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INSPIRE

CREATE

CONTRIBUTE

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FREE
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A CLIENT IS THE DAY
YOU START LOSING
ONE.

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Almost Real Things

Welcome to your favorite magazine. Waste time in the most productive way possible with interesting information, illustrations, facts, art, and stories.

Almost Real Things is a space where all things that can exist, do exist. No reason necessary.

We are gathered here today to celebrate creative exploration and collaborate with people of a unified pursuit: improvement of life through doing. So do. Make. Create. There is no definition. There are no limits.

Enough philosophizing, let's see some Almost Real Things.

CONTACT

For advertising, general inquiries, questions, or simply to cure your loneliness, email us at:

hello@almostrealthings.com

FOUNDING MEMBERS



ZACHARY ZULCH

Graphic Designer /
Producer / DJ.

Tropically confused.



NATALIE EARHART

Arteest / Writer /
Renowned

namer of things.

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**Create, design and
produce your own
custom prints.**

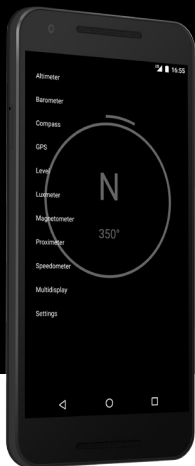
Learn the foundations and improve your skills with metal type, polymer plates, bookbinding and more.

All levels of expertise are welcome.



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SENSORMOB

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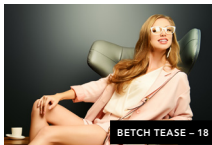
FEATURES



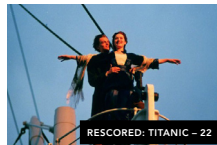
Fact: everything is so much better when it's free



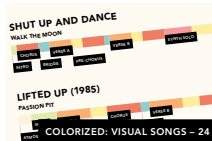
Go out and express yourself with this free gross. sticker!



Behind the scenes with fashion icon Tessa Renee



Hear your movies better with updated soundtracks



A glimpse into synesthesia: the art of hearing colors



Contributions from great up-and-coming artists

ON THE COVER

NOW IS THE TIME TO MAKE IT HAPPEN

The "Power of Words" mural was commissioned by #besomebody and painted by street artist Danny Gamble over the opening weekend of 2015's SXSW for Austin's Gus Garcia Young Men's Leadership Academy. It struck us as the perfect motivator to help people turn their Almost Real Things into reality.

BLOW

GLITTER BOMBS
EXPLOSIVES
SAIL
WHALE / DOLPHIN HOLE
FLAMING MARSHMALLOW
NOSE
WIND INSTRUMENTS
BUBBLES
WIND
BALLOON
BEACH BALL
DANDELION
KISSES
STRAW IN MILK
SMOKING GUN
HOT SOUP
BREATHALYZER
DRYER

SNORKEL
HARMONICA
DRUGS
UP

**THAT BLOWS. THIS SUCKS.
THESE WORDS ARE USED
SYNONYMously, BUT DO
THEY ACTUALLY MEAN
THE SAME THING?**

**HERE'S OUR EXPERT LIST
TO HELP YOU DECIDE FOR
YOURSELF. (P.S. DOES THIS
LIST BLOW OR SUCK?)**

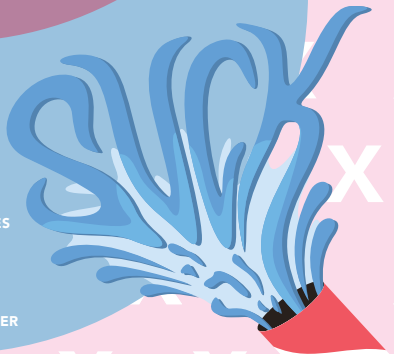
WHISTLING
PAPER BAG FOR
HYPERVENTILATION
BREATHING

POPSICLE
BLOW-JOB
NOODLES
OYSTERS
HELIUM
STRAW

BLOW (COCAINE)
SLURPEES
WARHEADS
LOLLIPOP
GLITTER BOMB GONE
HORRIBLY WRONG
JUICE JAMMERS
GOGURTS

THUMB
EGGS
HUFFING
NIPPLES
MOSQUITOES
VAMPIRES
PACIFIER


























KANYE'S FILTER



ULTIMATE LIFE BINGO

ONE BINGO GAME TO RULE THEM ALL

Tear this page out, share with your friends, and play across your lifetime! Make your predictions by filling in every other square with the names of friends, family, or whoever and cross them off as time goes on. Basically whoever dies last wins. Don't forget to yell "Bingo!"

LANDLINES MAKE A COMEBACK 	NAME GETS MARRIED FIRST 	YOU NEED TO USE A FIRE EXTINGUISHER 	ONLY USES A POLAROID CAMERA 	TEXAS SECEDES 
CREATES A FACEBOOK PAGE FOR THEIR NEWBORN 	OBESE BECOMES NEW "SLIGHTLY OVERWEIGHT" 	BECOMES ADDICTED TO CYCLING 	MICHAEL JACKSON HOLOGRAM TOUR 	GETS SIDEBURNS 
LAW AND ORDER HAS A SERIES FINALE 	WRITES A SELF- HELP BOOK 	FREE	DIGS A MOAT AROUND THEIR HOUSE 	GAS PRICES RISE ABOVE \$5 OR DROP BELOW \$2  
GETS A REAL ESTATE LICENSE 	YOU FIND A \$20 BILL ON THE STREET 	GOES THROUGH AN "ALL BLACK" PHASE 	LEONARDO DI CAPRIO WINS AN OSCAR 	SENDS A HOLIDAY CARD WITH THEIR PET 
COSTCO NOW SELLS MARIJUANA IN BULK 	TAKES A COOKING CLASS FOR ONE 	COACHELLA EXTENDS TO A WEEK LONG FESTIVAL 	TRIES TO BRING BACK JELLY SANDALS 	YOU GET STUCK IN AN ELEVATOR 



DO YOU NEED IT? EHH. DO YOU WANT IT? MAYBE.
WILL YOU TAKE IT? YES. BECAUSE IT'S FREE.

IT GOT US THINKING—AT TIMES WHEN PEOPLE
AREN'T HANDING OUT FREE STUFF FOR PROMOTIONAL
PURPOSES, WHAT ELSE IS AVAILABLE FOR THE
TAKING?

WITH OPEN EYES AND A LITTLE EXTRA EFFORT, A
LOT OF "NECESSITIES" THAT YOU MAY OR MAY NOT
NEED CAN BE YOURS. WHETHER IT BE FOR A BROKE
MAN'S SURVIVAL KIT, AN ART PROJECT, OR YOUR
HOARDING COLLECTION, HERE'S SOME GREAT FREE
STUFF YOU CAN FIND ALMOST ANYWHERE.

