

TRANSFORMING MIRRORS

SOMA2607 - Multimedia Authoring I
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THEMES

- Will look at the way we choose and are allowed to express ourselves through technology
 - Does the way we present ourselves faithfully represent who we are?
 - Is technology acting as a filter, or changing our image to become something not originally intended?
 - *“Images are reconstituted at the receiving end with varying degrees of faithfulness to the original. It is a small step from this type of processing to interpretation. Already someone has decided what information is worth preserving in an image, and what is not. The neutrality of communications networks with become an increasingly significant, and at the same time, slippery issue.”* David Rokeby, Transforming Mirrors (1995)

INSPIRATION & MOTIVATION

- The Australian Government's proposed internet censorship filter



Image: <http://newmatilda.com/polliegraph/>

- Will this be another level of controlling the way we are able to express ourselves with technology?
- Is the information we respond to actually misleading us?

INSPIRATION & MOTIVATION

- John Heartfield
 - *Whoever Reads Bourgeois Newspapers Becomes Blind and Deaf: Away With Those Stultifying Bandages!* (1932)
 - “...it’s caption claims that other periodicals misinform their readers... the figure is literally blinded by the prejudices of these newspapers.” Getty Center Exhibitions - <http://www.getty.edu/art/exhibitions/heartfield/>



Whoever Reads Bourgeois Newspapers Becomes Blind and Deaf: Away With Those Stultifying Bandages!
(1932) John Heartfield

