CART 360 - Etude 1

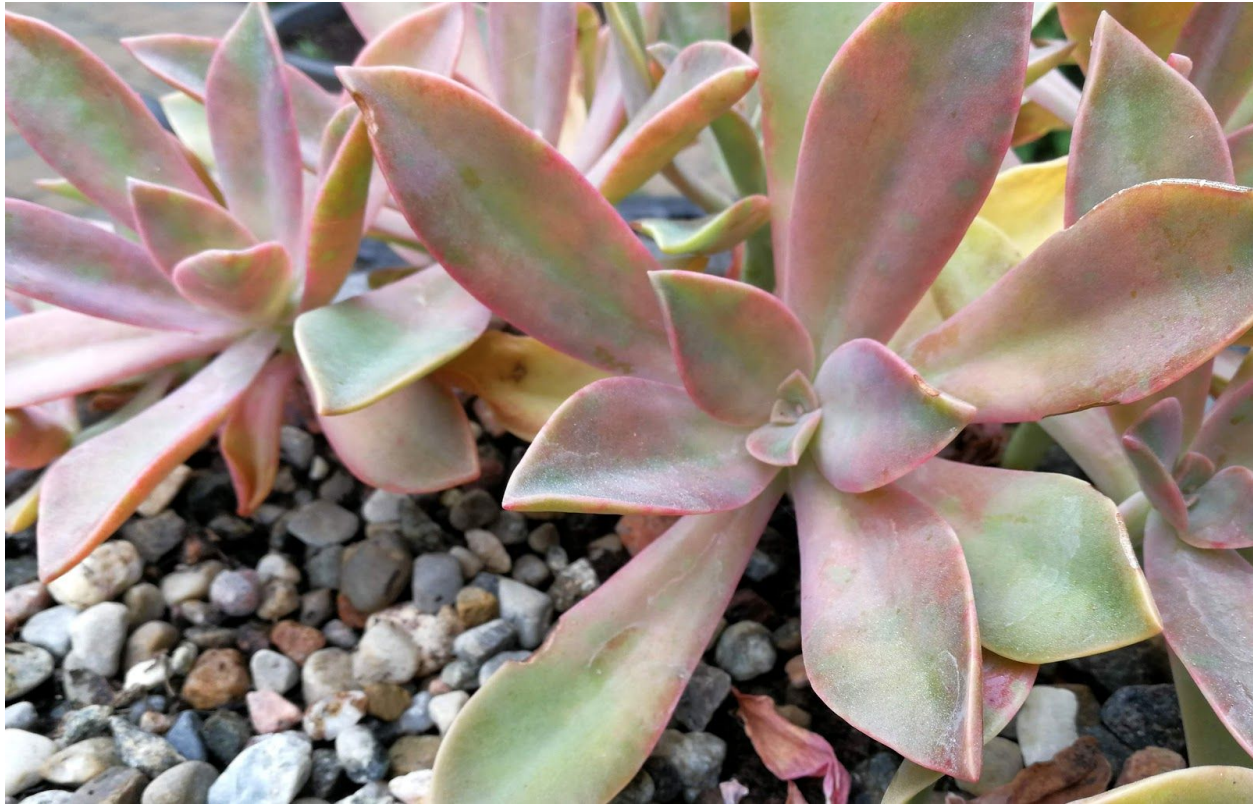**Jennifer Powroznyk**

<u>3 Objects</u>

Curtains - A greyish white chiffon fabric that serves to reduce the amount of light allowed into our living room.

      A seemingly mundane object, curtains are known by most to be a common furnishing for a living space. They are easy to forget, but are used by many daily to adjust the allowance of outside light entering a closed environment. This particular curtain sheet is placed in the upstairs living room of my parents house. It's really just a tall sheet of white chiffon suspended off a metal rod through perforations. Chiffon is lightweight by nature and typically soft to gentle human touch but with more pressure can feel abrasive. It is loosely woven with very fine and seemingly dense thread which allows for light to easily pass through it. Because of the loose weave, when layered on top of itself chiffon can create subtle moiré's if one is attentive enough to the fabric.

Echeveria Plant - A decorative succulent boasting pink and green hues.

This echeveria serves as a decoration for our backyard and as a personal passtime for myself. The echeveria is a succulent plant with dense, shallow roots and towers roughly 4 inches above the soil. The echeveria has thick pointed leaves that retain water allowing them to easily snap in two. The leaves feel smooth, almost like an ultra fine velvet. It grows at a rapid rate in both low and high temperatures and if allowed to can grow to about a foot tall. It's colour alternates between a greyish pink and a green depending on the amount of light it is receiving. Succulents and most plants provide me with a sense of relaxation and happiness that I assume to be a popular sentiment.

