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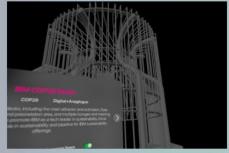
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Storytelling with Multi-Sensory AR



Interactive & Immersive Virtual Activations Gallery



Game from the Perspective of the Colourblind



Generative Al Historical Scene Explorer



Additional Works: Featured Professional Projects



This project combines augmented reality and interactive storytelling to create an immersive, multisensory experience. The project emphasises user participation, accessibility, and collaboration, highlighting the potential of AR in art while exploring human-computer interaction and inclusive design.

Tools:









Keywords:

#Human-Computer Interaction #Augmented Reality #Interactive Storytelling #Accessibility #Multimedia Art #ParticipatoryDesign Website:

ART FEED



https://canacechen.com/beforethesunrises.html

Research



Inspiration

The inspiration for the artwork was apple's live photo. When the user presses and holds a live photo, a short animation from the time when the photo was taken will be played.

Multi-sensory AR as an accessible medium

AR empowers the connection between the human senses and technology; it blends digital information with the real world for people to have a unique perspective. This gives AR the potential to influence people emotionally and socially (Pucihar and Kljun, 2018). Choosing AR allows users to experience the artwork with multiple senses, enabling a more engaging and immersive experience while enhancing inclusiveness for diverse users.



AR for mobile phone user

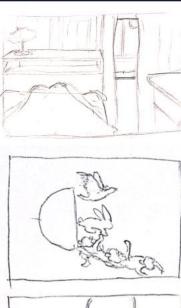
Since AR is displayed using a mobile device, the screen will be relatively small and the user will have one of the hands occupied. In this case, it would be easier for the user to move the device relative to the real world rather than moving their fingers on the screen (Henrysson, Billinghurst and Ollila, 2005).

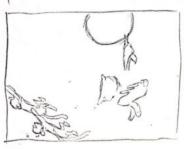
Collaborative AR

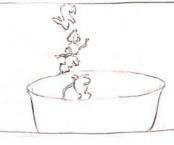
The interface needs to display its components with clear visibility and information so that the users will understand the purpose of each component and find the right one to use. The tools should not take too many interactions to use because having faster switches among the them will allow the users to multitask better (Jacucci, 2005).

User Groups

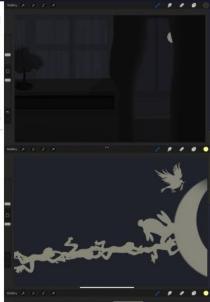
User Group	Needs and Wants
General public	 Engaging narrative and visually appealing experience Clear and easy-to-follow instructions to ensure understanding Seamless interaction between physical and digital elements
Art/Technology Enthusiast	 Smooth, intuitive, and logical operation Enjoyable exploration of interactive art and technology Ability to understand both the technical and artistic aspects of the experience
Families	 Age-appropriate content that is entertaining and accessible to all family members Simple and intuitive user interface for ease of interaction Non-technical instructions for smooth usage by all age groups
Students	 Inspiring and thought-provoking content A well-organized, clear, and engaging user journey
People with disabilities	 inclusive design Comprehensive accessibility research to meet diverse needs
Elderly Users	 Larger text and buttons for better readability and ease of navigation Simple interactions with minimal steps to avoid confusion

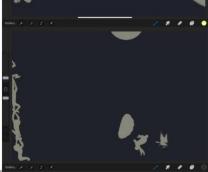
















Animation Making

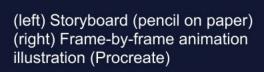


Yutu (from Hanyuefu)



Jingwei (from The Classic of Mountains and Seas)

Xuanwu (from Chu Ci)







The animals from mythologies run across the sky every night, and before people wake up, they fall from the sky and become animal shaped biscuits.

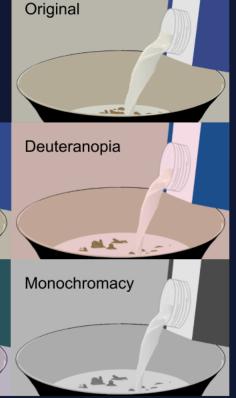


The animation was made using Da Vinci Resolve 16. Since animating on 2s is commonly used in animation studios (Lally et al, 2018), this technique is adapted here to reduce the workload.

Colourblind filters

4 colour filters are provided for the 4 types of colourblindness (applied results shown in the images below).



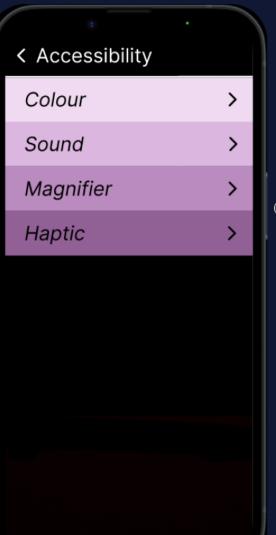


Before the Sun Rises Canace CHEN Dec 14 2022 The Traditional Beijing Animal Biscuits used to be my favourite breakfast as a child. I linked the biscuits to four Chinese mythologies and fables about animals. Chang'e Flying to the Moon (rabbit), Jingwei Reclamation (bird), Monkeys Fish the Moon (monkey) and Xuanwu (turtle). I always believed that nighttime is when all the bizarre things happen; it makes the ancient become current, and the fictional become real. Everyday life is monochromatic, because everyone has to take responsibility and play

Magnifier

Enlarges any part of the interface and objects in front of the camera, making it easier for older users to see and read.

