

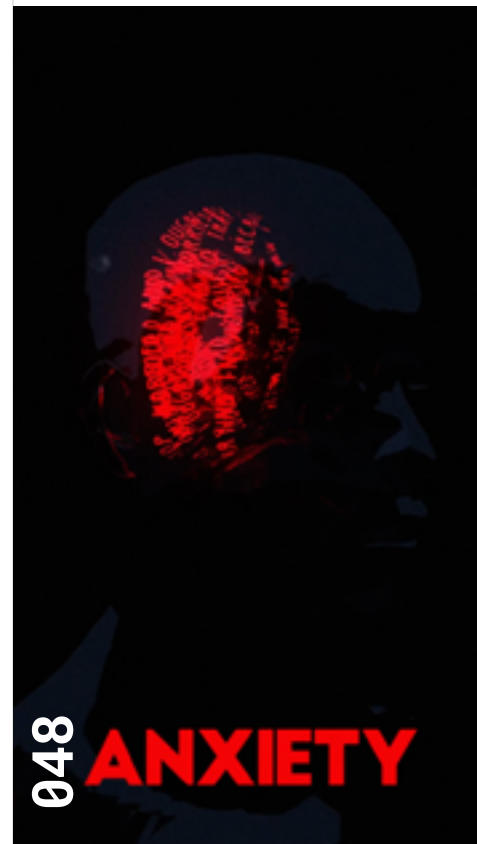


18 DAYS OF KINETIC LYRIC ANIMATIONS

By Joseph Eborall

