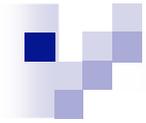




digital media,
technology and art

Cicero Silva

www.cicerosilva.com



First works...

- related to activism
- questioning the “end of authorship”



author

- Some researchers and artists, during the Internet boom, started to say something like this:

“The author is dead in digital media. There is no longer a reason to talk about it in the upcoming era ... bla bla bla”

author and authorship



Fidel Castro



am I an author?

- The Internet has created the idea that if you can get the access, it will be yours...or,
- in the beginning of the Internet boom, the concept of copyright was far from our everyday life...

are they authors?





The author is dead

- **Pierre Lévy's *Collective Intelligence: Mankind's Emerging World in Cyberspace* (1994).**
- Lévy points to a decentralized authorship, mutable identity, and telematic interaction form an "endless horizon" of evolving forms of art and communication. Lévy identifies an active role for the recipient of the artwork in tandem with a dramatic dissolution of authorial control on the part of its creator.
(<http://www.artmuseum.net/w2vr/timeline/Levy.html>)



Lévy, the author

- According to Lévy, the break from traditional notions of authorship is leading us towards a cultural transformation. He envisions a collective society linked by electronic networks...
- Lévy infers that multimedia is a catalyst for social evolution. It is, he writes, "the architecture of the future" – or the language of the new era.
(<http://www.artmuseum.net/w2vr/timeline/Levy.html>)



The Death of the Author

- Roland Barthes, 1967:

“Thus is revealed the total existence of writing: a text is made of multiple writings, drawn from many cultures and entering into mutual relations to dialogue, parody, contestation, but there is one place where this multiplicity is focused and that place is the reader, not, as was hitherto said, the author. The reader is the space on which all the quotations that make up a writing are inscribed without any of them being lost; a text's unity lies not in its origin but in its destination. Yet this destination cannot any longer be personal: the reader is without history, biography, psychology; he is simply that *someone* who holds together in a single field all the traces by which the written text is constituted. Which is why it is derisory to condemn the new writing in the name of a humanism hypocritically turned champion of the reader's rights. Classic criticism has never paid any attention to the reader; for it, the writer is the only person in literature. We are now beginning to let ourselves be fooled no longer by the arrogant antiphrastical recriminations of good society in favor of the very thing it sets aside, ignores, smothers, or destroys; we know that to give writing its future, it is necessary to overthrow the myth: the birth of the reader must be at the cost of the death of the Author”



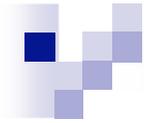
Project “sign: from text to context”

- In the beginning of the 2000, facing the issues of “collective” authorship and the author’s death in digital media, I’ve decided to question those points of view....



Jacques Derrida

- Derrida, the French philosopher, said “there is no work of art without a signature” ...



I sign

- The signature for Derrida was related to the fact that we need an “Otherness” (alterity) constituted by the symbolic world, i.e. words, images, meaning, signs etc...
- Otherwise we cannot communicate...and signature is a kind of communication...



I sign, therefore I am...

- The “Sign” project was designed to create electronic texts without meaning using electronic generated algorithms...with a crucial difference: I BAPTIZED algorithms with the same name of important philosophers that once said that the author was dead...
- not only, but also that said that authorship is a kind of power and control...
- “signed” texts produced by algorithms were published on Internet supported by fake Institutes and Research Centers created by me (more than 500 websites)...



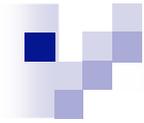
authors...

- What happened: I received many sad emails written by people, most of them the same philosophers, thinkers and “collective” artists that published books saying that the author was dead and that authorship was a very weird thing....



authorship

- I discovered that people are not prepared to give up their own identity, their own proper name
- in fact, people who spread ideas such as the “death of the author” in the digital media, were only trying to be recognized, by their own signature, as artists or thinkers...



Plato

- I created an electronic generated algorithm that published a Journal by itself and translated it, electronically using Babelfish into seven different languages...
- the *Journal was called Plato online: nothing, science and technology* was a parody of the *Leonardo Journal*, edited by the MIT Press.



Conclusion

- In my point of view Jacques Derrida was right...
- somehow the web, as it is right now, is not as democratic as we thought in the beginning...
- the websites are still being “published” and controlled by an author, the user cannot change the content of a non-wiki website etc....
- *wikis* are a kind of collective, but they’ve been creating the same thing as the old fashion dictionaries have created before: a kind of “group” of collaborators having the “control” of the content, and also have created a new kind of “owner” of the content, which is the guy who is in “charge” of some posts...
- which is funny because the idea of the wiki is collaboration, not control...but *Wikipedia* had many troubles because of incorrect articles published by “anonymous” people.



Magnetos & Poetry

- After the “signature” project, I’ve explored new ways to give more control to the user of the web
- and also trying to figure out how to create a system in which users could be more participants than simple “users”...
- at that time, the language AJAX, that in fact is not a “language”, was one of the things that I used to create this project:



magneto poetry..

