



Sketchbook



# Earlier Background Art (2013-2017)

My oldest sketches + storyboards

were lost or tossed.

Experiments  
from the time still  
get nods, like

Mario ("Saki") from  
a vid about the  
Hawaiian alphabet.

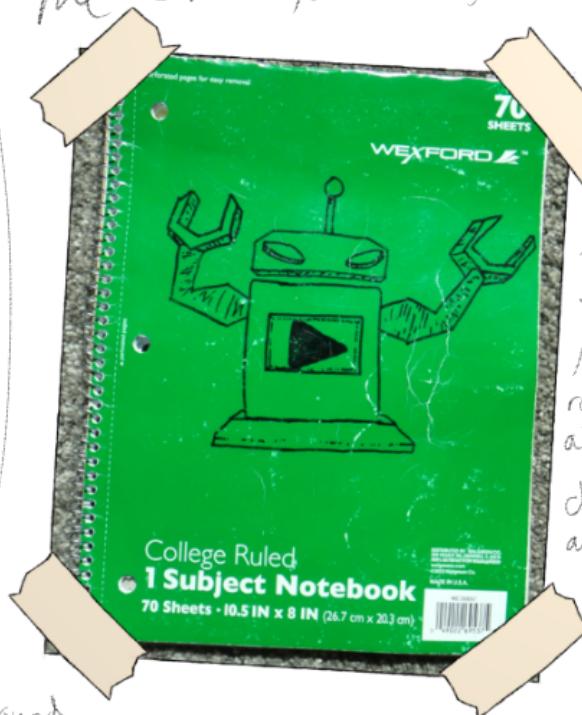


Thoth's Pill was my longest and most  
ambitious project, traveling to writing systems

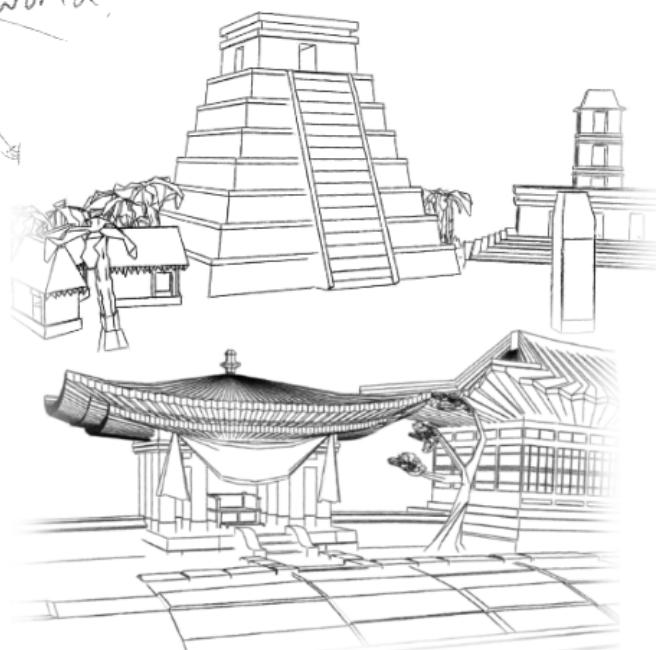
It shifted my style to focusing on 3D  
mesh models and computer-generated (ineart),  
like the lines inside of and around the  
image below.



The "Green Notebook", creative trove of  
ideas + sketches  
from the days  
when NativLang  
had about 5000  
subscribers. The robot,  
AwesomeTube, is a personified  
reminder of the YT platform,  
algorithms, and the mythical  
channel out there that was  
always one step and many  
subs ahead.



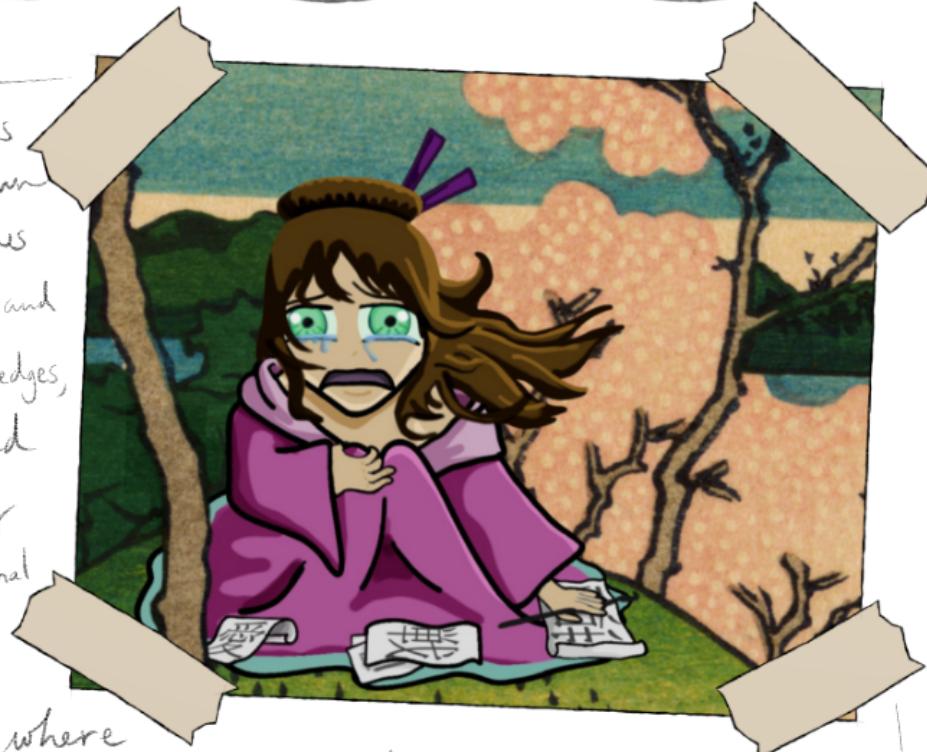
around the world!