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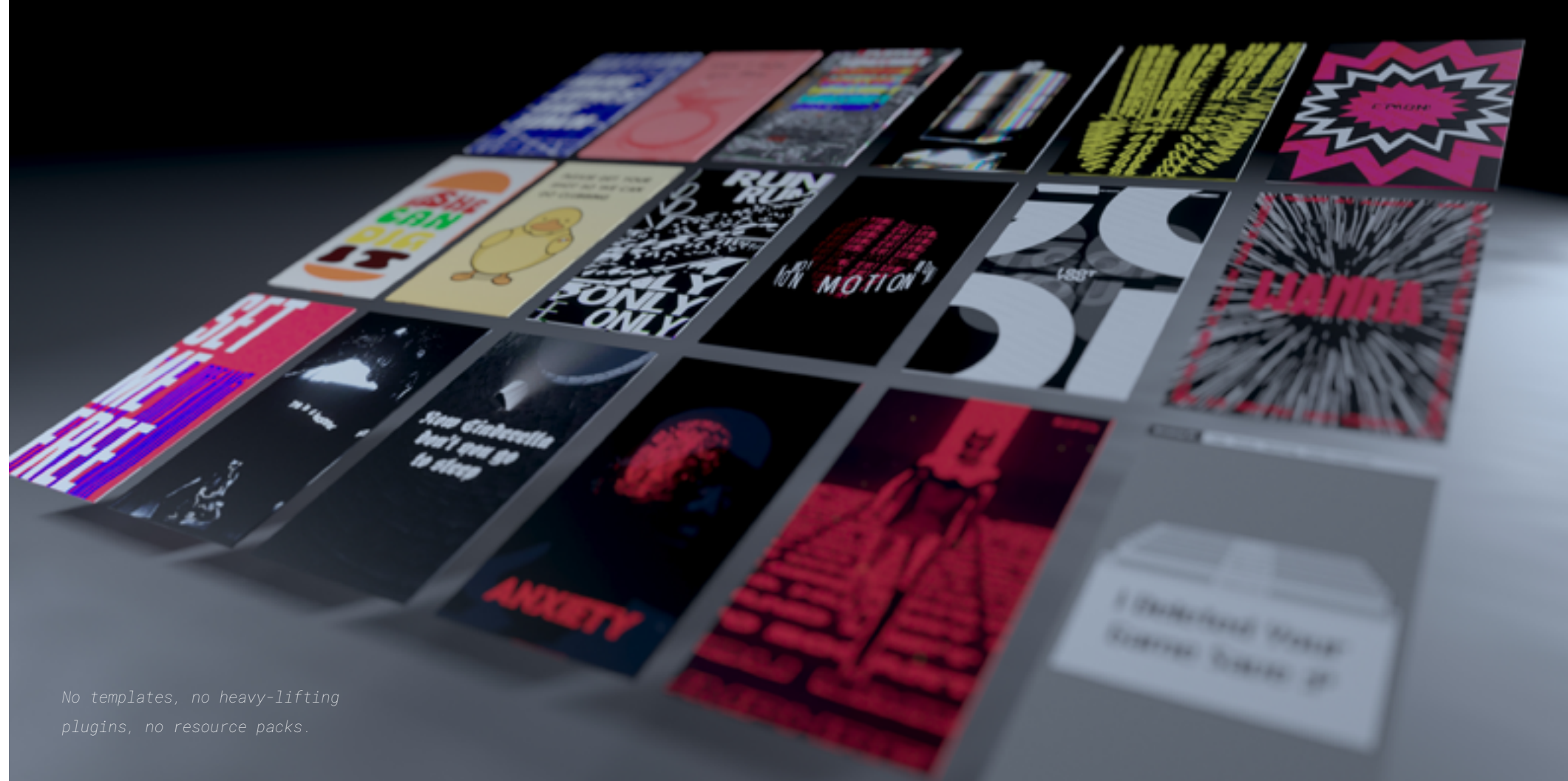


