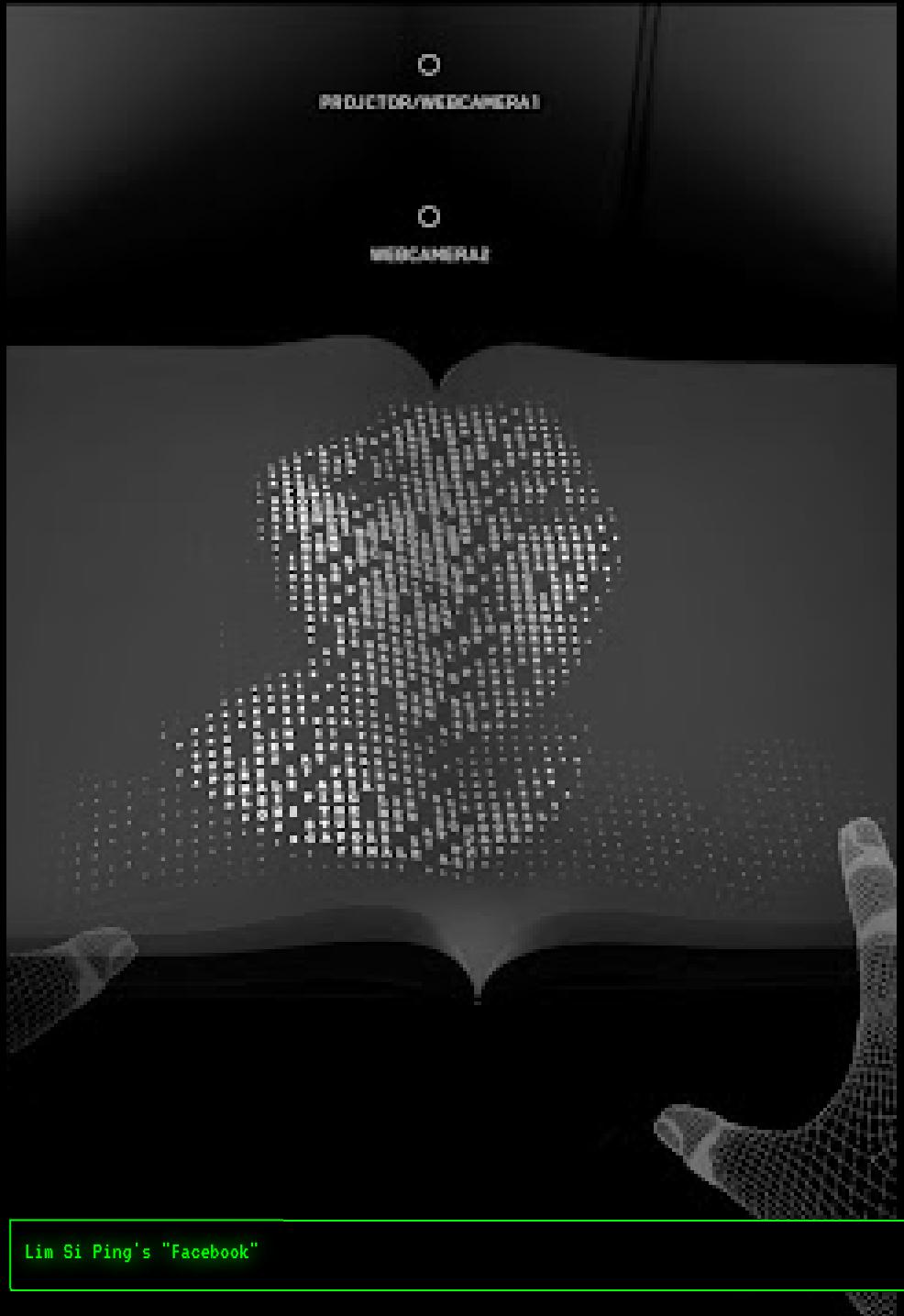


# INTERACTIVE MEDIA RESEARCH JOURNAL

-- OWEN XU #1480503 | GDES30008 --

- FACEBOOK
- INTERSTELLAR
- INTERSTITIAL
- KENJI KAWAKAMI
- NEIL HARBISON
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Lim Si Ping's "Facebook"