Accessibility



Dual Soundtracks

The animation provides 2 sound tracks: one with the story narrative and one with only ambient sound. The story narrative is designed to help people who needs more context in order to understand the story, especially for blind people who heavily relies on hearing when experiencing the world (Bisenzi and Carducci, 2022).



Haptic Feedback

The haptic system is enabled by default. It vibrates twice when the app is ready to scan, when the photo has been successfully recognised, when the photo is not within the frame during the animation, and when the animation is finished. It vibrates once when the user presses a button. It provides feedback to help guiding users and improve overall perception (Díaz et al, 2006). The User can turn it off manually.



AR Interface Development



Scanning Page

Helps users align the photo print with the app's onscreen frame for accurate recognition. The app checks the surrounding lighting to ensure a successful AR experience. If the environment is too dark, users are prompted to turn on the flashlight.



Multi-sensory AR Animation

Once the photo is recognised, the Multi-sensory AR animation begins to play over the image. A red button is included for users to capture photos or record videos, creating a sharable experience.



Info

The Info page overlays essential project details on photo/animation. It displays the project name, artist(s), completion date, and the artist statement, providing additional context and background.

AR Collaboration Tool

Invites users to move their phones to engage directly with the artwork. Adding their own "graffiti" on top with the selection of brushes and colours provided. This participatory design encourages creativity, collaboration, and engagement, allowing users to become co-creators and inspire each other, all while maintaining the integrity of the original piece.





Art Feed

A curated space for inspiration. It allows users to explore other projects and artists, fostering a sense of community and promoting the exchange of creative ideas, encouraging further exploration and collaboration in the AR space.









Interactive & Immersive Virtual Activations Gallery

This project investigates how immersive technologies can enhance experiential marketing through interactive AR and VR. Drawing upon usercentred design principles and industry research, it explores spatial computing's role in delivering authentically engaging brand experiences.

Tools:



IBM as a tech leader in sustainability Drive





*3D models designed and developed by GPJ UK Creative Team

Keywords:

#Augmented Reality #Virtual Reality #Human-Computer Interaction #Spatial Computing #Experiential Marketing Website:





https://canacechen.com/gpjactivationsgallery.html

Research

91%

EventTrack found that 91% of consumers report having more positive feelings about a brand after participating in immersive and interactive experiences.

Grand View Research's study indicates that the global AR in retail market size was valued at USD 3.76 billion in 2022, with expectations for robust growth at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of over 47% from 2023 to 2030.

3.76 billion

A Bizzabo survey found that of of event planners are investing in emerging technologies like AR/VR to create personalised, memorable experiences.

By developing a past activation collection on Apple Vision Pro, we harness a spatial computing device to deliver deeply immersive and interactive experiences. Instead of relying on traditional 2D media to showcase past events, this approach leverages mixed reality environments where users can intuitively explore, engage, and interact with the content (Apple, 2023).

This approach not only differentiates our offering in a competitive market but also aligns with evolving industry trends where brands continually demand memorable, authentic experience through utilising cutting-edge technologies (BCG 2021). Ultimately, this app amplifies the storytelling potential of experiential marketing, delivering a more meaningful connection between clients and the creative capabilities behind each activation.

Purpose

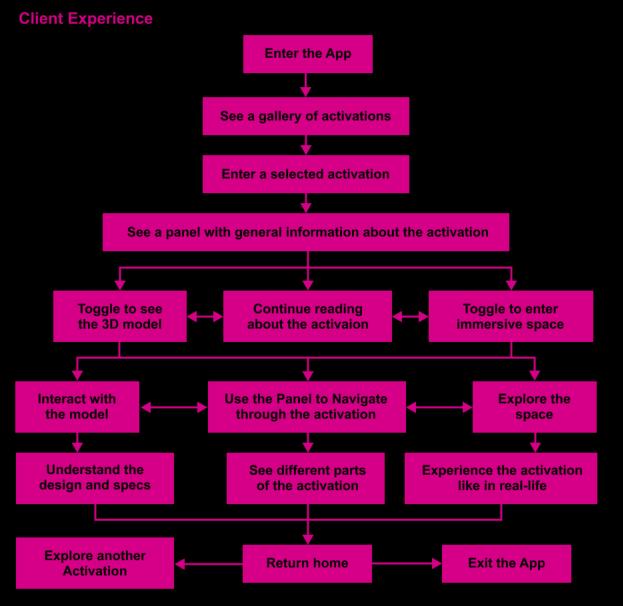
This app immersively showcases the company's past activations, letting users explore and interact with projects through a gallery, detailed miniature models, or full-scale virtual experiences. Designed for both self-guided and client presentations, it highlights our experiential marketing expertise and capabilities.