OBJECTIVE

18 lyric animations in 20 Days

By 2022 video content could make up over 80% of all consumer internet traffic, experts believe. With a majority of that consumption coming from mobile devices, captions play an integral role in allowing users to experience video content without their sound turned on. The more dynamic that text is, the more likely a user is to continue watching a video in their feed, or to turn on their sound.

To test myself as a creator and sharpen my text animation skills, I challenged myself to make 18 kinetic lyric animations (one per day) over a period of 20 days. Here's what I made.



*No templates, no heavy-lifting
plugins, no resource packs.*

MOTION KEEPS MY HEART TURNING. \ YOU, YOU STUTTER IN YOUR SLEEPY YOU'RE LAUGHING WHILE YOU WEEP WHILE YOU ALL REGRET THE WEEKEND. YOU WALLOW IN
THE MUD, AND REVEL IN YOUR BLOOD, YOU'RE BRINGING DOWN THE WORLDWIDE STANDARD \ ON THE HILL WE VIEWED THE SILENCE OF THE VALLEY CALLED TO WITNESS CYCLES OF THE PAST AND WE REACH ALL THIS
WITH MOEMENTS IN BETWEEN THE SAID REMARK. CLOSE TO THE EDGE, DOWN BY A RIVER, DOWN AT THE END, ROUND BY THE CORNER SEASONS WILL PASS YOU BY, I GET UP, I GET DOWN \ BEFORE I LEAVE FOR GOOD,
THERE'S ONE THING YOU SHOULD KNOW: I DELETED YOUR GAME SAVE \ WELL WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR? THE SUN WILL RISE AT NIGHT BURN SO BRIGHT TAKE ME TO ANOTHER WORLD WHERE YOUR FAIRYTALES AND FEVER
DREAMS CAN SET ME FREE YOU COULD BE THE ONE FOR ME I WANT YOU TO BE \ YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN UP AND RUN LEAVE ME JUST AS EMPY AS THE DAY YOU CAME. AND YOU HOLD ALL THE CARDS, ALL THE
BROKEN HEARTS STRUNG OVER YOUR SHOULDER TILL IT'S ALL IUN VAIN. AND ONLY YOU KNOW THE STRENGTH OF YOUR TEETH, THE WASH IN THE WEIGHT OF YOUR POCKETS, SO DEEP AND LONELY \ I USE MY TONGUE AS
A WEAPON I USE MY LUNGS AND MY BREATH IS PUSHIN' OUT EFFORT I'M BEST WHEN I'M DESPERATE AND HUNGRY AND LEFT TO BOGART YOU LIKE HUMPHREY I DON'T CARE IF YOU LOVE ME \ OI! \ PUT YOUR HAND IN
MINE YOU KNOW THAT I WANT TO BE WILL YOU ALL THE TIME OH DARLIN' DARLIN' BABY YOU'RE SO VERY FINE YOU KNOW THAT I WON'T STOP UNTIL I MAKE YOU MINE UNTIL I MAKE YOU MINE.\ I GOT YOU \ SO I
AM WORRIED, AND I OUGHT NOT TO WORRY BUT BECAUSE I CAN'T STOP WORRYING I'M WORRIED BECAUSE I WORRY AND YOU SEE WHERE THAT COULD LEAD TO THAT IS WHAT WE CALLL ANXIETY \ MOST OF US WOULD RATHER
MONEY THAN TANGIBLE WEALTH AND A GREAT OCCASION IS SOMEHOW SPOILED FOR US UNLESS PHOTOGRAPHED AND TO READ ABOUT IT THE NEXT DAY IN THE NEWSPAPER IS ODDLY MORE FUN FOR US THAN THE ORIGINAL
EVEN THIS IS A DISASTER TIME TO WAKE UP \ YOUR PRINCE'S CROWN CRACKS AND FALLS DOWN YOUR CASTLE HOLLOW AND COLD YOU'VE WANDERED SO FAR FORM THE PERSON YOU ARE LET GO BROTHER LET GO CAUSE NO
ALL WE KNOW \ NOW CINDERELLA DON'T YOU GO TO SLEEP IT'S SUCH A BITTER FORM OF REFUGE WHY DON'T YOU KNOW THE KINGDOM'S UNDER SIEGE AND EVERYBODY NEEDS YOU IS THERE STILL MAGIC IN THE MIDNIGHT