(HAVE SOMETHING TO ADD? LET US KNOW AT
ALMOSTREALTHINGS@GMAIL.COM AND VIEW THE FULL
RUNNING LIST ONLINE AT ALMOSTREALTHINGS.COM)



GROCERY	ANYWHERE!	\$0
WATER	(CITE THE LAW)	
ICE	DRINK DISPENSERS	\$0
HOT WATER	STARBUCKS	\$0
SODA	DRINK DISPENSERS	\$0
	(BYO CUP)	
COFFEE	MOST BANKS	\$0
CREAMER	COFFEE SHOPS	\$0
HONEY STICKS	STARBUCKS	\$0
SUGAR	CHIPOTLE: REAL RAW	\$0
	IN N OUT: REAL	\$0
	STARBUCKS: SPLENDA	\$0

GROCERY CONT'D		
SALT & PEPPER	IN N OUT	\$0
	COSTCO	\$0
	RESTAURANTS	\$0
PARMESAN & RED PEPPER		
	COSTCO	\$0
	PIZZA PLACES	\$0
KETCHUP	IN N OUT	\$0
	BURGER JOINTS	\$0
	COSTCO	\$0
MUSTARD	COSTCO	\$0
RELISH	COSTCO	\$0
CHOPPED ONIONS	COSTCO	\$0
LONG ONIONS	BBQ JOINTS	\$0
BREAD	BBQ JOINTS	\$0
PICKLES	BBQ JOINTS	\$0
SALTINE CRACKERS	MARKET SOUP/SALAD BAR	\$0
BBQ SAUCE	BBQ JOINTS	\$0
HOT SAUCE	BBQ JOINTS	\$0
	TACO BELL	\$0
TABASCO	CHIPOTLE	\$0
SALSA	MEXICAN PLACES	\$0
LEMON SLICES	CHIPOTLE	\$0
	IN N OUT	\$0
LIME SLICES	FREEBIRD'S	\$0
DUMDUMS	CHASE BANK	\$0
	WELLS FARGO	\$0
SAMPLES	COSTCO	\$0
	MARKET DELI, BAKERY	\$0

HEALTH & BEAUTY		
SOAP	ANY BATHROOM	\$0
	(BYO BOTTLE)	
SHAMPOO & CONDITIONER		
	GYMS	\$0
	HOTEL CLEANING CARTS	\$0
LOTION	BATH & BODY WORKS	\$0
SANITIZING HAND WIPES		
	MARKET ENTRANCES	\$0
MAKEUP SPONGES, Q-TIPS, PERFUME TESTERS		
	MALL	\$0
	SEPHORA	\$0
HEART RATE & BLOOD PRESSURE		
	CVS	\$0
	WALLGREENS	\$0

Project
den Dawn Arkestra

CELEBRATING
TEXAS MUSIC AND
10 YEARS OF FFF FEST

ON SALE EN
SAT N
SOJA

HOME TOOTHPICKS STIR STICKS	MID-LEVEL RESTAURANTS	\$0
	CHIPOTLE	\$0
	IN N OUT	\$0
	COFFEE SHOPS	\$0
STRAWS	FAST FOOD RESTAURANTS	\$0
CUP LIDS	FAST FOOD RESTAURANTS	\$0
FORKS, SPOONS, KNIVES	FAST FOOD RESTAURANTS	\$0
	MARKET SOUP/SALAD BAR	\$0
	PANDA EXPRESS	\$0
NAPKINS	FAST FOOD RESTAURANTS	\$0
PLASTIC BAGS	MARKETS	\$0
TWIST TIES	MARKETS	\$0
CANS & BOTTLES	RECYCLING BINS	\$0
MAGAZINES	LIBRARY	\$0
	WAITING ROOMS	\$0
BOOKS	LIBRARY	\$0
	BOOK EXCHANGES	\$0
PENS	BANKS	\$0
	RESTAURANTS	\$0
MISC		
SCRATCH PAPER	FLIERS	\$0
CARDBOARD BOXES	BEHIND MARKETS	\$0
KINDLING	HIKING TRAILS	\$0
PALLETS	BEHIND MARKETS	\$0
	HOME DEPOT	\$0
COINS	ON THE GROUND	\$0
	FOUNTAINS	\$0
SAND	BEACH	\$0
ROCKS	RIVERS	\$0
COUCHES & TVS	SIDE OF THE ROAD	\$0
RANDOM	CRAIGSLIST	\$0

SUBTOTAL TX TAX 8.2500% TOTAL \$0.00 \$0.00 FREE!

TOTAL SAVINGS THIS TRIP \$00

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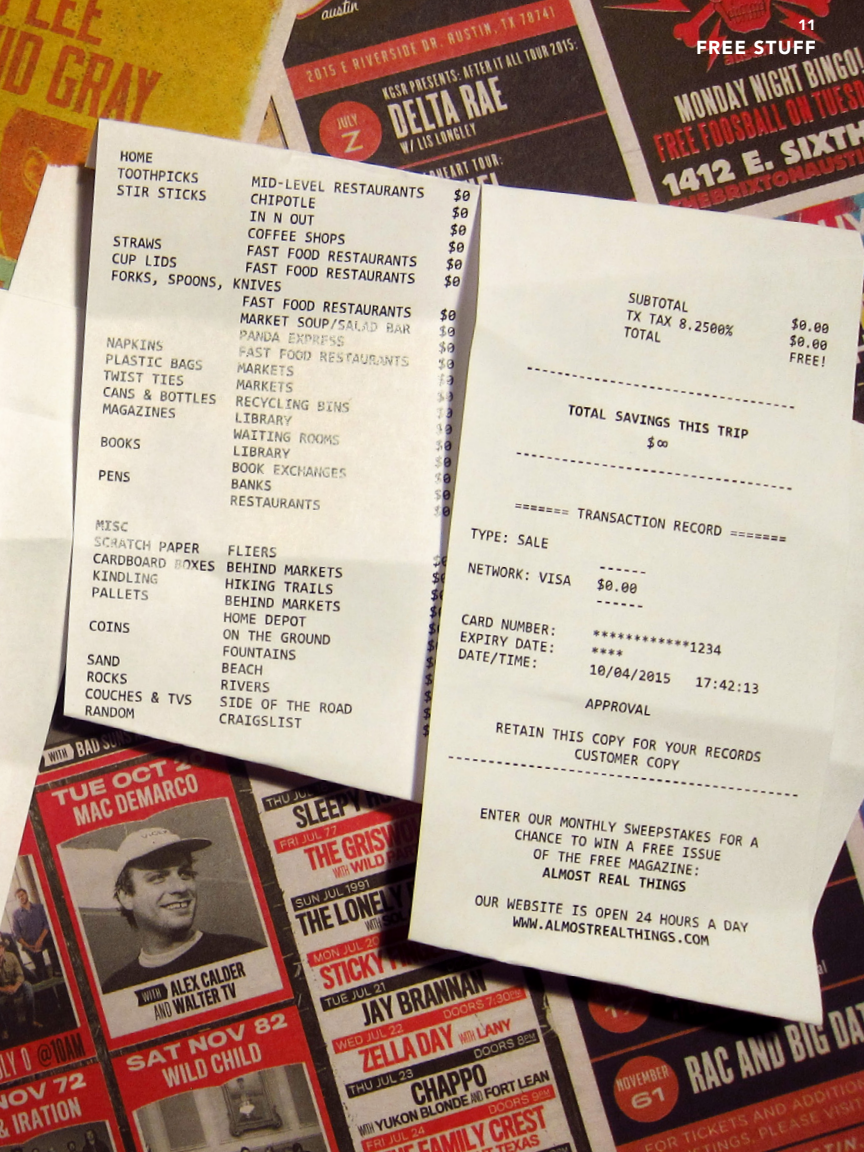
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APPROVAL

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ACT LIKE YOU KNOW

Whether trying to impress your new hip co-op friends (Andrew) or interviewing for a Craigslist job, these simple talking points are guaranteed to make you seem like the smartest person in the room...to a very limited extent. (Probably best to name drop and let them do the talking).

