

Lotus Lien

+1 732 947 8019
lien@cooper.edu

BORN IN THE BRONX

The idea of this book is to present a snapshot of the early days of hip hop.

It is not comprehensive, nor has it set out to be. Rather, what I hope to accomplish is an impressionistic narrative, a state of mind, a daydream of what it might have been like, what it could have felt like, and a sense of the extraordinary vibrancy and urgency of these times. I am interested in the sense of wonder that positively shines out of these images. I want to bring to the reader a feeling of immersion in this art and this journey. I wasn't there, and as an outsider I am not trying to present a watertight historical account of this period in hip hop's history. That is a job for someone who was there, and I am confident that the next decade will see a slew of fascinating books that do so—some, I hope, by the pioneers themselves.

I am in awe of this grass-roots culture, the Bronx of the 1970s. I have no deep roots in hip hop—back then I was into punk rock and skateboarding, which colors the perspective I bring to this book. The punk movement, which is an obvious parallel to early hip hop, is far less impressive to my mind: where the middle-class roots of punk (notwithstanding the working-class posturing of many of its originators) provided an apparatus of self-importance and self-documentation that had someone hang on to a copy of the gig flyer, or make a list of the people present, or interview the band for their fanzines, or be the self-appointed scene photographer, early rap was truly and simply the essence of a local, performance-based culture. Punk, ultimately, was driven by products; early hip hop was driven by Saturday



Charlie Chase and Tony Tone, 1982.
Photo by Joe Conzo.



Popper at Harlem World, 1981.
Photo by Joe Conzo.

The skateboarding subculture, which invokes the same problematic dynamic of rebel culture and corporate branding that in 2007 infuses almost every aspect of hip hop, has a similar structure of origin. Something is brought from an island far away (Hawaii, or Jamaica) to an environment where the extremes of material wealth rub shoulders (Malibu vs. Santa Monica, or the Bronx vs. Manhattan), and the youth create something out of nothing because that is their only option (nailing old roller skates onto planks of wood, or rhyming over the breaks on their parents' James Brown records).

But unlike skateboarding or punk, hip hop was not self-documenting. The tyranny of the new in the ghetto creates a climate where the acts of looking, writing, or thinking of past times can be considered counterproductive. Progress, wealth, innovation—the future is where it's at, and glancing in the rear-view mirror can get you stuck. It seems that this idea applies mostly to recent history, and that a lifetime must pass before critical merit, or historical significance is attributed to scholarship in the fields of entertainment or pop culture. A parallel can be traced in the scattershot scholarship of

Description

Redesigning a passage from “Born in the Bronx,” a book about the early days of hip hop.

Category

Book

Date

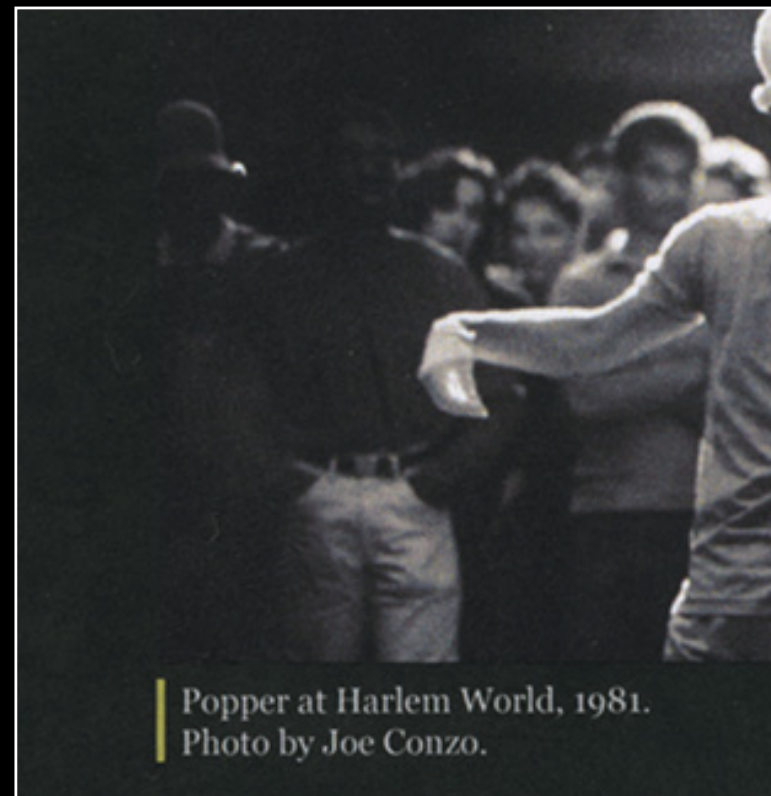
2013

THE BRONX

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a snapshot of the early days of hip hop.*

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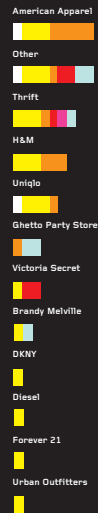
Popper at Harlem World, 1981.
Photo by Joe Conzo.