SUN OR DID YOU LEAVE IT BACK IN 61 IN THE CADENCE OF THE YOUNG MAN'S EYE \ I WISH THAT WE COULD GO BACK TO THOSE SIMPLER TIMES WHEN WE PLAYED MINECRAFT AND WE STAYED UP ALL NIGHT WELL I KNOW
WE'RE OLDER AND WE'RE MORE AFRAID BUT IF YOU START TO FORGET YOURSELF REMEMBER, THE WORLD WE MADE. \ C'MON! C'MON! HURRY UP HARRY, COME ON! WE'RE GOING DOWN THE PUB \ THE TIME IS HAS COME
TO DESTROY YOUR SUPREMACY \ SO I'LL BE SINGING IN THE STARBRIGHT UNDERNEATH THE MOONLIGHT CAUSE I LOVE YOUR SMILE AND IT MAKES ME FEEL ALRIGHT I WILL IT TO THE SUN YOU WILL ALWAYS BE THE ONE
FOR ME LET YOUR LOVE SHINE DOWN \ IT'S GONNA GET LOUDER \ I'M LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO HOLD SOMEONE WHO CARES SOMEONE WHO'S THERE I'M TRYING TO FIND SOMEONE WHO'S ME AND KNOWS HOW I'LL BE
CAUSE TAKE IT FROM ME I DON'T WANNA BE LONELY \ HELP ME OBI-WAN, YOU'RE OUR ONLY HOPE \ I'M IN THEIR SECONDHAND SMOKE STILL JUST DRINKING CANNED COKE I DON'T NEED A XANNY TO FEEL BETTER ON
DESIGNATED DRIVES HOME ONLY ONE WHO'S NOT STONE DON'T GIVE ME A XANNY NOW OR EVER \ CAN YOU DIG IT? I CAN DIG IT, HE CAN DIG IT, SHE CAN DIG IT, WE CAN DIG IT, THEY CAN DIG IT, YOU CAN DIG
IT, OH LET'S DIG IT \ WITH MY DAUGHTER, SINGING "HAKNUA MATATA" WHY THEY HOOTIN' AND HOLLERIN' I'M MANEUVERIN OUT TO BUDAPEST AND MY BABY MOMMA DUCKIN' THE AUDIT THE IRS BEEN CALLIN' TRYNA
GET IN MY WALLET BUT THEY AIN'T GETTIN' ALL OF IT I PUT MY FEET UP ON THE OTTOMAN, I BETTER BE RELAXIN \ I KNOW THAT IT'S TAKEN ME ALL THIS TIME TO SAY GIRL I'M SLOW SO IT'S TAKEN ME ALL THIS
TIME TO SAY GIRL TIP TOE AND I WANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE MY MISTAKE GIRL UH OH AND I HOPE THAT YOU KNOW IT'S NOT TOO LATE. \ THE GRID A DIGITAL FRONTIER. I TRIED TO PICTURE CLUSTERS OF INFORMATION
AS THEY MOVED THROUGH THE COMPUTER WHAT DO THEY LOOK LIKE? SHIPS? MOTORCYCLES? WERE THE CIRCUITS LIKE FREEWAYS? I KEPT DREAMING OF A WORLD I THOUGHT I'D NEVER SEE \ IN SPITE OF ALL MY FEARS I
CAN SEE IT ALL SO CLEAR. COVER YOUR CRYSTAL EYES AND FEEL THE TONES THAT TREMBLE DOWN YOUR SPINE. COVER YOUR CRYSTAL EYES AND LET YOUR COLOURS BLEED AND BLEND WITH MINE. \ KILL ME NOW, KILL
ME NOW, KILL ME NOW, AGAIN AND AGAIN!! \ YOU'RE GOOD IN THE PAN KID, BUT THIS IS HTE FIRE, THE LAVA WE BREATHE HERE WILL LEAVE YOU A PYRE, WE 'BOUT TO TEACH YOU A LESSON ABOUT THIS CREW THAT
YOU'RE MESSING WITH WON'T BE NO SECOND GUESSIN WITH OUR STYLE AND THE WAY WE FLEXIN KEEP YOU OBSESSIN YOU BETTER HOLD TIGHT BUCKLET UP YOU'RE MESSING WITH THE NETHER NOW. I'M FINNA, I'M FINNA,
I'M FINNA DO IT, // 006 IT LIKE I NEVER DONE IT AND I WANNA RUN IT AND I WANNA KEEP IT GOIN' AND GOIN' LIKE INFINITY, BE THE ONLY ENTITY TO EVER RIP IT APART FROM THE START LIKE THIS, FROM
THE HEART LIKE THIS FINNA MURDER IT, A MILLION MILES A MINUTE, NO NITROUS DOIN' RIGHTEOUS I-I BEEN, I-I-I BEEN DOWN THIS ROAD BEFORE EVERYBODY THINK THAT THEY DO BUT THEY DON'T SWEAR TO GOD

