Quicken Sounding Paper

quickenpaper.weebly.com

Gesturally Sensitive, Sounding Paper

he goal of this residency is to create a poetically composed essay in the physical form of manipulable sheets of material that feel like paper but can emit speech-quality sound modulated by touch and pressure. To be concrete, we will make a limited edition of a 14-page essay "Q Is for Quicken" realized as a printed object in which the content of some pages is heard, not read. This work's magic comes from sheets of physical paper that speak or sing when handled or touched. A design goal is to break the gimmicky limit of greeting card + sound on a chip, and discover more poetic gestural modulation of paper animated by sound / haptic transducers and touch sensing.

What new gestural repertoires idiomatic to "sensate, animated paper" emerge when we can break from interaction design locked to the legacy of GUI's with the idea of a screen and pointy "pointing device"? What can we adapt, for example, from (un)folding, rolling, kneading,

as well as pressing with any part(s) of the body? What can we adapt from the state of the art in the gestural modulation of sound and the highly advanced technologies of gesture and motion-based interaction for musical expression, but detached from their usual device-centric context of musical instruments, and transposed to the ancient analog habits of manipulating paper, felt, textile, and parchment? How do the corporeal-symbolic practices of sketching, drawing, writing, and reading (image) and listening open up and blend, beyond the conventional distinctions of their respective grammatological functions? This is a risky project because we really cannot tell until we make and try out some of these sensate, animated substrates, at least in prototype form.

Researchers

Oana Suteu Khintirian

Sha Xin Wei

Concept, research and design lead

Research on cultural, historical and symbolic affordances of paper. Visual and material design.

Sonic behaviour, sonifying gestures of manipulating paper, sound design; electronics prototyping, software instruments as platform.

Chris Peter Wood

Navid Navab

instruments.

Researchers

University

Integrated platforms amalgamating custom handmade and specialty papers, embedded sensors and transducers, electronics, sound

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Synthesis Center School of Arts Media + Engineering Arizona State

Topological Media Lab Concordia University

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