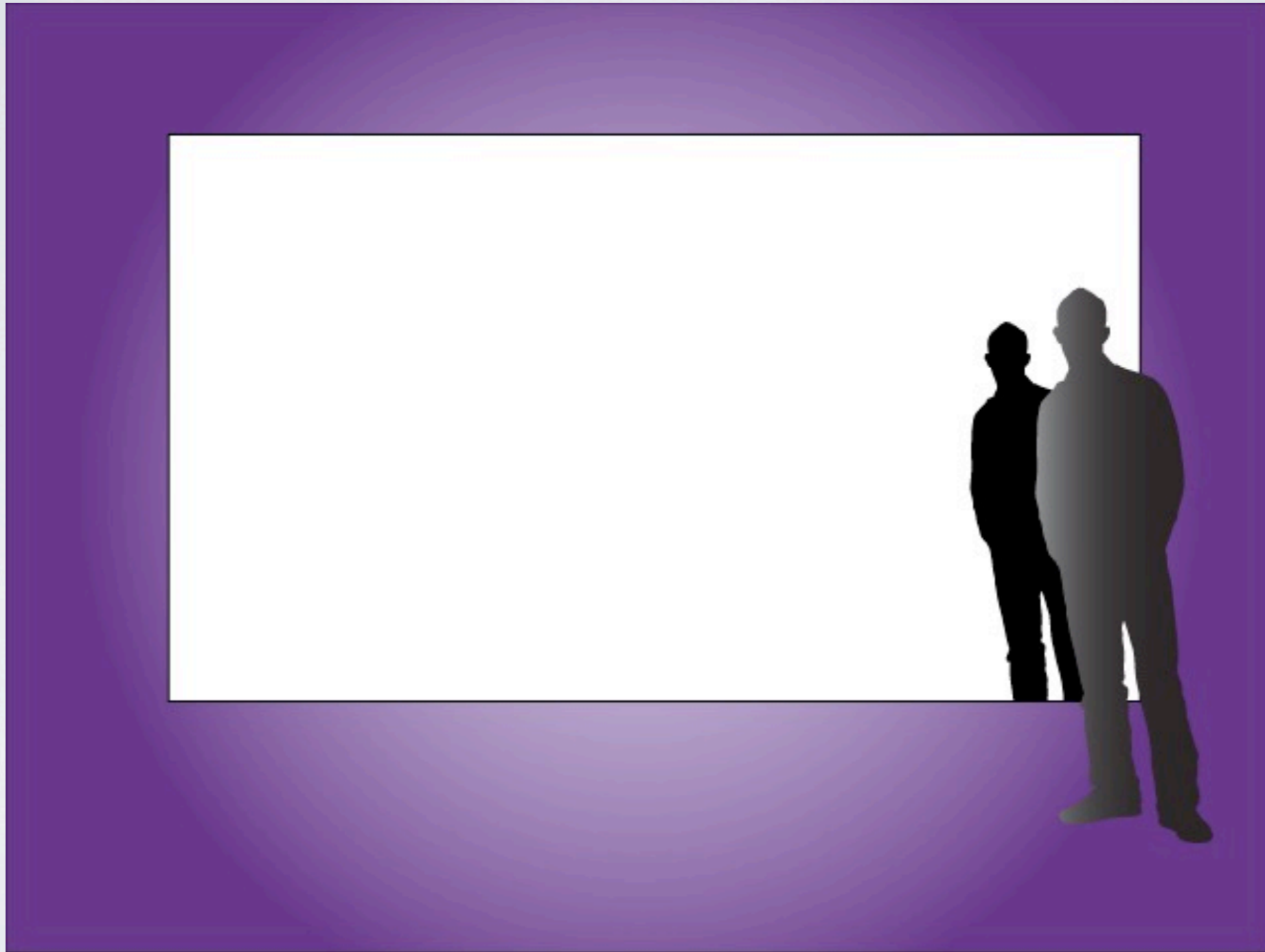
INSPIRATION & MOTIVATION

- United Visual Artists - <http://www.uva.co.uk>
 - Massive Attack Tour light show - incorporates headlines taken from RSS feeds to create social comment



Massive Attack World Tour 2008, Royal Festival Hall. Lighting by UVA

TIMELINE



- 01 > when participant arrives, the screen functions as a silhouetting mirror

TIMELINE



- 02 > if participant remains fairly static, RSS headlines begin to appear

TIMELINE



- 03 > if participant still doesn't move, more headlines are added

TIMELINE



- 04 > finally, random shapes enter the screen, attracted to the static participant

TIMELINE



- 05 > these elements begin to cover the participant, allowing more headlines to move downward

TIMELINE



- 06 > the participant's 'reflection' slowly disappears if they remain unmoved...

TIMELINE



- 07 > ...but can break through both the elements and headlines if moving rapidly

TIMELINE



- 08 > headlines and elements will remain off screen if movement continues

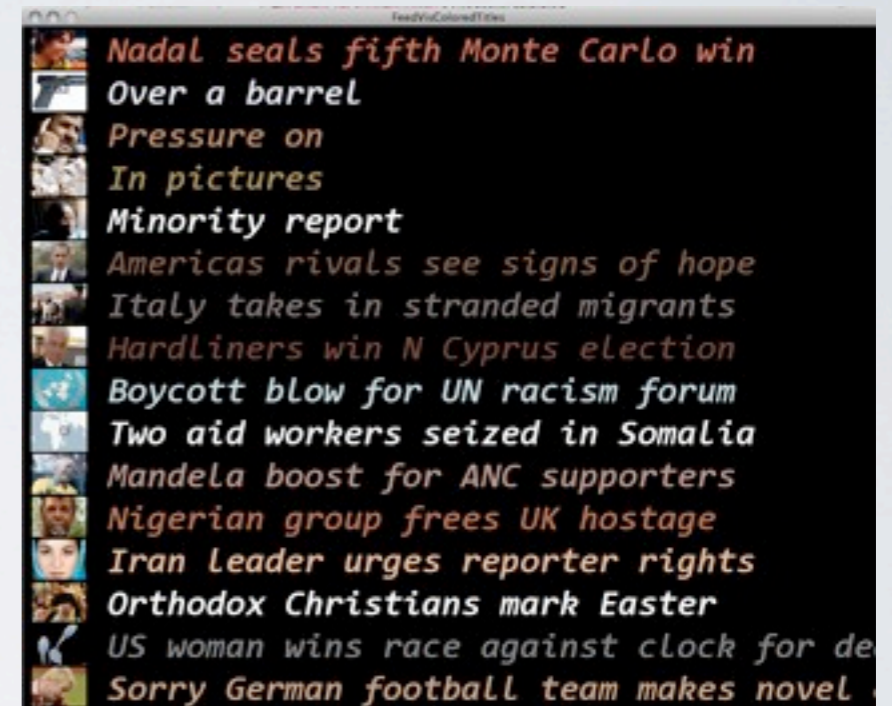
SOUND

- John Cage
 - *Rozart Mix* (1965)
 - Cage was interested in 'Chance Music', rather than pre-dictated scores
 - A wide range of television and radio sounds could be used randomly in an array