PREPARATION

Prepare or Fail

Not every idea is a good one. This is why I spent a whole week preparing before I began making my animations.

I started by scouring my music library to identify songs with interesting lyrics and instrumentation. After I had identified 30 songs that I thought would make good animations, I sat down and began drawing. While some are more comfortable jumping straight into their software, I find the process of writing out the lyrics on paper and then doodling some ideas to be very useful. More than just copy-pasting into After Effects, writing the lyrics helped me better understand the words, and listening to them on loop helped me ideate what the songs would “look like” and the kind of effects I would use.

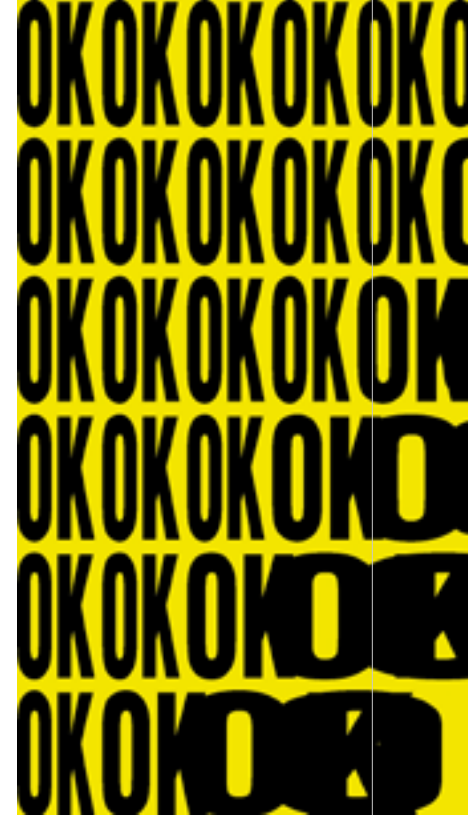
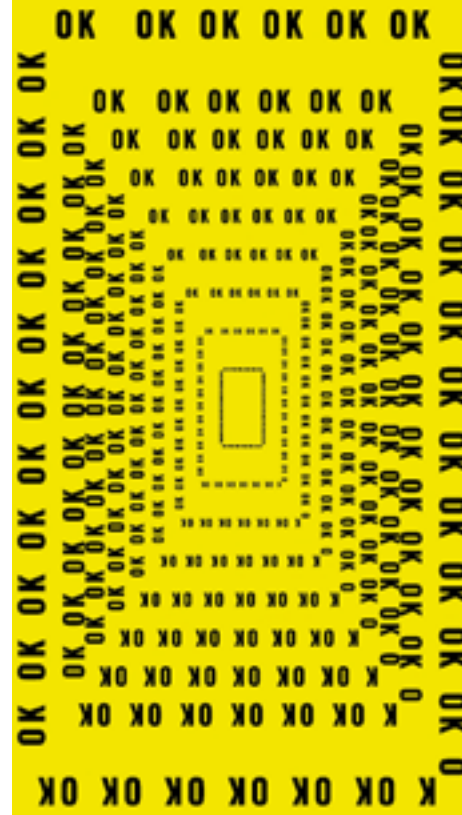
With a notebook full of ideas, I set out making my animations.

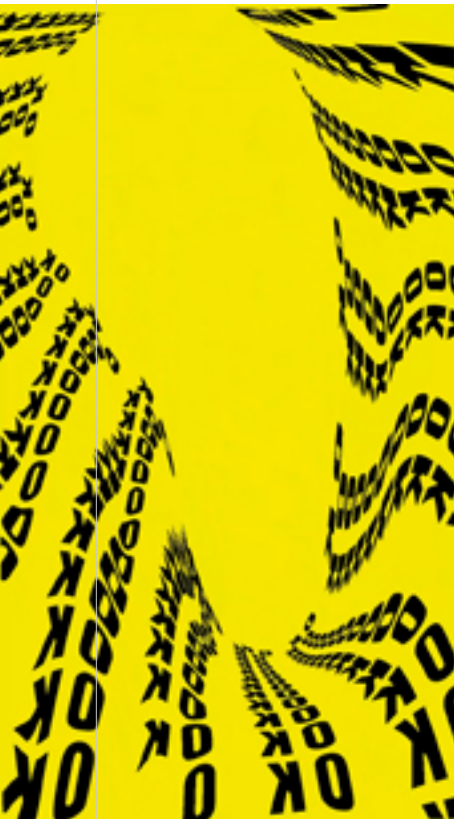
INDEX EXPRESSIONS

Using index expressions to create time-offset repeating patterns

“OK” by Madeon consists of a single phrase: “OK.” This provides an interesting challenge, as there are many times in pop and electronic music where a single word may be repeated for passages of time. My solution to this problem was to use delayed repeaters with index-based After Effects Expressions.

In an After Effects expression, the word “index” will return the number of the layer in the composition (“index” for “layer 4” will return “4”). We can use this to do a bit of basic math and precisely repeat a set of layers with a position, rotation, or scale offset. Paired with a slight delay in the timeline, I tried to create visually interesting patterns using “OK.”