"draft pick"

"by-week"

running back =
most important

kickers/defense - pick last

basic positions:

- quarterback
- wide receiver
- running back
- tight end



FANTASY FOOTBALL

WES ANDERSON



JASON SCHWARTZMAN

MUTED COLOR PALETTE

WILSON BROTHERS

FRENCH POP MUSIC

BILL MURRAY

FUTURA FONT

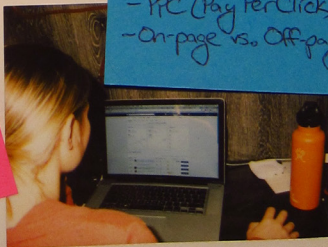
UT AUSTIN

- Hootsuite
- Google Analytics
- SEO = Search Engine Optimization
- Throw these around:
 - Demographic
 - Campaign
 - Insight
 - Posts
 - PPC (Pay Per Click)
 - On-page vs. Off-page



CAKE DECORATING

fondant
buttercream
airbrush
crystallized sugar
tips (they are #d)
cake bags
turntable



SOCIAL MEDIA

gross.

EXPRESS YOUR OPINION

EVERY DAY WE'RE BOMBARDED WITH THOUSANDS OF ADS AND PROMOTIONS COMPETING FOR OUR UNCONSENTING ATTENTION. THESE COMPANIES AND ORGANIZATIONS ARE EASILY ABLE TO PAY FOR REAL ESTATE IN OUR EVERYDAY LIVES.


Introducing the “gross.” sticker. Included in this issue is your very first ammunition to fight back. Let people know your opinion. It's just as valid as any millionaire's.

We are not discounting the advantages of advertising, only the content and the way it's presented. We advocate what graphic designer and writer Sean Tejaratchi refers to

as “reciprocity.” People are not real estate to be bought and sold. No. Instead, we are in an explicit relationship with these companies.



It is guaranteed that they will enter every crevice of our lives given the chance. The flip side of this silent “agreement,” being as most of us do not have the funding or time to launch a full scale campaign against them, is that we are allowed to re-use, re-interpret, re-mix and re-contextualize any of it. No permission is required by either

side. After all, *Almost Real Things* is about collaboration! If you think something is great, reach out, let them know! And if it's not, tell them it's gross. 

TO ORDER MORE

If you have a lot of opinions or simply like the word gross on powder blue, you can restock through our website at: almostrealthings.com/gross.

SHARE YOUR WORK

We want to see your latest and greatest uses for the gross. sticker! Use #grossthings and mention us on Twitter @almostrealthing.

NOMENCLATURE ANIMALIA

Flysa Minneli

Goldie Fawn

Bruce Quillis

Kurt Russell Terrier

Willem DeFowl

Teddy Mercury



HAMELA ANDERSON

Howly Berry

Bill Furry

Dennis Quail

Meryl Sheep

Hulk Hoggin

Brad Pitbull

Anjoeylina Joeyline

Ryan Goosling

Dustin Hoofman

Flyly Flyrus

Ferret Fawcet

Justin Timbersnake

Kate Moth

Tilda Swanton

Charlize Heron

Lindsay Loham

Michael Quackson

Squawking Phoenix

George Washingfin

Llama Del Rey

JD Salamander

Hillary Puffin

Andy Warthog

Vincent van Goghpher



WOODY OWLEN



ABRAHAM INKIN



I SEE THAT YOU LIKE TO READ

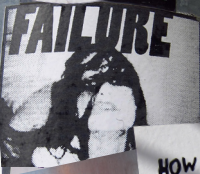


I ALSO LIKE TO READ

hello 







Frijoles.



Stop
Meat
Salad

READ
MOTHER FUCKING
BOOKS!
ALL DAMN DAY

Amen



STICK AROUND TOWN
breakup



band



BLAH
坏人



HELLO
I'M
CREEPY

WE LIVE IN THE FUTURE
(WE KNOW YOU'RE GONNA MAKE IT!)
COLORMEBOUT.COM



RAW
PAW



SLIM KILLS ALL
@SLIMKILLSALL

212



BETCH TEASE

WITH *TESSA RENEE*

World renowned fashion designer Tessa Renee has been causing quite a stir with her new fashion line targeted at teens, tweens, twenties, and hunnies. We were lucky enough to be graced with her presence for this exclusive Almost Real Things interview. View her specially curated “Betch Tease” line exclusively available at almostrealthings.com.

Tessa glides in, right hand firmly grasping a chic porcelain coffee mug and saucer, undoubtedly gifted to her by the local barista. Her carefully crafted outfit floats effortlessly on her petite frame, and if her clothes could speak I’m sure they would express their excitement at being chosen from her endless wardrobe. I stand to greet her and she introduces herself with a giggle. She smells of artisanal lavender honeysuckle and takes a seat in the designer lounge I just rose from. I readjust my workspace and begin the interview.

WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE FASHION?

It was around the time I realized how horrendously awful the average person looks in everyday life. So around 5 years old. The next year my dad gave me a \$50,000 investment and sent my designs to China to make it

happen. That’s like, true American capitalism if you ask me. From rags to riches betches!

WHERE DO YOU FIND INSPIRATION?

I pull a lot from my life experiences and my relationship with my nearly divorced parents. Sometimes it’s important to just rebel. It’s like they always say, well behaved women rarely make history.

“*From
RAGS
to
RICHES
Betches!*”

IT SEEMS LIKE YOU ONLY USE HELVETICA IN YOUR DESIGNS. IS THERE A REASON BEHIND THIS?

Helvetica, to me, is simply the most basic font. It’s almost primal instinct to choose it, right? It has that vanilla flavor that really speaks to every betch.

WHO ARE YOUR INFLUENCES?

I’m very into J&B Productions right now. Their use of found objects and materials has such a global sensitivity. Also classics like Yamamachi Threds, Dedier Willshaun, and so on.

I LOVE THOSE GUYS. BUT ONTO BETCH TEASE. HOW YOU COME UP WITH THE PHRASES?

My designs are all based on the philosophies of my BFFs and me. I’m a big fan of living in the moment so I usually just text my assistant my ideas. I believe that everything will work out exactly the way it’s destined to be. That’s why I never spell-check or edit any of my work.

A

WOMEN'S CLOTHES
— FOR —
WOMEN'S CLOTHES
MODELS

The world's hottest new fashion designer talks sexy & chic new looks and her rise to fame.



PHOTO BY PHOTOGRAPHER / INTERVIEW BY ZACHARY ZULCH

BETCH TEASE WITH TESSA RENEE

**HOW DO YOU CHOOSE YOUR MODELS?**

I truly believe that there are no ugly women, only lazy ones. I think "Helene" Keller said that. Anyway, basically whoever has thrown up most recently gets picked. That's how you get the best body.

IS THIS A FEMALE-EXCLUSIVE LINE?

I don't associate with gender classifications. But our shirts only go from size xx-small to medium so you can't be bigger than that.

WHERE ARE YOUR SHIRTS MADE?

All of our shirts are proudly manufactured by only the highest quality Chinese laborers.

