***—> Background***

* Had a passion in art since childhood which influenced him to pursue film as his career in college at USC’s school of cinematic arts
  + Once he finished college, he worked in industry in LA where he found a love for teaching, which then led him to move to Brazil and Jordan to teach film history and aesthetics
* One night while at a movie theater at Jordan, he felt the creative inspiration to want to explore the limitations past film
  + **“*I wanted to see walls that would shift with the wind, make a keyboard that would paint an entire room as you typed, turn a building into a video game. I started to get that feeling that you get as a kid with a new box of crayons—I just wanted to go nuts.”***

***Early Stages***

* Enrolled in NYU’s graduate program of Interactive Telecommunications where he began to learn about electronics and programming
* His first project “Color of Code” was based on the idea of converting text into colors
  + <https://vimeo.com/34989470>
  + Soon after finishing this project, Epler felt the confidence that he could “do” code

**Breakthrough**

* + for his thesis he wanted to find a way to combine critical historical perspective into contemporary creative code art practices
  + objective was to create a project that encourages and welcomes people that are just starting off
    - he experienced first hand how difficult programming could be without prior knowledge

—> create reCode Project using processing

* + Purpose is to recreate the first hand typed written pieces of art ever designed using modern technology
  + ex:

<http://recodeproject.com/translation/yuri-popov-plasma-experimental-untitled-graphic-also-giorgini>

Based on art piece by italian artist Aldo Giorgini during 1970s

*SHOW HOW website is also interactive and allows visitors to change code in order to alter the piece*

***Today***

* Epler is a Software Engineer at Flashpoint,
  + finds himself using his art background to influence the way he finds solutions to his everyday programming tasks
* Describes himself as a designer who can code, and a coder who can work with his hands
* Work blends digital and physical design practices with computer programming
* Specializes in creating one-of-a-kind interactive projects with an emphasis on the Internet of Things
  + has been featured in museums and a variety of media outlets around the world “such as the ones listed below “
  + one of his most popular is the netflix switch
    - Netflix Switch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TTlIGdlbTy4>
      * switch that when pressed —> room lights are dimmed, phone notifications are turned off, food is ordered for delivery
      * cool thing is that Neither Epler nor Netflix decided to sell the product. Instead, they provided instructions on how to create and design one to cater one’s needs
  + Narrative X-Ray: <https://vimeo.com/34625194>
  + Big Bats: <https://vimeo.com/109443151>