Functionalities

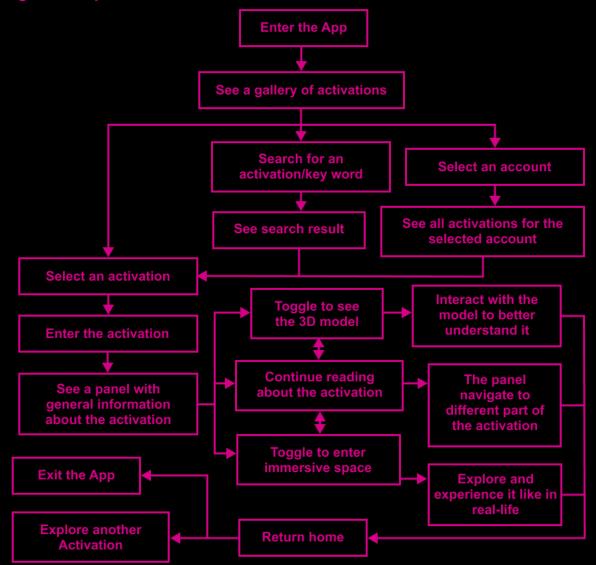
- Gallery of Activations: A visual catalogue of all past activations.
- · Guided Tour: Providing insights on each activation interactively.
- Interactive Miniatures: Explore miniature models for better understanding.
- Immersive Activation Experience: Virtually enter life-size activations for an authentic experience.
- Activation Explanations: Detailed information about each activation.



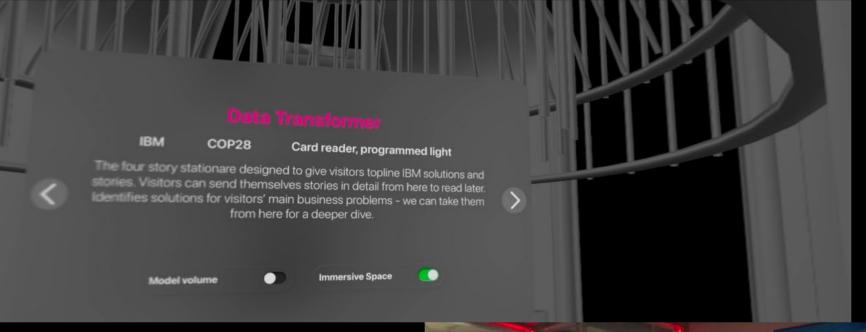
User Journey



Self-guided Experience



Interaction Design



By toggling the "Immersive Space" option on the interface panel, the user steps directly into the activation, allowing them to move around as if physically present. This approach offers an authentic sense of space and scale, immersing them in the atmosphere and depth of each activation.

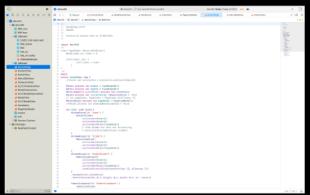


Immersive S

By toggling the "Model Volume" option, a miniature model of the activation appears beside the panel. They can rotate, zoom, and inspect each component closely, gaining insights into design details, spatial arrangements, and material selections. By closely examining the activation from understanding of the work.

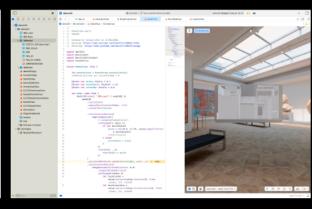


Implementation



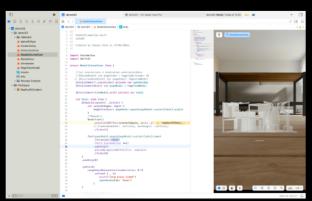






App Setup

Initialises shared variables and view models, configuring window groups, styles, and immersive settings.



Homepage

Displays the initial homepage, showcasing all past activations and allowing users to choose which to explore. structured information to other views.

Centralised Data Storage

Stores and organises all data—accounts, names, and design specifics—supplying

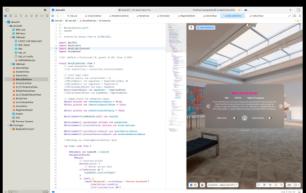
Interactive 3D Model Controls

Renders the 3D activation model and enables user interactions like rotation and zoom.



Life-Size Virtual Environment

Creates the fully immersive, room-scale VR experience, enabling users to navigate a true-to-scale activation space.



Content for the Panel

Presents activation details, provides toggles to switch for AR model and immersive space, and a button to home.



Dynamic Navigation and Layout

Manages navigation logic, displaying chosen content while maintaining a consistency in page structure and flow.

Miniature Model Display

Shows the interactive 3D miniature model with its name, connecting to underlying 3D controls for detailed inspection.

Result Showcase













Game from the Perspective of the Colourblind

A retro triptych of games that aim to raise awareness about colour blindness, each level is designed to represent one of the three types of colour blindness: deuteranopia, protanopia, and tritanopia.

Tools:





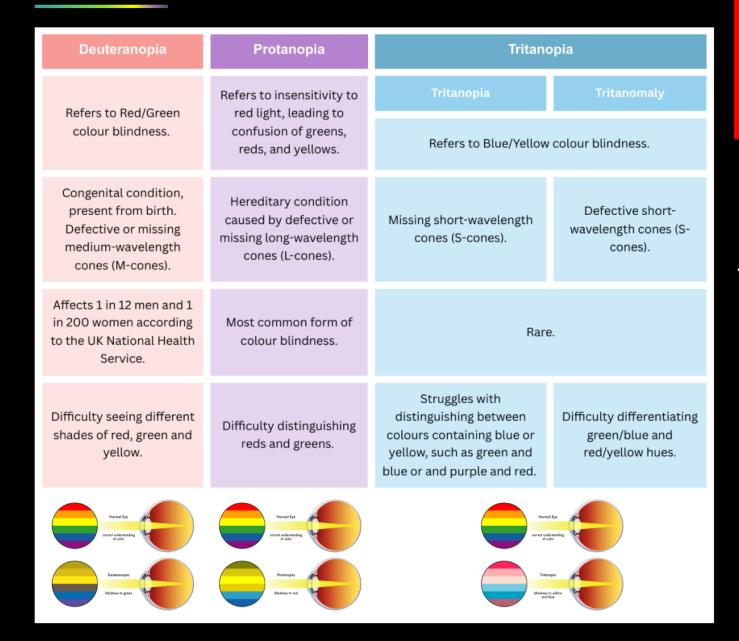
Co-created with Diana Milena Galindo Clavijo

