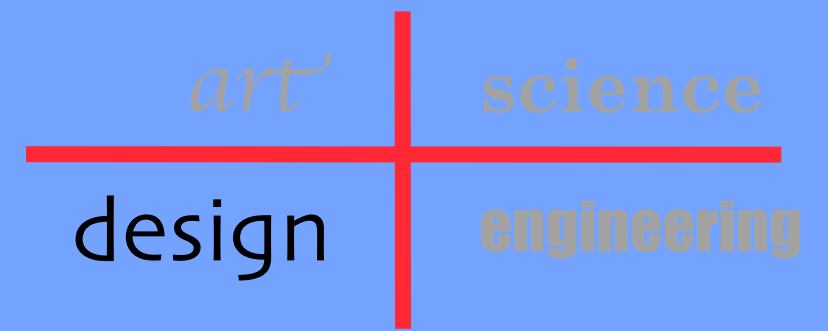
Steve Harrison



# XFR



Steve Harrison



**Are these product prototypes, entertaining diversions, research demos, or what?**



The exhibits are like concept cars.

They set ideas into an accessible context.

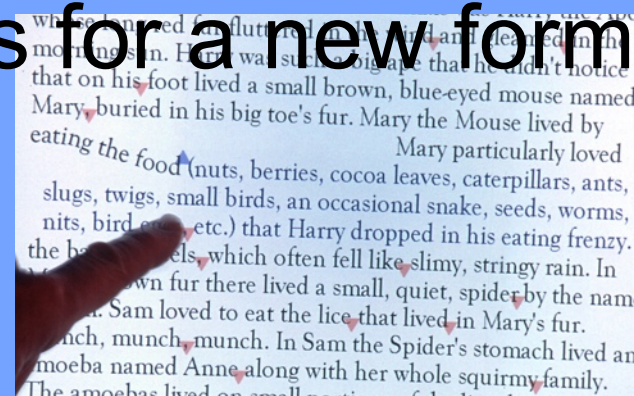
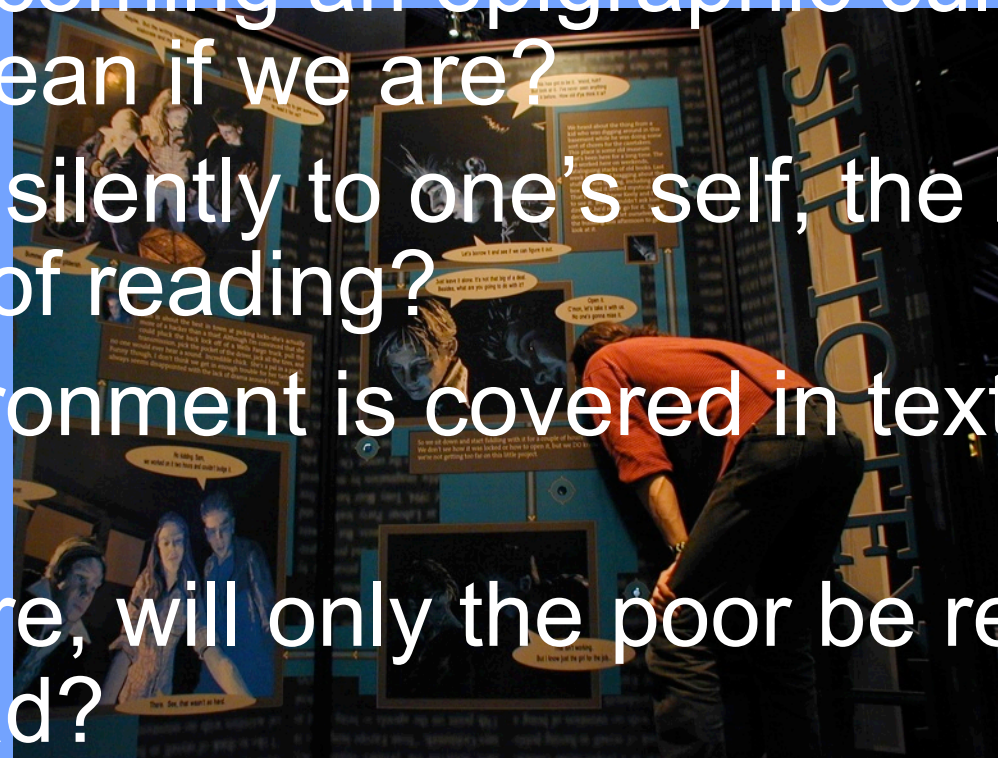
They speak to people who set strategic direction inside companies, knowledgeable opinion leaders and the public.