# FACEBOOK

## FACIAL RECOGNITION BOOK BY LIM SI PING

Facebook is an interactive book by interacitve artist Lim Si Ping. The book uses facial recognition to pair you with data already present of you on the internet and search engines. This concept of using cameras and facial technology challenges notions of privacy in the digital age. No one's data is truly private and I think it an idea that is very important to add in my second workbook, especially with creative coding. One of my webpages was inspired by this notion, it uses the camera and turns the user's portrait into data showing that in the digital world we lose all sense of personality and instead just become lines of data.

<https://www.designboom.com/art/hands-on-facebook-interactive-facial-recognition-book-story-01-18-2019/>

#Coding #Interaction



The Black Hole "Gargantua" in the film Interstellar

# INTERSTELLAR

**MOVIE DIRECTED BY CHRISTOPHER NOLAN IN 2014**

Interstellar is a 2014 film directed by Christopher Nolan and follows a group of astronauts tasked to find a new planet for humans as Earth is slowly becoming more and more inhabitable. The main inspiration is the black hole "Gargantua" that is featured in the film. The black hole was an vfx and technological marvel as it was one of the most accurate depictions of a black hole at the time and took around 100 days to render. The idea of a single large entity was a very interesting concept that I wanted to add into my second workbook "Celestial", similarly the whole film being depicted in space was also a large help in the formulation of my 3D world, although not as complex as the film I still wanted to capture the overall impression.

<https://cerncourier.com/a/building-gargantua/>

#Films #3D



"Interstitial Space Helmet" designed by James Auger and James Loizeau

# INTERSTITIAL SPACE HELMET

PROJECT BY JAMES AUGER IN COLLABORATION WITH JAMES LOIZEAU

The Interstitial Space Helmet is an experimental invention developed by James Auger and James Loizeau. It is a helmet designed to hide the user and instead allow them to communicate with the outside world through using headphones, microphones and cameras. The intention was to fuse virtual interaction with physical interaction and challenge the ideas of what is the norm for communication. I was introduced to this helmet in a lecture on physical computing, and it did make me wonder on what reality could look like for the future. For me, I felt it was vital to take a step back and focus on the overall picture to see how technology has developed and how it affected our lives, this idea brought me to thinking about the past and helped develop the initial idea of my workbook "Retrospekt".

<https://v2.nl/works/interstitial-space-helmet>

#Physical Computing #Inventions #2004



# KENJI KAWAKAMI

## INVENTOR, JAPANESE, CREATOR OF CHINDOGU

Kenji Kawakami is known as the father of "Chindogu" meaning weird tools. They were inventions that were far from practical but had humorous applications, it slowly became an movement with people and while it couldn't be mass produced it was a funny critique on typical norms and became a work of art. When I was first introudced to Chindogu in a lecture I was very drawn in by the creative thought behind creating such inventions, I wanted to make something that shared similar humor but also proved to be useful, Kawakami's art of "Chindogu" had served to became a huge inspiration for my final project with phiscial computing.