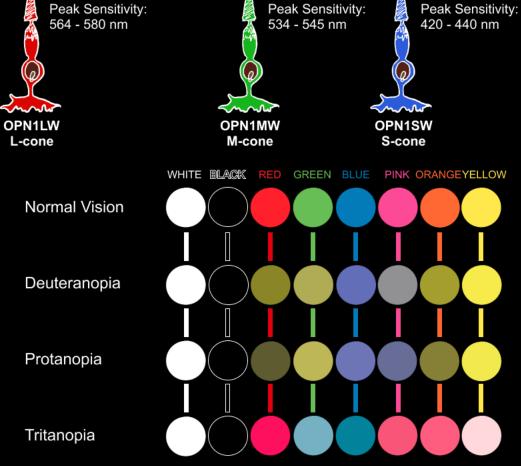
Keywords:

#Game Design #UI/UX Design #Gamified Learning #Digital Inclusion #Interactive Storytelling Website:



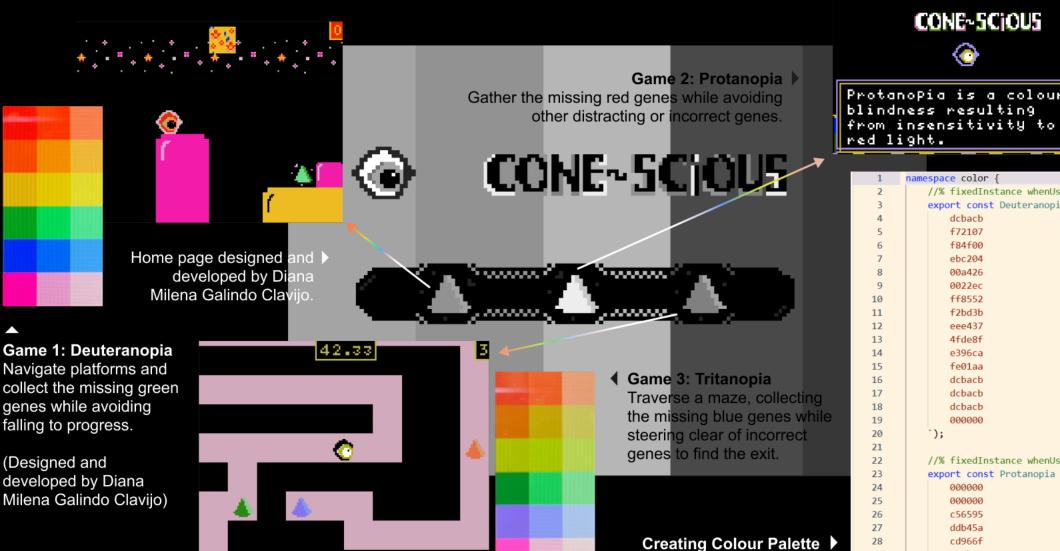
https://canacechen.com/conescious.html





Game Concept & Design

The game raises awareness about colour blindness by immersing players in its three main types: Deuteranopia, Protanopia, and Tritanopia. Starting in black and white, players navigate colour-shifted levels, collect missing cone cells, and restore full colour vision. Completing all levels reveals the true colour spectrum.





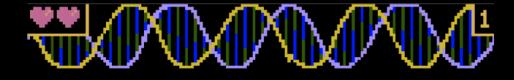
namespace color //% fixedInstance whenUsed block="Deuteranopia" export const Deuteranopia = bufferToPalette(hex` f72107 f84f00 ebc204 00a426 0022ec 10 ff8552 11 f2bd3b 12 eee437 13 4fde8f 14 e396ca 15 fe01aa dcbacb 17 dcbacb 18 dcbacb 19 000000 20 `); 21 22 //% fixedInstance whenUsed block="Protanopia" 23 export const Protanopia = bufferToPalette(hex) 24 25 000000 26 c56595 27 ddb45a 28 cd966f 29 e0db4c d2h83f

for Each Game

Game 2: Protanopia

2. Gameplay

The player controls the eyeball, navigating the DNA chains to collect red genes while avoiding incorrect ones.





1. Intro

The start screen introduces Protanopia, and explains to the player about the gameplay.



CONE-SCIOUS



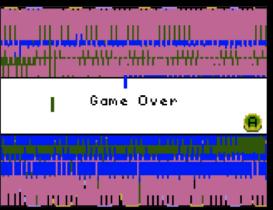
Protanopia is a colour blindness resulting from insensitivity to red light.

Concept and Gameplay

The second level, inspired by Space Invaders, focuses on Protanopia, or red-green colour blindness. The game design features a background of two DNA chains missing red genes, visually representing the condition. Players control an eyeball avatar to collect red genes while avoiding other genes, with three lives available. Losing all lives ends the game, while collecting 10 red genes restores the missing L-cone and related vision.