## Some research questions raised by **XFR**:

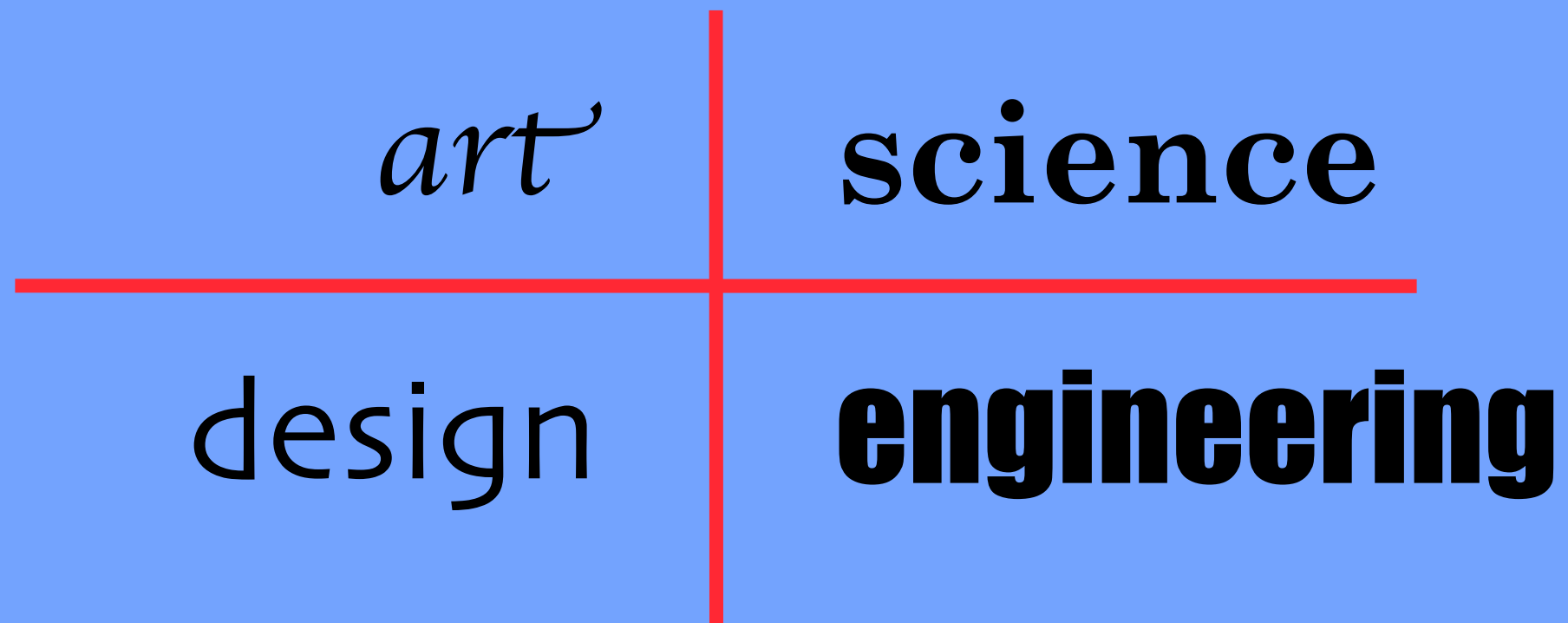


- Are we becoming an epigraphic culture and what would it mean if we are?
- Is reading silently to one's self, the highest and best form of reading?
- If the environment is covered in text, how will it all be read?
- In the future, will only the poor be required to know how to read?
- Is dynamic text the basis for a new form of symbolic interaction?





How to apply this?



## *Art+Engineering as Pedagogy:*

# **What can be learned**

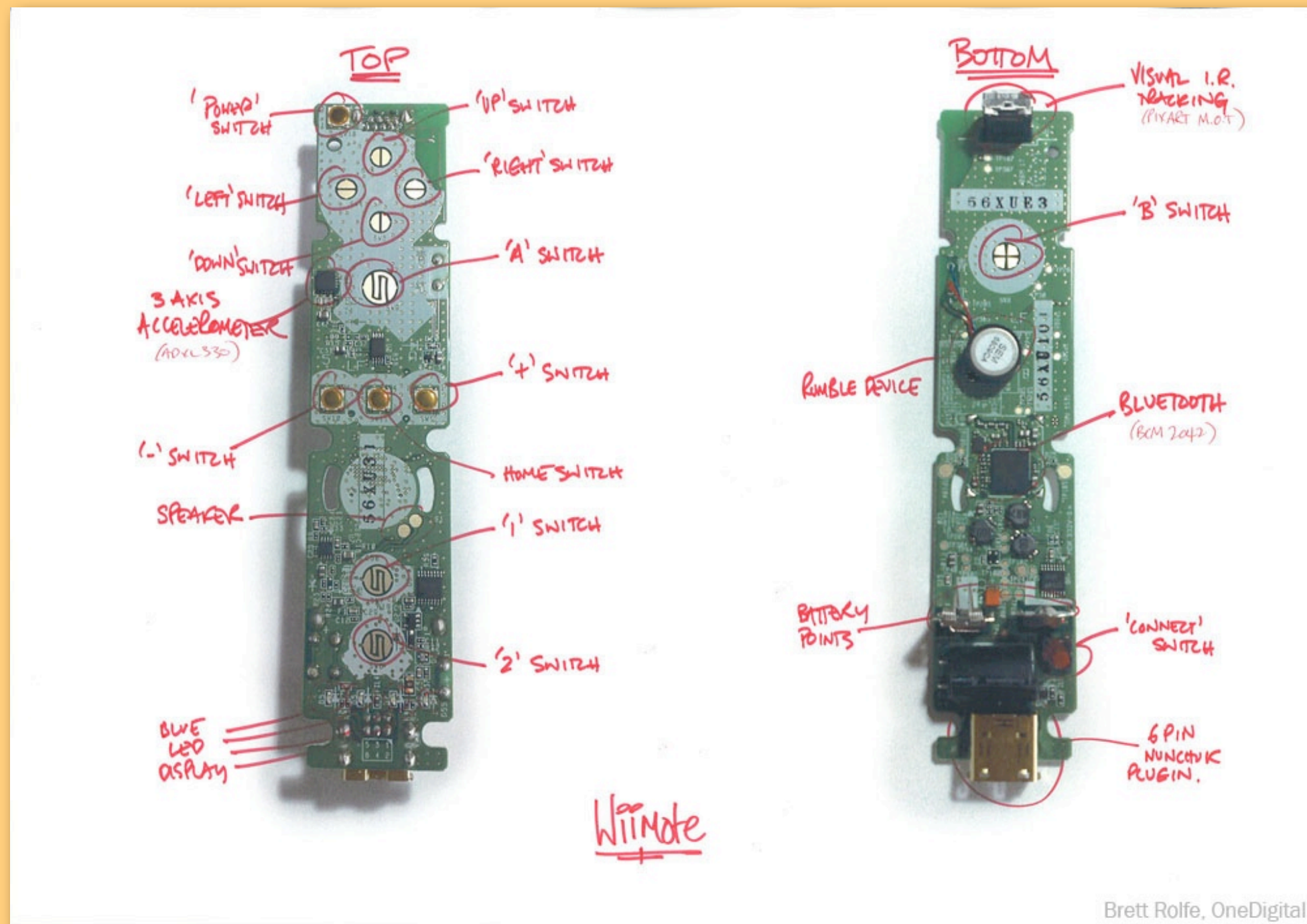
- Collaboration practices between disciplines
- Comparative aesthetics
- Comparative problem solving
- Methods as a door to designing design (aka “It’s Just a Method”)

