

Heritage, Games & Virtual Tourism



<u>Menningararfur í sýndarheimum - Cultural Heritage in</u> <u>Virtual Worlds</u>

Veröld - House of Vigdís; University of Iceland 107 Brynjólfsgata 107 Reykjavík Iceland 2-5 PM 20.10.2023

ERIK CHAMPION, University of South Australia







FRIK M CHAMPION

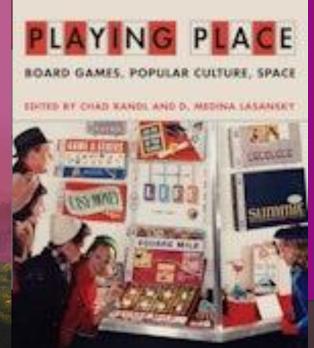
Edited by ERIK CHAMPION CHRISTINA LEE, JANE STAD and ROBERT PEASLE

SCREEN **TOURISM AND** AFFECTIVE LANDSCAPES

The Real, the Virtual, and the Cinematic

ROUTLEDGE CULTURAL HERITAGE

ASSASSIN'S CREED IN THE ASSROOM



DE GRUYTER

TEACHING THE MIDDLE AGES THROUGH MODERN

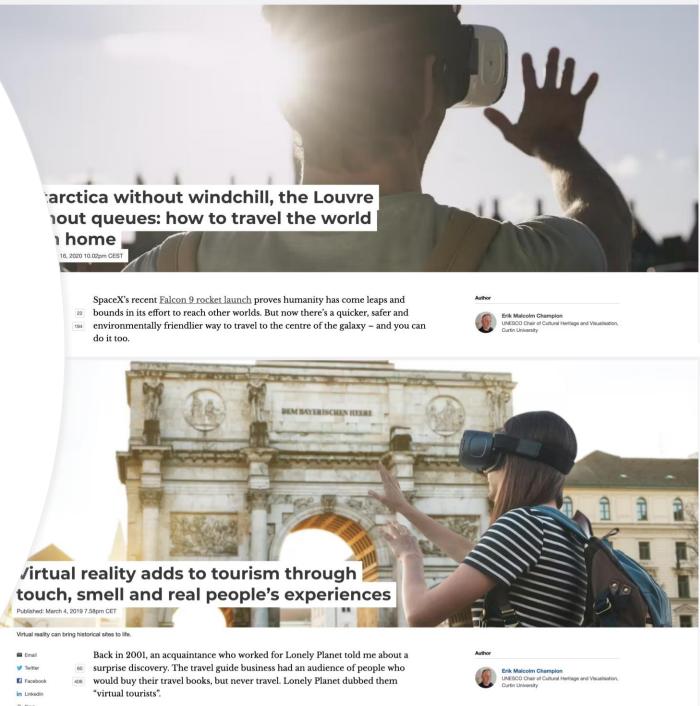
ORGANIC DESIGN

Edited by Robert Houghton



3D Digital Heritagekey challenges

- Animating and engaging 3D via games
- Game-like interaction to increase richness and immersivity of XR (extended reality) and virtual tourism.
- Can 3D heritage, scholarly ecosystems, tourism, and public involvement be brought closer together?
- Can data and our understanding of that data be recorded, interpreted, and shared more fairly, openly, democratically?



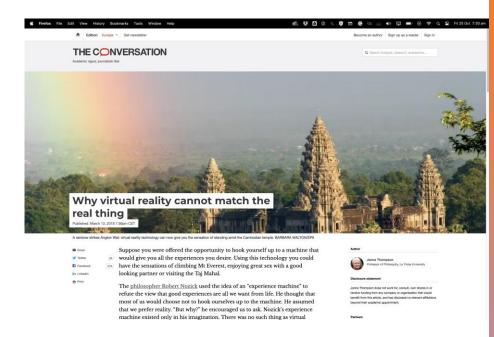
Immersive / interactive GLAM topics

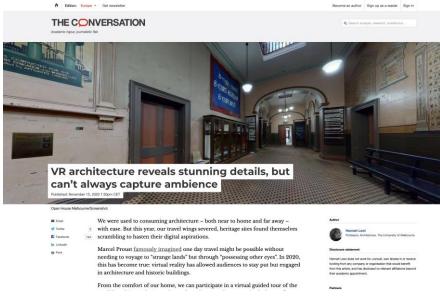
GLAM Challenges:

- How to improve GLAM visitation, preserve, and disseminate?
- Immersive literacy
- Vanishing Virtual? 3D Infrastructures don't infrastructure.
 Past NOT history?

Digital Technologies:

- Virtual worlds, XR, Student Projects
- Museum Opportunities:
- Open Intelligent Formats and process-driven XR
- Collaboration not presentation <u>e.g. Heritage Decision-</u> <u>making (LEEDS)</u> 'How should decisions about heritage be made?' (2013-2015)





GALLERIES LIBRARIES ARCHIVES Museums challenges





ACCESS: 104,500 MUSEUM CHALLENGES

"In 2020, museums were closed for an average of 155 days, and since the beginning of 2021, many of them have again had to shut their doors, resulting, on average, in a 70% drop in attendance and a 40-60% decline in revenue compared to 2019." https://www.unesco.org/en/articles/supporting-museums-unesco-report-points-options-future?hub=417



Archaeo - Histories 🤡 @archeohistories · 20h · 🥒

Sakya Monastery Library; one of most incredible ancient libraries one can encounter is located inside Sakaya Monastery in Shigatse, Tibet.

Built in 1073 CE, Sakaya library is home to 84,000 scrolls that have remained untouched for hundreds of years.

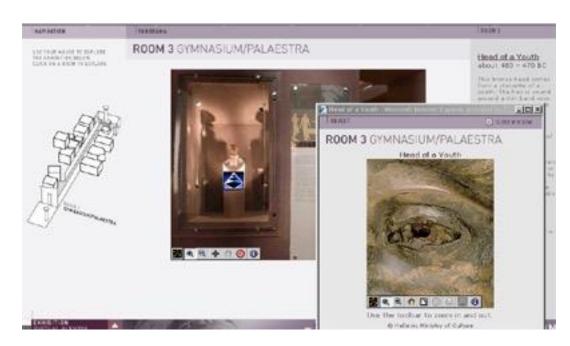
Over 40,000 volumes of... Show more





Virtual Heritage: GLAM-TOURISM

- Single user, expensive(?), closed systems enges expensive, we need to train staff
- Fact, fiction, educated guess?
- Soon obsolete
- Limited interaction, evaluation, education
- IT obsolescence, internet
- Visitors don't download AR apps
- Human Guides are superior



1000 Years Of The Olympic Games: Treasures Of Ancient Greece: Digital Reconstruction At The Home Of The Gods. (Ogleby, Kenderdine 2001).



