

Angela Xie

Assignment 7 Write Up

05-430 Programming Usable Interfaces

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Please note that this file is also pushed on Git

Part 1 My web intro

- Purpose:
 - This is my first trial of writing my own portfolio website. It showcases two pieces of my most confident UX design works, my photography, and resume. The website also has my contact info for others who may be interested in my work.
- Information conveyed
 - My design process is the most crucial info.
- How is it interesting and engaging?
 - I tried to make the layout clear and intuitive so user can navigate through easily. I also wanted to give them full freedom to go back and forth between section. To make the website more vivid, I added animations for both navbar and scroll reveal.
- Who is the target audience?
 - Anyone who finds the access to my portfolio. Most of them might be my potential recruiters, peers, or my professors.

Part 2 How to interact

- Top navbar:
 - Scroll down to make it go away.
 - Scroll up to make it appear again
 - Work → index page; art → photography page/ resume → see my resume in pdf/contact → shoot me an email
- Index:
 - Click on anywhere of the intro part (the landing section) would generate 2 petals, which will automatically fade away.
 - View work brings you to the work showcase session. You can also scroll down to reach there.
 - Clicking on the button for different work pieces would bring you to that page.

- Individual work page (Lori/airbnb redesign)
 - As you scroll down the scroll reveal animation would show up. It only appear once unless you refresh the page.
 - Sidenav:
 - It's sticky; stays on the side as you scrolls
 - Landing on different section would change the highlighted section name in the sidebar.
 - Hover on the link will change the text color.
 - Click on the link will bring you to the specific section on the page.

Part 3 External tool

- Name of tool:
 - Scrollreveal.js (I also quoted some other's codes in my js files)
 - p5.js
- Why you chose to use it?
 - Because I want the user to focus specifically on my work, the less animation to distract the better. Scroll reveal would only appears for once, which was nice for giving the user a strong and refreshing first impression. Also It was relatively easy to implement.
 - I figured it would be fine to add more animation in the index page since there isn't too much content on the landing page, so I decided to add some petals.
- How you used it?
 - I customized the reveal animation in the end of my html file. (Note: Hi Franceska I talked to you in class and also emailed you regarding the problem that I wasn't able to write the js code in a separate js file. Hope this would remind you our conversation! -Angela)
 - For p5, I wrote separate js codes in the newsketch.js file and linked it to my index.html.
- What it adds to your website?
 - Although my intention was to have most screens static to avoid distraction. Scrollreveal helps add a bit nice animation which captures the viewer's eyes by the first look. It also makes the website more vivid.
 - The petal animation was mainly to make the website more fun. Its color is also consistent with my theme color (salmon red).

Part 4 Iteration on HW6

- The major changes were the interaction for two navbars: the one on the top and the sidenav for navigating individual work pages.
- I added the sidenav to help user gain control: so they can transit through different sections easily without the need to scroll all the way up/down (my documentations were a little bit long).
- The animation for top nav maximizes the usage of the full screen, so nothing would be blocked as the viewers read through.
- Petal animation was also something new.

Part 5 Challenges

- I spent lots of time debugging my website. Sometimes it was hard to figure out where things went wrong, especially in js files/libraries. Many times the animation just won't show up as I expected.
- Another challenge was to make p5.play (another library under p5) work. I tried several times but apparently Chrome doesn't allow me to use local png files in the js file so I wasn't able to create the customized animation. It worked fine in Firefox, but I still decided to shift to using p5 only just to be safe.