JESS KURONEN

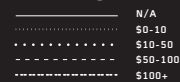
THE ALL BLACK WARDROBE

COLLECTION EST. 2009 - 2014

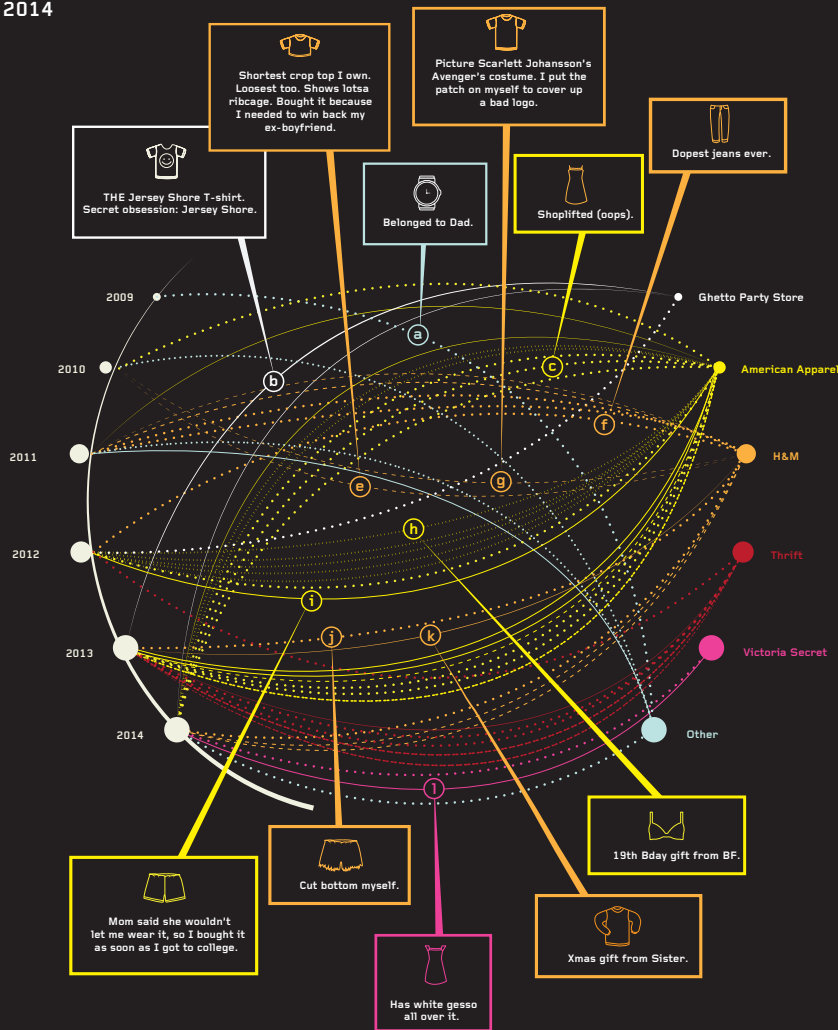
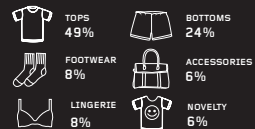
Brand



Price Range



Overview



Description

Jess Kuronen is a design student at The Cooper Union who owns a notorious amount of black clothing. I interviewed Jess and investigated her wardrobe, analyzing every article of black clothing she purchased from 2009 to 2014.