Fremantle Prison© Dr Hafizur Rahaman. No Wi-Fi, head curator skeptical of VR/MR benefits

FAIR & CARE principles ICOMOS GA 2023 DH



The image of the Sydney Opera House is used under licence from the Sydney Opera House Trust.

- https://ardc.edu.au/resourcehub/making-datafair/: findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable.
- https://ardc.edu.au/resource/th e-care-principles/
- https://www.gidaglobal.org/care
- https://www.nature.com/article s/s41597-021-00892-0



https://www.gida-global.org/care



http://www.geek.com/news/expore-the-virtual-forbidden-city-courtesy-of-ibm-593731/ and http://www.beyondspaceandtime.org/

Mure Dickie, October 10, 2008 Financial Times: "A virtual Forbidden City offering the kind of immersive and interactive online experience pioneered by multiplayer role-playing games such as Second Life."

Conference/event name		VSMM		CAA		CIPA		EUROMED		Digital Heritage	
	Accessible articles & Year of publication Publications don't link to 3D assets		No.	Year	No.	Year	No.	Year	No.	Year	No.
l			55	2015	117	2017	111	2016	105	2015	270
			65	2014	73	2015	82	2014	84	2013	211
			53	2013	50	2013	112	2012	95	-	-
		Total	173		240		305		284		481
	Articles contain reference of 3D heritage assets		31		38		79		61		55
Refe	References include										
(a)	Accessible 3D contents		0		1		3		1		4
(b)	Video		1		2		1		2		6
(c)	Other visual materials (VR models, photographs, images of	1		4		6		5		17	
(d)	3D etc.) Links not accessible/dead 3		0		5		3		8		

chfab /sketchfa .com	MyMiniFactory https://myminifac tory.com	Blendswap https://www.ble ndswap.com	3D Warehouse https://3dwareho use.sketchup.co m	TurboSquid https://turbosqui d.com	ShareCG https://sharecg. com	3DExport https://3dexport. com	Free3D https://free3d. com	Unity Asset Store https://assetst ore.unity.com	Poly https://po google.co
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formats	54 file formats	37 file formats	.SKP	16 file formats	47 file formats	16 file formats	14 file formats	FBX or OBJ	OBJ, gl GLB
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BD, AR, VR	2D	2D	2D, 3D	2D, 3D	2D	2D	2D	2D	2D,3E
nillion odels)00 free dels),)00 CH s (28000 oadable)	76287 published, printable objects (30 Jan 2020)	21975 models (30 Jan 2020)	Not known	820048 models (30 Jan 2020)	9550 models (30 Jan 2020)	169298 models (30 Jan 2020)	225250 models (30 Jan 2020)	Not known	Not kno

Table 1. Non-commercial institutional repositories - 3D hosting features offered (selective).

sonian 3d.si.edu	Three D Scans http://threedscans		CyArk //cyark.org	Europeana EPOCH http://europeana.eu/ http://epoch-nel			CARARE org http://pro.carare.eu		NASA 3D Resources https://nasa3d.arc. nasa.gov		
hsonian	Three D Scans		<u>L</u>	europeana		EPOCH				Nasa 3D Resources	
ee	Free Free, require prior application			Free			Free	Free		Free	
blend, .f3z, DZ, Single oint cloud	OBJ, STL	photo	, point cloud, ogrammetric magery	JPEG, GIF, PNG, PDF, Plain ASCII, MP3, MPEG, AVI, FBX, MTL, OBJ, WRL		PDF		PDF, 3D PDF		STL, 3DS	
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d limit is not lown	Unlimited		ries, prior sion required	Not known		Unlimited		Unlimited		Unlimited	
3D	2D, 3D, animate	d gif	2D, 3D	2D, 3D		2D		3D inside PDF		2D	
known	Not known 200+ sites		00+ sites	50 million+ items, 3D not known		N	ot known	Not known		324 models (30 Jan 2020)	
Sketchfab https://sketchf b.com	MyMiniFactory a https://myminifac tory.com	Blendswap https://www.ble ndswap.com	3D Warehouse https://3dwarehouse.sketchup.comm	TurboSquid b https://turbosqui d.com			3DExport https://3dexport. com	Free3D https://free3d. com	Unity As Store https://ass ore.unity.	setst	Poly https://poly. google.com
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museum 50 file format	s 54 file formats	37 file formats	.SKP	16 file formats	47 file	formats	16 file formats	14 file formats	FBX or	OBJ	OBJ, gITF, GLB
Creative Commons licensing. Upload varies on membership		Varying Creative Commons	General Model License Agreement	Model Licenses: Various	Comm	ative ons BY- -ND ense	Basic and Extended License	Model Licenses: Various	Mode Licens Various, Store El	es: Asset	Published under a CC- BY 3.0 license
Basic-50MB, Pro-200MB, Premium- 500MB, Business- unlimited	Unlimited uploads	Free 90MB upload and 200MB download	50MB (max) upload	No limit	180	OMB	500 MB	Not known	4GB (m uploa Unlimi downlo	d. ted	100MB
2D, 3D, AR, VR	2D	2D	2D, 3D	2D, 3D	2	D	2D	2D	2D		2D,3D
3 million models (200000 free models), 100000 CH models (2800 downloadable	objects (30 Jan 2020)	21975 models (30 Jan 2020)	Not known	820048 models (30 Jan 2020)	9550 (30 Ja	models n 2020)	169298 models (30 Jan 2020)	225250 models (30 Jan 2020)	Not kno	own	Not known

Heritage Decisions (LEEDS)

Heritage Decision-making (LEEDS)

- 1. Act: Make a change from where you are
- 2. Connect: Cross boundaries and collaborate
- 3. Reflect: See your work through others' eyes
- 4. <u>Situate: Understand your work in context</u>

My partial suggestions:

- 1. VR as Simulation Engines
- 2. Linked Open Data +usage
- 3. Culturally *Significant* Presence
- 4. Mixed and Augmented Reality (XR)

https://heritagedecisions.leeds.ac.uk/about/ A Participatory Research Project

"Heritage is about what we value: places, buildings, objects, memories, cultures, skills or ways of life. So why can it be so hard to get actively involved in heritage decision-making? Heritage becomes defined when decisions are made: what to preserve, what to show, what to think of as worth celebrating and sharing. In our research project we explored how such decisions could be opened up to democratic participation."