# *Art+Engineering as Pedagogy:* **Creative Computing Capstone Studio (cs 4644)** **(aka “CyberArt”)**





Steve Harrison









# *Art+Engineering as Pedagogy:* **Creative Computing Capstone Studio** (aka “CyberArt”)



## *Art+Engineering as Pedagogy:*

# **What can be learned**

- Collaboration practices between disciplines
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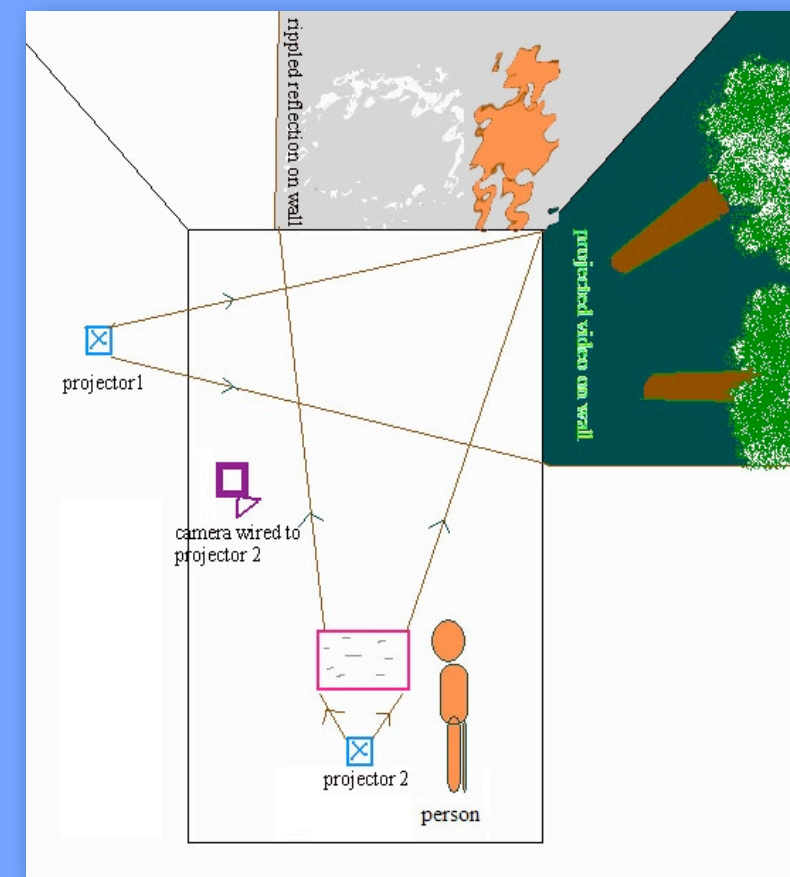