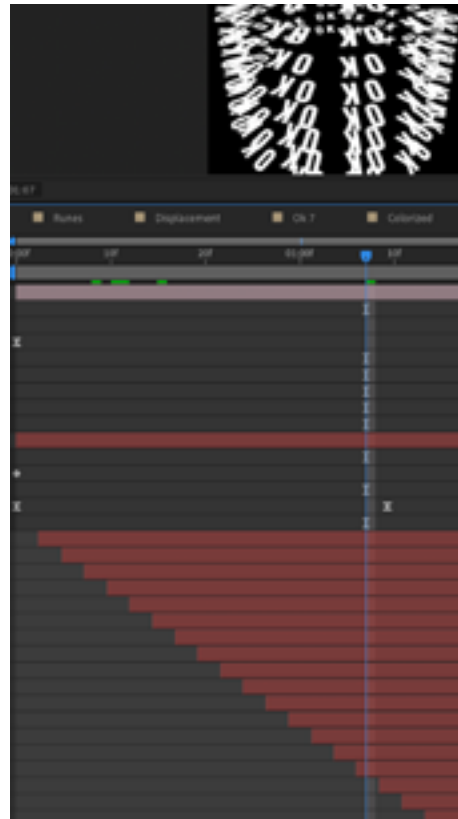
```
[scaler, scaler]

let scaler = 100 - index * 10;
[scaler, scaler]

let scaler = 100 - index * 10;
[scaler, scaler]

let scaler = 100 - index * 10;
[scaler, scaler]

let scaler = 100 - index * 10;
[scaler, scaler]
```



LESSONS LEARNED

Instead of offsetting layers by hand, the plugin “EchoSpace” by Red Giant can be used to quickly create delayed layers. It saved me quite a bit of time offsetting all my layers.

[Watch on TikTok](#)

SONG

“OK” by Madeon

TOOLS USED

Adobe After Effects

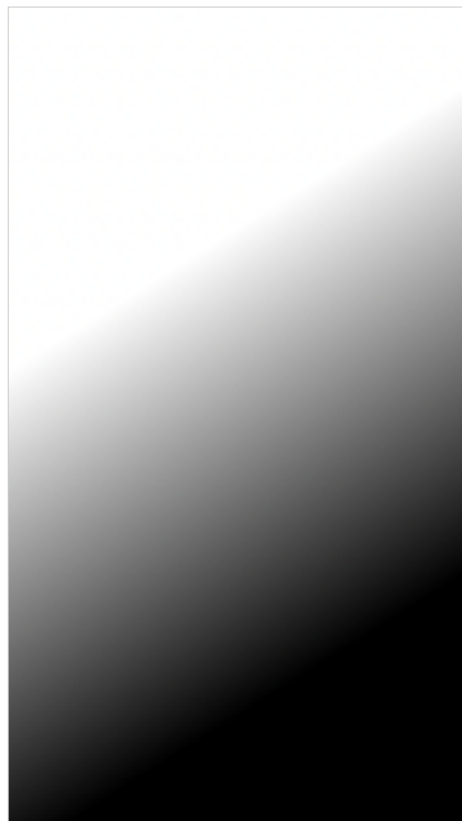
TIME DISPLACEMENT

Time Displacement Wonkiness

I love the MXXWLL remix of “Happy Now” by Zedd, for it’s unique neo-soul feel. I felt that it would be the perfect song for time displacement.

Time Displacement is a simple effect that uses a gradient to play different parts of a video at different frame rates. Depending on the gradient and the intensity of the effect parameters, the resulting effect can range from a slight strangeness to complete wonkiness.





LESSONS LEARNED

Your video needs to be exported and re-imported to use time displacement. Playing around with compositional framerates before and after exporting leads to some unique effects. I found I liked exporting a 60 FPS composition and displacing it in a 24 FPS composition for the best effect.

[Watch on TikTok](#)