3. Lose

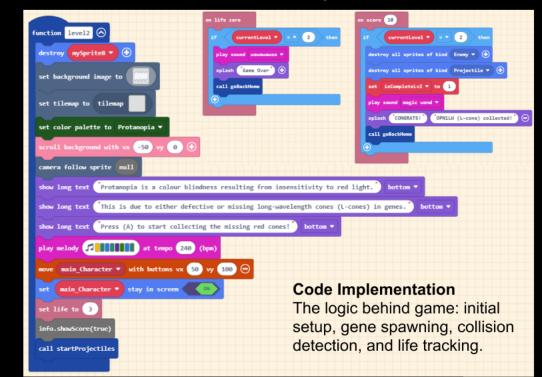
The player loses all lives.





4. Win

The player successfully restored L-cone and the colour vision for Protanopia.



Game 3: Tritanopia

1. Intro

The start screen introduces Protanopia, and explains to the player about the gameplay.



Concept and Gameplay

The third level centres on Tritanopia through a mazestyle gameplay. Players are tasked with collecting the missing blue genes while finding their way out of the maze. Each correct gene adds one score, while wrong genes deduct one score. The player has 100 seconds to complete the maze; failure to escape or falling below zero score results in losing. Successful completion restores the S-cone and related vision.

2. Gameplay

The player navigates a maze, collecting blue genes and avoiding incorrect genes while racing against the clock.



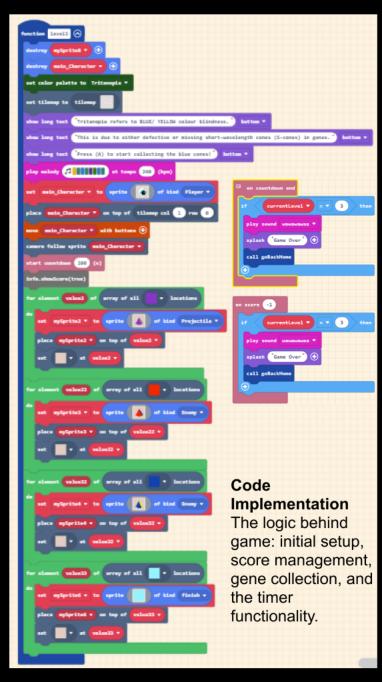
4. Win

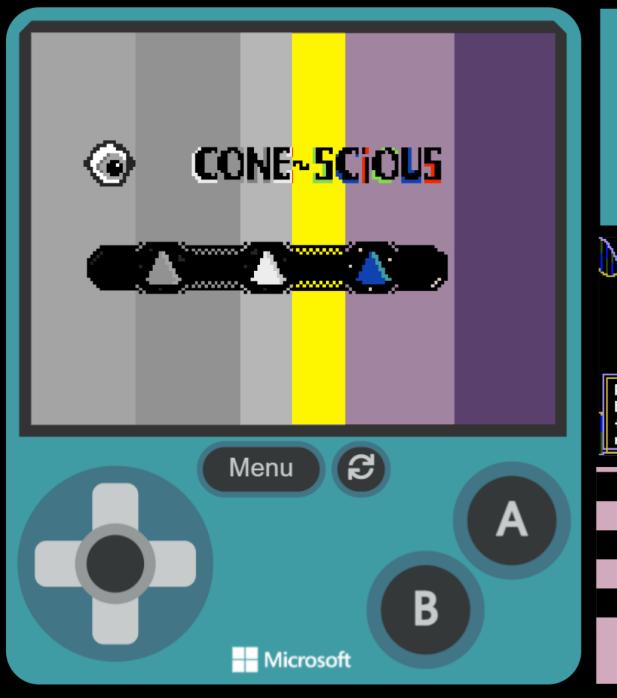
The player successfully restored S-cone and the colour vision for Tritanopia.





The score drops below zero or time runs out.







In this retro world, colour isn't just for show — it's the key to victory! You'll traverse a Pixelated journey through the eyes of those with deuteranopia, Protanopia,

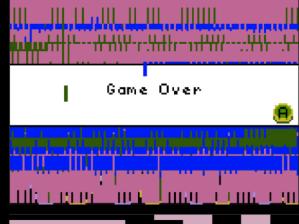


CONE-SCIOUS



Protanopia is a colour blindness resulting from insensitivity to red light.





CONGRATS! OPN1SW (S-cone) collected!



MetaChronicle is an learning tool powered by generative AI, allowing users to explore events through varying perspectives and emotional lenses. Drawing on research into how perspective and emotion shape narratives, the project encourages critical thinking and deeper engagement.

Tools:







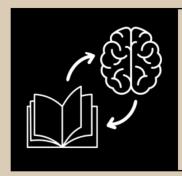
Keywords:

#Generative AI #Interactive Storytelling #Emotional Engagement #Critical Thinking #UI/UX Design

Website:



A https://canacechen.com/metachronicle.html

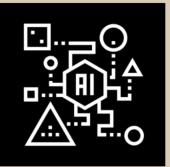


Interactive Storytelling and Emotional Engagement

Designing MetaChronicle's narrative approach involved blending interactive storytelling techniques that incorporate emotional resonance and shifting perspectives. Research into narrative theory and digital storytelling emphasises the importance of engaging users on both cognitive and affective levels (Ryan, 2006). By allowing users to experience historical events through multiple roles and emotional filters, the platform aims to enhance empathy and critical thinking. From an educational point of view, this approach also improves comprehension and retention, as "we feel, therefore we learn" (Immordino-Yang & Damasio, 2007, p. 5). Applying these insights, the design decisions included scene-by-scene narrative progression with viewpoint and emotional variability, thereby challenging preconceived notions and fostering a more nuanced, comprehensive understanding of the scenes (Wineburg, 2001).