The story of Kwaio Taboos is still our household favorite from among the earlier linguistic tales. The art continues Thoth's PLL, complete with rendered lines and every eye "beedy".



Three anims about my own highs and lows learning Kana and Kanji. Rough edges, but I'm glad I tried my hand at personal storytelling.



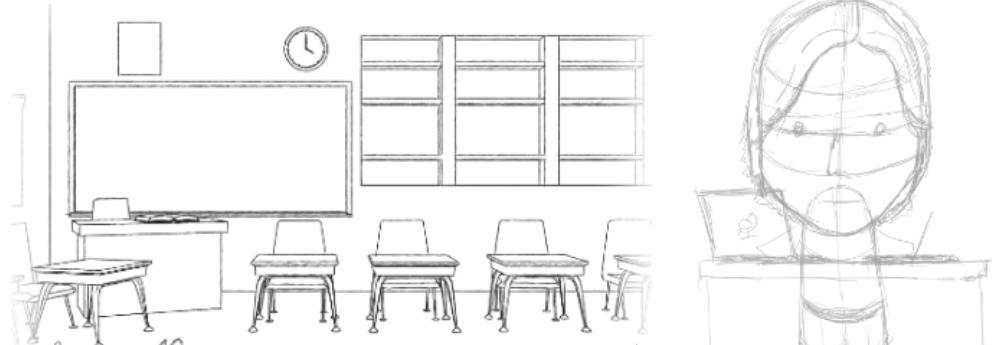
It's also where I started sprinkling in simple, expressive "paperchars" and tried working at making the visuals interplay with the audio instead of having them be simply what you're watching while narration happens.



Tsakonian is still an underloved anim, but, like Kwaio, it showed how "small" languages have big stories to tell. The Spartan mesh and the *μαριά* paperchar do play with familiar Greek icons,

hopefully in a way that ties the language to its history and culture





There was Tibetan, then a fun Runes collab with medievalist and fellow creator Alliterative, then ... my first hit! Japanese introduced "me" as a character; Latin solidified my personal storytelling and put me back in my old classroom.



Lots of drawing happened for another three about "Aztec". At this point, I'm more often drawing characters than 3D-modeling them. I would often just start with final lines or maybe very simple construction, staying loose and aiming to communicate instead of spending more time building up a character as I came to do later on.



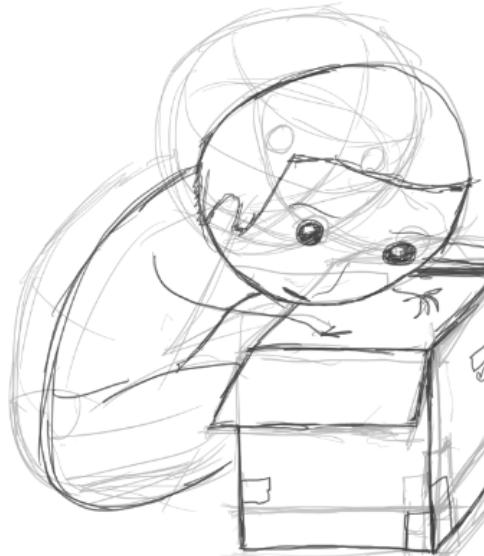
An outsider to Shakespeare and English linguistics, I dug into the bard's sounds and followed up with a relevant tangent about a Scots letter. I thought more about the art during the research, and researched more than usual. And so "What it sounded like - and how we know" became a series.

# ETRVSCAN

Now we're into the  
NatiLang era of sketches  
supported by and  
dedicated to patrons!