I'M CURIOUS ABOUT YOU AS A PERSON.**WHAT DO YOU DO IN YOUR FREE TIME?**

I like to go people watching because it gives me so many opportunities to say "eww." Why don't people just try harder? Like, seriously. I find great joy in browsing Tinder to lead guys on. Just girly things.



DO YOU EAT?

I live on kale chips and rain water kombucha but occasionally I'll splurge on cold pressed PSL froyo. Did you know frozen yogurt doesn't have any calories?

I'M NOT SURE THAT'S RIGHT. ANYWAY, WHAT CAN WE EXPECT FROM YOU AND BETCH TEASE IN THE FUTURE?

My same groundbreakingly genius creative output will plague me for the rest of my life.

LAST THING—AND EVERYONE'S BEEN WONDERING ABOUT THIS FOR A WHILE— CAN MEN BE BETCHES?

Only if they're born that way. Once a betch, always a betch! 🍷

Photos courtesy of Betch Tease LTD.
Production Assistant: Clark Meyer

RESCORED
AN UPDATED
SOUNDTRACK FOR
TITANIC

BY NATALIE EARHART

I constantly find myself muting the sound to movies, television shows, and home videos while blasting my own music that fits perfectly. A song can define a moment in film and conveys a feeling to the audience that otherwise would be empty. So many films do it right; including perhaps one of the most famous scores from the late composer extraordinaire, James Horner, of *Titanic*. However, in an effort to modernize and add a new perspective to the film, I have taken on the role of composer to re-score and update the *Titanic* soundtrack.

WOAH THAT SHIP IS BIG

*HOW CAN YOU SWALLOW SO MUCH,
BOMBAY BICYCLE CLUB*

The long intro to this song mirrors Rose's gaze before boarding the *Titanic*. The song also has a nice build and the title foretells Jack's tragic end.

COME TO ME

JUNGLE FEVER, THE CHAKACHAS

I replaced the classic music here with this funk jam that exudes sexual tension. Imagine Rose walking down the steps in slow motion as this song rises in as Leo gives us an eyebrow raise.

DANCING MACHINE

HOOKED ON YOU, PAROV STELAR

Parov Stelar is a nice mix of modern dance with old world swing. No one can resist dancing to this song and the title ties Jack and Rose together. The band would have even made a nice cameo.



**I'M A BIRD!**

ALL THIS AND HEAVEN,
FLORENCE + THE MACHINE

I know, I know. How could I replace the infamous Celine Dion? Well deal with it. Florence's ethereal voice improves this moment.

**ROSIE POSIE**

HEAVEN WAITS, GEOGRAPHER

The tempo of the drum mirrors the heartbeat of this moment. It is simple and stripped down (pun intended), maintaining the emotion of this sensual moment.

**LET'S HAVE SEX IN THIS OLD CAR**

MOTH'S WINGS (STRIPPED), PASSION PIT

Without being too sentimental, this acoustic or "stripped" version modernly pays homage to this infamous scene, while still respecting the moment of love.

**WATER IN THE HULL!**

SWEET DISARRAY, DAN CROLL

This song is a nice blend of classical symphony and simple melody. It maintains a peaceful demeanor while slowly building in intensity as the boat fills with water.

**I'LL NEVER LET YOU GO**

SNOW, THE CHEMICAL BROTHERS

Everything about this song reminds me of being underwater. The slow, repetitive build is all encompassing of this moment where, in the end, love transcends all tragedy.

VIEW MORE

But wait, there's more! To fully experience how this upgraded soundtrack improves the film, I have edited together a new and improved trailer that represents my vision more clearly. You can view it and listen to the full new score on our website at: almostrealthings.com.

COLORED

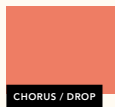
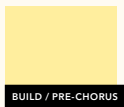
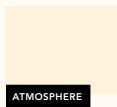
(VISUAL SONGS)

ARTICLE: ZACHARY ZULCH

As a producer I find myself wondering about the best way to arrange my track. Different arrangements reveal certain emotions that should play into the overarching theme of your song. It's just as important as the lyrics you choose or the sounds you use.

The deconstruction of interesting or thematically relevant songs helps me visualize the flow and layout decisions that were made by some of my favorite artists (and some of my least favorite). Pay special attention to the genre of each example, as well as the tempo and track length. These details will give you further hints into what the producer was attempting to achieve through their arrangement.

Different sounds and emotions trigger different colors in my mind. It's a condition called synesthesia that I try to take advantage of when producing. That's why the parts of each song are colored according to the key below. The first instance of each part is labeled.



SUGGESTIONS?

We'll deconstruct your selection in the next issue.

FACEBOOK

/AlmostRealThings

TWITTER

@almostrealthings



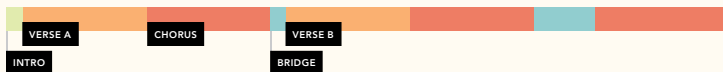
POP, RAP, HIP-HOP



BLANK SPACE

TAYLOR SWERFT

96 BPM 3:51



SUGAR

MAROON 5

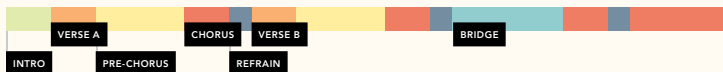
120 BPM 3:55



UPTOWN FUNK (FT. BRUNO MARS)

MARK RONSON

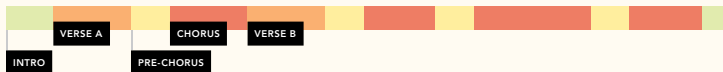
115 BPM 4:30



TALK DIRTY (FT. 2 CHAINZ)

JASON DERULO

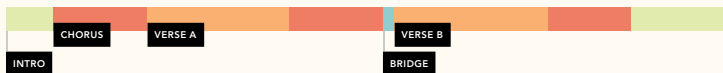
97 BPM 2:57



WE DEM BOYZ

WIZ KHALIFA

130 BPM 3:44





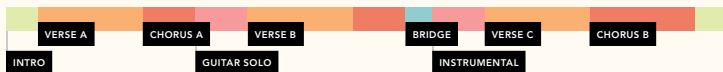
ALTERNATIVE, INDIE



DEAD INSIDE

MUSE

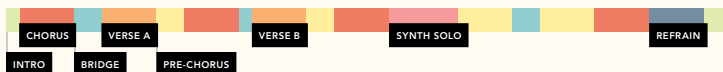
100 BPM 4:22



SHUT UP AND DANCE

WALK THE MOON

128 BPM 3:19



LIFTED UP (1985)

PASSION PIT

125 BPM 4:23



GOLD

CHET FAKER

140 BPM 4:45



LET IT HAPPEN

TAME IMPALA

125 BPM 7:49





ELECTRONIC



BANG THAT

DISCLOSURE

125 BPM 5:26



SAY MY NAME (FT. ZYRA)

ODESZA

115 BPM 4:22



SOMETHING NEW

AXWELL / INGROSSO

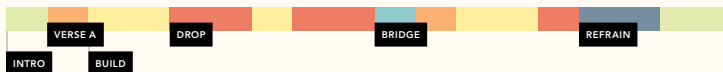
130 BPM 4:07



TAKE Ü THERE (FT. KIESZA)

JACK Ü

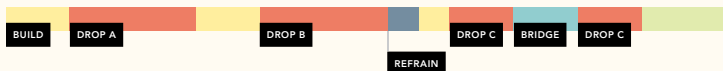
160 BPM 3:30



TURN DOWN FOR WHAT

DJ SNAKE & LIL JOHN

100 BPM 3:33



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CLIP ON



PAIR UP



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URBNAudio

THE COOKBOOK

WITH



Music producers share their “secret recipe” for a great track within their scene. It’s less about the formula and more about the tools and work flow to expose tips and inspiration!

