

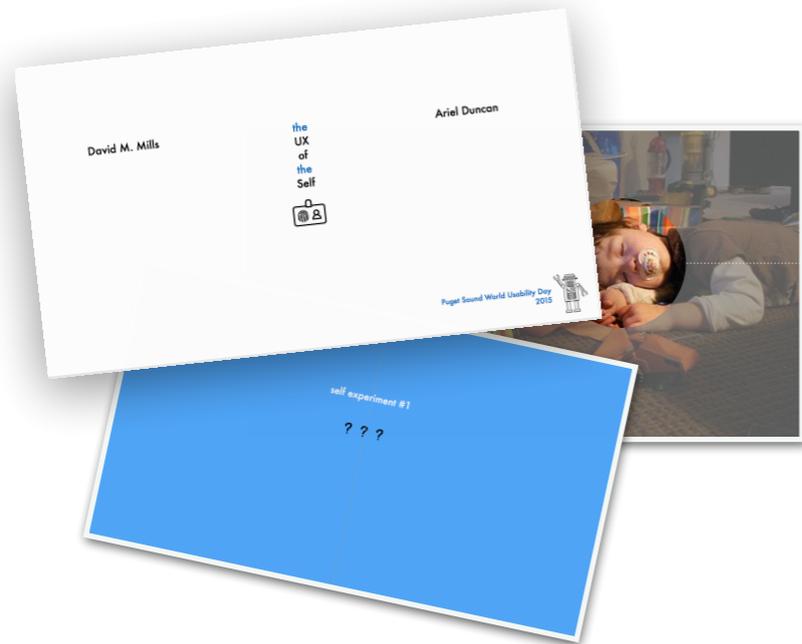
Ariel Duncan

FLIP BOOK OF
INTERESTING
PROJECTS

*Human Centered Design & Engineering
University of Washington*

SAFETY HERE MEANS

*Asking for public comment during my
Design for Civic Engagement class.
University of Washington, 2016*



Ux of the Self

EMBODIMENT & INNOVATION

Talk with David Mills, Ph.D.

*Puget Sound World Usability Day
Microsoft HQ, November 2015*

We often think of ideas as something that originate and dwell in our minds, excluding our physical bodies.

When we think of thinking, we imagine people hunched over desks, books, computers, circuit boards, focused so intently on the task at hand that they “lose” their bodies. Yet we know people often get their best ideas on a walk or in the shower, just as they stop “trying” to think.

How might our innovations change when we change our idea of what innovating looks like? Audience members got to explore what innovation might feel like as we guided them through several experiences using insights from F.M. Alexander’s research. In the 1890s, Alexander applied the scientific method to his own medical problems to find innovative, holistic solutions that offer creative and useful orientations to learning, to change and to new information that lay the groundwork for innovation within and between individuals.

Famous Americans

HISTORICAL CONSCIOUSNESS SURVEY

*Research Asst. to Prof. Sam Wineburg
Historical Sense-making Project
Stanford University, 2006-7*



“Harriet Tubman
may be our new
Betsy Ross.”

My junior year in college, I wrote to the author of a book I loved called *Historical Thinking and Other Unnatural Acts*, a cognitive psychologist at Stanford. He wrote back, we spoke on the phone, and he accepted my offer to work for him during Winter Term.

What we found back in 2006 is strangely contemporary now that underground railroad hero Harriet Tubman’s face is proposed for the \$20 bill. Our data found that African-American heroes are overwhelmingly close to the nation’s heart and that regardless of the age or race of the respondent, the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., Rosa Parks and Harriet Tubman were the top three most frequently-cited names when we asked people to name “famous Americans in history.”

Our story was picked up in *Smithsonian*, *Jet*, and *USA Today*. Another project Sam and I worked on related to historical consciousness that January was published in the *American Educational Research Journal*.

Visual Design

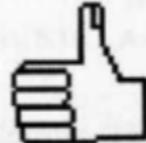
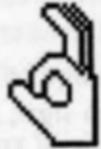
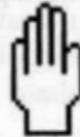
FLIP BOOK

Each week in HCDE 512: International User Experience, we were asked to record our responses to the readings in our “process books.”

This is the cover of mine. This reading stayed with me as a vivid reminder to take nothing for granted in cross-cultural UX.