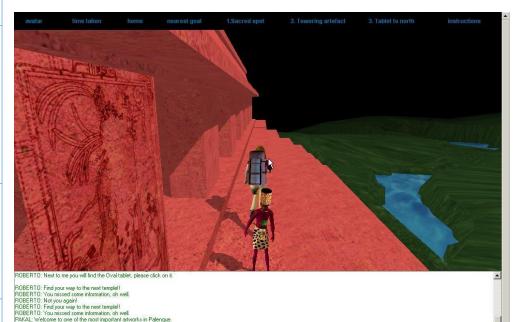


PhD: U. of Melbourne-Lonely Planet 2001-

4

Evaluation	Content" (intro, 3 Archaeology, 3 gamic)	Objective: Compare to
Task Performance	6 objects to find	Understanding
Cultural Understanding	6 questions x 3 virtual environments (learn by observing, conversing with bots, activity) Which VE most challenging to explore, find or change?	Preference, demographics, task performance
Presence Survey (rank 1 to 7)	Most: interesting; interactive; related to 'Mayan'; inhabited; in the presence of Mayan culture	Demographics, to task performance; find personal preference in answers, rank 7 VEs
Environmental recall	Shadows; real people; height of locals vs tourists; number of people	Demographics and to task performance and to understanding
Subjective Experience (of time passing)	In which VE did time pass quickest? How fast did they update the screen?	Subjective preference and to demographics











Definitions for a human viewpoint

GAME: A challenge that offers up the possibility of temporary or permanent tactical resolution without harmful outcomes to the real-world situation of the participant

NEW MEDIA: the act of reshaping the user experience through the innovative use of digital media.

VIRTUAL HERITAGE: convey the appearance, meaning, significance, and social agency that designed and used cultural artefacts and sites, (through the use of interactive and immersive digital media).

NEW HERITAGE: re-examine the user experience that digital media can provide for the understanding and experiencing of tangible and intangible cultural heritage

CULTURAL PRESENCE: a feeling in a virtual environment that people with a different cultural perspective occupy or have occupied that virtual environment as a 'place'.

Erik Champion, in Y. E. Kalay, T. Kvan, & J. Affleck, New Heritage: new media and cultural heritage. New York: Routledge, 2008.





a visitor's overall subjective impression when visiting a virtual environment that people with a different cultural perspective occupy or have occupied as a place... not just a feeling of being there but also a sense of being in a foreign time or not-so-well understood place.

- "In his book Critical Gaming (2015), Erik Champion argued that virtual realities should express 'cultural presence,' the meaning and significance of a time, place, or object to people of the past.
- Hyper-reality, photogrammetry, and ever-increasing levels of 'accuracy' in 3D models do not inherently convey aspects of cultural significance and meaning, and many VR/AR/XR experiences fall dramatically short of the goal of expressing the importance of past places and things to their original communities.." CAA2022
 Oxford

PWP 2001>2011>2023 refle

- 1. Internet-3D worlds for tourism feasible?
- 2. Where are past 3D projects/case studies?
- 3. Culturally *significant* presence
- 4. Games are challenges? *Archaeogaming*?
- 5. Performance <> understanding
- 6. Don't use Likert? Extrapolate understanding? Teach aloud method?
- 7. AR, MR, XR not well applied to CH
- 8. Immersive literacy (don't read and walk)





SAVED BY \$ In Gaming? (2022) 2014: Microsoft buys Minecraft for. 2.5B

[slashgear]

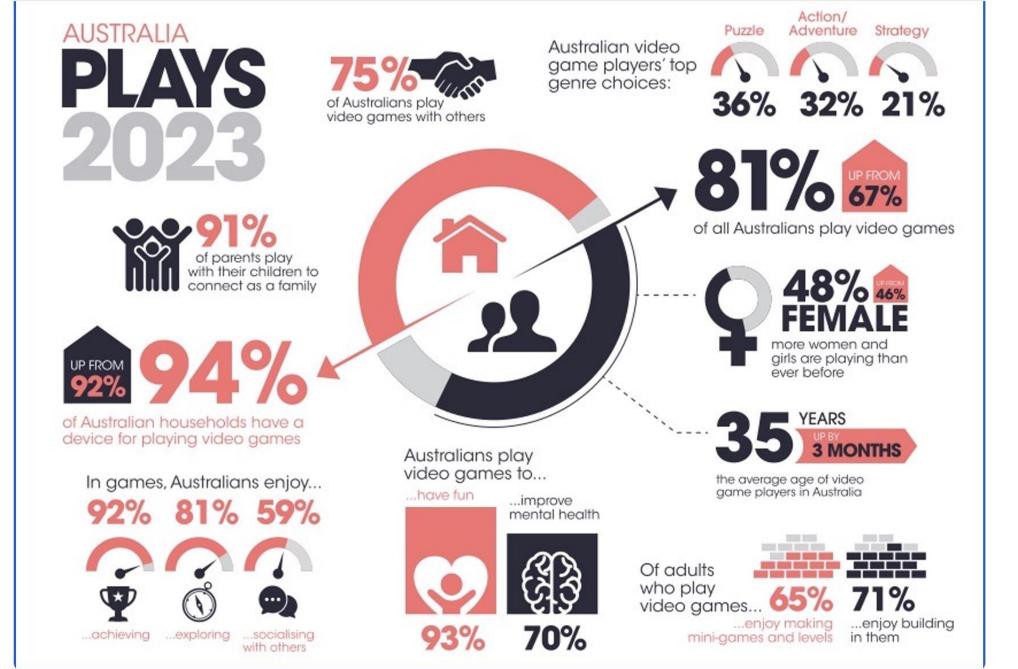
2021: Unity buys Weta Digital [NZ] for 1.65B [awn]

2021: Facebook spends 10B on Metaverse [vahoo]

2022: Microsoft buys Activision for 68.7B USD [afr]

2021:

- Microsoft most valuable "game" comp. 1.99 trillion
- Tencent 400B*, Sony 100B, Unity 13.29B, Ubisoft (Assassin's Creed) 5.39B
- Epic (Unreal) raises 2B [companiesmarketcap] and says its value is 31.5B [Epic]
- \$300B USD in world [accenture], 2.7B gamers



KEY FINDINGS



AUSTRALIA PLAYS VIDEO GAMES

94% of Australian households have a device for playing video games (up from 92%)

81% of all Australians play video games (up from 67%)

48% of Australian players are female - more women and girls are playing than ever before (up from 46%)

35 years the average age of video game players in Australia (up by 3 months)