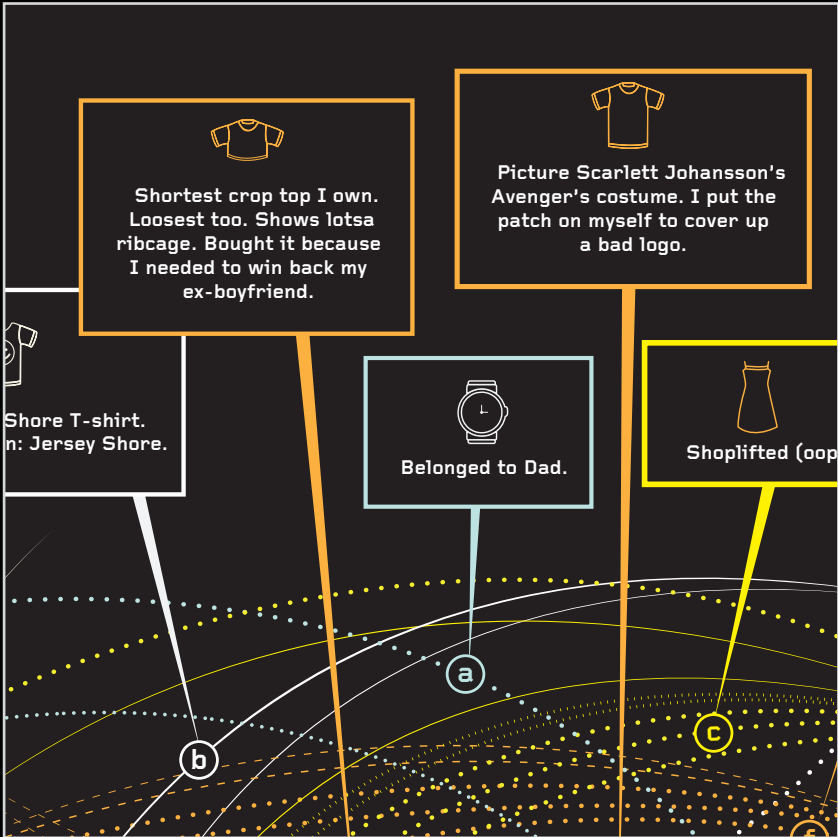
Category

Infographic, Illustration

Date

2014

Details of Icons and Keys



Price Range

_____	N/A
.....	\$0-10
.....	\$10-50
-----	\$50-100
-----	\$100+

Overview

	TOPS 49%		BOTTOMS 24%
	FOOTWEAR 8%		ACCESSORIES 6%
	LINGERIE 8%		NOVELTY 6%

PRESENTED IN COLLABORATION WITH TRANS-PECOS

GENESIS BREYER P-ORRIDGE
+ EDLEY O'DOWD

VICTORIA KEDDIE

SAM VERNON + ABBY DOBSON

BONNIE BAXTER

DELI GIRLS

MARIA CHAVEZ (DJ SET)

APRIL 22 **QUEENS**
7 PM **INTERNATIONAL**
2016

QUEENS INTERNATIONAL CONCERT SERIES • BECOMING NEW OBJECTS

Description

During the month-long Queens International Biennial in 2016, I designed various flyers for "Becoming New Objects," a performance series curated by Trans-Pecos.

Category

Poster

Date

2016

SPECIAL QUEENS INTERNATIONAL 2016 EDITION
SHOTTAS

APRIL 10
9PM

\$10 ADVANCE — \$12 DOOR

VENUS X
CAKES DA KILLA
TYGAPAW
KALA
DJ USHKA
BATTY JACK
DIAMOND TERRIFIER
B2B **M.BEHARIE**

HOSTED BY TYGAPAW — TRANS-PECOS

DIAMOND TERRIFIER PRESENTS

A SERIES OF BENEFIT CONCERTS FOR
MARKET HOTEL COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING

HOSTED BY

HAPPENINGS CONTEMPORARY
+ YUNG MAYNE

MVMNT #1

AT MARKET HOTEL
1140 MYRTLE AVE

MARCH 31

7-11PM JUICEBOXXX, YUNG GUTTED, NAVYTME
NAH, CALEB GILES, MIKE & SIXPRESS
8 BALL RADIO DJs

11-4AM DOOM DAB (HD, AHARAW, K. RIZZ)
HALEEK MAUL, DARQ E FREAKER, DAI BURGER
PSYCHO EGYPTIAN, SHADOW BOX

PROJECTIONS BY

TROUBLE

LIVE RADIO BROADCAST AND DJS

8 BALL RADIO

\$12 ADVANCE + BEFORE 12AM

\$15 AFTER 12AM

Description

Working closely with the art collective Happenings Contemporary, I designed a promo poster for MVMNT #1, a benefit concert curated by Diamond Terrifier that took place at Market Hotel last spring.

Category

Poster

Date

2016

explore & play



1



Taipei Hong
100 W 42nd St
Flushing NY 11355

Specialty: a new
generation of
Taiwanese food
with a modern
twist. (Desserts,
drinks, and more
to come.)

2



**Amitayus
Buddhist
Society**
100 W 42nd St
Flushing NY 11355

In the heart of the
city, a place of
spiritual growth,
learning, and
community.

3

**National Tennis
Center and
Museum Park**
100 W 42nd St
Flushing NY 11355

The National Tennis Center
and Museum Park is a
great place to enjoy
the outdoors.

4



Liang's Kitchen
100 W 42nd St
Flushing NY 11355

Specialty: a new
generation of
Taiwanese food
with a modern
twist. (Desserts,
drinks, and more
to come.)



**Hua Lien Tzu
Hui Temple**
100 W 42nd St
Flushing NY 11355

Hua Lien Tzu Temple
is a place of
spiritual growth,
learning, and
community.



Flushing Mall
100 W 42nd St
Flushing NY 11355

Specialty: a new
generation of
Taiwanese food
with a modern
twist. (Desserts,
drinks, and more
to come.)

7

**Taipei Economic
& Cultural Office**
100 W 42nd St
Flushing NY 11355

In the heart of the
city, a place of
spiritual growth,
learning, and
community.



New World Mall
100 W 42nd St
Flushing NY 11355

Specialty: a new
generation of
Taiwanese food
with a modern
twist. (Desserts,
drinks, and more
to come.)



Shiny Tea
100 W 42nd St
Flushing NY 11355

Specialty: a new
generation of
Taiwanese food
with a modern
twist. (Desserts,
drinks, and more
to come.)

