#### Misuser

Artists Working at the Edge of Computing

@dschmudde

http://schmud.de



# Purpose?









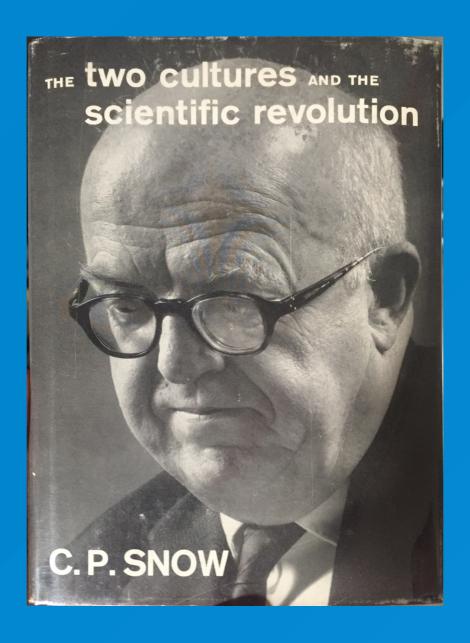
**What is Technology?** 

# Art as a Technological Endeavor

- Early adopters
- Creative
- Intellectually curious.
- Often subversive

# Art as a Technological Endeavor

- Early adopters
- Creative
- Intellectually curious.
- Often subversive (misuse)
  - A tool's intention
  - A tool's potential

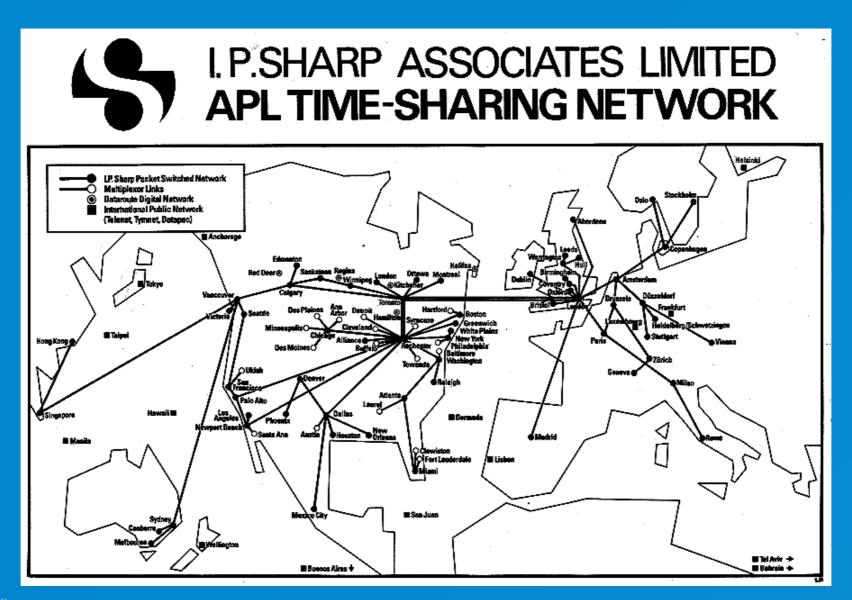


# **2nd Law of Thermodynamics**

2

A Work of Shakespeare

#### **ARTEX on IPSANET**



# Roy Ascott

#### La Plissure du Texte (1983) 🔗



LA PLISSURE DU TEXTE is a computer networking art project designed by RCY ASCOTT for the major exhibition devoted to the historical and contemporary review of Electricity in art organised by FRANK POPPER for the Musee d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris. The exhibition is called "ELECTRA 1983" and will open at the beginning of December 1983 and run for three

La Plissure du Texte is a collaborative story telling project using a computer timecharing network of artists located in Europe, North America and Australia. Artists using terminals in their own studios or at publicly accessible locations will be involved in a process of "distributed authorship". They will employ the ARTBOX network of I.P.Sharp's APL system (who have donated free network time to the project).

#### **ARTEX on IPSANET**

- III IPSANET → SIII
- **②** ARTEX → **?** 
  - Misuse? (creative experimentation)
  - R&D? (narrative tools → business applications)
  - Edge case? (engineering problem)

# Edge Cases and Misuse Designing Testing White hat hacking

# **Edge Cases and Misuse**



Jodi

wwwwwwww.jodi.org (1995) 🔗

# Jodi

# Automatic Rain (1995)



# Creative Misuse Using Slowness as a Feature



#### Jodi

#### **Netscape 1.1 Animation**

(April/95-March/96)

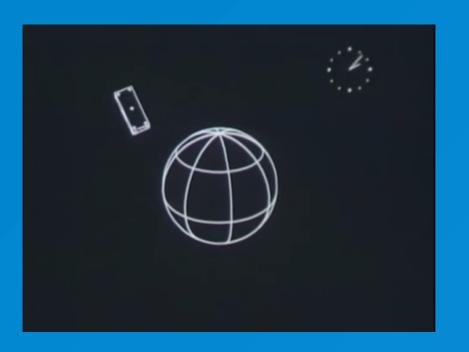
- Bug in Netscape 1.1
- One <head> with multiple <body> s.
- Load <body> s sequentially
- First web animations