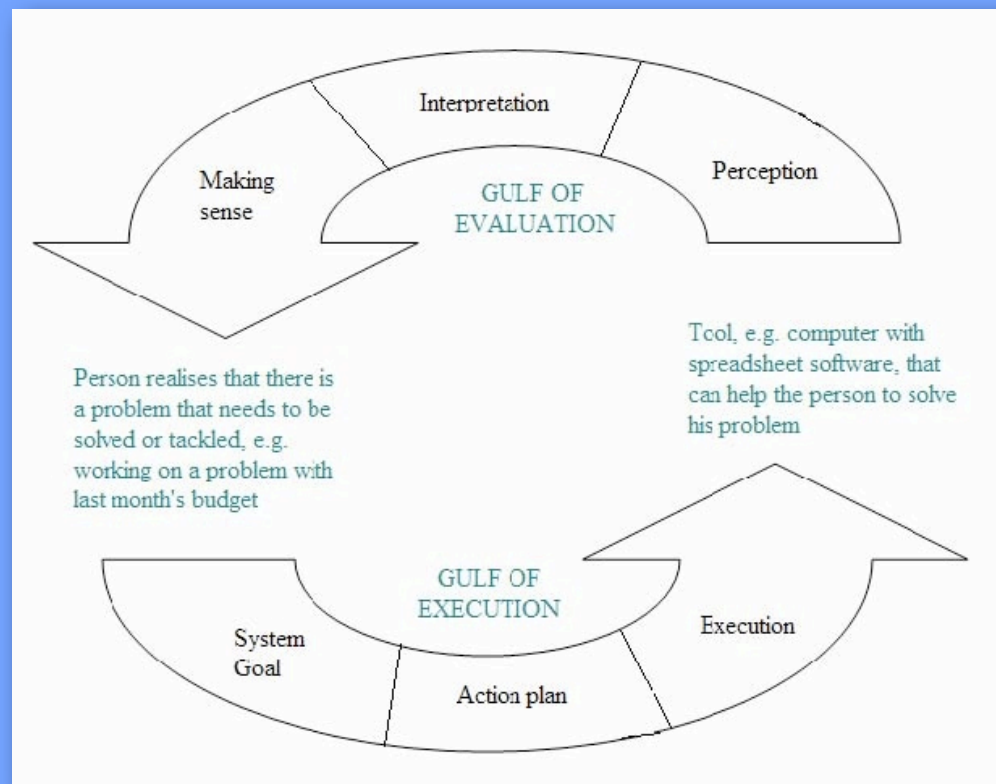


# *Art+Engineering as Research:* **Research Themes**

- Technology in Place
- Architectural Scale Display
- Meaning

# Architectural Scale Display: Meaning: SenSpace

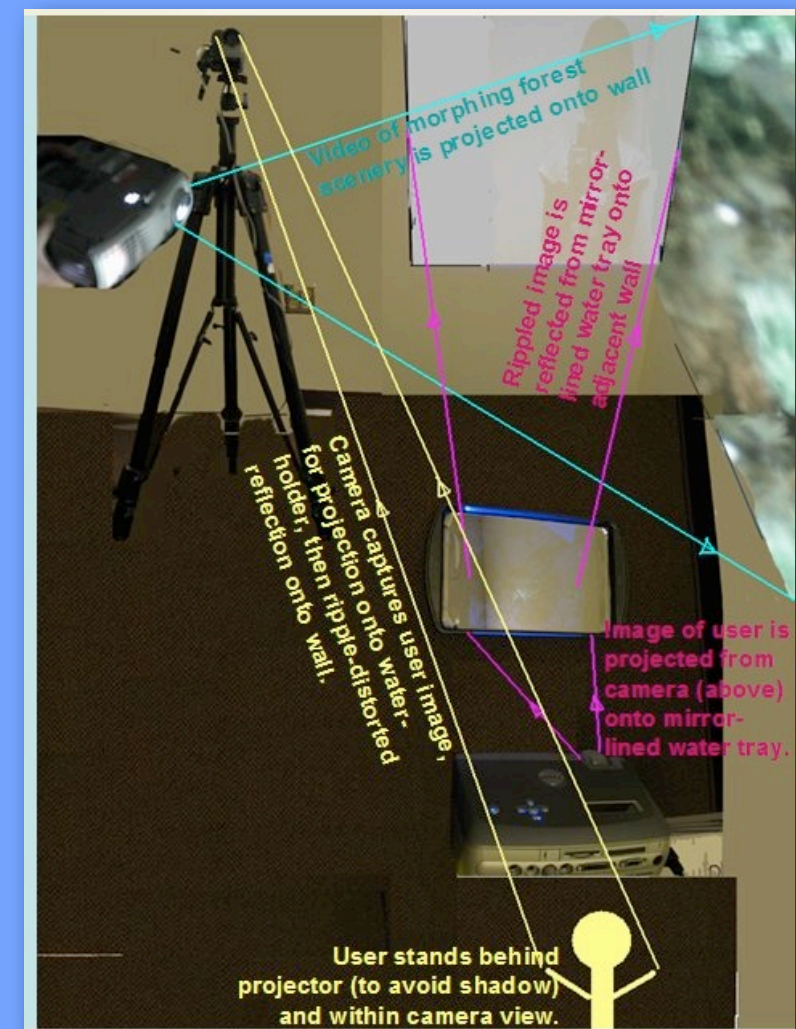
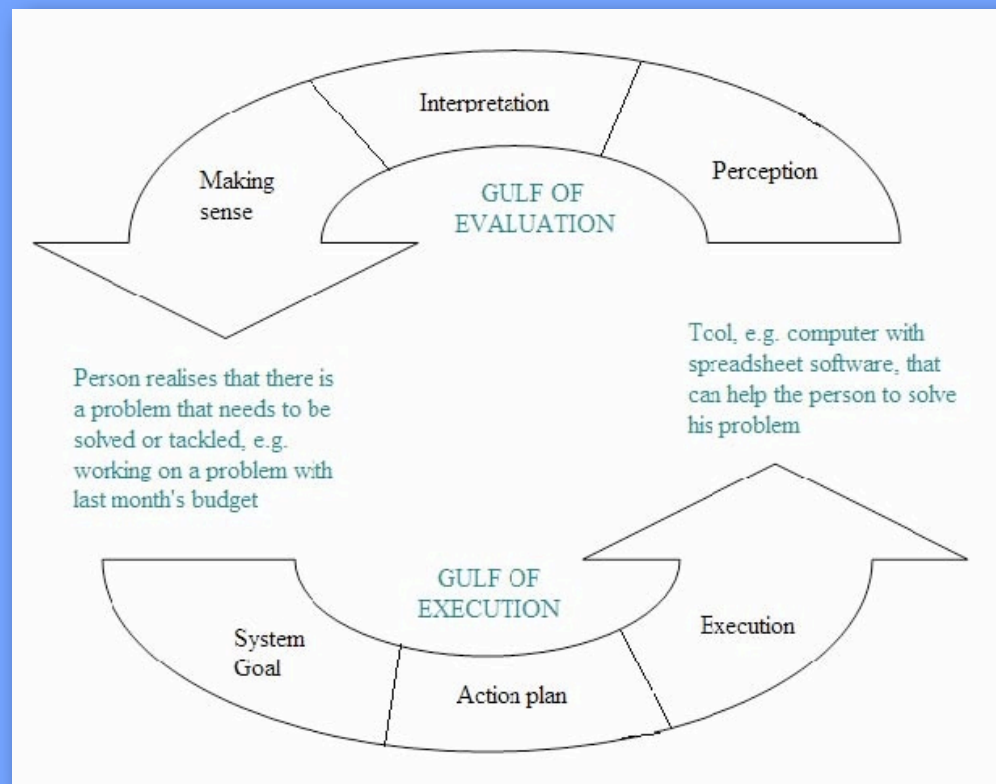
- Kunmi Otitoju
- Meaning of interaction