79% of players are aged 18 and above

76% of game households have **2 or MORE** devices for playing games

The average Australian who plays video games has been playing for **11 years**

PLAY TO BE WITH FAMILY

92% To spend time together

91% To connect as a family

Most parents say they establish **RULES** for their children's gameplay

PLAY TO CONNECT 🧼

75% of Australians play video games with others

33% made new friend(s) through video games

Only 25% say they always play solo

19% enjoy playing with their spouse or partner

17% enjoy playing with a friend

14% enjoy playing with their children

42% watch YouTube videos of gameplay

PLAY TO LEARN

53% of parents say their children's school use games to teach

90% of adults think games can help students learn science and reading

76% of adults think games inspire students to be creative

74% of adults think games help students manage stress

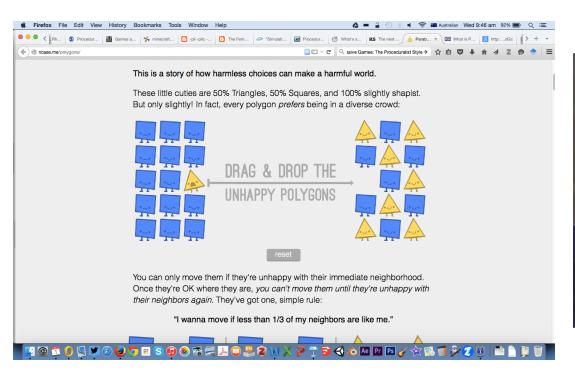
89% of adults think games improve thinking skills for players of all ages

A **QUARTER** of adults say they have used training games in their workplace

Over **HALF** say they want to use games instead of other types of training

Systemic discrimination

http://killscreendaily.com/articles/parablepolygons-teaches-us-danger-and-powerindividual-bias/



Escape from Woomera



Return to Escape from Woomera

Work with communities

Sustaining intangible heritage through video game storytelling - the case of the Sami Game Jam "This article explores how game jams, a rapid collaborative game production format, can work to support the revitalisation of Indigenous self-narratives in the context of Sámi culture."

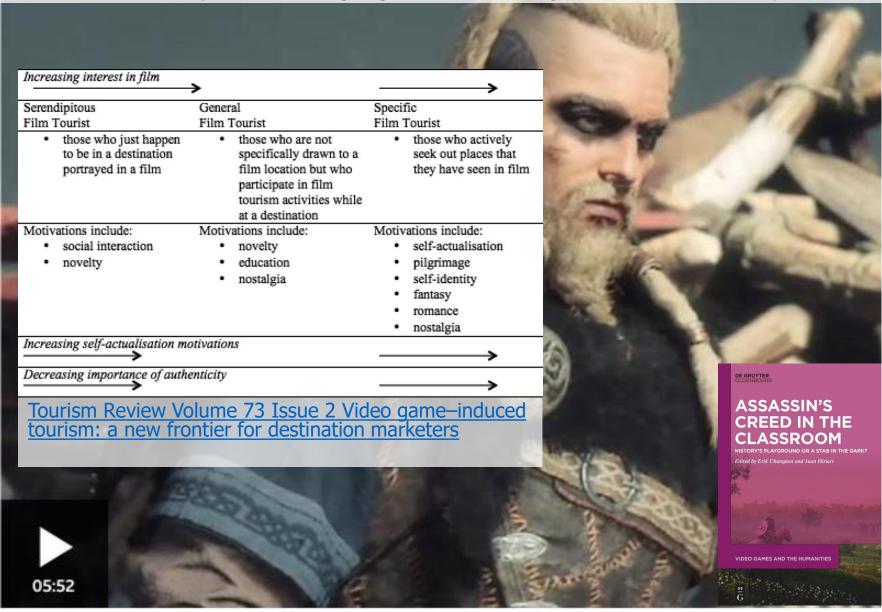


https://saamigamejam.com/



http://neveralonegame.com

Discovery Tour Viking Age: Can video games teach history?





The Riddles of the Sphinx Tour, Pyramids of Giza, Egypt, as shown in Ubisoft's Assassin's Creed: Origins Discovery Tour.



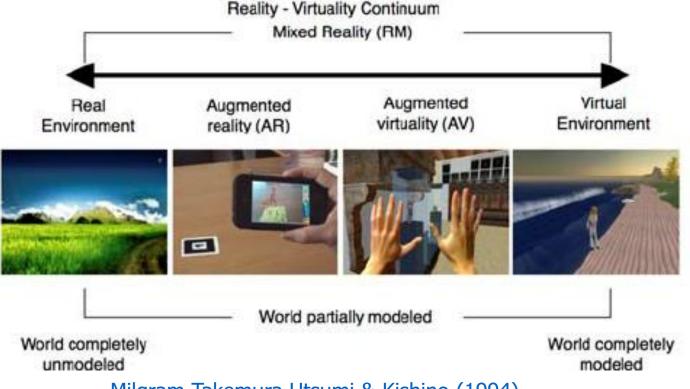
https://www.ubisoftescapegames.com

AR/MR/XR

Personal AR/VR for Cultural Heritage Group A Gesture Gesture PLAY STATION VR \$ AUS 420-450. Play Station Device (1)) Spatial sound FOVE VR HTC VIVE \$ AUS 780-800. + PC (VR ready) OCULUS RIFT | Group B SAMSUNG GEAR VR GOOGLE CARDBOARD Group U BOBO VR AUS 70~80 \$ + Smart Phone Erik Champion, Hafizur Rahaman, Mafkereseb Bekele Under adult guidance. Consult device manual

MR: Paul Milgram and Fumio Kishino (1994) define it as "a particular subclass of VR related technologies that involve the merging of real and virtual worlds."

https://marknb00.medium.com/what-is-mixed-reality-60e5cc284330



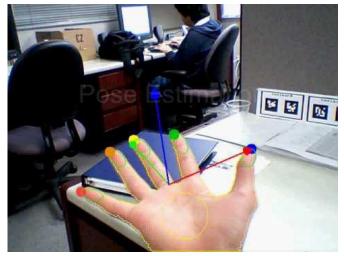
Milgram Takemura Utsumi & Kishino (1994)

Giovanni Vincenti

https://alisonjamesart.com/2017/03/12/what-is-a-virtuality/



AR: "Layered"



AR: "Embedded"

Do people care?

AR Creation tools



Bolt's AR Snapchat lens transforms cars into green spaces, outdoor cafes ..



Metaverse / AI



■■■■ We're launching Horizon Worlds in France and Spain today! Looking forward to seeing people explore and build immersive worlds, and to bringing this to more countries soon.



ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENT HISTORY?

Antti Ilvessuo:"correspondences exchanged among members of the Paston family and their acquaintances between 1422 and 1509."

"Before the AI era, this process would have taken months to extract and plan. Now, it can be done in practically under 1 hour."

Maxime Durand: "It is very very interesting how fast something can be tested. From an historian's perspective, these images are quite problematic. On one end they feel so realistic and make history alive, unlike disconnected forms of arts of communication that we can hardly relate to!"





We're launching Horizon Worlds in France and Spain today! Looking forward to seeing people explore and build immersive worlds, and to bringing this to more countries soon.





Nathie ② · Sep 24, 2023 @NathieVR · Follow

What opinion about VR do you have that'll get you like this?





Flame Soulis (@flamesoulis@meow.social)

@FlameSoulis · Follow

Social VR is ruining VR experiences because people would rather spend time there than try something new. In turn, the industry sees the sales figures and feels less inclined to support the platform. Additionally, headsets that perform well but lack social VR support get shunned.