# Creative Misuse Hastens Obsolescence or Influences the System

### **Bell Labs**

#### **Edward Zajac**

# Simulation of a Two-Giro Gravity Attitude Control System (1963)



#### **Lillian Schwartz**

**UFOs** (1971) 🔗

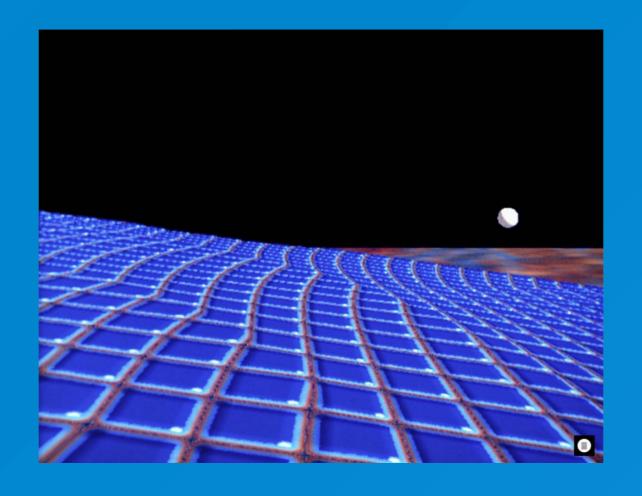
Ken Knowlton's BEFLIX DSL (1963) → EXPLOR (~1970)



## **Misuse** ⇒ Features

# **David Em**

**Approach** (1979)



# Misuse ⇒ More Human

# **Dianna Smith**

Francine (2018) *@* 



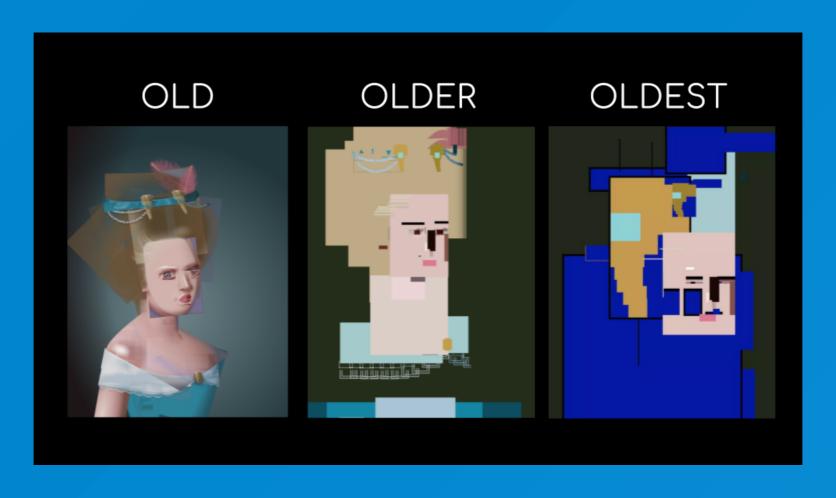
Misuse ⇒ Not Rare

**Accidental: Life** 

**Intentional: Art** 

## **Dianna Smith**

**Francine** (2018)



# Misuse ⇒ Illustrates the System

Robust?

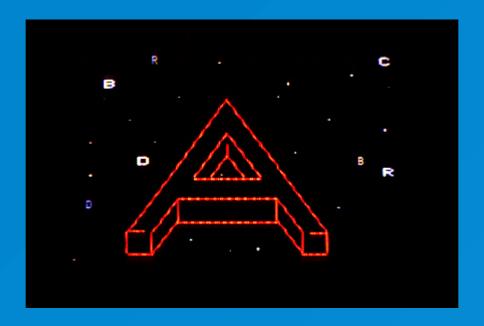
Consistent?

**Expressive?** 

Reabracadabra (1985) 🔗



**Neo-Concrete Poetry** 



Reabracadabra (1985)

#### **Digital Preservation**

- Videotexto (Brazil Minitel)
- Essence: telematic art → computer animation

Reabracadabra (1985)

#### **Digital Preservation**

• It has no explicit application.

Reabracadabra (1985)

#### **Digital Preservation**

- It has no explicit application.
- It is not a pipe, it points to the pipe.

Reabracadabra (1985)

#### **Digital Preservation**

- It has no explicit application.
- It is not a pipe, it points to the pipe.
- It is art.

**Technology Changed** 

1

**Expression Changed** 

# **What is Technology?**

Art?

The Screen?

The Terminal?

The Network?

What is Technology?

Blinded by Purpose



The Entire System of Engineering

Physics, Design, Social Relationships, Education, and Culture

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