Al-Driven Narrative Possibilities

Integrating Al-driven language and image generation models opened up new avenues for dynamic, customised storytelling. It enables narrative experiences that extend beyond pre-scripted sources of text and imagery, allowing for virtually infinite possibilities in constructing historical scenes and perspectives. Large-scale generative models can rapidly generate coherent and contextually appropriate responses, including both narrative elements and visuals, thereby streamlining the creative process (Radford et al., 2019; Ramesh et al., 2021). By leveraging these capabilities, the platform can offer personalised experiences for each user's selected event, perspective, and emotional filter, thus moving beyond static historical representations to a more fluid, responsive storytelling approach, while minimising production time and costs associated with traditional content creation methods (Katsamakas and Sanchez-Cartas, 2024).





Ethical and Societal Considerations in Al

Developing MetaChronicle required an awareness of the ethical and societal implications of employing generative AI for historical storytelling. Biases embedded in training data and the risk of misrepresenting marginalised voices demanded careful consideration (Crawford & Paglen, 2019). Additionally, AI-generated narratives might reproduce or challenge systemic inequities (Benjamin, 2019). These insights shaped the decision to incorporate multiple perspectives, prompt users to question their assumptions, and implement accessibility features. It also guided the content moderation strategies to mitigate misinformation and ensure that the platform promotes a respectful, inclusive representation of historical events.

Claim of Al Usage

This project used ChatGPT-4o API to generate perspective and emotion selections and suggestions, narratives, and prompts for image generation, and Stable Diffusion 3.5 to generate images for each scene and the website background image.



Platform Design

- An interactive tool that allows users to explore historical events through multiple perspectives and emotional filters.
- Users can experience stories from different viewpoints (e.g., soldier, civilian, leader) and emotional tones (e.g., fear, hope, anger).
- Combines Al-generated narratives and visuals, enabling deeper engagement and understanding of context and emotion.

Primary users

Students, educators, history enthusiasts, researchers, and museum-goers.

Design for Different User Needs

Age Groups

- Younger users: Simplified narratives, engaging exploration of historical events.
- Adults/researchers: Detailed accounts, nuanced emotional filters, and deeper contextual information.

Level of Interests

- Casual users: Brief, engaging overviews with visuals and emotions.
- Enthusiasts/researchers: Interactive deep dives with customisable content

Accessibility Features

- Visual/audio descriptions for visually or hearing-impaired users.
- Simple controls for users with limited technical skills or disabilities.

Technical components

Frontend Interface (web platform/UI): HTML, CSS, JavaScript Backend Server (application logic): Server-Side Framework (Express.js), Logic Layer Generative AI Integration: Language Model API (ChatGPT), Text-to-Image Model API (e.g., Stable Diffusion)





UX + UI Design

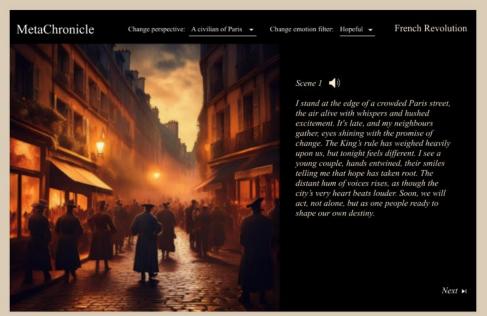
1. Select Your Experience Choose a historical event, pick a perspective, and set an emotional filter. Press "Start" to begin the journey.

2. Adjust Accessibility >

Before starting, refine the experience by changing content complexity, text size, or enabling voice-over or children's mode.
These settings ensure the

experience suits personal needs.



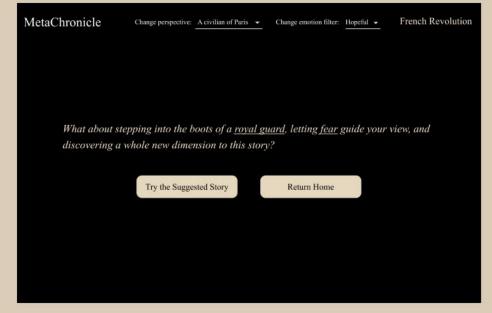


◀ 3. Immerse in the Story

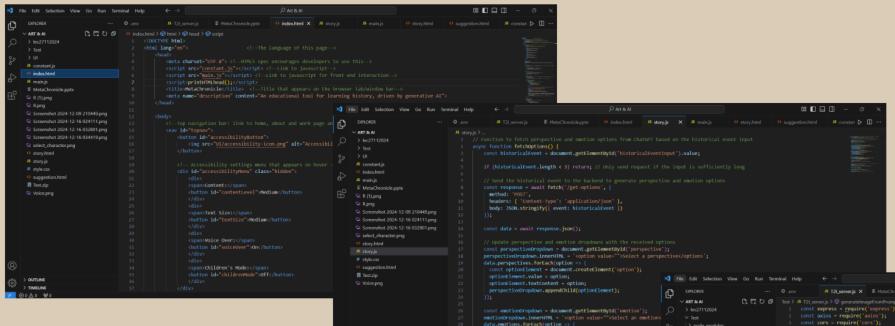
As the story unfolds, see dynamically generated images with the narratives side by side. Voice-over, perspective, and emotional filters remain adjustable. Press "Next" to continue the story.

