Critical Reflection Essay

In this essay, I will critically reflect upon the design process of my Space-Scale website. I will discuss how global trends regarding web technologies and design techniques have influenced the design and development process of the website and explore how I created meaning in my website through the use of UI and UX. I will also touch on how I leveraged the interactivity of the web to influence the user experience and data interpretation of my website. The project presented several challenges, which I will address, along with the strategies I used to overcome them. Lastly, I will reflect on how this website aligns with professional standards and practices in the international industry.

Global Economics of Artistic Implications

Throughout the development process, I made extensive use of free web tools and technologies that significantly aided the production of the website. The reliance on these tools reflects web technology has become democratised and how the growth of the digital economy has made valuable tools accessible to new developers. The abundance of these resources also reflects the shift towards inclusivity, where beginner developers can make use of powerful technologies without a taxing financial investment.

Web Technologies

The developer technologies that significantly supported this project were GitHub and the Live Server extension on VS Code. These tools streamlined the production process, enhancing both the efficiency and workflow of the project. GitHub provided free version control, allowing me to track and manage changes seamlessly, while also serving as a hosting platform for the static website. The Live Server extension allowed for real-time feedback by auto-refreshing the browser with each code change I implemented. This is possible through the local hosting of static code that reflects how the code would run on the web. The ability to get immediate feedback on the changes I implemented removes the wait time required for GitHub to deploy your most recent change to GitHub Pages. This saves time on both debugging and implementation of features.

Design Techniques

I adopted the minimalistic design trend frequently showcased on award-winning portfolio sites featured on platforms like Awwwards and The Webby Awards. This design technique leverages whitespace, streamlined elements, and clean layouts, allowing users to navigate the site effortlessly and focus on the core content without

getting distracted. Minimalism has seen a burst in popularity in recent years, with major tech companies such as Apple, Instagram, and YouTube gradually refining their logos and products to embrace a more modern, minimalistic aesthetic. Minimalism gains its appeal due to its timelessness. Its simplicity transcends temporary trends and creates a look that remains engaging and relevant over time.

UI & UX

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Interactivity

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Challenges

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Professional Practices

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