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# Architectural Scale Display: Meaning: SenSpace

- Kunmi Otitoju
- Meaning of interaction



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# *Meaning:* **Cheats**

- Rob Hardy
  - multiplayer games
  - effect on player and other players
- Bobby Beaton
  - cheating in single-player experiential games like GuitarHero, Rock Band, and MarioKart
- What is a “cheat”?
- Why use a cheat?
- What makes a good cheat?



*Technology in Place:  
Meaning:*

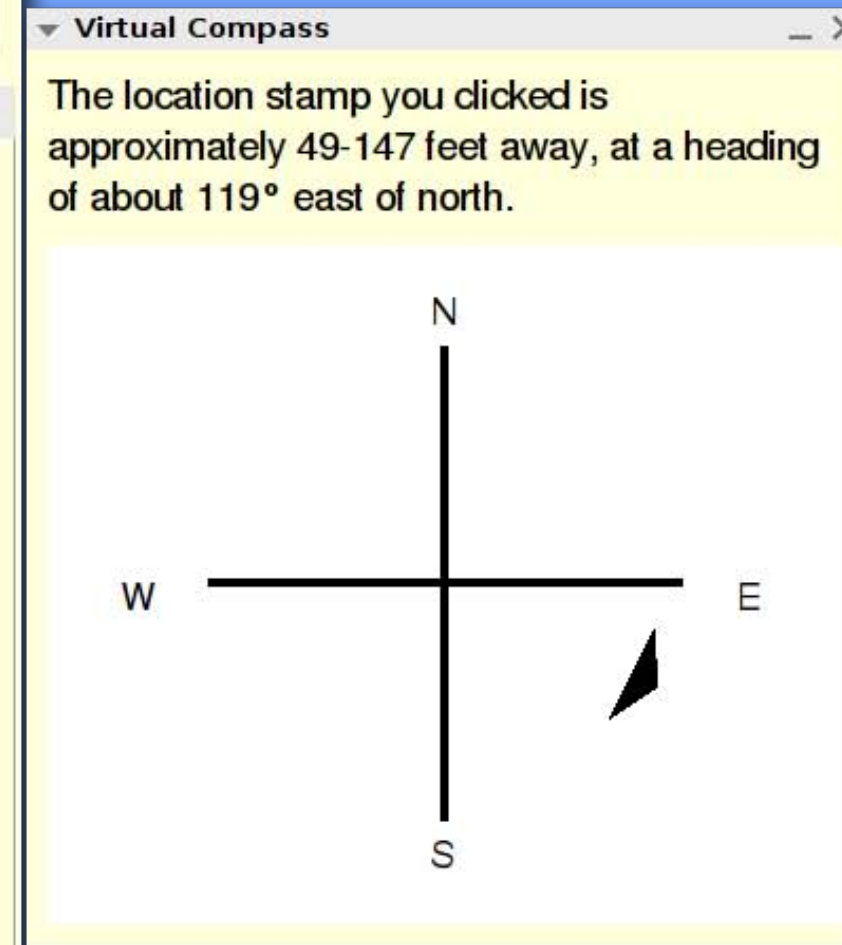
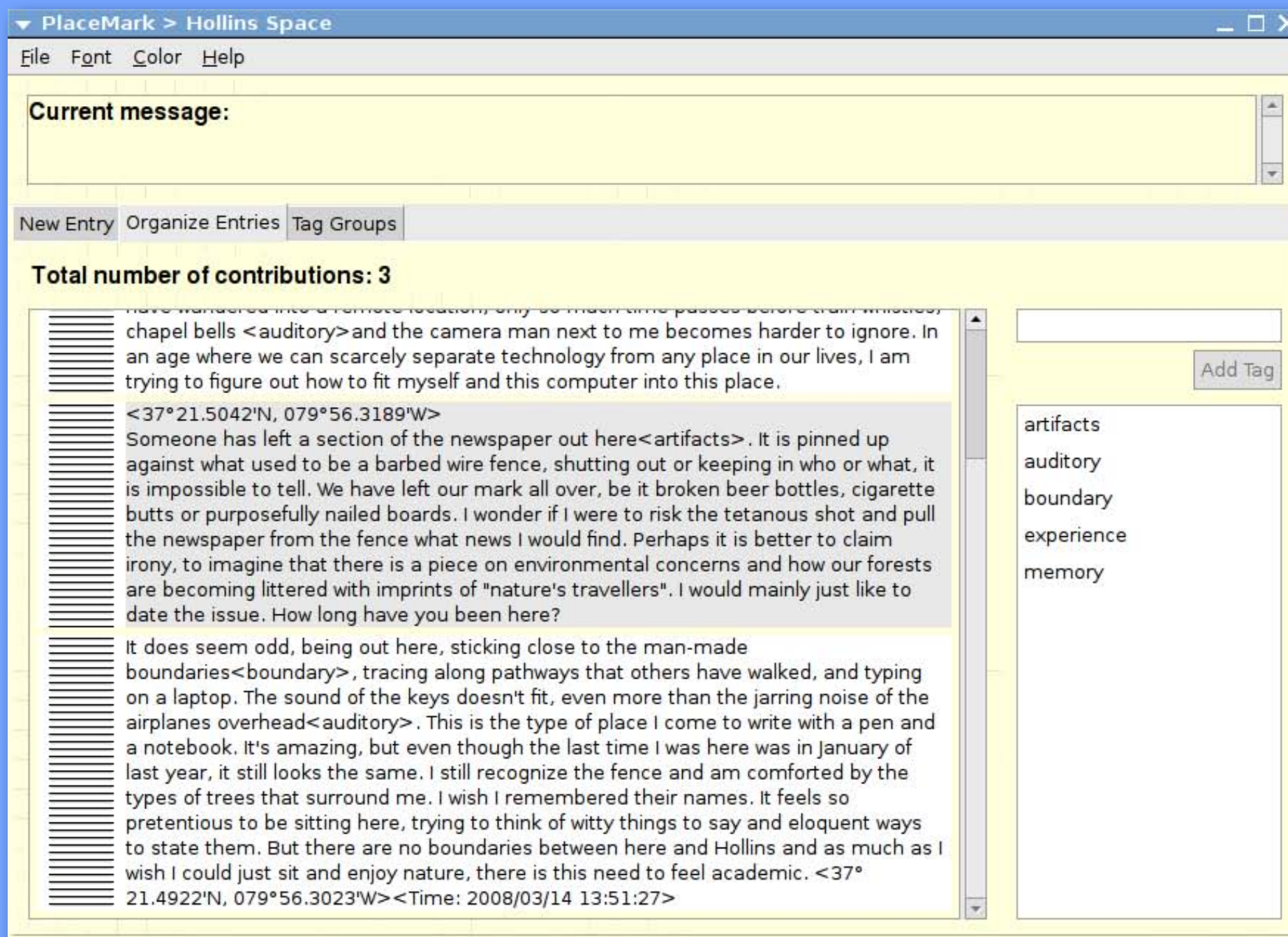
# PlaceMark