1

THEMES

Usually 80–124 bpm for tropical daytime jams. Hip-hop rhythms work well for lower tempos and four to the floor beats are a good place to start for higher tempos in that range.

2

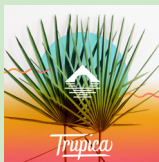
EQUIPMENT

Ableton. Drums are sampled or arranged in EZDrummer. Korg M1 for great pianos. Massive or Sylenth for synth programming. Simpler for vocal sampling. Waves plugins for audio effects.

3

LIVE

Akai APC40 for clip triggering and Akai MPK49 for live synths and drumming. Plugged into a custom Ableton set with 4 main tracks. Scarlett 2i4 for cue functionality.



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E V E R Y W H E R E

S I N C E  2 0 0 5



**J U S T I F I E D
T Y P E C O R P**

F O R G E T A B O U T K E R N I N G @ G M A I L . C O M

Artist Spotlight

The following section is composed of submissions from talented up-and-coming artists. Whether they're students, after-hours-artists, or unemployed, these creative designers, poets, musicians and more are tirelessly pushing their art form forward.

THIS EDITION'S FEATURED ARTISTS:

Demi Anter, Paul Washington, Zachary Zulch, Natalie Earhart, Andrew Whited, Reluctant Hobo, Vandal, Elisa Wikey, Karen Woodward, Tambout Naguer, Cathy Savage and Graham Franciose

CONTRIBUTE YOUR WORK

This zine is built on collaboration. If you have finished or unfinished work you'd like to feature in Almost Real Things, please send an email to hello@almostrealthings.com.

STUPID SMILE

DEMI ANTER - ARTIST: PROXYSHOP.CO

I prefer to be pale.

I like seeing the blue lines shift underneath me in mirrors,
flicker, transparent, like another skin, under-skin,
of blood and tissue and this is my body.

I prefer to know the strings that hold it (me) together

I prefer to see

the red-orange blossoms of cheeks
the dull grey freckles that guide them
to pink ears, to white lips
the raw, the undercooked,
the pious,

I prefer to burn, in sunlight
because like

Ondaatje cries,

What is love

without the pleasure of a scar?

And to the stars, I am a diamond,
and to rivers, I am stone,
and to Fathers, I am Rose,
and to Mothers, I am a thorn,
and to God, I am content,
and to the roar, I am ocean,
and to the silence, I am a blip,
and to you, I am a picture
taken in stillness;

it's snowing, and
you'd only know I'm (was) there
because you're (were) holding your hand out
like this.



ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: ZACHARY ZULCH

Graphic Designer: zacharyzulch.com, new-next.com



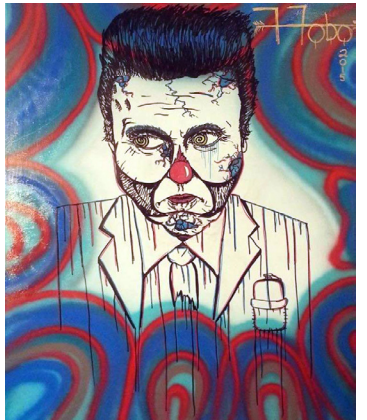
THINGS I BLAME

- I blame the girl with the smelly banana sitting across from me
- I blame David Sedavis, Dave Eggers and Tina Fey for saying it so much better
- I blame the USA channel and their law and Order SVU marathons
- I blame Netflix and their free month trial
- I blame Netflix for automatically playing the next episode
- I blame The Office for having 9 glorious seasons
- I blame the days for being too short and my to-do lists for being too long
- I blame the part on my laptop that broke where I connect the charger, forcing me to keep it plugged in
- I blame myself for plugging it in to the socket closest to my bed
- I blame my bed
- I blame my hand-me-down zebra robe
- I blame my parents
- I blame the rain for rusting my bike lock and the boy at the bike store for convincing me to buy a U-lock
- I blame the person who stole my bike and my U-lock
- I blame my routine of blaming routine every day
- I blame the fluorescent lights on my ceiling
- I blame my neighbor's pitbull Bat and his "anxiety issues"
- I blame clocks and watches and phones for counting on me to count them down
- I blame my multiple tabs
- I blame the #1 bus driver with too many piercings on her face and too much anger in her voice
- I blame everyone who does it better
- I blame myself for blaming all of these things instead of creating something more important.

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: ANDREW WHITEDGraphic Designer: andrewwhited.com

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: RELUCTANT HOBO

Graffiti Artist: [instagram.com/reluctant_hobo_art](https://www.instagram.com/reluctant_hobo_art)



ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: INTERVIEW WITH VANDALGraffiti Artist: [instagram.com/vandal_1](https://www.instagram.com/vandal_1)

VANDAL'S FAVORITE PLACE TO...

MAKE ART

Anywhere I can do it freely and not harassed. I got to paint a mural in a closed down warehouse last month and that was fun because it was a chance to make art outside of my studio.

SEE ART

On the East Side and Down Town. But mostly at the shows I produce and promote booking other artists to show their work.

HEAR ART

Hahaha... Again, at our shows. We are called M.A.S.S. which stands for Maintaining Artists Self Sufficiency. We book bands for our events too.

FEEL ART

All around me.

INSPIRE ART

Roaming the streets... Observations from these experiences. From my personal ideas and thoughts manipulated into characters, symbols, and color.



HUMAN INTERACTION



PSS EAST



FLASHBACK



DREAM STATE





ELISA'S FAVORITE PLACE TO...

MAKE ART

My home studio and around
in local watering holes.

SEE ART

Guzu Gallery and pop up art fairs.

HEAR ART

Any rooftop patio.

FEEL ART

Eeyore's Birthday Party.

INSPIRE ART

Quite literally everywhere.
Austin is brimming with it.



UPCOMING SHOW

Elisa will be exhibiting at Staple! Independent Media Expo at the Marchesa from 3/5 to 3/6.