9:51 AM · Sep 24, 2023



Al is an existential threat – just not the way you think

- https://theconversation.com/ai-is-an-existentialthreat-just-not-the-way-you-think-207680
- "...people will gradually lose the capacity to make these judgments themselves. The fewer of them people make, the worse they are likely to become at making them...But the increasingly uncritical embrace of it, in a variety of narrow contexts, means the gradual erosion of some of humans' most important skills. Algorithms are already undermining people's capacity to make judgments, enjoy serendipitous encounters and hone critical thinking."

Li et el (2023). ELICITING HUMAN PREFERENCES WITH LANGUAGE MODELS https://arxiv.org/pdf/2310.11589.pdf

(A) Unknown user preferences

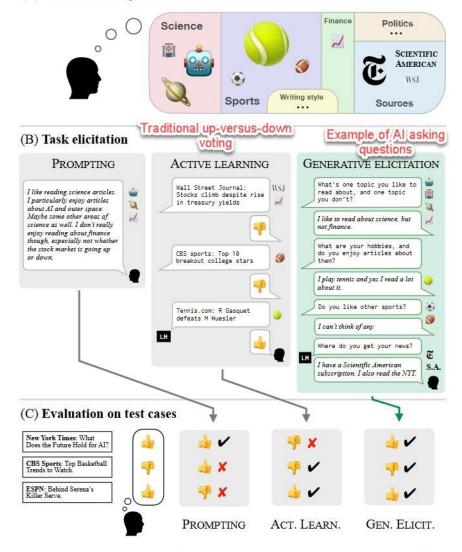


Figure 1: Generative Active Task Elicitation (GATE) elicits user preferences through interactive, freeform questions, which can then be used in downstream decision-making. Unlike non-interactive elicitation
approaches (e.g., prompting), which rely entirely on the human to elucidate their preferences, generative elicitation is better able to probe nuances of human preferences. Unlike active learning approaches, generative
elicitation can ask more generic, free-form questions. The three parts of this figure illustrate: (A) Fuzzy user
preferences: A user wishes to translate their fuzzy preferences for how a task should be performed into a specification for a machine learning model. This is challenging because users lack perfect introspection, preferences
can be difficult to specify in language, the specification needs to anticipate tricky real-world edge cases, and
models may misgeneralize from provided examples or instructions. (B) Task elicitation: We consider various
ways of eliciting these fuzzy preferences from users, including non-interactive prompting, active learning, and
generative elicitation (GATE). (C) Evaluation: We evaluate methods on a held-out test set, scoring how well a

Editorial: Is Facebook Going Meta?

- "To understand how different the world might be in 5 or 10 years' time, ask yourself questions like these:
- Do you want any person at any time to be able to pull up your Facebook profile just because they saw your face?
- Would always-on face-recognition technology change how you behave in public?
- Does the ability to record your perspective include the right to permanently save, analyze and share the location, actions, conversations, and appearance of the people you see?"