- www.witz.com.br/magnetopoetry



user ≠ participant

- I realized that is still hard to propose a website using the participation of the audience
- I mean, a really OPEN website...
- even Wikipedia is closed, e.g. you cannot remove the Logo from the top of the website, you can not change the Menu, you cannot publish a new menu...only the “owner” can do it...don't you think so?



mobile participation...

- Recently I started to work with mobile devices, such as mobile/cell phones...
- my goal is - once more - to create a new form of participation for “interactors” using their own devices.
- in this case, a simple cell/mobile phone...



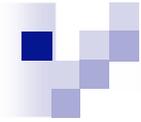
GPSart

- Based on the locative theory that has been developed nowadays by scholars and artists, such as Brett Stalbaum, my partner Marcos Khoriaty and I started a project using a GPS antenna creating a software and a website in which “interactors” can draw lines on Google’s map....



lines by GPS

- The GPSart.net project is based on the *Land Art's* concept from the 60s and 70s, developed by artists such as Robert Smithson and, in this project particularly, we were interested in the work of Richard Long...



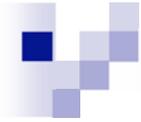
walkings by Long



A line made by walking, 1967



Still walking.....



http://www.gpsface.com.br/art/mape.php?l=11

GPSart 

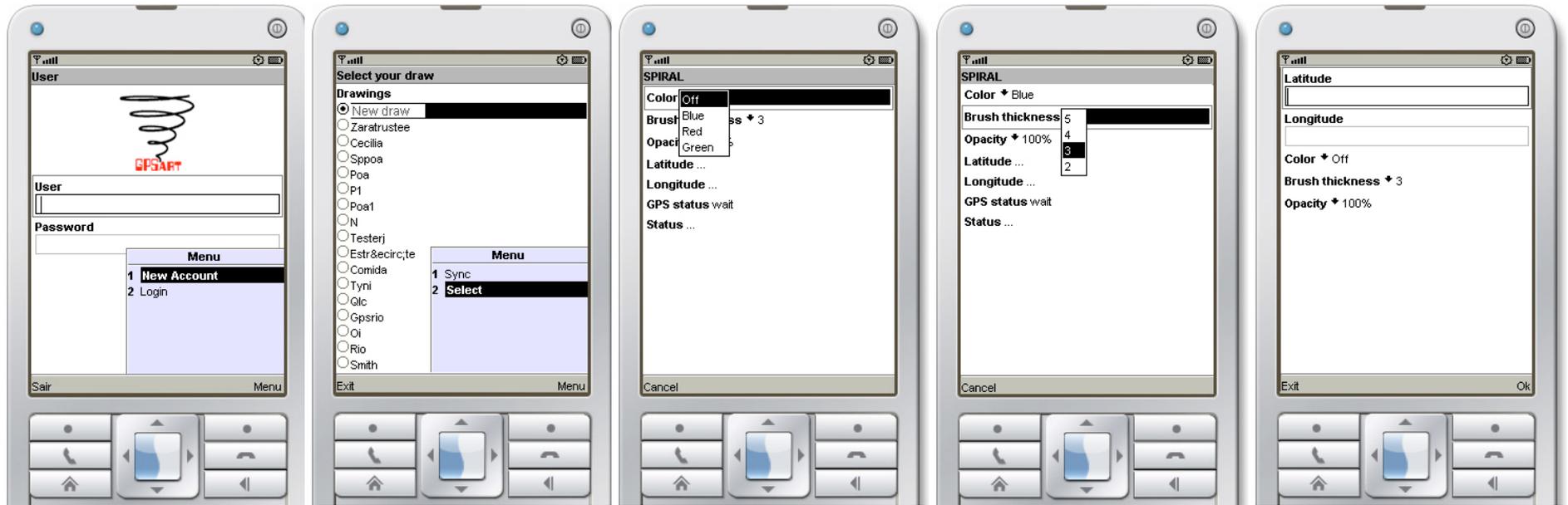
Map Satellite Hybrid

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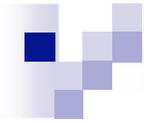


Done

gpsart software



www.gpsart.net | www.gpsarte.com



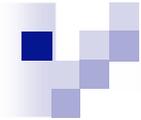
mobile social networking

- Following discussions around the problems related to GPS devices in cell/mobile phones, most of them strongly criticizing the use of a locator device and the privacy invasion when your walk or your movement can be traced by someone, we decided to subvert this idea and create something useful for people...



GPSface

- The project *GPSface* was developed for a Electronic Art Festival supported by Nokia in Brazil, called Nokia Trends.
- Our idea when my partner and I were invited for this festival was to change the way that people were looking at cell phones with GPS...
- not very interested on it because of the fact that you can be traced online in real time...



GPSface - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

http://www.gpsface.com.br/en/index.php

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GPSface

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GPSface is a social networking website that allows you to find people around the world using your cell/mobile phone, GPS or Internet.

Find your friends
Find your friends and people using your computer, cell/mobile phone or GPS and check their location in the world.