- with Deborah Tatar and Jen Boyle @ Hollins U
- (aka Vivid Embodiment)
- Joon Lee, Bobby Beaton, Matt Schaefer and Ali Crandall/Hollins U
- writing in place(s)





# Technology in Place: Meaning: PlaceMark



# What art can bring to collaboration

- does not need a “problem” to be solved
- art “problems” are always on the table
- no stopping rule
  - to project
  - to boundaries
- an emphasis on “seeing” (often through doing)

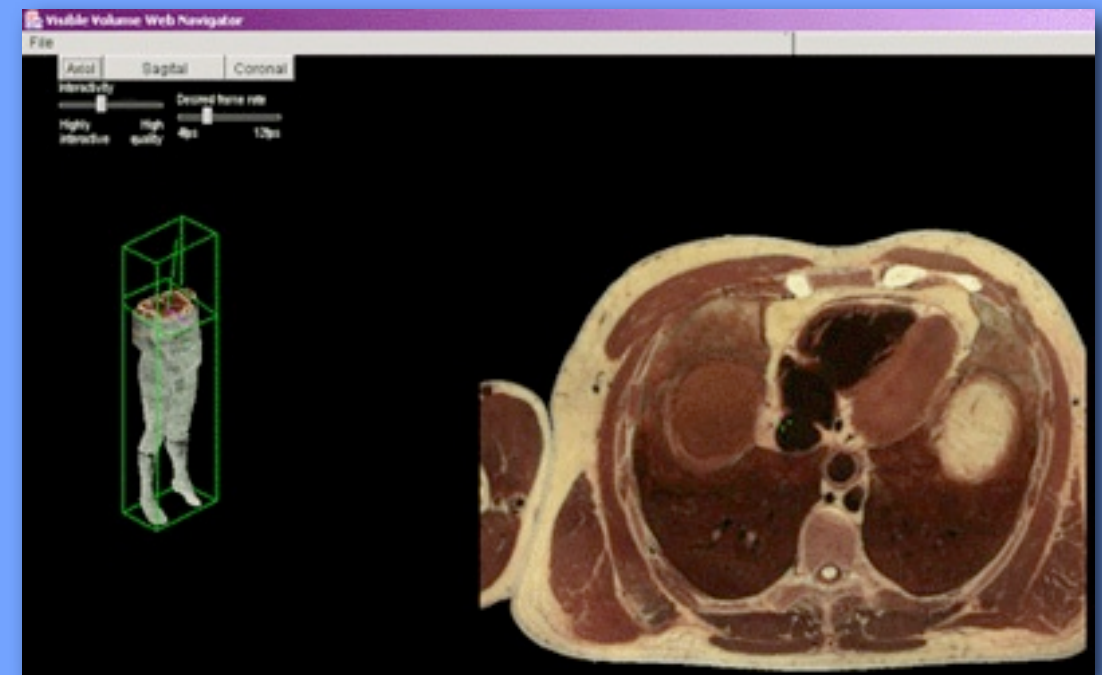
# What art can bring to collaboration

## - entrepreneurial energy

- does not need a “problem” to be solved
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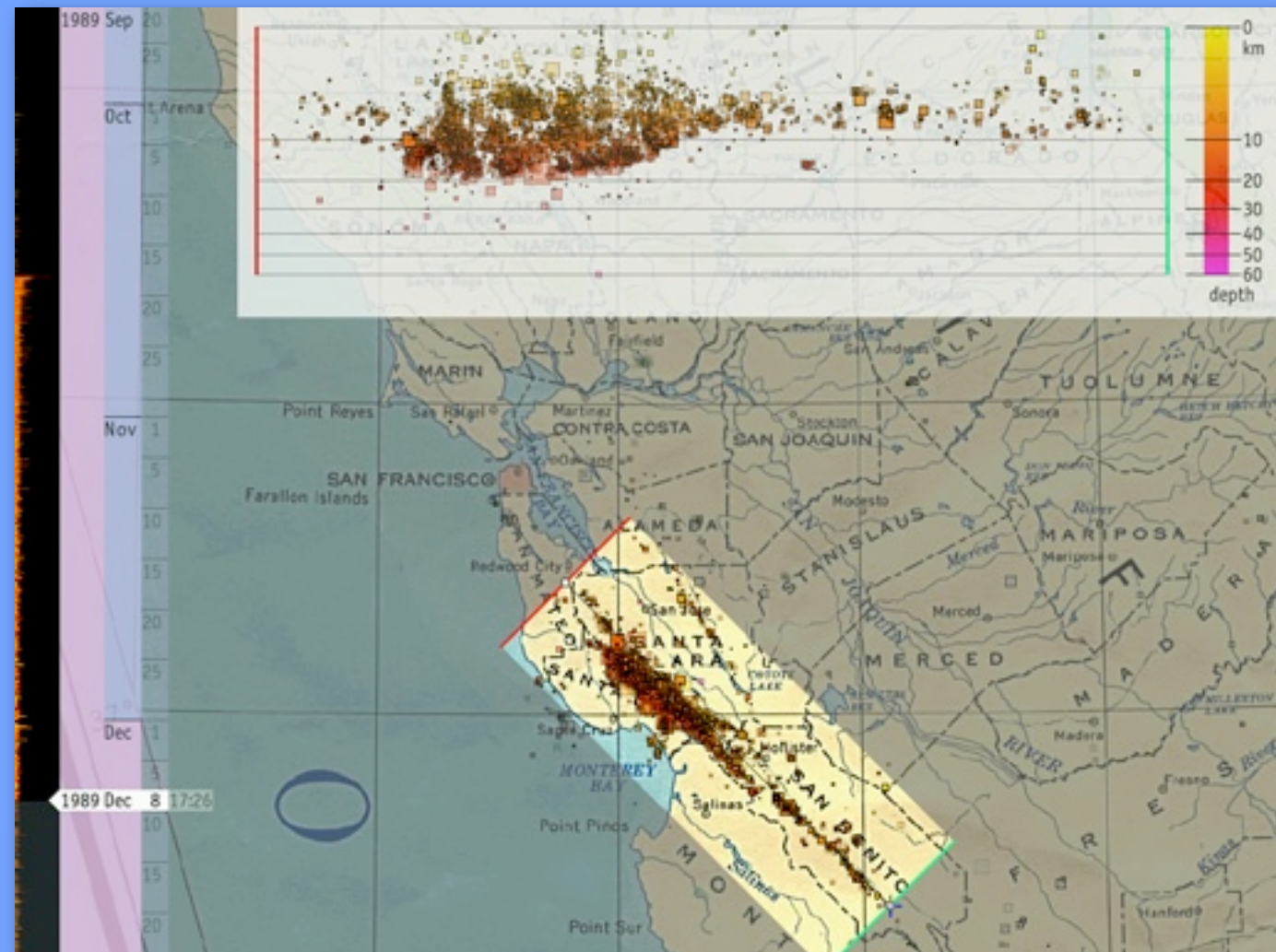


# Eewww



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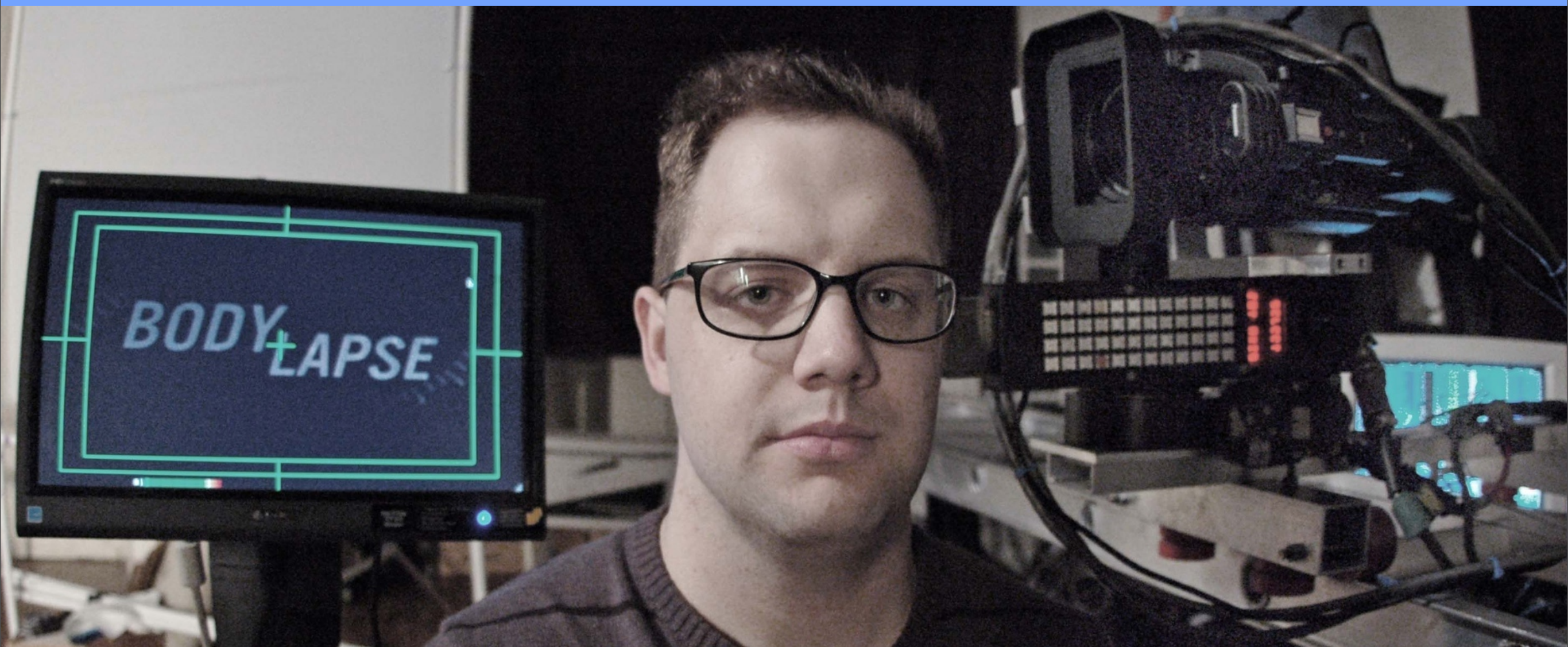
# QuakeView