Ian Hamilton October 20, 2021

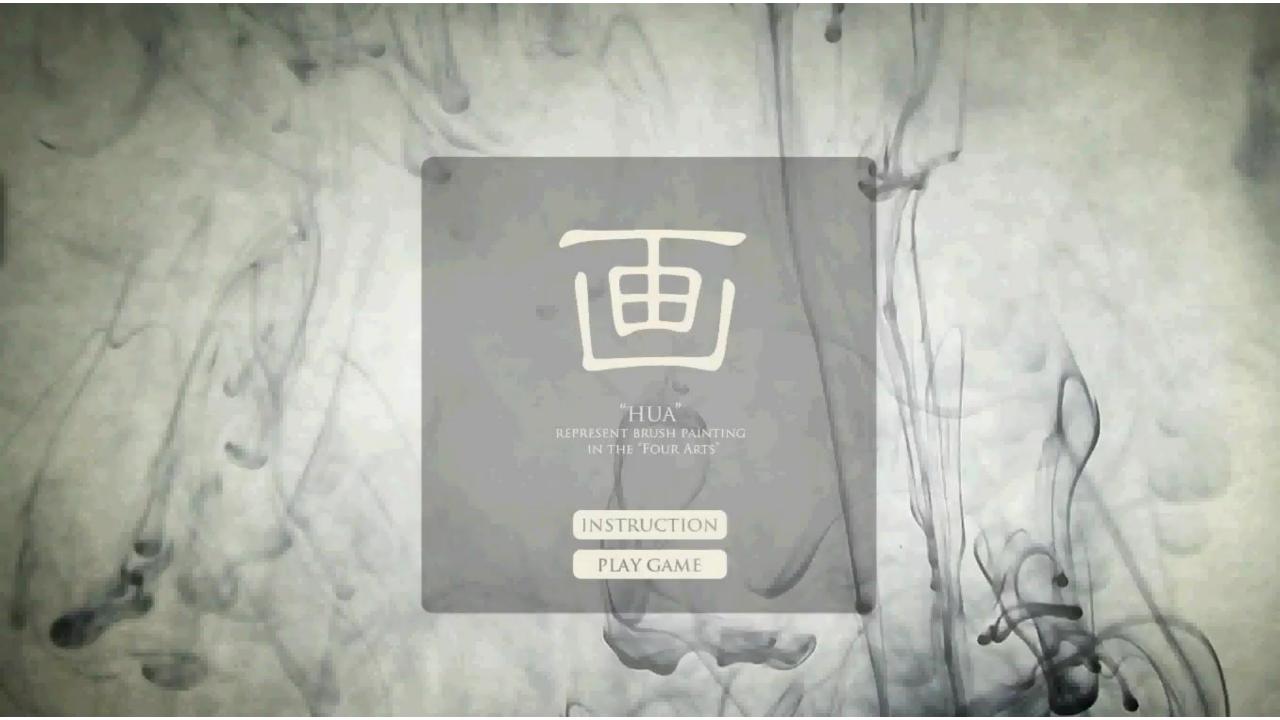
Learning from student projects





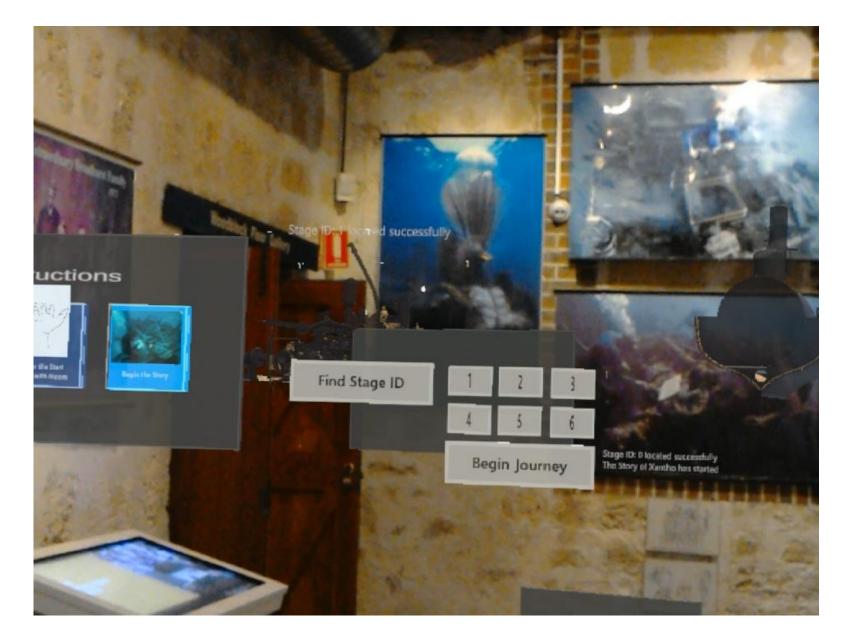


TOUCHSCREEN TAOISM MASTERS: LI WANG

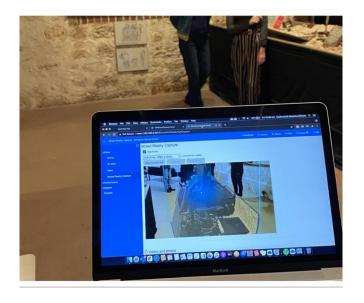




Mixed reality: 1606* Duyfken, PhD: Mafkereseb Bekele







HoloLens-Collaboration WA Shipwrecks Gallery (PHD MAFKERESEB BEKELE

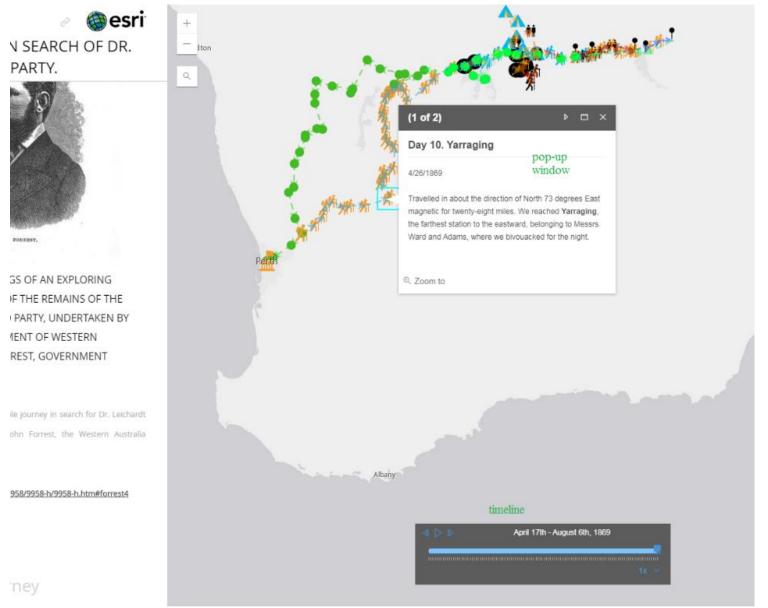
Related projects

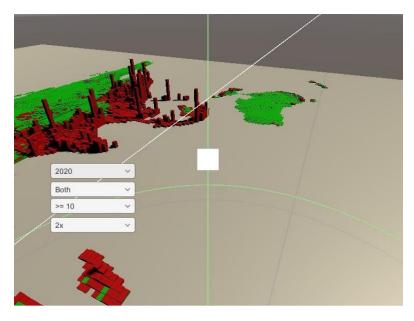


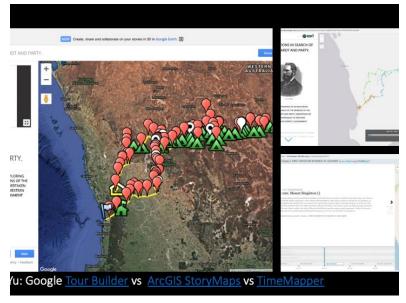


Virtual Museum Template in Unity (Desktop, Headset, for curators to build their own multimedia wall collections

https://github.com/drewfrobot/more-unity-and-data

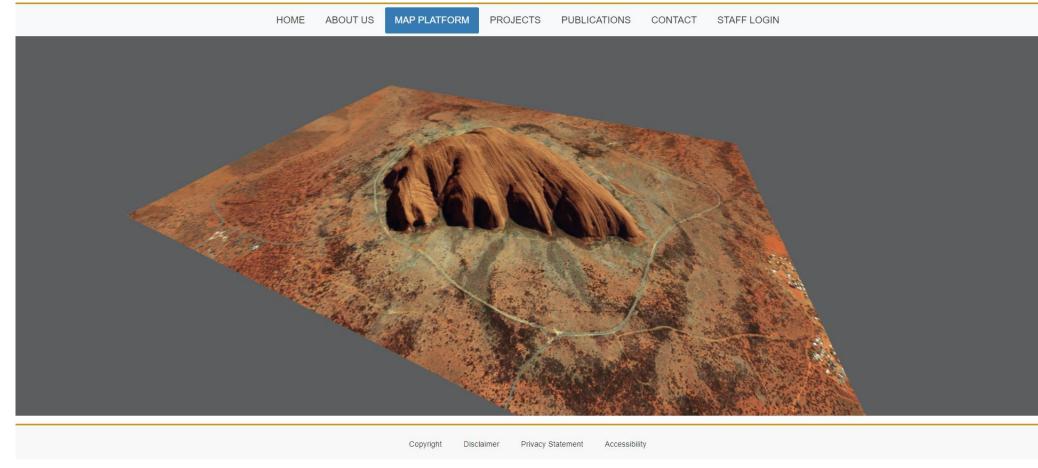






TLC Cultural Mapping-LOD

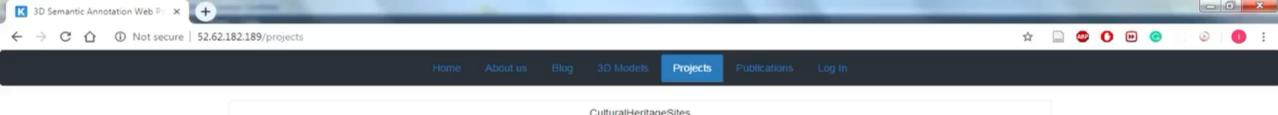
Opportunities: geospatial, history, architecture



Fir his PhD <u>Ikrom Nishanbaev</u> created a 3D model/GIS database: draw around 3D objects and dynamically change the geodata.

Data + 3D Models on DBpedia (database for Wikipedia) dynamically linked at component level using Linked Open Data.