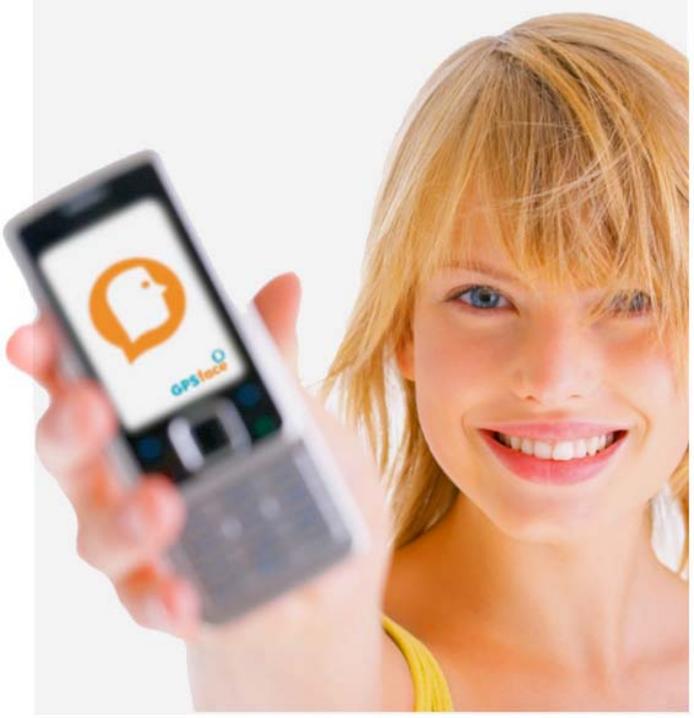
Create your profile
Share your location and profile with friends.

GPSface is a free website and a Java Midlet (software) that connects you to your friends list and people around the world. GPSface works on the Internet, cell/mobile phones and GPS devices. *Powered by Google Maps.*

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I'm here.



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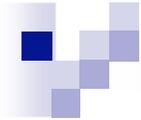
GPSface is a social networking website that allows you to find people around the world using your cell/mobile phone, GPS or Internet

Install the GPSface in your cell/mobile phone now!

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GPSface is a free website and a software for cell/mobile phones that connects you to your friends list and people around the world. GPSface works on the Internet, cell/mobile phones and GPS devices.

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GPSface beta 1.0 | Where are you now?
GPSface is a social networking website that allows you to find people around the world using your cell/mobile phone, GPS or Internet.

Sign up now for an account at GPSface and start to make friends and find them in the real world!

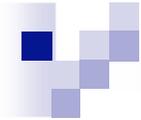
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GPSface allows you to check the profile, ask for updates, such as location and names of the people in your contact list or around you. You also can find people using "tags" related to their account profile.

GPSface is a free website and a Java Midlet (software) that connects you to your friends list and people around the world. GPSface works on Internet, cell/mobile phones and GPS device.

Who's here?





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- [cic](#) >9753Km 716m 
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- [negodrama](#) >10Km 823m 



Cellhost

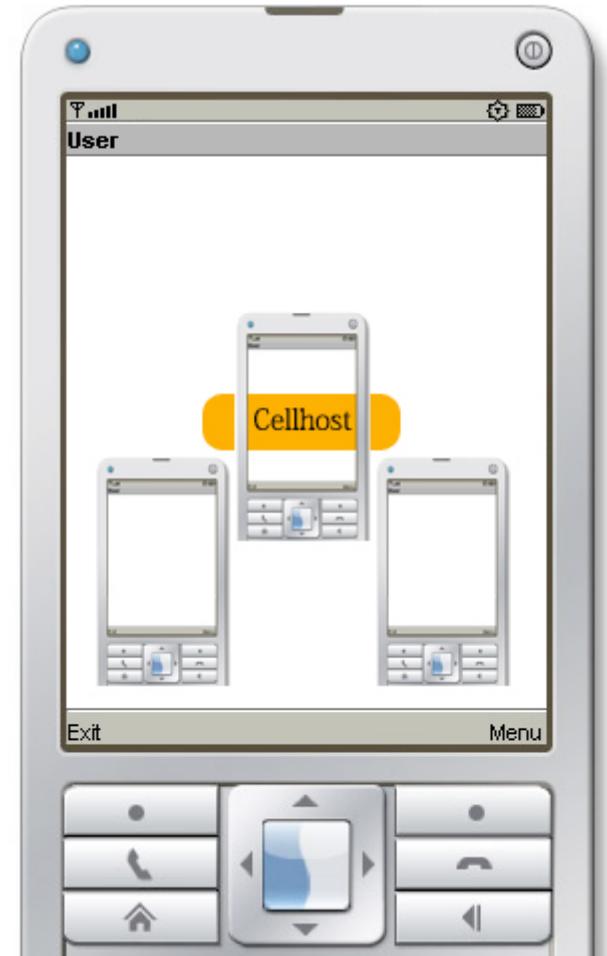


A project to create a web server on a cell phone device

Devices necessary:

Cell phone:

- 8gb resident memory
- 16gb memory card
- 500mhz processor
- Ports 8080 and 2020 (carrier responsibility)
- Tomcat or Apache server systems

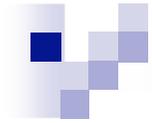


WIP2P



- A P2P software for cell phones:
- Goal: to create an online community for people to share their FILES using a wireless device (cell phone or palm)





Thanks!