10



Taipei Center
100 W 42nd St
Flushing NY 11355

Specialty: a new
generation of
Taiwanese food
with a modern
twist. (Desserts,
drinks, and more
to come.)

little
TAIPEI

Description

A neighborhood map poster and destination guide to Little Taipei: a Taiwanese community known for their good eats and spiritual retreats —located in Flushing Queens, New York.

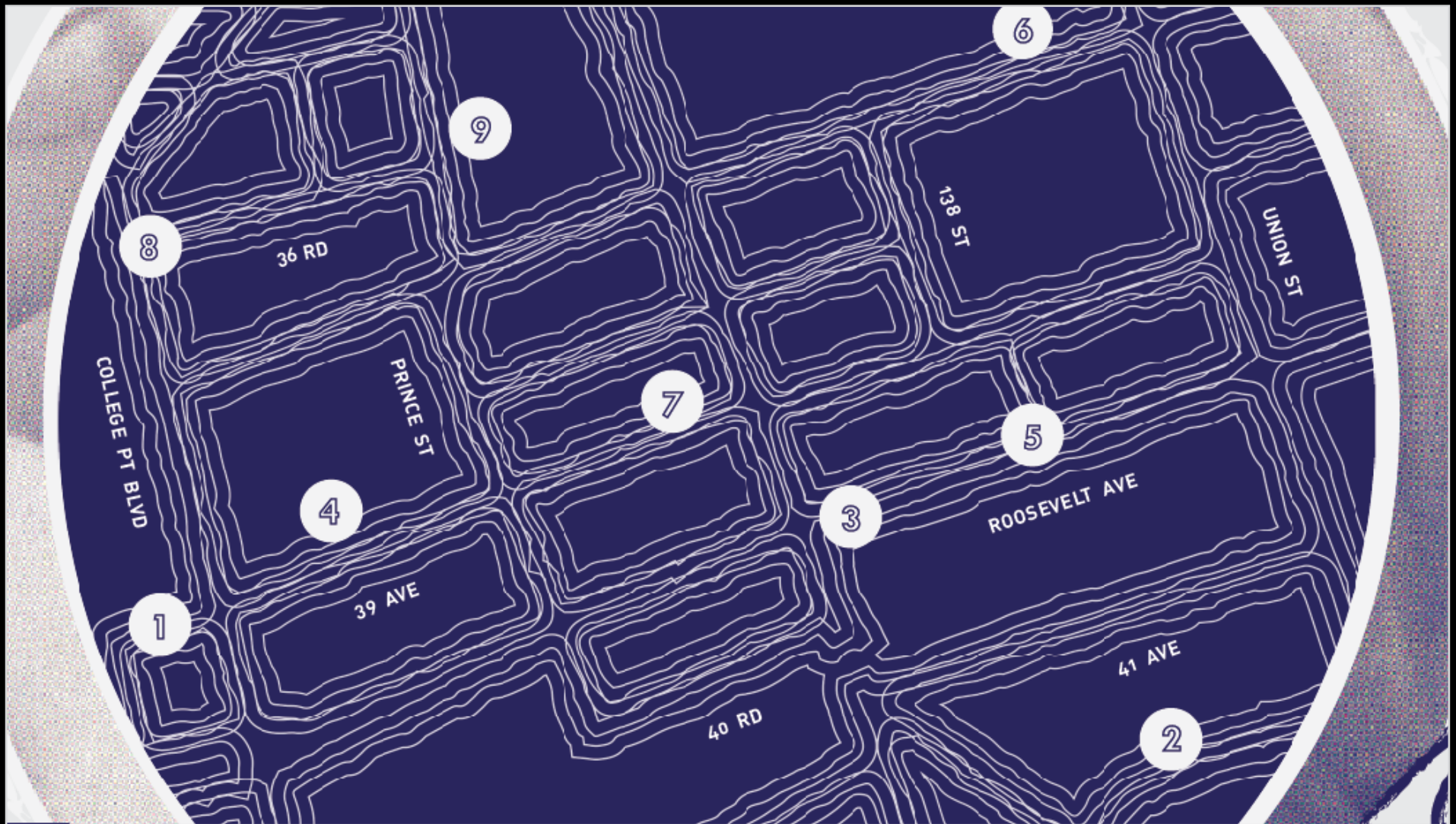
Category

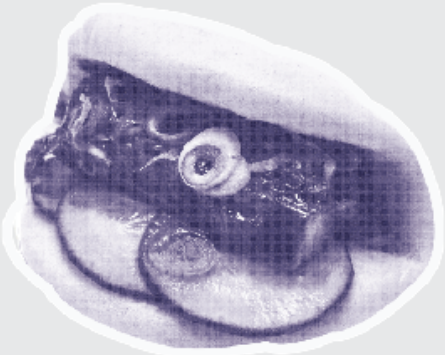
Infographic, Map, Illustration

Date

2014

Detail of Map Illustration



Taipei Hong
 136-55 Roosevelt Ave #D
 Flushing, NY 11354

Brave foodies: set your senses toward Taipei Hong. This restaurant's menu presents all the authentic Taiwanese delicacies you need to try at least once:

A
B
S
416
Flu
—
Th
sp
spi




Taiwan Center
 137-44 Northern Blvd
 Flushing, NY 11354

Founded in 1986, the Taiwan Center is the first cultural community established by Taiwanese-Americans. The location hosts social events, symposiums, and annual gatherings dedicated not only to discussing local issues, but also honoring traditional Taiwanese cultural practices.

little
TAIPEI

Description

A flyer for a film festival dedicated to Hitchcock's silent films at Music Box Theatre in Chicago, Illinois.

