Xian Xu

✉ xian.xu@connect.ust.hk | 🏠 https://xxuxian.github.io/ | 📍 Big Data Institute, HKUST, HK

Basic Information

Gender: Female   Birthday: 1994-5   Writer, Interdisciplinary Computational Media and Arts Researcher
Research interest: Data-driven Storytelling, Cinematic Arts, Arts Education in VR and the Metaverse, and Human-Computer Interaction. I am devoted to enhancing data-driven storytelling and arts education by extending not only the disciplinary depth but also the interdisciplinary breadth.

Education Background and Research Experience

Cambridge University, Research Visiting Fellow *Cambridge, UK*
Cambridge Digital Humanities, School of Arts and Humanities, Supervised by Prof. Caroline Bassett Apr. 2023 - Jun. 2023

Oxford University, Research Visiting Fellow *Oxford, UK*
Oxford e-Research Center, Department of Engineering Science, Supervised by Prof. Min Chen Jan. 2023 - Mar. 2023

Peking University *Beijing, China*
Visualization Summer School, hosted by Prof. Xiaoru Yuan Jul. 2022

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology *Hong Kong, China*
PhD in Computational Media and Arts, Supervised by Prof. Huamin Qu Aug. 2020 - Aug. 2023

The Central Academy of Drama *Beijing, China*
MFA in Drama and Film Studies, GPA (3.92/4.0) Ranking (1/25) Sep. 2017 - Jul. 2020

The Central Academy of Drama *Beijing, China*
BS in Directing (Film and TV Producing), GPA (3.88/4.0) Ranking (1/40) Sep. 2013 - Jul. 2017

Publications

[1] **Xian Xu**, Aoyu Wu, Leni Yang, Zheng Wei, Rong Huang, David Yip, Huamin Qu."Is It the End? Guidelines for Cinematic Endings in Data Videos" *ACM CHI 2023*. https://dl.acm.org/doi/10.1145/3544548.3580701

[2] **Xian Xu**, Leni Yang, David Yip, Mingming Fan, Zheng Wei, Huamin Qu."From 'Wow' to 'Why': Guidelines for Creating the Opening of a Data Video with Cinematic Styles" *ACM CHI 2022*. https://doi.org/10.1145/3491102.3501896

[3] **Xian Xu**, Wai Tong, Zheng Wei, Meng Xia, Lik-Hang Lee, Huamin Qu."Cinematography in the Metaverse: Exploring the Lighting Education on a Soundstage" *IEEE VR Poster 2023*. 10.1109/VRW58643.2023.00128

[4] Leni Yang, **Xian Xu**, Xingyu Lan, Ziyan Liu, Shunan Guo, Yang Shi, Huamin Qu, Nan Cao."A Design Space for Applying the Freytag's Pyramid Structure to Data Stories" *IEEE VIS 2021 (TVCG)*. 10.1109/TVCG.2021.3114774

[5] Leni Yang, Aoyu Wu, Wai Tong, **Xian Xu**, Zheng Wei, Huamin Qu."Understanding 3D data Videos: From Screens to Virtual Reality" *IEEE PacificVis 2023*. 10.1109/PacificVis56936.2023.00029

[6] Zheng Wei, **Xian Xu**, Lik-Hang Lee, Wai Tong, Huamin Qu, Pan Hui. "Feeling Present! From Physical to Virtual Cinematography Lighting Education with Metashadow" *ACM MM 2023 (To appear)*.

[7] **Xian Xu**, David Yip, Huamin Qu. "The Golden Ratio in Narrative Structure: Visualizing the Rising-Climax in Data Videos" *VIS 2023 Posters (To appear)*.

[8] Zheng Wei, Shan Jin, **Xian Xu**, Wai Tong, Huamin Qu, Pan Hui. "Visualizing Film Set Communication: An Interactive Interface for Collaboration in Virtual LED Production" *ISMAR 2023 (Under Review)*.

[9] **Xian Xu**, Wai Tong, Zheng Wei, Meng Xia, Lik-Hang Lee, Huamin Qu."Transforming Cinematography Lighting Education: The Impact of Virtual Soundstages" *Virtual Reality (Under Review)*.

[10] **Xian Xu**, Zelin Ye, Yuanzhe Jin, Leni Yang, Huamin Qu, Min Chen."The Design Space of Short Technical Storytelling Videos: Through the Lens of Preview Videos in VIS Conferences" *(Under Review)*.

Awards and Honors

Jan. 2023	**Scholarship**: "HKUST Overseas Research Award"	*Hong Kong, China*
Aug. 2020-2023	**Scholarship**: "Postgraduate Scholarship of HKUST"	*Hong Kong, China*
Jul. 2020	**Honorary Title**: "Excellent Postgraduate of Beijing"	*Beijing, China*
Dec.2019	**Scholarship**: "National Scholarship for PG Students"	*Beijing, China*
Dec.2017	**Scholarship**: "National Scholarship"	*Beijing, China*
Jul. 2017	**Honorary Title**: "Excellent Undergraduate of Beijing"	*Beijing, China*
Dec.2016	**Scholarship**: "National Scholarship"	*Beijing, China*
Jul.2016	**Scholarship**: "First-class Academic Award from CAD"	*Beijing, China*
Dec.2015	**Scholarship**: "National Scholarship"	*Beijing, China*
Jul.2015	**Scholarship**: "First-class Academic Award from CAD"	*Beijing, China*
Dec.2014	**Scholarship**: "National Scholarship"	*Beijing, China*
Jul.2014	**Scholarship**: "First-class Academic Award from CAD"	*Beijing, China*

Teaching Experience

IDPO 2020 Cross-disciplinary Design Thinking, HKUST — *Teaching Assistant*
Assist for Prof. Rong Zhang and Prof. Jinni Zhou — Feb. 2022 - Jun. 2022

CMAA 5008 Visual Communication, HKUST — *Teaching Assistant*
Assist for Prof. David Yip — Sep. 2021 - Jan. 2022

The Central Academy of Drama — *Counselor*
Peking Opera, Dance Drama, Opera, and Film & TV Departments — Sep. 2018 - Jul. 2020

Middle and Primary Schools in Beijing, China — *Drama Instructor*
Drama and Film Arts Education — Sep. 2017 - Jul. 2018

Work Experience and Creations

Data Visualization X Cinematic Arts — *Writer and Designer*
Four Cinematic Data Video Endings with Punctuation Marks — created in Sep. 2022

Arts Education & Technology Startup — *Co-Founder*
Art Mirror Network Technology Co. — founded in Jan. 2019

Our Glamorous Time — *Screenwriter*
TV Play of Zhejiang TV and Dragon TV in China — Broadcasted in Dec. 2018

I Like to be Independent — *Writer*
Bestseller in China — Published in May 2017

Silent Love — *Screenwriter*
Film of CCTV6 — Created in 2016

Mind Reader — *Screenwriter and Director*
Suspense-themed Microfilm — Created in 2015

Hurt — *Screenwriter and Director*
Youth Campus-themed Microfilm — Created in 2014

AB Sides — *Screenwriter and Director*
Youth Campus-themed Microfilm — Created in 2014

Personal Skills

Languages   English (Fluent), Cantonese (Native), Mandarin (Native)
Personality   Optimistic, curious about new things, hardworking, and easygoing
Specialty   Project management and teamwork