THE MARCHESA HALL & THEATRE

6226 Middle Fiskville Rd., Austin, TX 78752
More info at: themarchesa.com

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: KAREN WOODWARDMixed Media & Glass Sculpture Artist: karenwoodwardstudios.com



UPCOMING SHOW: MENTAL STATES

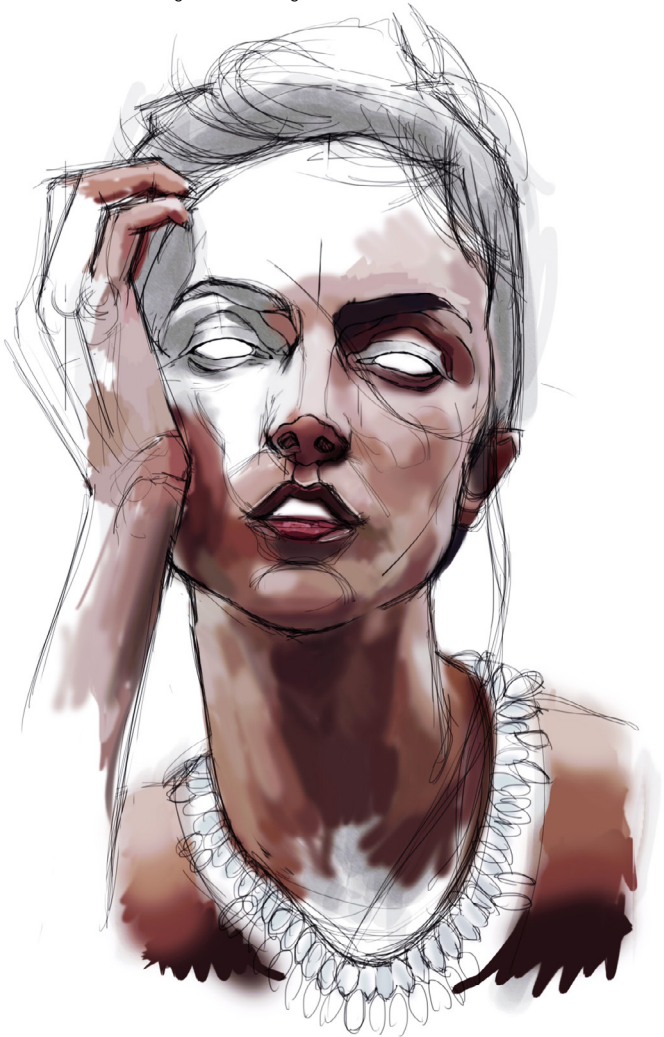
Check out more of Karen's art in person at Art for the People Gallery from 2/16 to 3/27.

ART FOR THE PEOPLE

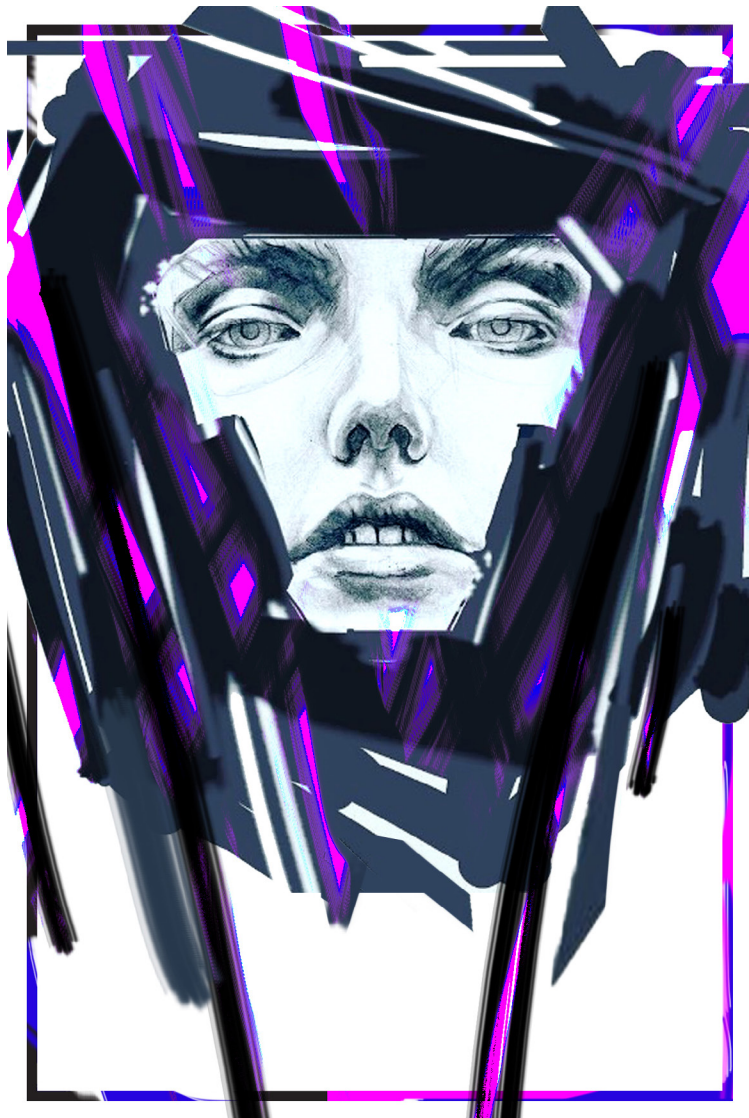
1711 South 1st Street, Austin, TX 78704
More info at: artforthepeoplegallery.com

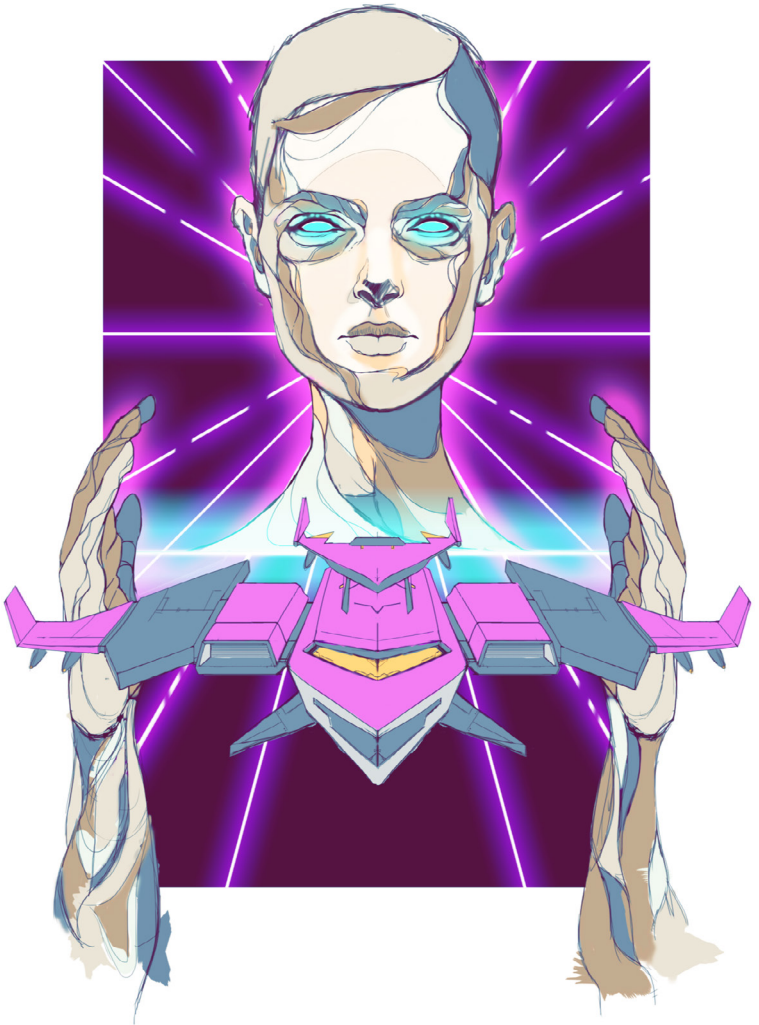
ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: TAMBOUT NAGUER