I’m okay, you’re...ok?

TABLE 6.6
Avoid Hand Gestures

<i>Image</i>	<i>Intended meaning</i>	<i>Problems</i>
	Yes, OK	In Sicily, this gesture invites the viewer to insert the thumb into a private part of the anatomy.
	Precisely, yes	This gesture can mean zero or worthless in France, and in South America it refers to a part of the anatomy not normally exposed in public.
	Stop, halt	In Greece, this palm-out gesture is considered obscene (Berlitz, 1982). The gesture dates back to Byzantine times when free men would humiliate new war prisoners by scooping up horse droppings and, using this gesture, rub them into the faces of the captives (Morris, 1977).

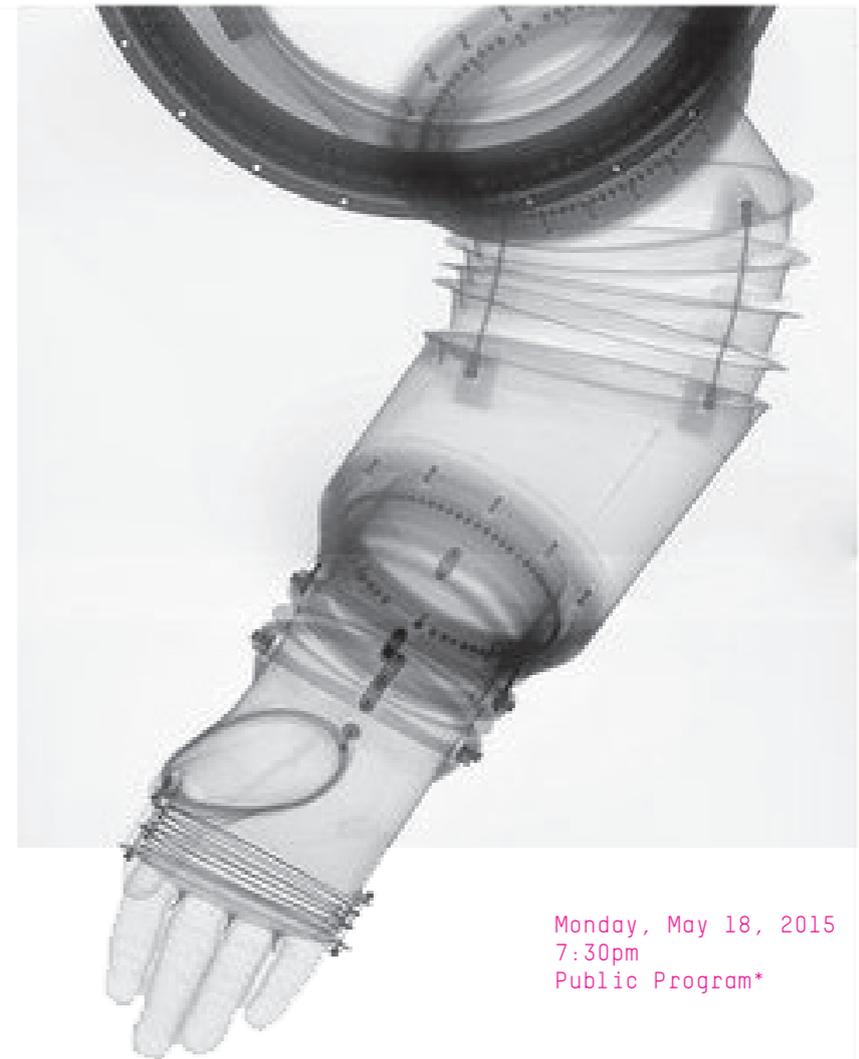
by ariel duncan

process book for international ux, fall 2015

Visual Design

VISUAL
COMMUNICATION
SAMPLE

Poster
March, 2015



Monday, May 18, 2015
7:30pm
Public Program*

eXplore

beyond
the horizon

THE
MUSEUM
OF Flight

9404 East Marginal Way South
Seattle, WA 98108

Join us as **Dr. Jay Apt** will talk about his life as a NASA astronaut, scientist, pilot, and photographer. Apt is one of the few people that have made spacewalks, and has been in orbit with not only the shuttle but the Russian Mir space station.