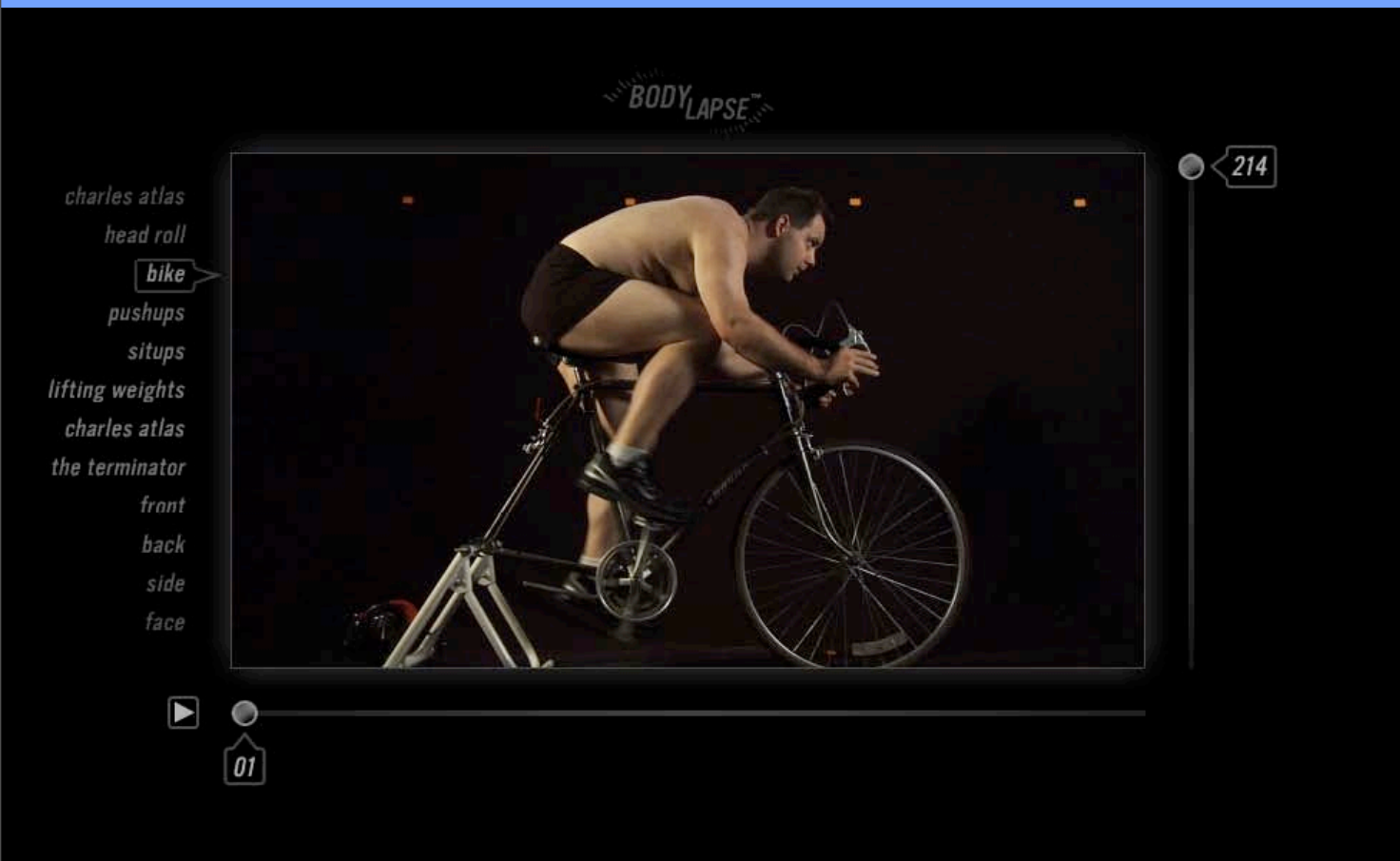
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# Body Lapse