SIMILAR PROJECTS

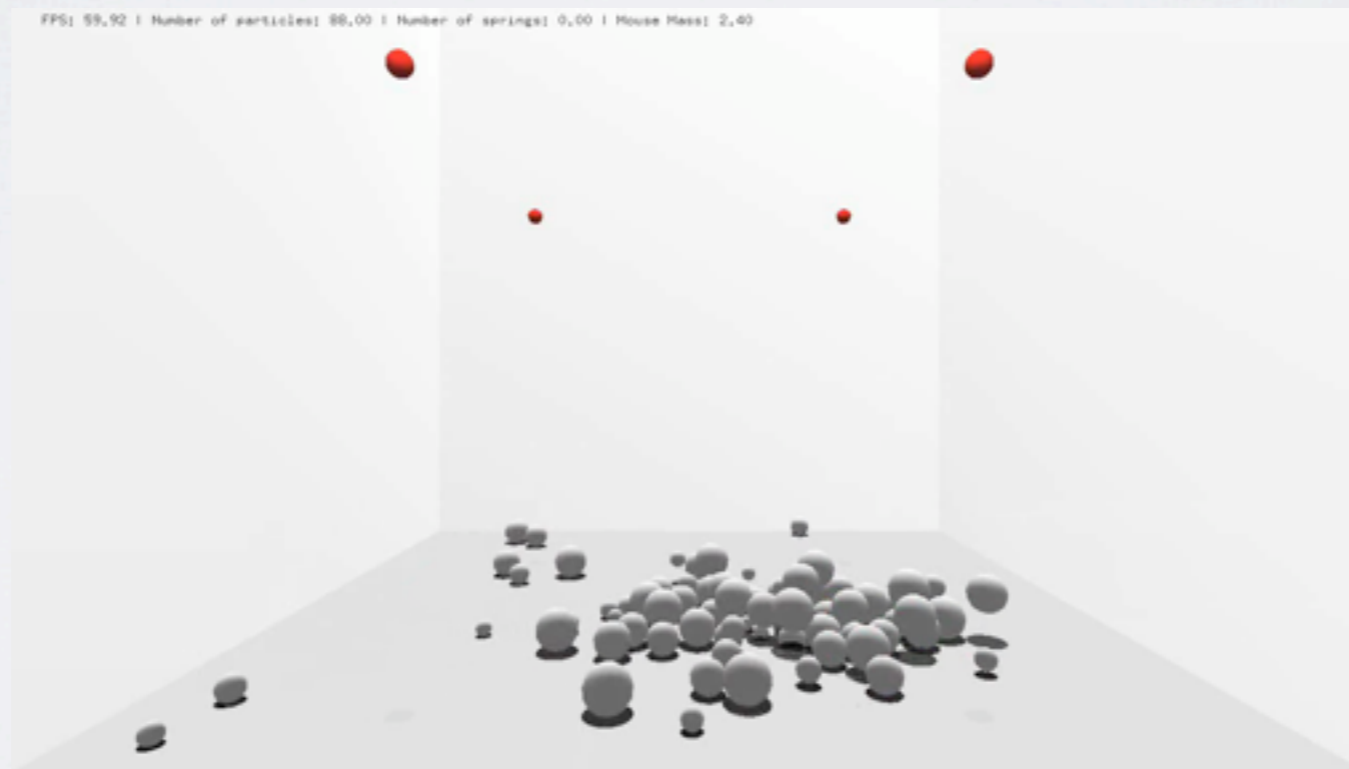
- RSS Feed Projects
 - Till Nagel's 'Processing RSS Feeds' tutorial
 - <http://btk.tillnagel.com/tutorials/rss-feeds-processing.html>
 - Code & Form's 'Read RSS Feeds in Processing'
 - <http://workshop.evolutionzone.com/2007/09/24/code-read-rss-feed-in-processing/>



FeedVisColoredTitles Sketch - Till Nagel

SIMILAR PROJECTS

- Memo Atken's ofmMSAPhysics - <http://www.memo.tv/ofxmsaphysics>
 - Emulates gravity of physical objects
 - Similar to the traer:physics library for Processing



ofmMSAPhysics v2 - Memo Atken