SONG

“Happy Now (MXXWLL Remix)” by Zedd, Elley Duhé, MXXWLL

TOOLS USED

Adobe After Effects

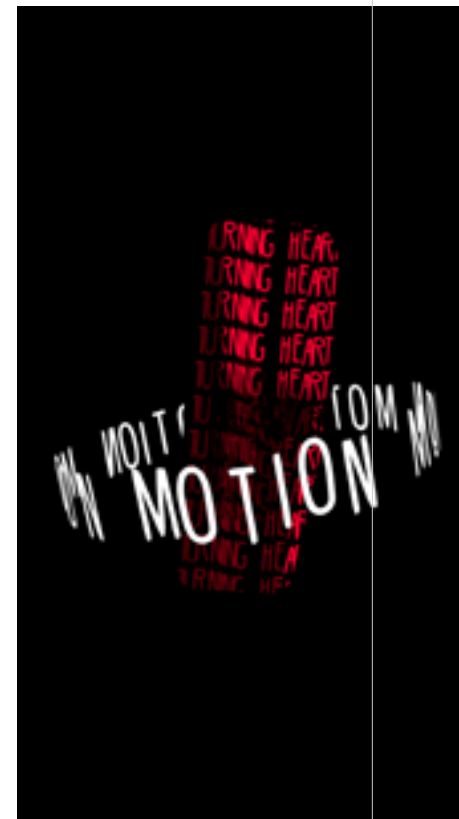
3D TEXT COMPOSITING

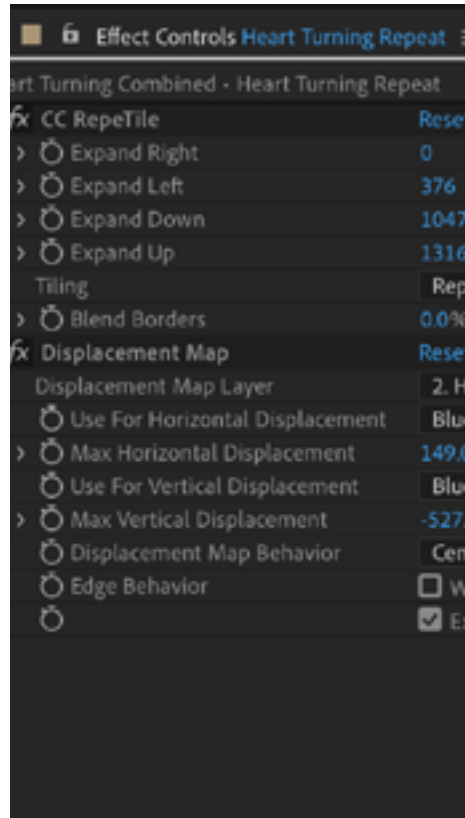
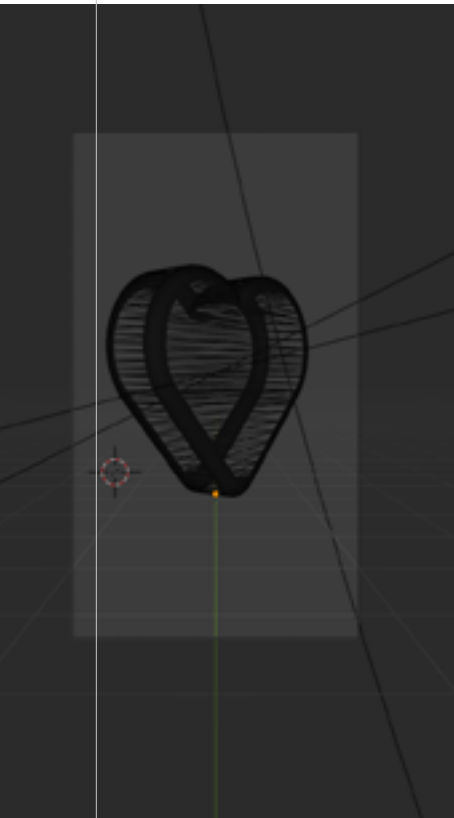
Making a 3D Model out of words using Displacement Maps and Masking

“The motion keeps my heart turning.”

To animate these simple words, I made a heart in Illustrator, imported the SVG as a curve in Blender, extruded it, and then lit it with a harsh red and blue light. This was imported into AftEr Effects and used as a displacement map / alpha matte for a repeating wall of text made using Repetile.

A slight position wiggle was then applied, and time was posterized to simulate hand-drawing.





LESSONS LEARNED

The tighter your "RepeTile" text is grouped, the better the effect looks. It's better to light your 3D model with harsh red and blue lighting.