4. Explore Alternatives >

At the end, a different perspective and emotional filter combination is proposed to challenge initial assumptions. User can choose to explore further, or return home.



Implementation



Node.js: Backend API Integration

This Node.js code manages communication between the frontend and the AI models (ChatGPT and Stable Diffusion). It processes the historical event, perspective, and emotion selected by the user, then queries ChatGPT to generate the narrative and visual prompts. It uses this data to generate images and send them back to the frontend.

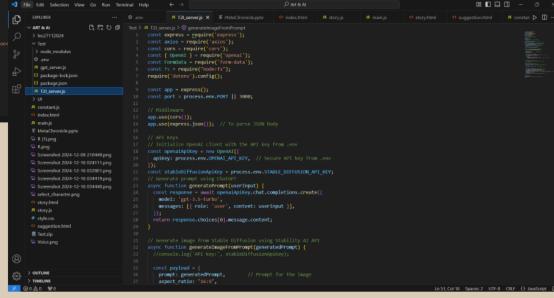
HTML (Homepage): User Input and Interaction

This HTML file contains the structure of the homepage, where users input a historical event, select a perspective, and choose an emotional filter. It includes dropdown menus for dynamic options and a button to start the story. The layout is designed to be simple and intuitive for user interaction.

JavaScript: Frontend Interaction Logic

This JavaScript file handles the frontend logic for fetching perspective and emotional filter options based on user input. It sends the historical event to the backend and updates the dropdowns dynamically. Upon clicking "Start Story", it sends the selections to generate the first scene and navigates the user to the story page.

const optionElement = document.createElement('option');



Result Showcase

MetaChronicle

Change perspective: Mid-age Businessman Change emotion filter: Stressful The Great Depression MetaChronicle

Change perspective: Mid-age Businessman Change emotion filter: Stressful The Great Depression MetaChronicle

Change perspective: Mid-age Businessman Change emotion filter: Stressful

Scene I ()

The city feels different today. As I step into my office, the once-bustling streets of New York seem quieter, almost suffocating. The news has already spread—the stock market has crashed. I can hear whispers from the halls. Investors are panicking. My stomach churns as I try to focus, but the weight of the situation presses on me. My fortune, my future, feels uncertain. The promise of prosperity now seems like a distant dream.

By noon, the office is eerily quiet. I can't shake the feeling of impending doom. Clients have stopped calling, and those who do are pulling back their investments. There's less work to be done, and more time to worry. My colleagues, usually so composed, now share looks of concern. I'm trying to hold it together, but the stress is beginning to show. Every phone call, every email feels like a

reminder that this crisis is far from over.



Scene 3 ()

The thought of losing everything keeps me awake at night. My home, my investments, my reputation—it's all slipping through my fingers. I lie awake in bed, staring at the ceiling, imagining the worst. The future looks bleak, and the weight of it all is unbearable. The noise of the city outside feels muffled, as if the whole world is closing in on me. The anxiety claws at my chest. What happens

MetaChronicle

Change perspective: Mid-age Businessman Change emotion filter: Stressful The Great Depression MetaChronicle

Change perspective: Mid-age Businessman Change emotion filter: Stressful The Great Depression MetaChronicle

Change perspective: Mid-age Businessman Change emotion filter: Stressful

The Great Depression

I try to push forward, but it's difficult to find hope. The streets are filled with people who look as lost as I feel. We all walk with our heads down, carrying our own burdens. I try to keep my business afloat, cutting costs and hoping that something will change. But with each passing day, the burden of worry only deepens. My confidence is slipping, replaced by a constant dread of failure.



Scene 5 ()

