

CS181DT Class 23: Power, capital, art

ich bin kein Marxist
aber ich liebe Marx
mehr als viele Marxist
mir am ihm glauben.

materials on the
center table!

Die Erkenntnis aus dem
Marx'schen Nebel in der
Nabe ich mich zur Pflicht
gemacht ständig in der
Denk-LABOR zu gehen, und was
steht ich her!?: Geld ist gar kein
KAPITAL. FÄHIGKEIT ist KAPITAL

Das Geld als Ware hat also im Produktions-
prozess der Gesellschaft (Wirtschaft) nichts
zu suchen, sondern steht als nur vornehmer
RECHTSGEBER für die ARBEIT nur aus
der Rechtsphäre (demokratisches (Bankwesen)
wirken.

"I am not a Marxist, but I love Marx perhaps more than many Marxists who only believe in him. To develop knowledge from Marx's lever, I have made it my duty to work daily in the LABORATORY of thinking; and what have I determined!? Money is by no means CAPITAL. **Rather ABILITY is CAPITAL.** Money as a commodity thus has no role in the production process of the economy, but instead must/should, as the universal LAWGIVER for LABOR, be in effect only in the sphere of law."

Joseph Beuys, 1921

Class 23 agenda

- ZC
- PM6 design workshop
- PM7 intro
- Seminar

Announcements

- Code MVP critique on Wednesday
 - Think your paper prototype but in code
- My Weds OH moved to Tuesday
10:15-11:15

PM6 Studio

PM6 Design workshop

- Place your materials on the center table and get into groups of 4-5
- Design competition: The board of the Benton Museum is visiting class and your goal is to convince them to buy your group's fine art piece using these found materials (+ other prototyping ones).
- 15 min design + come up with pitch, 1 min presentation for each group explaining:
 - what you made
 - what's the story
 - your asking price
- Then we will do the buying phase. Everyone has \$50 and can distribute it amongst other groups. You can't put money down on your own project.

Reflect...

- Ingold's reading was against hylomorphic making (starting with a vision and executing that vision perfectly). Was your making hylomorphic? In what ways did (or didn't you) have to adapt to the materials on hand?
- In this class, we haven't really talked super heavily about the economics of art from a "buy my work" perspective.
- How did this experience of pitching feel for you? Did it remind you of anything similar you had done in the past?
- When did you feel like you had power in this exercise? When did you feel powerless?

PM7: Seeing

Recall: AI art & its impact on artists

- Image generators are not artists since art is a uniquely human endeavor connected to **culture** and experience
- Aesthetic versus art: generated images can be appreciated because they look nice, but because they merely imitate the *technical* process in the training data, it has no cultural goals, understanding, communication



Your turn for cultural communication

- Art not only captures how you see the world, but also convinces those who engage with your art to understand your perspective
- For PM7, you are to make a piece of artwork that is a cultural commentary on *computing*, broadly defined. Any medium!

This relates to the concepts of power to vs power over in your reading.



Public Display by Jonathan Zong



Fake It Till You Make It by Maya Man

+ Computational tool designer's statement

- Many artists have “artist statements” that capture their perspective on their work
- You will write a computational tool designer's statement capturing:
 - What do you personally believe to be the most important reasons to design tools?
 - What do you believe to be the ideal relationship between computation and tools? How have/will you achieve this ideal?
 - What kind of future of computational tools do you hope for, both on a personal and societal level?
- Add your image and your favorite ~2 sentences from your statement to a slide deck for our crit

Sample slide (copy me, delete this heading)

Paste artwork here

A brief snippet of my
artist's statement (not the
image description)

Seminar

Class 23 recap

- Weds: Code MVP evaluation
 - Format will be similar to WoZ, but using whatever you have built out so far - try to at least get your most important goal user flow implemented
 - Submit 2 PDFs (including a link to a video recording of your MVP flow) on Canvas
- Next week:
 - Next Mon: RRs, final seminars from Bryson & Joey (AI); Lenny & Adrian (design+labor)
 - Next **Weds** (not Mon): PM7, seeing