Category

Poster

Date

2013





Description

A stamp celebrating Germany's "Tag der Briefmarke," focusing on the lost art of the written love letter.

Mentor: Henning Wagenbreth at UdK, Berlin

Category

Stamp, Illustration

Date

2015

NOW LIVE ON PADDLE8

The Kitchen Benefit Art Auction



Kelly Walker, Pioneer PL-518 Series Traffic, 2015 (Courtesy of Paula Cooper Gallery).

BUY TICKETS

The Kitchen Benefit Art Auction
Monday, November 16, 2015
@ The Kitchen
512 West 19th Street, NYC

7-9pm Cocktails, Hors d'Oeuvres and Silent Auction
7:30pm Special performance by Emily Sundblad and Matt Sweeney
8pm Live Auction with Gabriela Palmieri of Sotheby's

Auction preview is live on Paddle8. Please check back often as new works will be added daily.

Participating Artists

Derrick Adams	Ana da Silva	Ridley Howard	JJ PEET
Rita Ackermann	Mira Dancy	Tim Hull	Stephen Pirna
Scott Alario	Julia Dault	Juliana Huxtable	David Reed
Allora & Calzadilla	Cheryl Donegan	Juliet Jacobson	Matthew Ritchie
Dove Allouche	Jimmie Durham	Jennie Jieun Lee	Mariah Robertson
Tomer Aluf	Amy Feldman	Sanya Kantarovsky	Brian Rochefort
Josef Astor	John Finneran	KAWS	Wilhelm Sasnal
Donor Blackman	Peter Fischli David Weiss	Matt Keegan	Peter Saul
Trisha Baga	Simone Forti	Eli Koczler	Matt Saunders
John Baldessari	Kathryn Garcia	Michael Krebber	John Seal
Davide Balula	Cy Gavin	Shawn Kuruneri	Philip Taaffe
Patrick Berran	Dan Graham	Ralph Lemon	Mika Tajima
Walead Beshty	Andrew J. Greene	Liz Magic Laser	Mayo Thompson
Sascha Brauring	Magalie Guérin	Isabelle Mangotte	Kelley Walker
Valentin Carron	Wade Guyton	Aleksandra Mir	Joe Winter
James Case-Neal	Joel Holmberg	Silke Otto-Knapp	Anicka Yi
Petra Cotright	Karl Holmqvist	Tony Oursler	

Auction proceeds are shared with participating artists and support artistic programming for The Kitchen's 2015-16 season.

Tickets \$150. For more information contact collin@thekitchen.org.

Participating Galleries

11R, 47 Canal, 303 Gallery, Altman Siegel, Blackston Gallery, Peter Blum Gallery, Marjorie Bosley Gallery, Mary Boone Gallery, The BOX, Broadway 1542, Gavin Brown's Enterprise, Captain Petzel, Chapter NY, Paula Cooper Gallery, Corbett vs. Dempsey, Forey Production, Peter Freeman, Inc., Gladstone Gallery, Marian Goodman Gallery, Greene Nafai Gallery, Hauser & Wirth, Rhona Hoffman Gallery, JTT, Casey Kaplan, Anton Kern, Kristen Lonnak, Luching Augustine, Lyles & King, Matthew Marks Gallery, Mads, Metro Pictures, Night Gallery, On-Site/Re/Play, Petzel Gallery, Regan Projects, Michael Rein, Retrospective Gallery, Riboud Contemporary, Andrea Rosen Gallery, Sargent's Daughters, Michael Thibault, Tibbo Gallery

Sponsored in part by Cristina Enriquez-Bocobo and Sotheby's

Catering by Special Thanks



Paddle8



SHOOTART



Description

During my internship at The Kitchen, I coded and designed e-mail campaigns for their auctions, performances, solicitations, as well as their official spring gala.

This promo appeared during their Benefit Auction in November 2016.

Category

Motion Graphics, GIF, Newsletter Promotion

NOW LIVE ON PADDLE8

The Kitchen Benefit Art Auction



Kelly Walker, Pioneer PL-518 Series Traffic + The Simon Kenyatta Troupe, 2015 (Courtesy of Paula Cooper Gallery).

BUY TICKETS

Description

At the Kitchen, I was also in charge of the videography of many performances, including the work of Glasser, Helado Negro, Ralph Lemon, and Sarah Michelson. Click through to access a brief video reel!