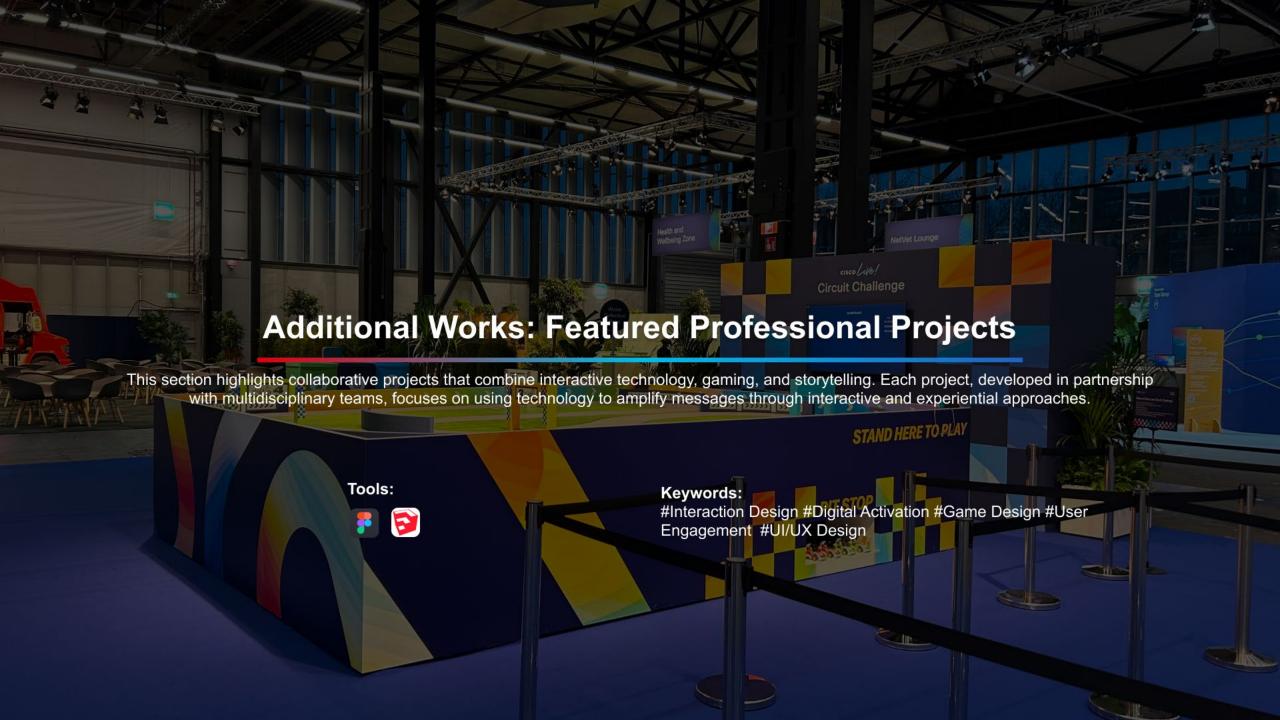
As weeks pass, the weight of the Great Depression still hangs over me. I take a moment on a quiet park bench, watching the city move around me, trying to find clarity. It's hard to escape the feeling of stress that has settled in my bones. But in this moment, I realize that the future may be uncertain, but there's still hope. I'm not alone in this struggle. Perhaps there's a way forward, even if I can't see it yet.

What about experiencing the Great Depression through the eyes of a young, unemployed worker, where hope and resilience shine through despite the hardships?

Try the Suggested Story

Return Home

Next





Role:

Creative Technologist (at George P. Johnson)
I worked on the Ideation, Interaction Design, and Testing and Onsite Execution.



Cisco Live Circuit Challenge

About:

An AR game showcasing the Cisco × McLaren partnership. Players see the driver POV through cameras on miniature cars, experiencing real-time, AR-enhanced gameplay with Mario Kart elements.

This is an activation for Cisco at Cisco Live 2024 Amsterdam.



More:

https://21020295.myblog.arts.ac.uk/2024/02/13/cisco live 2024/





Cisco Networking Cloud Puzzle

About:

The game combines trivia and strategy, where users unlock lives through answering a series of trivia questions, and navigate a tile maze to reveal a final image, highlighting Cisco's approach to simplifying multi-cloud environments.

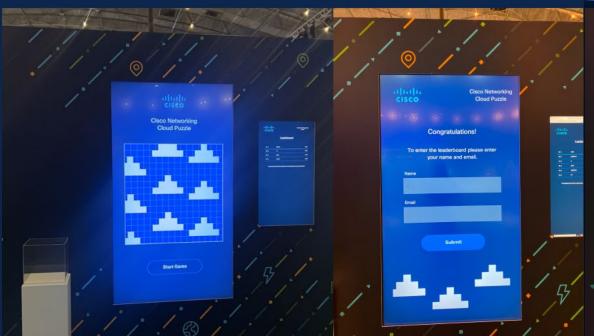
This is an activation for Cisco at Cisco Live 2024 Amsterdam.

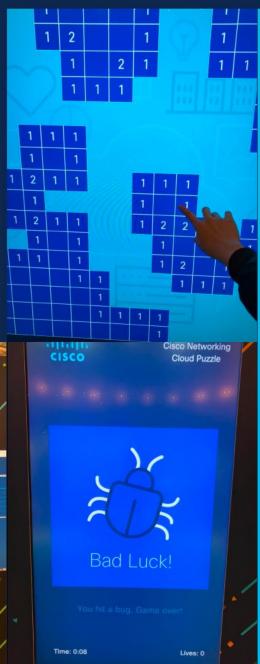
Role:

Creative Technologist (at George P. Johnson)
I worked on the Ideation, Game Design, and Testing and On-site Execution.

More:

https://21020295.myblog.arts.ac.uk/2024/02/13/cisco_live_2024/

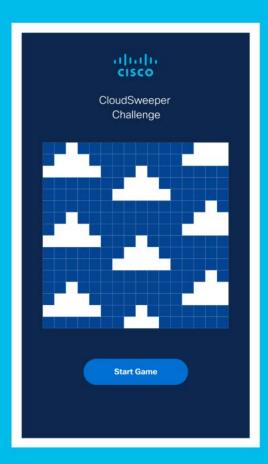




cisco

The bridge to possible

Unravel complexity with Cisco's CloudSweeper challenge!





Coral Vita

About:

An interactive table that portrays a depleted underwater ecosystem, prompting the users to place coral models on top and witness the transformative power of coral restoration in action.

This is an activation for DP World at COP28 UN Climate Change Conference 2023.

Role:

Creative Technologist (at George P. Johnson)
I worked on the Initial Ideation, Interaction Design, UX and Testing.

More:

https://21020295.myblog.arts.ac.uk/2023/12/22/cop28_un_climate_change_conference_2023/