# more about me - Tattered Folder



box 6 grammar  
notes  
+ tattered fldr



lib. 8th floor



"epicness"



attic



summer = family



tattered folder



old char



internet



anim



CALENDAR



Scribe

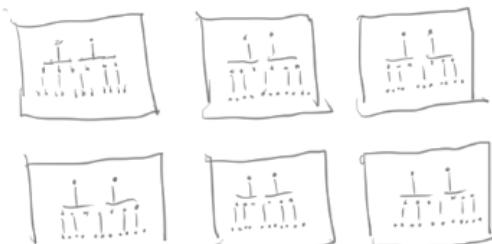
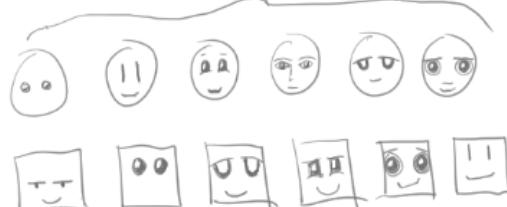
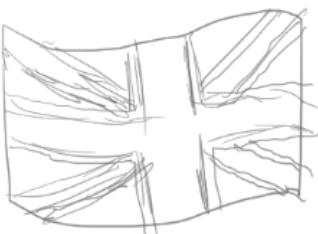
# 177 Middle Chinese



# Kinship Terminology



recolor as in Kinship explorer app

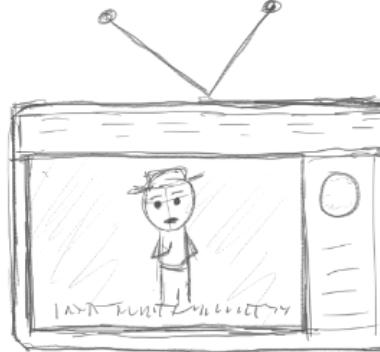


contract colors of different systems

# Asymmetric Intelligibility



LANGUAGE



Gullah  
↑  
US English



juice bar



EN QUIZ



carrots



store scene



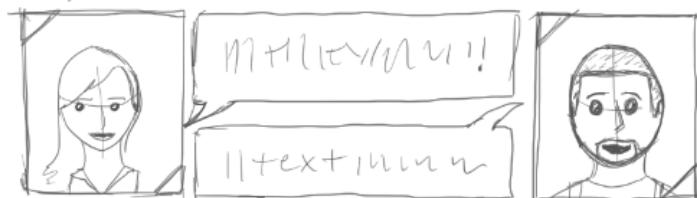
Omni-Voice



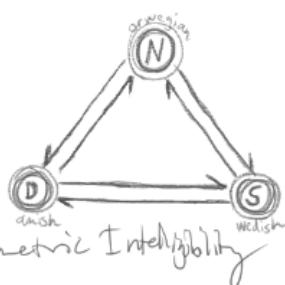
Mom teaching math



PATWAH



Conditional Entropy  
 $H(D|N, S)$



Asymmetric Intelligibility



[Købmænhaugen]

# more about me - Scars



# ð Janus sounds "funny"



# Genghis Khan's Middle Mongol



→ personal - try to find M grammar



edür > idür 兀  
ogop 都兒



deer or  
larch but  
not very  
red

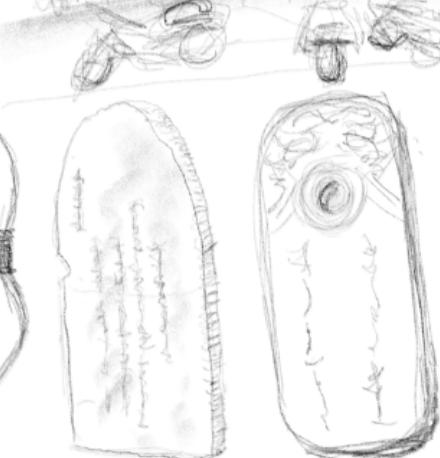
modern photo shows wider,  
but 19<sup>th</sup> Ordos come thinner



broaden  
bottom  
beard



too dog-like,  
focus on  
more animal  
size









# GRAPHEIMES

Since I was a kid, I've opened notebooks from the back. I don't know why. This led to a NativLang tradition, one I've kept since that Green Notebook pictured on the first page: I pen the name of each Grapheme patron on the back page. Going digital with my art, I still wanted a place to keep the tradition alive, so I built this sketchbook. Whenever I start a project and sketch out the early art, I open this digital notebook and your names inspire me!

Ashutosh Mohan	Kirstin Rummel
Rachel	Ian McDowell
Steven Stair	Glenmon B. Nelson
Jessica Goodall	Danny Morris
Xiu Ren Yap	Pit Braguet
Kit Marcos	Ishmam Ahmed
Liz Pedrosa	Rohan Iyer
connor johnson	Zachary Elliott
Clark Fox	Jana Deppe
Florian Gaerber	Trodden Soden George
Brandon Kurimura	
Leorene	
William Shields	
Ryan Habek	
Andy Burkholder	
Dmitry Stillermann	
AA	
Andrew Rabbitt	