Category

Video, Video Editing

Date

2016





Description

An exploration of brand identity and advertising tropes in cosmetic product labels.

Part of an ongoing multimedia series entitled "Plastic Cosmos" — a fictitious narrative about the transformation of an AI character into a human.

Category

Poster, Experimental Typography

Date

2014

Description

Pre-color detail of POLLYAID poster.

Manipulated Fonts

DIN-Pro Bold
Caspar Comics
STIX General Bold



Pollyaid

Description

A modernized Fraktur-gothic with distinct serifs and a bold edge. In progress project. Working in Robofont and Glyphs.

Mentor: Slawek Michalt at UdK, Berlin.

Category

Typography

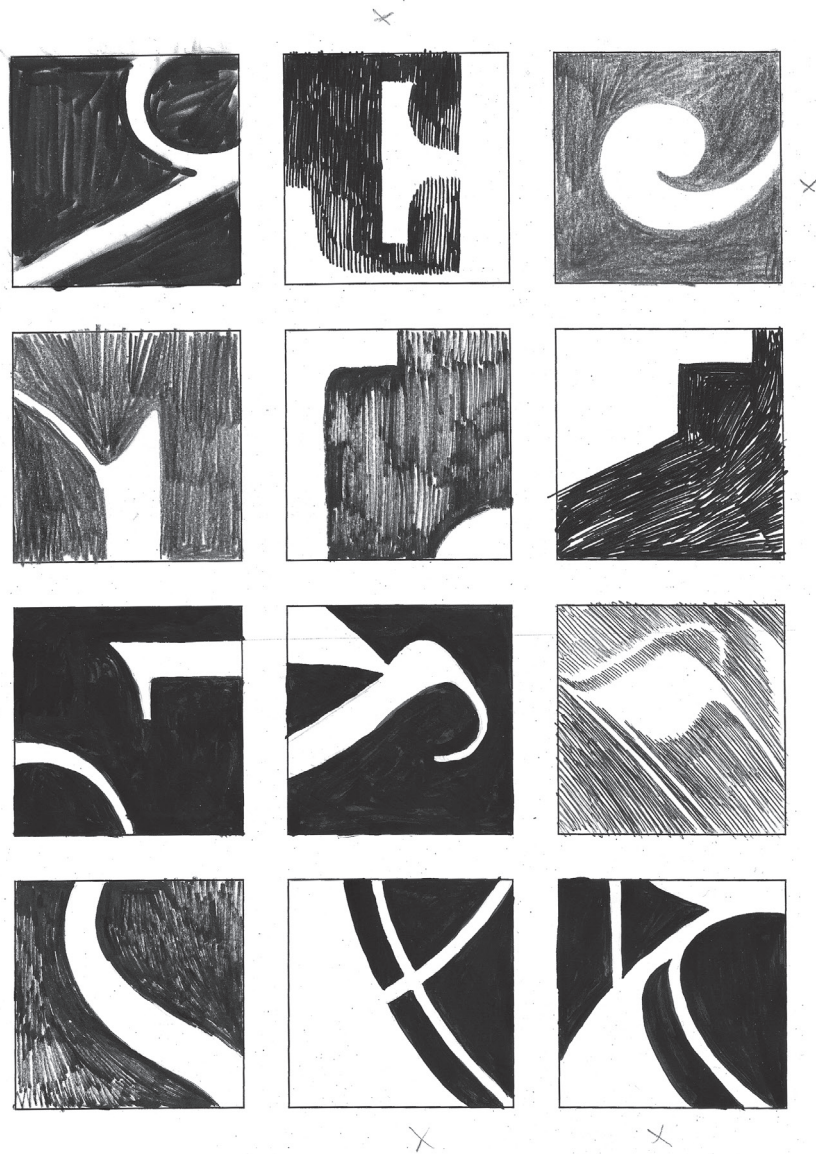
Date

2015, In progress

golden kettle

fading epoque

quiche toque



Description

A compositional exploration of the typographic elements that give glyphs their unique character.

Category

Typography, Sketchbook

Date

2015, In Progress



Sketchbooks (Berlin, April-May 2015)



Description

A logo for the animator and video artist Helvin Fock.

Drawing from the industrial subject matter of his films, I rendered a monogram based on the geometry of a hex bolt.

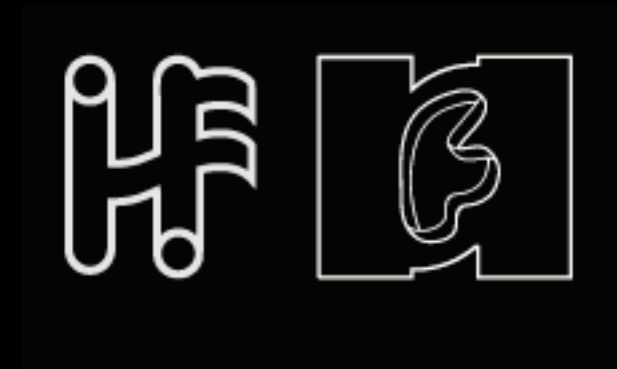
Category

Logo

Date

2014

Variations



PLUGS

When patents became available in the nineteenth century, a proliferation of plug types were developed to suit the needs of consumers and professionals. While the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) tried to develop a universal domestic power plug for decades, political and economic issues threw a spanner in the works.