<https://www.tofugu.com/japan/chindogu-japanese-inventions/>

#Inventions #Chindogu

Above: Chindogu Products | Below: More Chindogu Products



Neil Harbisson with his Antenna

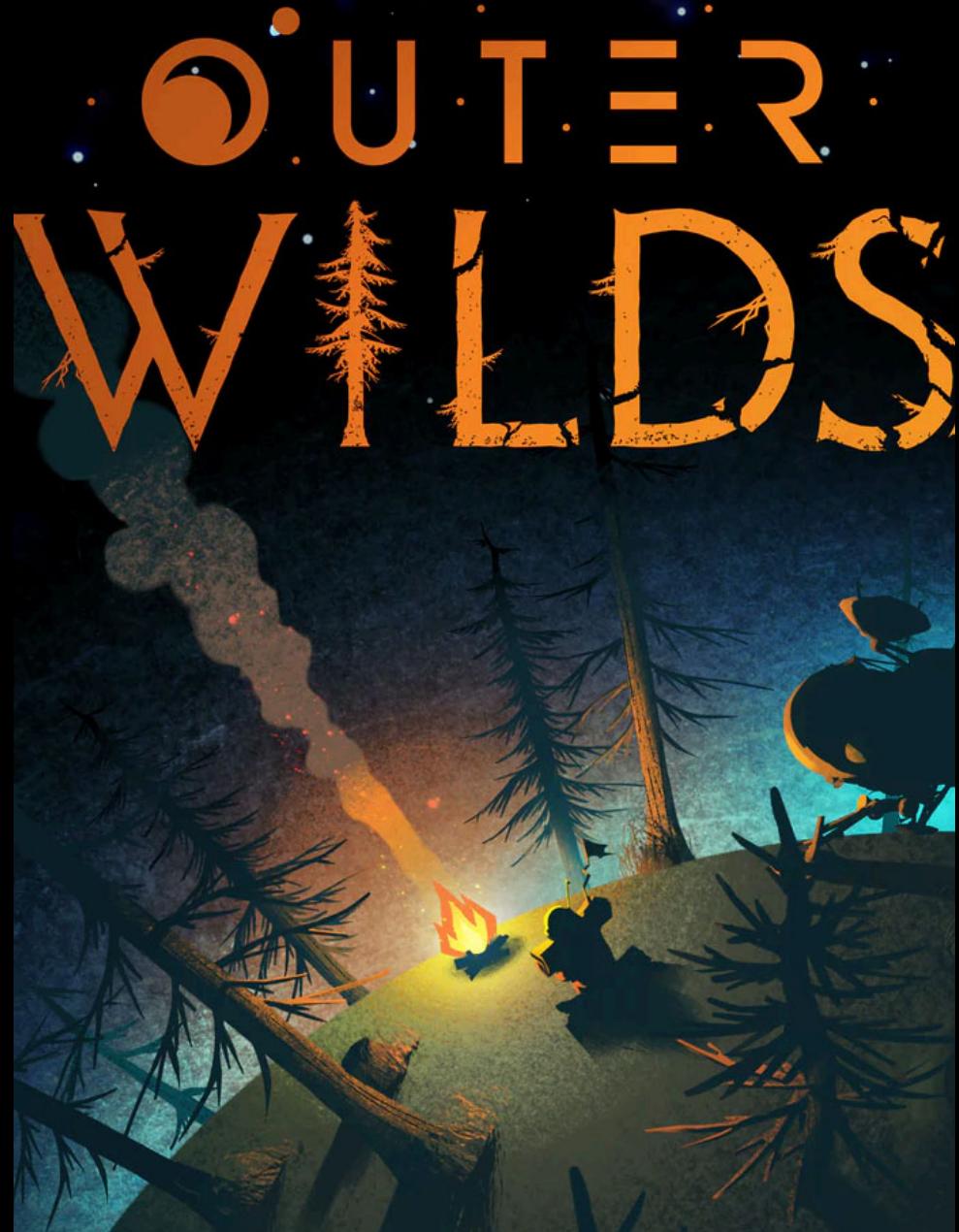
# NEIL HARBISSON

**BRITISH-IRISH ARTIST, DUBBED THE WORLD'S FIRST CYBORG**

Neil Harbisson is an Irish-British artist who is known as the world's first cyborg. Born colour-blind he implemented an antenna in his own head that allowed him to perceive color through vibrations which is then translated into sound-chords. This idea of cybernetics was an interesting avenue I could go down for my physical computing project which is an anti-sleep/procrastination helmet. The idea of keeping minimal was also inspired by Neil's antenna as the invention should be something that should be a large aspect of the person, just a useful tool.

<https://metalmagazine.eu/en/post/neil-harbisson-the-reality-of-a-cyborg>

#Physical Computing #Inventions #Cybernetics



Title Page for "Outer Wilds", Seen on disc covers

## OUTER WILDS

GAME BY ANNAPURNA INTERACTIVE

While my first workbook "Spherical" dealt with space aspects very vaguely, I had decided I wanted to hone in on the idea of celestial spaces in my second workbook however I was still a bit unsure on the medium. In our p5.js experimentations I had found that 3D was possible to be implemented. This is where the game Outer Wilds came to mind, Outer Wilds is a game developed by Annapurna Interactive in 2019 and follows the protagonist as they navigate a low poly planetary system while being stuck in a 22 minute loop. I would describe the game as a puzzle-solving game and hence was a form of interaction I wanted to add in my workbook, further the idea of a 3d solar system that the user could interact with was also inspired by this game.