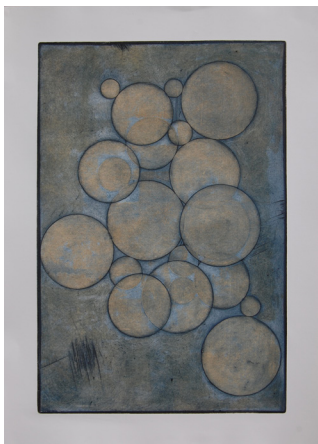
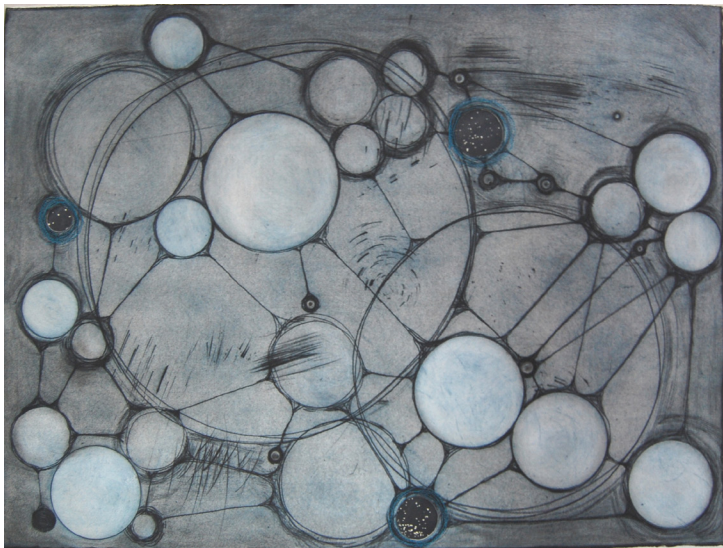
Digital Media & Fashion Designer: tamboutnaguer.com







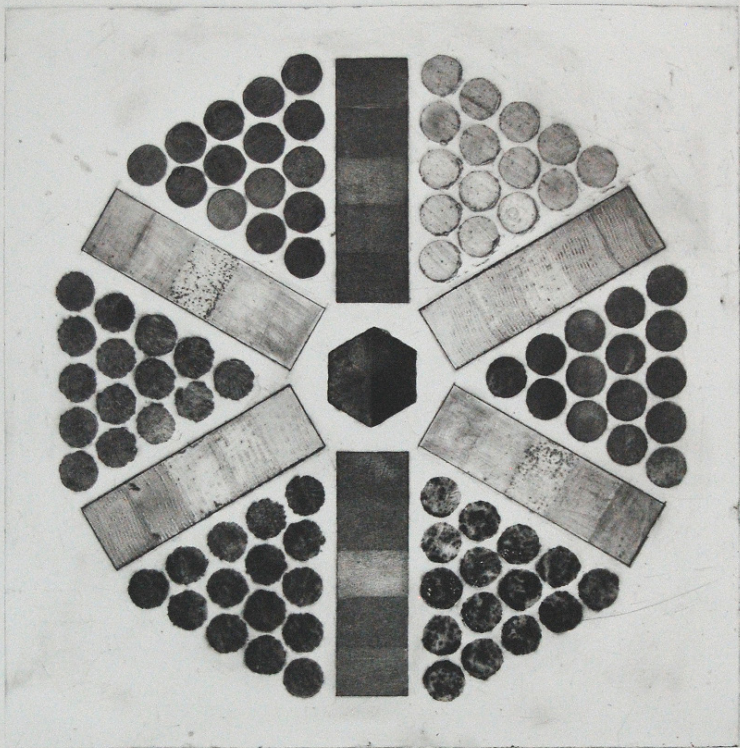


ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: CATHY SAVAGEPrintmaking and Mixed Media Artist: savageartist.com**TOP:****"SPACETIME II"**

monoprint (intaglio, monotype, thread), 22" x 30"

LEFT:**"AFTER ARCHIMEDES' ANTIKYTHERA MECHANISM"**

collagraph with viscosity roll, 30" x 22"



"STUDY IN MARS BLACK"

collagraph, plate 19.5" x 19.5", paper 30" x 22"



"THE NEWS TRAVELED FAST, AND SLOWLY ENGULFED HIM"

watercolor, ink and gouache on coffee stained paper, 12" x 12"



"THE LESSON"

ink, gouache, and 22k gold leaf on coffee stained paper, 16" x 20"



"UNABLE TO LET GO, EVEN THOUGH..."

Ink and gouache on coffee stained paper, 18" x 24"



"FOOLS"

watercolor, ink and gouache on coffee stained paper, 18" x 24"

DESIGNERS IN TECH: IT'S TIME TO START THINKING STRATEGICALLY

It has become utterly apparent to me recently that we are in a state of transition in the design world. Over the past decade we have been introduced to a myriad of new platforms including smart phones and tablets, which have completely transformed the way we view design in the modern age. Gone are the days where the role of a designer was to create pretty letterhead and expertly kerned business cards; In 2016 we have emerged as a creative tour de force, and the need for critical thinkers has never been in higher demand. We have evolved into quick-thinking business people, marketers, researchers, psychologists, and strategists, *and we are just getting started.*

Do you remember when the iPhone came out? Do you remember the hype? The idea of having one spot for your calendar, calculator, camera, photos, notes, weather and beyond was a sight to behold, and unlike anything we had seen before. The platform created a foundation of endless possibilities for tool creation, and altered our perspective towards everyday conventions from gaming to productivity.

With the advent of the app store, designers were forced to think

about how their designs could be stretched, tapped, moved and swiped, and launched into a mindset that transcended their static predecessors.

Nearly ten years later, we are able to control virtually any situation from the palm of our hands. There is truly an app for everything these days, and we are becoming extremely efficient at creating tailored one off experiences that produce short term results.

A GAME CHANGER

The first iPhone paved the way for how we evaluate design today. There have been many versions of the device since then, but this complex invention was one of the first examples of the beautiful marriage between design and technology.



Even then, I can not help but think to myself, *how long does this app culture last?*

As design solutions become more complex, dare I say, we are outgrowing the days where an app is the only answer to our problems.

That's not to say that they are not a vital role in the design ecosystem, because they are. However, over the past couple years we have started to see companies (and their designers within) start to shift the focus from quick, siloed design solutions to a more systematic approach. From a company's website to their app to their advertising to their corporate structure, design is starting to spread like wildfire in companies small and large, and the general public is beginning to take copious notes.

We have seen companies like Google, Apple, and Airbnb emerge as design power-houses, and it is clear that their investment in good design has had an effect on their perception and ultimately their ROI. They have created design languages and systems that allow anyone to properly execute their brand guidelines, and it is clear that every detail matters.

Most notably, however, is the way in which such companies are perceiving not only *what* they design, but *how* they design it. Companies such as IDEO, argodesign, and IBM have created design thinking methods to standardize the process of creation, ultimately allowing for quicker, more robust results down the line.

This is an exciting time to be a designer of any sort, and the rate at which our profession is expanding is truly astounding. It's basically the wild west in terms of what's to come, and sometimes we have to remind ourselves that the technologies that we have come to love and appreciate are less than a decade old.

