SCULPTING WITH SOUNDS, IMAGES AND WORDS (MUSIC 32N)

Jaroslaw (Yahrek) Kapuscinski

Monday and Wednesday 1:30-3:20, CCRMA Seminar Room
Office Hours: Mo/We 3:20-4:20 @CCRMA and/or by appointment
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Description:
Throughout history and from East to West, cultures abound in multimedia forms. Whether in Coldplay's Music Video or Fantasia, Pepsi TV adds or Wagner's opera, Miyazaki anime or traditional Noh Theater of Japan, the three modes of expression—sounds, images, and words—are interwoven in distinctive ways. What are their individual and combined powers? How can one harness them in an online context? Can Web be a stage for multimedia theater? What is unique about the poetry of intermodal metaphor? The course will be an opportunity to face these questions in creative web-based projects as well as through in-class viewing of multimedia works, analysis and debates, readings, and student presentations. The seminar will be taught at the Center for Computer Research in Music and Acoustics where students will have access to new media technologies. Prior experience in music, literature, art practice or computer programming is welcome but not required.

Process:
The class will present multimedia material gradually. After being introduced to wide range of examples from different genres and traditions involving idioms of words, sounds and images individually, students will study and explore different media combinations. Each student will work on 4 assignments, a final project and write an analytical paper, which will be presented in class. The analytical paper, class presentation and the final project will involve all three media. Students will be able to develop projects using free downloadable tools. Adobe Studio and other software is available at CCRMA Studio C as well as on cluster computers at libraries and other locations on campus (Green, Tressider and more). All students’ creative work will be viewable on the web.

Evaluation:
Abstract + Presentation 20%
4 Assignments 40%
Final Project 20%
Readings/Class Participation 20%
• Late assignments lose 5% per day.
• Final project after due date will not be accepted.
• Students are required to read all readings and attend all classes.
• Absences beyond 2 diminish the final grade by 5%.
• Coming late to class counts as half of an absence.
• Final Project Presentations will take place on Dec 13th during the regular exam time assigned to the course. No exceptions will be granted so please plan your holiday travel accordingly.

Students with Documented Disabilities
Students who have a disability which may necessitate an academic accommodation or the use of auxiliary aids and services in a class, must initiate the request with the Student Disability Resource Center (SDRC), located within the Office of Accessible Education (OAE). The SDRC will evaluate the request with required documentation, recommend appropriate accommodations, and prepare a verification letter dated in the current academic term in which the request is being made. Please contact the SDRC as soon as possible; timely notice is needed to arrange for appropriate accommodations. The Office of Accessible Education is located at 563 Salvatierra Walk (phone: 723-1066; TDD: 725-1067).
COURSE OUTLINE

Week 1

Mon, Sep 25: Introductions. Syllabus. CCRMA tour and logistics. What is Intermedia?

Assignment 1 (Due Sunday Oct 1 at midnight)

Week 2


Wed, Oct 4: Words and Images. How many words is a picture worth? Figure and ground in intermedia. Medieval illuminated manuscripts, Islamic and Chinese calligraphy, Japanese haiga, manga, RSA Animation and video art of Gary Hill.
Assignment 2 (Due Sunday Oct 8 at midnight)

Week 3


Wed, Oct 11: Words and Sounds. Michel Chion’s causal, semantic and reduced listening. Text setting in Wagner, Rogers and Hammerstein, Ligeti, and Ice Cube
Assignment 3 (Due Sunday Oct 15 at midnight)

Week 4

Animation examples by Norman McLaren, Kapuscinski, Ryioichi Kurokawa and Bret Battey.
Assignment 4 (Due Sunday Oct 29 at midnight)

Nicholas Cook “analysing musical multimedia”

Week 5

Mon, Oct 23: Sounds and Images 3. TBD

Week 6
Mon, Oct 30: Assignment 3 critiques.

Wed, Nov 1: Sounds, Images, Words 2
Analysis of music video TBD
Abstract/presentation assigned (Choice of video due Fri Nov 3. Abstract due Tue Nov 7 at midnight)

Week 7
Mon, Nov 6: Sounds, Images, Words 3
Screening and analysis: Peter Greenaway/Louis Andriessen *M for Man, Music, Mozart* (excerpt), Stanley Kubrick/Georgy Ligeti *2001: A Space Odyssey*

Wed, Nov 8: Sounds, Images, Words 4
Experimental Theater and Performance Art.
Screening and discussion of Grotowski, Kantor, Forced Entertainment and Jerome Bel.

*Final project assigned (Due Tuesday, December 12, at midnight)*

Week 8
Mon, Nov 13: Student Presentations

Wed, Nov 15: Student Presentations

Week 9
Mon, Nov 27: Student 5-min Presentations about Final Projects

Wed, Nov 29: Student 5-min Presentations about Final Projects

Week 10
Mon, Dec 4: Work Sessions

Wed, Dec 6: Work Sessions

*Final Project Presentations*
Wed, Dec 13, 3:30-6:30 PM