<https://www.mobiusdigitalgames.com/outer-wilds.html>

#Game



"Poemfield no7" by Stan VanDerBeek

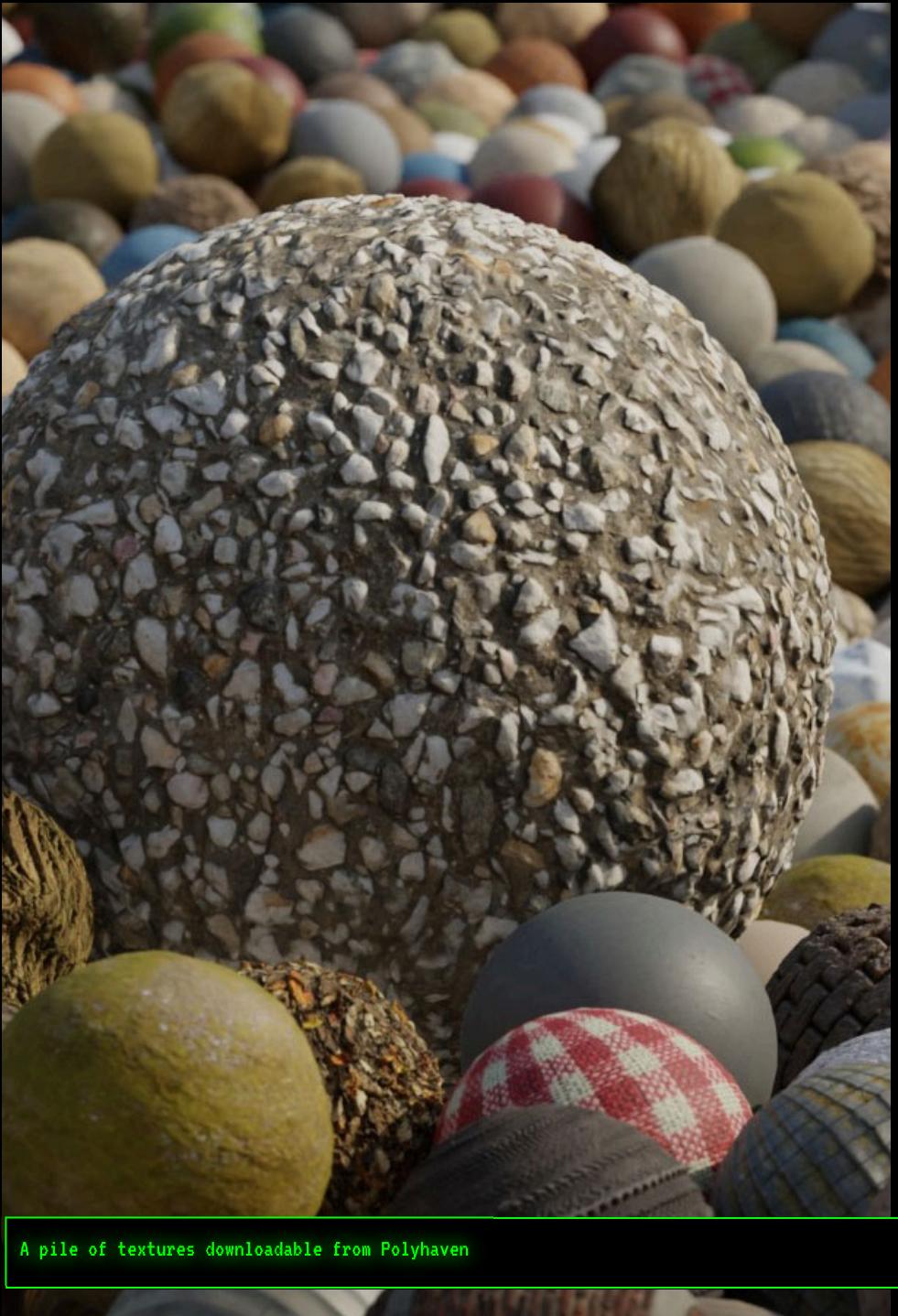
# POEM FIELD NO7

**COMPUTER GENERATED ANIMATION FILM BY STAN VANDERBEEK**

Poemfield no.7 was one of eight computer generated films by artist Stan VanDerBeek made in 1967. One thing that really stuck with me was the retro style of the visual components paired with the neon glow which I found really unique and effective. This became a large inspiration for my design choice in my third workbook "Retrospekt" which was already following a retro stylistic theme.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AGoExRRCelc>

#Coding #Film



A pile of textures downloadable from Polyhaven

# POLY HAVEN

## WEBSITE FOR 3D TEXTURES

Before the start of Workbook One I was already a huge fan of 3D design having worked with Blender for a while, when I settled on the idea of "Spherical", I was reminded of the website Polyhaven. Polyhaven is a website I used for 3D to obtain textures and HDRIs for my models and they were all displayed in the form of spheres. This idea of containing information in spheres was something I wanted to add into my workbook "Spherical", getting the user to interact with the circles in some way was an interesting component. I felt it became a solid starting point for the development of my workbook as it solidified the idea of using circles and spheres as the main theme.

<https://polyhaven.com>

#Website #3D



TeamLab Planets, "Expanding Three-Dimensional Existence in Transforming Space"

# TEAM LABS PLANETS TOKYO

## INTERACTIVE MUSEUM IN TOKYO

TeamLab Planets in Tokyo is an interactive museum that blends technology with physical interaction. I got to take a look at the museum during the break and one exhibition that really resonated with me was "Expanding Three-Dimensional Existence in Transforming Space". It is a room full of spheres of light and people can move through the space and interact with the spheres, the objects reacting according to the interaction. The use of spheres provide an unique interaction with light and it was an aspect that I wanted to work with. Hence it helped determine the main theme of "Spherical" in my first work book and the idea of working with circles.