I leave you with this thought: as we continue to further the progress of design, keep in mind that your work is often times just one piece of the puzzle. As you evaluate your work, think of its place in the larger system. Think critically, stay curious, and ask questions. Don't be afraid to take chances! 🎲

SPENCER HUDDLESTON

Design Strategist

spencerhuddleston1@gmail.com



BERNIE SANDERS LACKS BIG MONEY, ETHNIC FEATURES

Presidential Candidate Bernie Sanders expresses disdain over lack of big money donations. "It's pretty unfair that the rest of these guys get both funding and a script," said Sanders, admitting that he's "responsible for researching most of [his] own decisions." He explained that he would consider taking the easy way out but added that "no one offered."

In an interview with the New York Times looking back at the successes of current POTUS Barack Obama's grassroots campaign, Sanders regretfully mumbled that he'll have to "pull that same shit" if he wants to have a shot at the presidency.

Sanders says "Anyone with a wallet hates my policies" before announcing his focus on poor students and poor people in general. "Understandably, the most difficult hurdle with this demographic is convincing their wealthier bosses to allow them a break or the day off on November 8th, national election day."

Another setback stems from Sanders himself. He's slated as "too typical looking for minorities." Rosa Dominguez, a local Hispanic, claims "I would vote for the guy



but he's just too white. I mean I'm not racist but it would be easier to take his side if he could dig up even 1/32nd Latin heritage." The 73 year old white haired, white skinned senator has the ideal look for a Republican nominee; however, "they still hate me" claims Sanders.

His apparently controversial policies including free college tuition at public colleges and universities, a working healthcare system, and removal of the Orwellian systems allowed by the USA Patriot Act have received considerable backlash from his opponents who ask "why can't we just keep things the way they are?" 🗣️

DO YOUR PART

This country is at an important crossroads.

Go vote for whoever you think can help fix the problems. Unless they're funded by the Koch Brothers. Then just stay at home and count your money.

REGISTER TO VOTE

usa.gov/Citizen/Topics/Voting/Register.shtml

#ALLVOTESMATTER

HYGIENIC MEMORY CLEANSE TREATMENT PROMISES SECOND CHANCE FOR CRIMINALS AND DIVERGENT PERSONALITIES

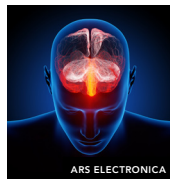
During Monday's press conference, head HMC Labs scientist, Rafal Sahanujan, assured attendees that "the preservation of life and a morally sound society is our main concern." After nearly two decades of highly classified research and trials, their recently acclaimed operation is "highly stable and ready for immediate application in the field—following legislative approval of course" claims Sahanujan.



Reports state that a full HMC can successfully wipe and restore balance to the human mind with minimal collateral damage, while preventing any future chance of corrupt behavior or thought. Patients experience a three week long rehabilitation session during which they are reintroduced to socially acceptable conduct and reintegrated into daily routines.

Tests of the Hygienic Memory Cleanse treatment administered on death row and solitary confinement inmates show a startling 99% success rate in the elimination of divergent behavior and thought. "It's as though the patient's mind had been rewired toward purely positive traits. His personality remained in-tact, for the most part, but there was a very noticeable improvement in temperament and emotional response" remarked Swiss press associate Angelica Napal, having been invited to HMC's first press demonstration operation last month in Bern.

"We foresee innumerable lifesaving potential for HMC. I would be surprised if the US has any need for capital punishment following the roll-out of HMC procedures" stated Sahanujan optimistically, adding "a life anew is vastly superior to a life taken." Further government approval is pending on low dose over the counter treatments that will soon be a viable option for minor offenders and regular consumers alike. ☐



HMC TREATMENT SCIENCE LESSON

Our neuroscientists first map the patient's mind while exposing them to trigger content. This indicated any non-conformities when compared to a pure, healthy brain. Target sections are then treated using imaging waves and a variant of the inverse Radon transform, destroying and repairing synapses.

COMMENTS?

HMC Labs@gmail.com

GCTV INCREASES SAFETY AND CONVENIENCE FROM HOME



THIS MONTH, THE UNITED KINGDOM HAS UNVEILED PLANS TO INCREASE THE EXTENSIVE CCTV NETWORK INTO THE RESIDENTIAL SPACE.

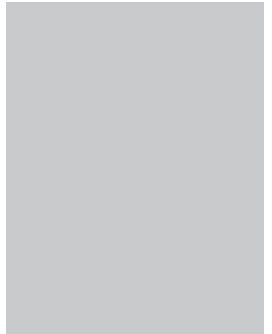
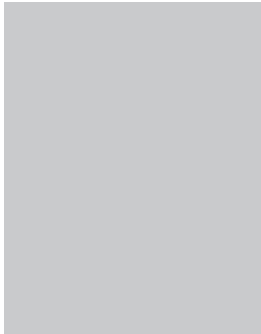
In order to more effectively communicate with its citizens, British parliament has passed major legislature to increase the scope of the wildly successful surveillance program. Each home, beginning and stemming from downtown London, will be outfit with a state of the art entertainment and communication system.

Residents can begin registration for the new Government-Citizen Television, or GCTV, this coming March. The device promises to make previously painstaking governmental tasks easier by providing a 24 hour connection to a full service video operator. Services such as DVLA vehicle registration, road traffic offenses, tax payment and more can be sorted in minutes instead of days. In addition,

all government communication will be publicly broadcast directly into the homes of each resident, allowing for effortless implementation of new laws and ordinances. A full list of included services is available at www.gov.uk.

Parliament has politely responded to privacy concerns by assuring all citizens that although GCTV is always on, footage recorded through its camera is never viewed unless deemed necessary by the appropriate policing entities. It is evident that there is nothing to fear so long as citizens abide by all laws.

The new device will also perform many basic functions free of charge such as receiving all BBC channels and sponsored music programs. "This initiative is absolutely splendid and will save me plenty of bustling about. Quite life-changing, really" Laurie Dutton, mother of three, commented with great enthusiasm. 🇬🇧



NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL AIGHT

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HOZIER

THE MONSTER
EMINEM FT. RIHANNA

TOGETHER
THE XX

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WRITTEN BY KATIE EDWARDS: KATIEAWKWARDS.WORDPRESS.COM

SUCKERS

"How many licks does it take to get to the center of a Tootsie Pop?" becomes "How many licks does it take to achieve orgasm?"

SUSTENANCE

Peanut butter & jelly sandwiches will be made with whatever bread is on sale and laziness rather than with love. The crust will remain in tact, unlike your dignity for not being able to feed yourself properly.

PARTIES

The only princess themed parties you'll attend will either be hosted by A) The friends crazy enough to already have popped out a few human larvae, or B) Your drunken bachelorette gal pals looking for an excuse to wear a tiara and swap spit with a bunch of frogs.

CAREER PATH

You'll still be asked "What do you want to be when you grow up?" but the road to discovery won't involve caricature Crayola self-portraits. You will probably only know one brilliant jackass who actually stuck with premed long enough to become a doctor.

FRIENDSHIPS

Having imaginary friends will no longer be a sign of creativity but rather a sign you should see a shrink and sort that shit out.

DATING

The dating world will feel like your oyster, but you'll realize you don't need an aphrodisiac when you're horny all the goddamn time.



*Ballsy
&
Hook*

ADVERTISING

**WE HAVE
WHAT IT TAKES.**

BALLSYANDHOOK@GMAIL.COM

The background of the entire page is a warm, orange-toned photograph of a city skyline at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright glow and long shadows. In the foreground, a body of water reflects the light, and a small boat is visible on the left side. The overall mood is optimistic and forward-looking.

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