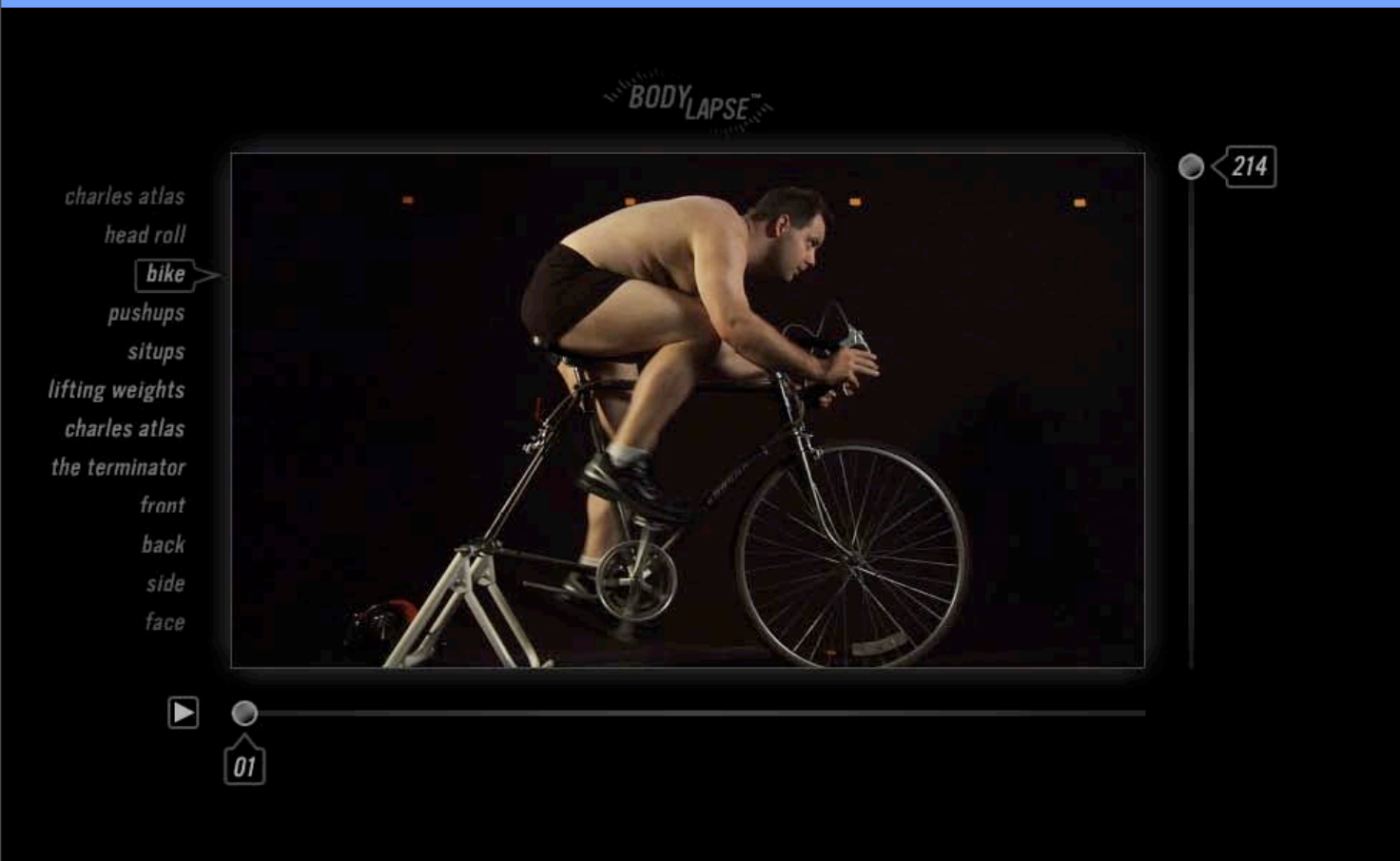


# Body Lapse





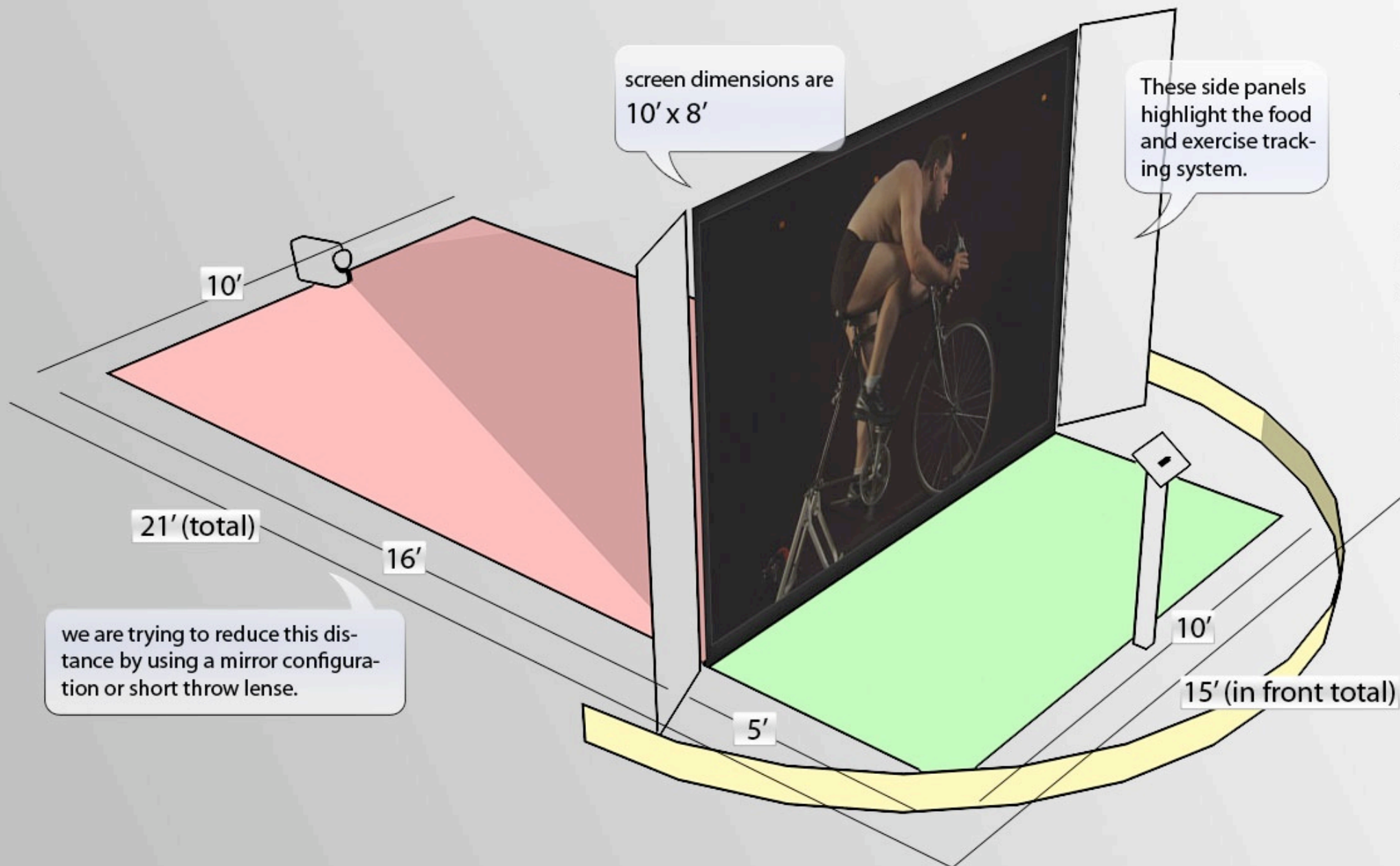
# Body Lapse



# Body Lapse



# Body Lapse



## BodyLapse

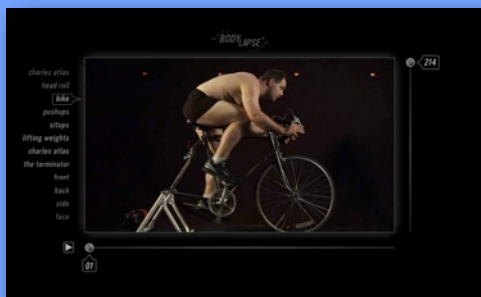
Total Dimensions:

Length (back of display to front control pedestal):21'

Width (behind display):10'  
Width (in front of display):15'  
Height (total):8'

Lighting considerations: We are aiming to use a 2500–4500 lumen projector so an area with lower ambient light would be preferable.

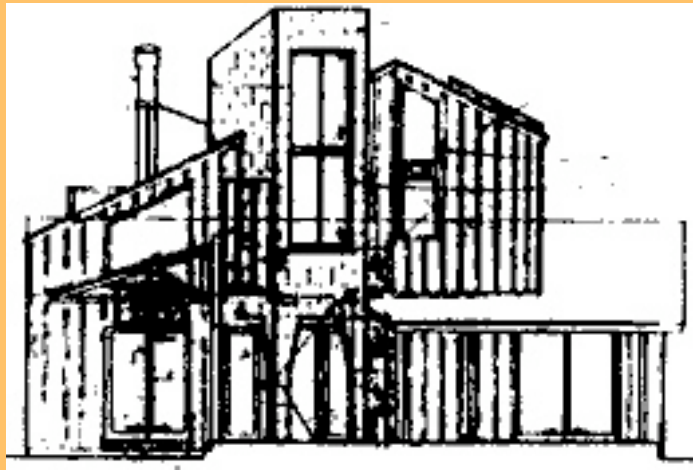




- What is research?
- Art, science, design and engineering
- Some modes of cross-disciplinary collaboration
  - Support
  - Inspire
  - “riff” and co-produce
- Blurring the boundaries
  - Genre-based research
  - XFR: research project and installation
- Post 20th Century collaborations



# Thank You



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