* This program is free for Museum Members, and free with daily admission to the Museum of Flight

Slow Technology

PROTOTYPE: THE BODY CLOCK

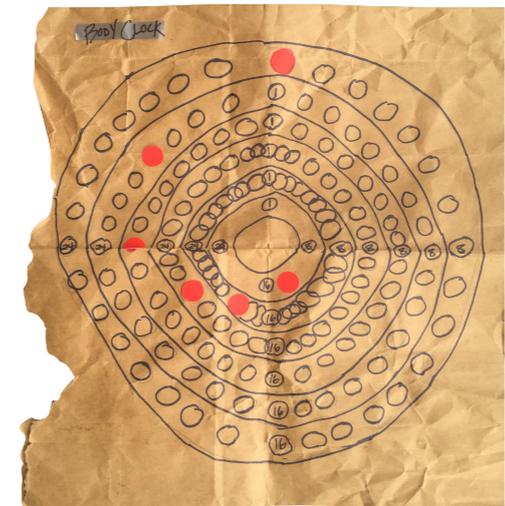
*Reading Group, Prof. Turns
University of Washington, 2015*

There is an arc: at first, people are irritated by slow technology because it refuses to be “used.”

It clashes with expectations for technology to be “efficient.” Later, they like it because it forges a relationship with them that is different from other technologies — one of patience, curiosity and inquiry that may fit the big picture of who people are and who they want to be better than simple “efficiency.”

“Sense of time” is key to perceived “slowness” and many CHI and CSCW papers we read played with alternative ways of experiencing time. I was fascinated by the idea that our bodies mark time in their own way.

My prototype, “the body clock,” explored a body-centric way of marking the passage of time, specifically the time between women’s monthly cycles.



Observing Trends

My summer at Samsung Research America's Mobile UX Innovation Lab got me excited about broader trends and how they impact product development.

Softness

intimacy
full circle
seeing inside
slowness

We are tired of technology's robot-voices, unrepairable black boxes and hard edges that make us feel like we have to sit up straight and "focus" just to use it. It'd be nice to lean back around technology, preferably without first checking boxes on "user agreements" none of us have read.

Softness is about more than body language. It's about breaking down the walls we put up around our own consumption, exposing how things get made and how we are always already a part of the process. It's about forgiving ourselves for believing the myth that technology can save us without our deep emotional engagement. It's a way of acknowledging that we are all in this together, there is no magic "other" place where our trash or our bad Foxconn karma can go. Deep breath. Relax. Everyone is here.

A trend forecast is a sorting of signals: new behaviors, artworks, startups, objects of cultural fascination all come together to paint a picture of where a culture is going and what they will value in the future.

Signals that support this sample trend include a focus on the "second life" of objects including potential for repair, transparency about production processes and the Cybertwee movement that works to make tech emotionally vibrant.

Coursework

IN UX

*Human Centered Design & Engineering
University of Washington*

User Centered Design
Full UCD process, ethnic food app

Usability Testing
Ran usability study, Facebook

International User Experience
Chinese migrant families, ConveyUX

Data Science for User Researchers
Python for accessing public APIs

Affective Computing Tools
Independent study

Visual Communication
Intro to Illustrator, InDesign

Design Probes for Civic Engagement
Fieldwork lead, published in DIS '16

Solo and Nomadic Travel
Prototyping

Selected Coursework

GRADUATE LEVEL,
SOCIAL THEORY

Columbia University
New York University

History of the Five Senses
History of Perception, Aesthetics

The Modern Economy
The Life of Objects, 16th, 17th c.

Sensory Epistemologies
Tracing Embodied Knowledge in 16th c.

How to Read
* taught by Avital Ronell, Slavoj Žižek
Barthes, Kafka, Heidegger

French Feminist Theory
Cixous

About me

I was born outside of New Orleans, LA.

I love to travel. I lived and worked in Ireland, England and Germany in the year after I graduated from college and travelled to 15+ countries since.

I love grocery shopping. My grandfather ran a grocery store in Denmark, South Carolina in the 1930s. My depression-era grandma taught me how to find a good deal. I think of her when I shop.

October 19

Ariel
Duncan



*I can't stand: Skunks,
Commercials!*

*I really like: Barbie's
Toys, ice cream.*



©Sarah Andersen

This is eerily accurate!

I still don't like skunks or commercials.