Today, we have approximately 20 types in common use around the world today, each one with its own unique form and character.

* Information retrieved from
Beylstein: The Power Cord Manufacturers

EUROPE

Also used in the West Bank and the entire Gaza strip.



2 PINS • 2.5 AMPS

ITALY

Sometimes found in Chile and randomly throughout South Africa



3 PINS • 10 AMPS

INTERLUM

The standard for Interlumen is one of the most common in the world. It is also known as the "Type C" plug and is used in many countries.



2 PINS • 10 AMPS

ISRAEL

The female socket is recessed by 1mm to prevent shock hazard.



2 PINS • 10 AMPS

ISRAELI ARMY

Also found in the US, exclusively for military installations



2 PINS • 10 AMPS

AUSTRALIA
NEW ZEALAND

Actually an American type of the American plug. Because the American plug is used in many countries, it is also known as the "Type A" plug.



2 PINS • 15 AMPS

ISRAELI ARMY
SOUTH AFRICA

Considered the most common, robust, and safe plug used in the world. Used in many countries.



2 PINS • 10 AMPS

ISRAELI ARMY
SOUTH AFRICA

When larger than the standard plug, it is considered to be a "Type B" plug. It is also known as the "Type B" plug.



2 PINS • 10 AMPS

CANADA
JAPAN
MEXICO
USA

Designed by American inventor Charles D. D'Arrest. It is also known as the "Type C" plug.



2 PINS • 10 AMPS

ISRAELI ARMY

Also known as the "Type D" plug. It is also known as the "Type D" plug.



2 PINS • 10 AMPS

JAPAN
CANADA
USA

Also known as the "Type E" plug. It is also known as the "Type E" plug.



2 PINS • 10 AMPS

AUSTRIA
EUROPE
FINLAND
GERMANY
NETHERLANDS
NORWAY
RUSSIA
SWEDEN

Used in all countries of Europe except for Ireland, Cyprus, and Malta which continue to use the UK standard.



2 PINS • 10 AMPS

Description

An illustrated infographic on different electrical plugs commonly used around the world.

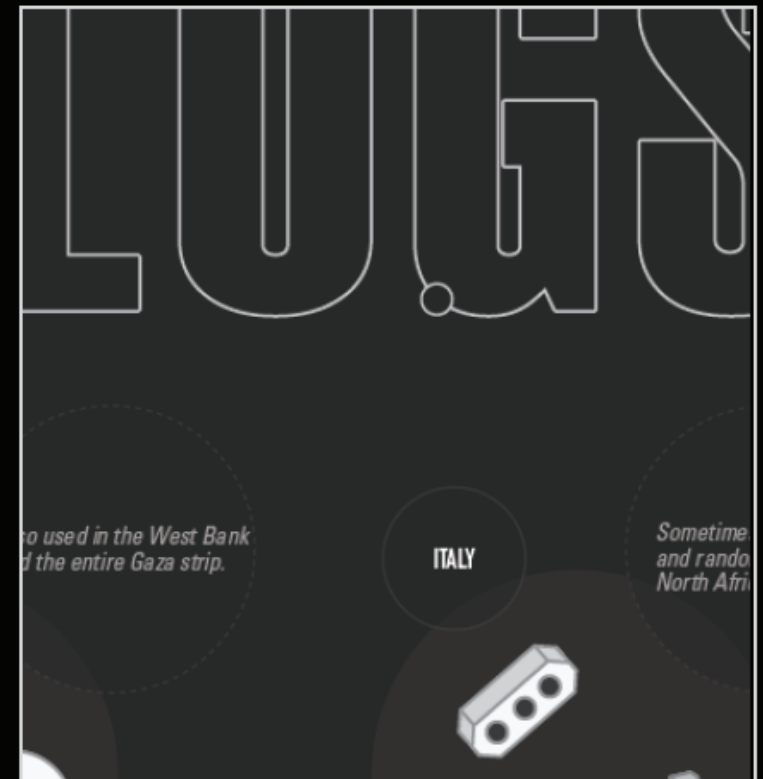
Category

Infographic, Illustration

Date

2015

A Closer Look



Details of Illustrated Plugs

BRAZIL
ISRAEL
SOUTH KOREA



3 PRONGS • 10 AMPS

Considered the most compact, robust, and safe plug-socket system in the world.

HONG KONG
SAUDI ARABIA
SINGAPORE
UNITED KINGDOM



3 PINS • 13 AMPS

Often larger than the appliance they are connected to. Very safe, but probably the most hulking and cumbersome.