Beads - Evenly distributed decorative beads suspended from a lamp shade.
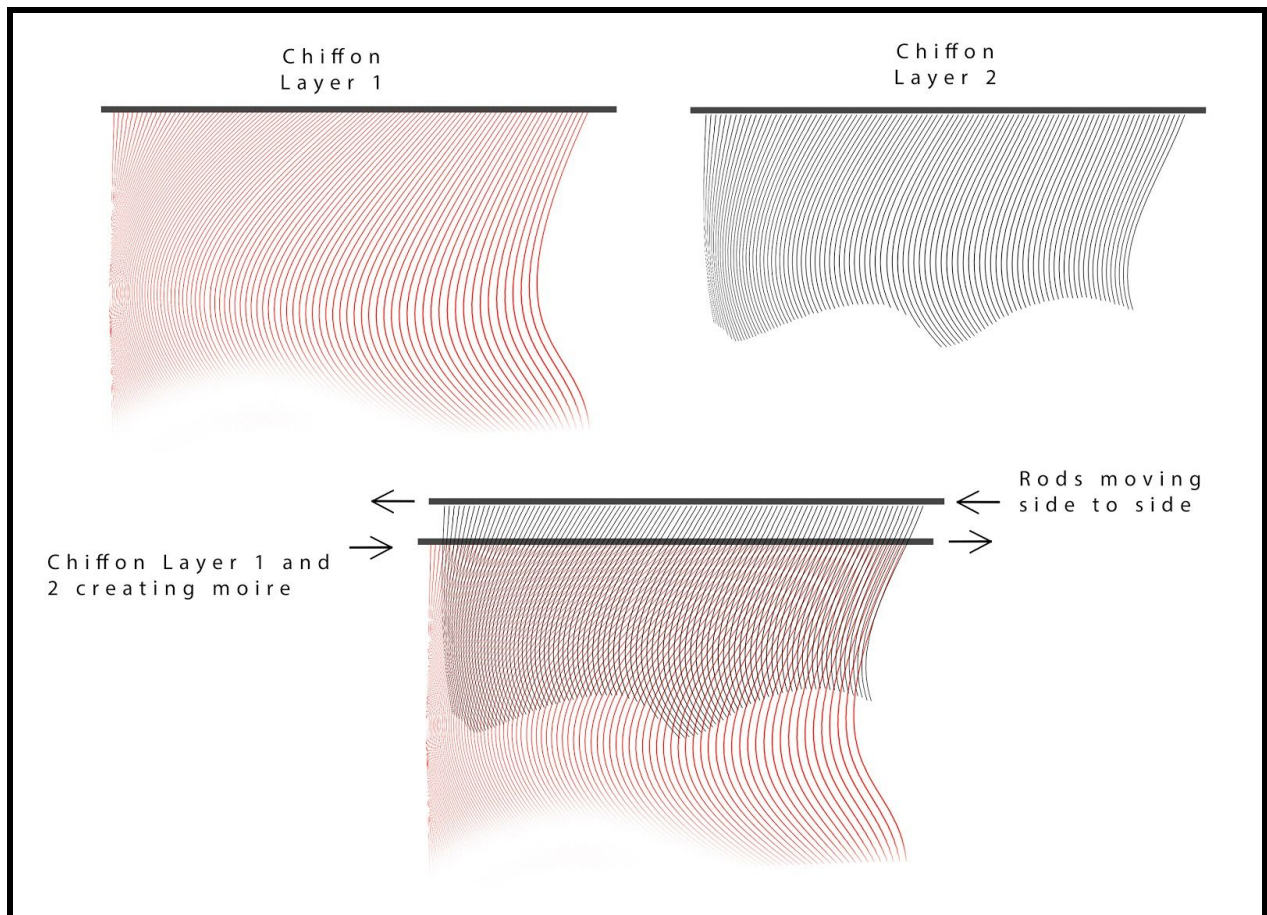

This is a lamp shade in my bedroom positioned on my bedside table. It is black rectangular lamp shade with an array of beads suspended from it. Although they are not perfect when observed closely, from afar they seem very evenly distributed and create a sense of symmetry that I find appealing. They dangle when touched though they are quite rigid. They serve no purpose other than additional decoration on this lamp shade. The lamp shade itself is another super common object. It serves to direct light in a certain direction and often to diffuse the amount of light allowed into a space. It is an object that I believe is well integrated into the daily lives of many and easy to forget about.

Switch Concepts using chiffon curtains

1. Layered chiffon on motor creating moire's for an enhanced lighting environment.

My creative efforts are most often directed towards transforming ordinary or mundane environments into spaces that seem fantastical or otherworldly. When I noticed the mini moire's created in the curtains I grew quite excited. I thought it could be interesting to have 2 or more

sheets of a chiffon like textile attached to a special motorized curtain rod attached to a motion sensor. The fabric would need to be a bit of a looser weave to allow enough light to pass through. The curtains would be overlapping but each attached to their own curtain rod. Upon sensing motion the curtain rods would move back and forth along a horizontal axis so to move the 2 layers of chiffon. This motion should create interesting moire patterns and create a sense of motion in the natural lighting entering a space. The motivation for this machine would be to create a space that is a little more whimsical and counters mundanity.
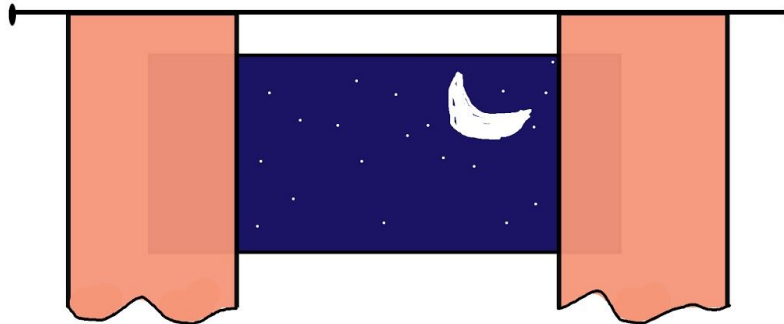

Terrible drawing of 2 curtains moving in front of another.