41



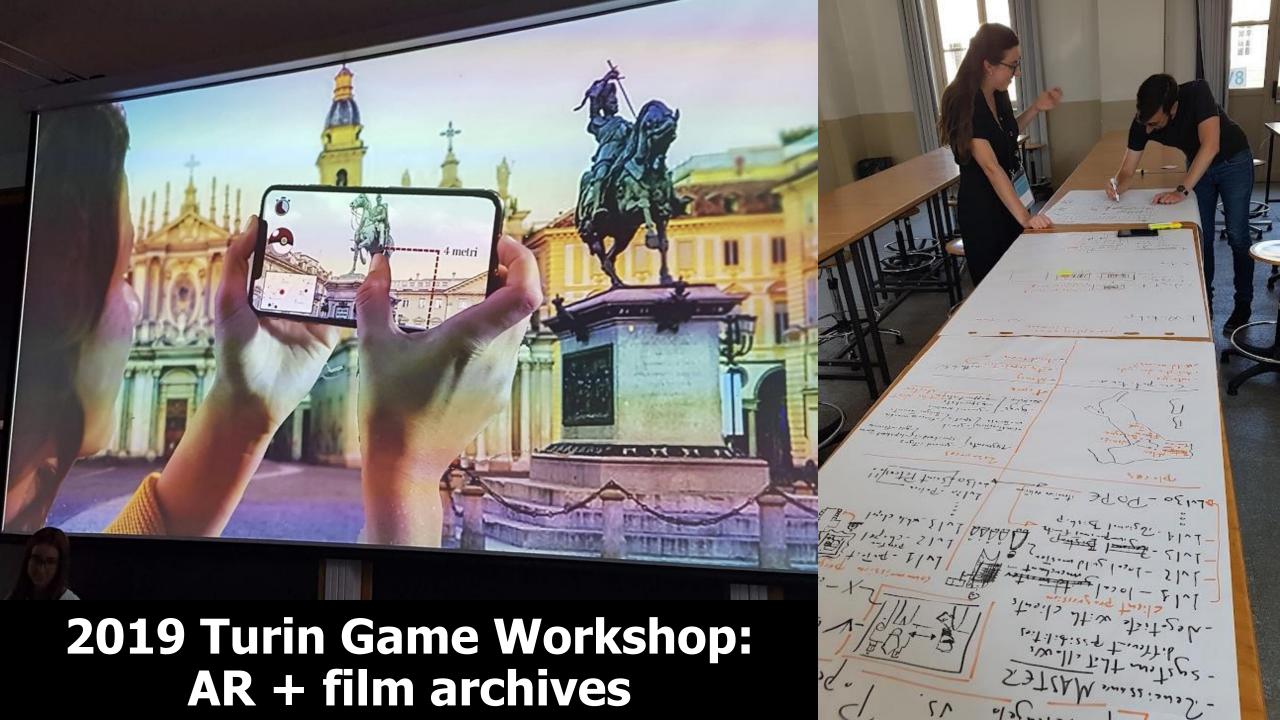
CulturalHeritageSites

Cultural Heritage Sites: maps, 3D models, GIS data, semantic web, geospatial semantic web.

