



I WALK ON THE GROUND  
AND THE GROUNDS  
WALKED ON BY ME,  
I BREATHE THE AIR AND  
CHANGE IT, I AM ENTIRELY  
INTERCONNECTED WITH  
THE WORLD.  
THE LATHE OF HEAVEN  
BY URSULA K. LE GUIN

## DEBORAH SILVER

FRI 2:46PM, OCT 1 2021

Hi Professor! Please feel free to respond when you are ready to start.

Now's good

First what's your favorite animal and why?

Sea gull. They get to sit at the beach all day ☺

What things made you curious as a child?

How they worked. How things fit together and looked.

How one can code the early computers (I had one as a kid.)

How do you feel about the rapid progression of coding and programming languages?

It is fast. And now it seems like everything is following at that pace, as it is all based on computers and coding.

Data visualization has enabled us to understand big data. Seems like computer software can do almost everything. Where do you see your role in it as a human?

Computers can't do it all by themselves...yet.

We still need the human in the loop. Whether it's making executive decisions, seeing connections, deciding what to look for.

Do you use elements of art or design in the process?

Design is a ubiquitous concept. There is art design but also software design. In visualization it's both software design and art design.

Why do you think it's important to take extra steps in art direction or aesthetics?

The goal of visualization is to present data and keep humans in the loop.

We respond to art and aesthetics.

What areas of science do you like to work in?

Oceanography. I like all of the areas. It's nice being able to touch many disciplines.

So if you can go to any place in the world with just a camera, where would you go and why?

Beach. I do like the ocean but it's more the waves and the continuous motion, the tides, winds, and sea gulls ☺

Sounds lovely and almost makes me miss California. Do you have a local beach to recommend?

I like Asbury and Long Branch. I like walking and both have good boardwalks for long hikes. Sandy Hook is also nice.

Thank you for your time and the recommendations.

Enjoy the beach! ☺

CAPTION: THE COASTLINE NEAR WESTERLY, MASSACHUSETTS. HOPE ALEXANDER, 1973. EPA DOCUMENTA.

SHORT MESSAGING SCIENCE interviews people with multidisciplinary approaches to their work and research. SMSci No. 1. Printed in 2021.