2. Auto open and close depending on the amount of light hitting a sensor.
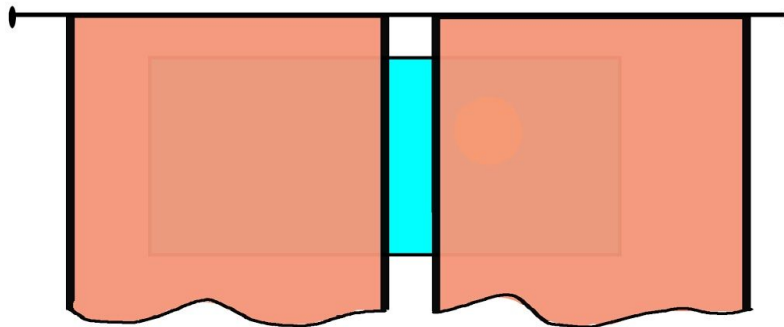
This may seem a little bland but a set of curtain that are attached to a sensor reading the amount of light that is coming from outside. Curtains could then adjust themselves based on light parameters set by the user. For instance, if the user chooses to have his curtains closed

when there is a lot of light outside, this information could be entered into the code and curtains will close when it is receiving lots of light.

Night
Less light therefore curtains are pulled back.

Day
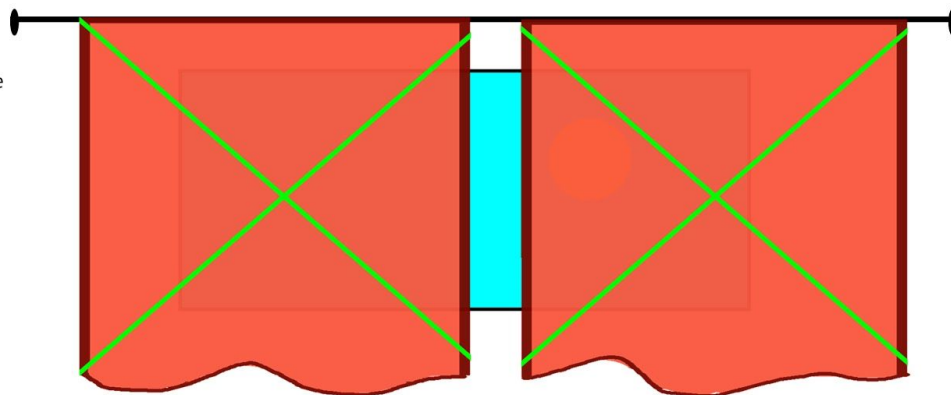More light therefore curtains are covering window.

3. Animated curtains.

Curtains that are responsive to sound and able to animate according to the level of sound present. This idea is inspired by enchanted fictional worlds such as Harry Potter. Bringing attention and character to the spaces we occupy. The idea is that louder noises would result in the curtains shrivelling up and curling into themselves a little to give the appearance of feeling threatened. Whereas lesser sounds or chimes would result in the curtains swaying gently. Although this is not a very practical concept, it comes with intention to create a sense that our spaces are actively engaging with us.
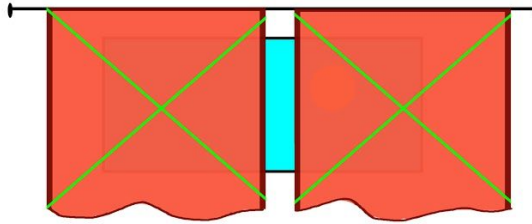
The fabric would be woven with a network wires. These wires would be attached to little motors with pulleys that would abruptly retract the wires upon hearing loud sounds. This would create a sudden wrinkling effect in the fabric. If the sound level were less loud the wires would be retracted in a smoother and slower manner. This would create a more gentle motion of wrinkling in the curtains.
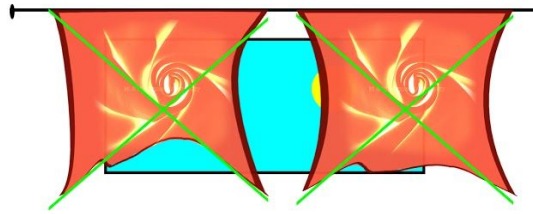
woven
wires are
green .

Storyboard - Animated Curtains

Curtains without
being exposed to
sound look like
ordinary curtains.
They don't animate.

Curtains are
exposed to loud
sound and wires are
pulled back rapidly
creating a sudden
wrinkle in the

speaking
loudly.

Puly used to pull wires back,