[https://www.teamlab.art/ex/transformingspace\\_planets/planets/](https://www.teamlab.art/ex/transformingspace_planets/planets/)

#Physical Interaction



# THE MATRIX

MOVIE DIRECTED BY LANA WACHOWSKI AND LILY WACHOWSKI IN 1999

The Matrix is a science fiction film created in 1999, it was a pioneer in visual effects and cinematography at the time, certainly it has become influential in my work namely due to the infamous digital code rain effects. I was first introduced to this film when we were tasked to watch one before the semester had started, to me I was drawn in by the digital visual effects despite the film being made 26 years ago. The overall aesthetic using green programs and black backdrops came back to me when we had just started our physical computing module as I was reminded of retro technology. The film soon became a main inspiration in my 2C workbook "Retrospekt" where I wanted to mimic that sort of digital retro feeling that I had felt. Further, in the movie, the digital programs and code symbolized a method of simulation within the Matrix, to me I felt it was quite relevant today with the coming of VR and AR technology where the lines of the physical and virtual worlds are blurred.

<https://medium.com/illumination/what-is-the-matrix-really-979a1b277222>

#Films #1999



A still from the interactive story "Two Kingdoms"

# TWO KINGDOMS

WEBSITE, CREATED BY PIERRE HERME AND NICOLAS BUFFE

Two Kingdoms was a website I stumbled upon during an Hunt and Gather exercise in class and it was one that stuck with me throughout every project. The website itself is a visual story full of interaction and visual effects and from the start became a goal that I wanted to achieve. To me storytelling is a huge aspect in my workbook and I wanted to develop that idea. Visually I was drawn in by the fairytale-like design, mainly through the black backdrop paired with white stairs, it is subtle and therefore would draw attention to the main content however still effective in communicating an overall aesthetic. Another component that I had liked was the use of interactive circle in the centre, not only paired with the stars but it would react based on mouse movement which I thought was really interesting to play with. Overall, this provided a solid framework for my first workbook "Spherical".

<http://www.pierrehermenicolasbuffe.com>

#Website #Storytelling