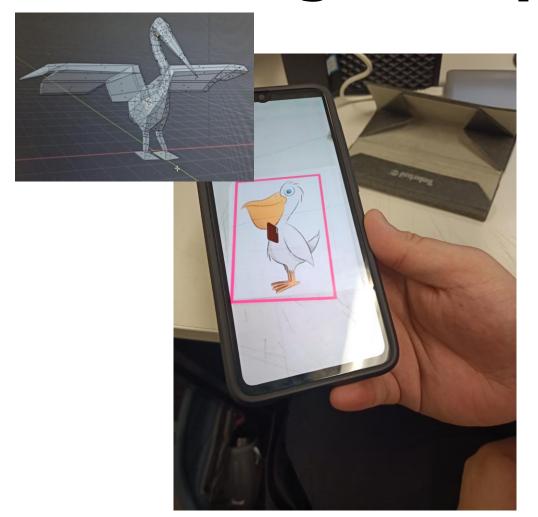
View details

Workshops





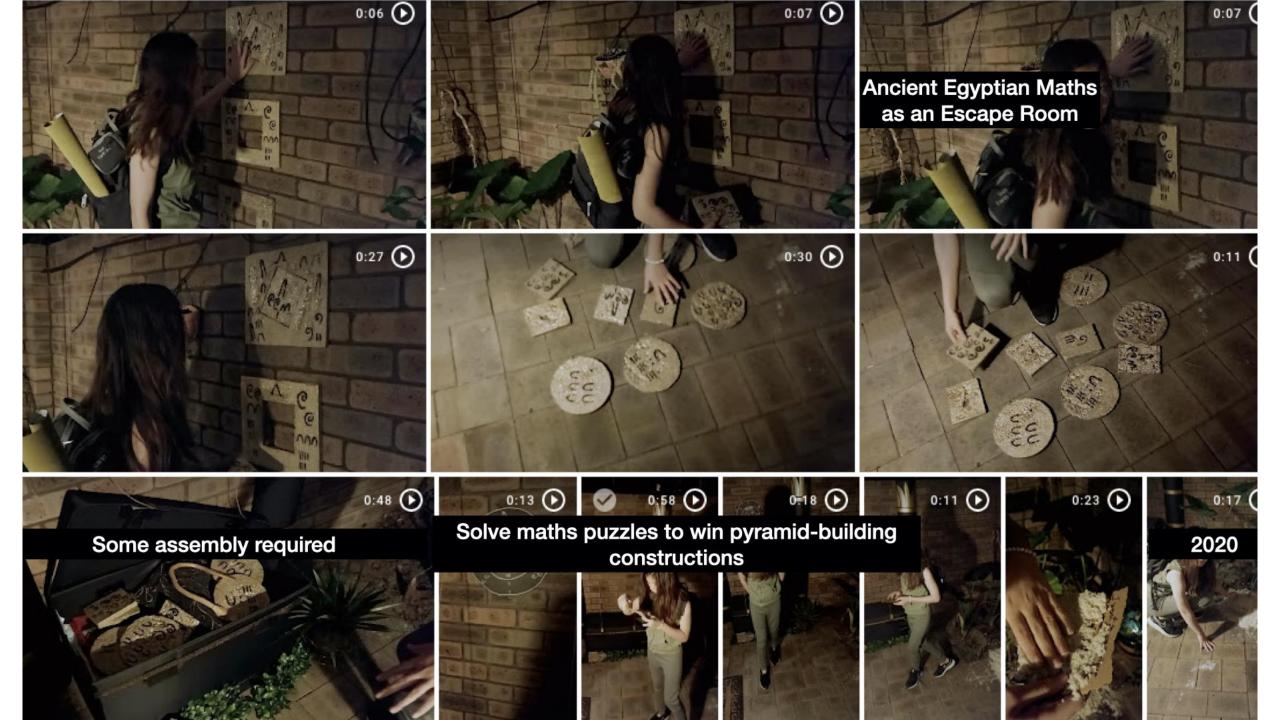
Creating a Simple Game



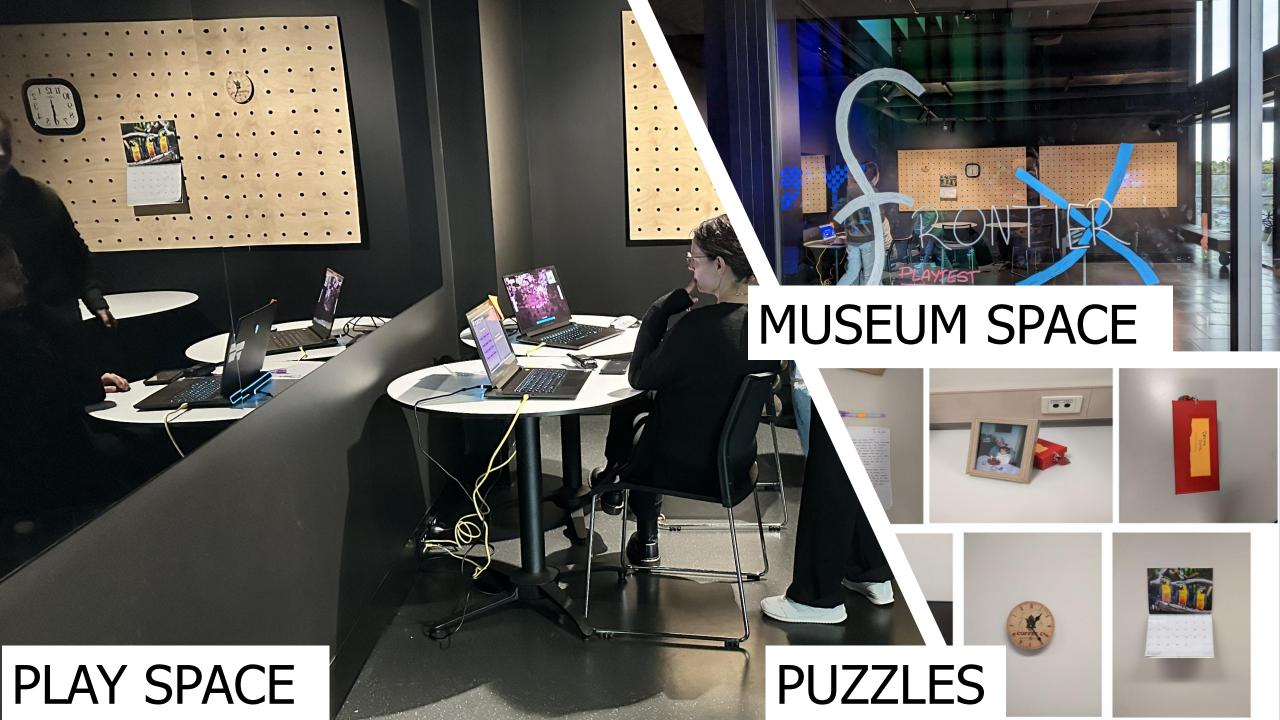


- 1. What is the goal? Why try to achieve it?
- 2. Why is it an engaging challenge?
- 3. Does it involve competition/mastery, chance, imitation, controlling vertigo/rush of movement/flight?
- 4. What is the feedback system, affordances + constraints, rewards and punishments?
- 5. How to level up/advance via mechanics?
- 6. How does it offer different strategies, options?
- 7. What is learnt during or after the experience?









GLAM Games event (25 Sept)

- Erik Champion (UniSA) Learning Through Play
- Peter Tattersall (Head of Visitor Engagement, National Maritime Museum Sydney)
 What are you playing at? Contested histories, video games, classrooms, and museums
- Dr Melissa Rogerson (University of Melbourne) Avoiding "analogue" combining physical components with technologies to make new playful experiences
- Dr Bernardo Pereira (ANU) Insights from a Computer Science Escape Room Experience
- Drs Terhi Nurmikko-Fuller & Katrina Grant (ANU) Lo-fi Games in GLAM
- Dr Susannah Emery, George Martin & Sophia Booij (UniSA) "Escaping the classroor
 - engaging students with history
- Natalie Carfora & Claudia von der Borch (MOD. Museum) Designing Museum Experiences: Learnings from George Alexander Foundation Fellowships
- Peter Tullin (REMIX) The changing landscape for the cultural and creative industrie
- Sam Haren (Sandpit) Bringing Intimacy Back to Digital Interactions
- Dr Juan Hiriart (the University of Salford UK (virtual)) Co-designing indigenous games: South America and beyond



https://www.sea.museum/



Immersive exp vs museums







Social Media Followers (000)	Instagram	Facebook	TikTok	Combined
Leading Immersive Entertainment Provider	5			
teamLab	655	205	12	872
Meow Wolf (Multi-Site / Multiple Accounts)	769	654	149	1572
Secret Cinema	154	429	2	585
CultureSpaces (Atelier Des Lumieres & other sites)	300	681	12.6	994
Museum of Ice Cream	534	101	n	646
Grande Experiences (The LUME)	46	27	0.6	74
eading Museums & Galleries (Melbourne	& Sydney)			
GV	439	259	No pre:	698 sence
EMI .	44	81	No 125 presence	
useums Victoria (Melbourne Museum, enceworks & Immigration Museum)	106	253	No 359 presence	
A	149	144	No 293 presence	
ralian Museum	52	103	c	0.2 155





PhD scholarship: Personalizable Augmented Heritage Tours

- VR/AR Project with Adelaide Gaol. Evaluate effects of AR/VR heritage tour:
- which cues heightened emotional engagement?
- level to which they wished to individually filter and personalize the experience?
- effect of added detail from indirect group interaction, and evidence for if (and how) a VR (Virtual Reality) game can heighten difficult heritage experience more than a desktop digital game?
- Wider impact may be guidelines and recommendations for phonebased AR for difficult heritage tourism experiences.
- Aim: to engage in particular with staff, visitors, and volunteers of Adelaide Gaol.
- https://unisa.edu.au/research/
- https://unisa.edu.au/research/degrees/ projects

Conclusion



- 1. Virtual Heritage = Decision-Makers <u>or</u> Obsolete Expensive Silos
- 2. Games/playful heritage-open-ended engaging cultural challenges
- 3. Explore Immersive Literacy as Skill-Training
- 4. Citizen Heritage through Collaborative Design
- 5. <u>Linked Open Data 3D Open-Ended Visualisation Data, Tools, Strategies</u>
- 6. Evaluation as Part of the Learning/Building Process

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Virtual Travel / Metaverse / AI

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