Description

Illustrations for a web and print zine about international female fight clubs and their owners. Inspired by the incredible women of "Der Club," a female wrestling club in Biesdorf and "Low-Kick," a female Muay Thai club in Hermannplatz.

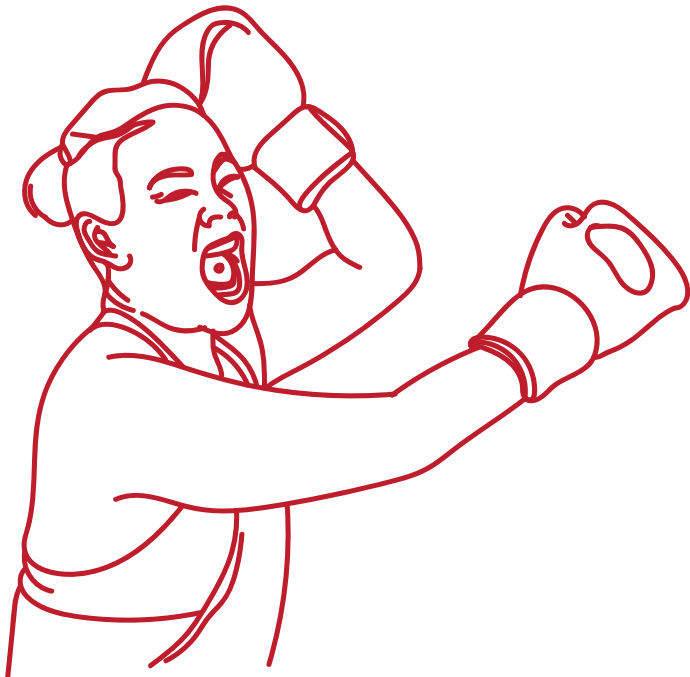
In progress project at UdK, Medienhaus (Berlin).

Category

Illustration

Date

2015, Work in progress



Savoy Howe "Kapow Howe"

Newsgirls Boxing Club

est. 1999 • Toronto



388 Carlaw Ave Unit #108

Toronto, ON • M4M 2T4



torontonewsgirls@hotmail.com

Description

Hand-drawn digital animations. The second part of the female boxing project.

[Click through to see the GIFS in action!](#)

Category

Infographic, Illustration





Description

As part of my thesis exhibition at The Cooper Union, I researched the archaic origins and forms of the Chinese character 文, meaning language, culture, and civilization.

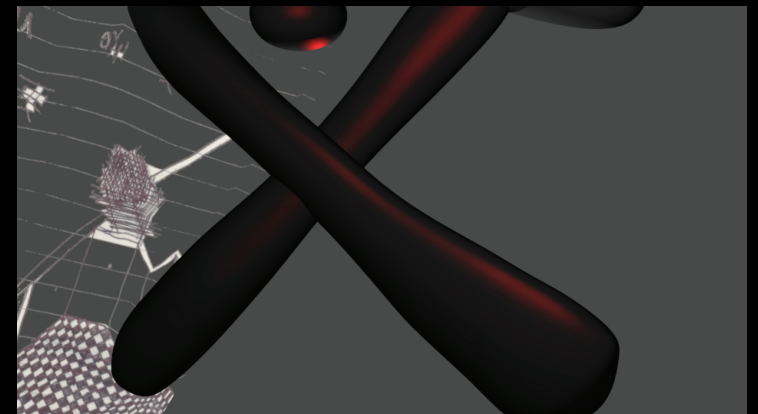
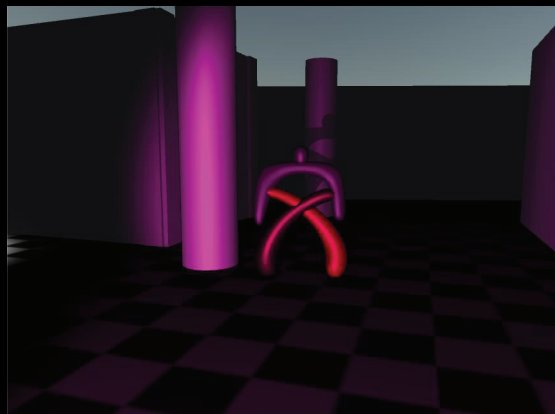
The result was a 3d animation of the character deconstructing and rebuilding itself inside the Great Hall Gallery, where the exposition took place.

Category

3d Modeling, Blender, Unity, Animation

Date

2017





Description

For my thesis, my partner Alberto Harres and I organized a performance using an Xbox 360 Kinect camera to project live text onto the contours of the human body.

I invited two of my friends to choreograph a dance based on the selected text (paraphrased lines from Ezra Pound's translations of chinese poetry). After the performance finished, spectators could walk through the space, and interact with the bodymapping camera themselves.

Big thanks to Carlos Oliveira and Antonio Hofmeister of SuperUber for software development.

Category

Bodymapping, Kinect, Performance, Poetry