[Watch on Tik Tok](#)

SONG

"Can't Stop Now" by Keane

TOOLS USED

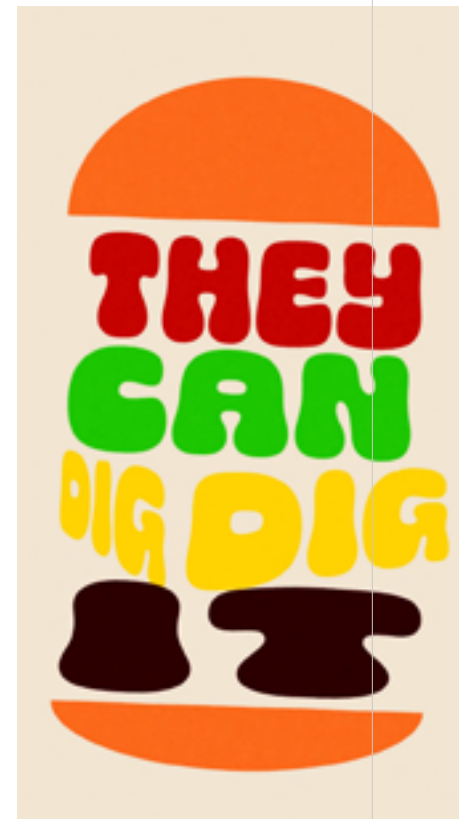
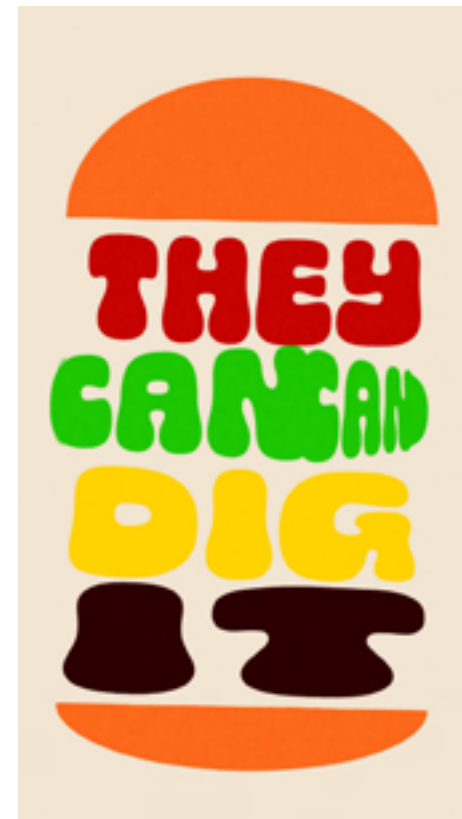
Adobe After Effects, Adobe Illustrator Blender

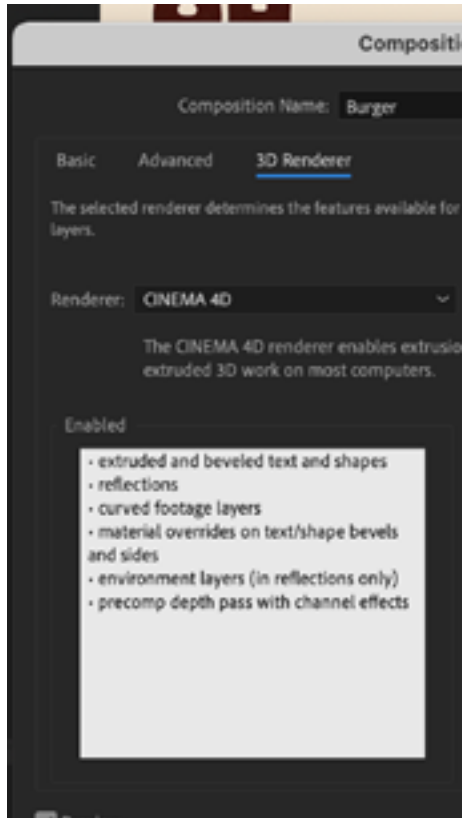
CINEMA 4D ROTATIONS

Attaching text to 3D object faces

The song “Grazing in the Grass” by The Friends of Distinction features a rapid-fire set of lyrics, with each phrase beginning with a new pronoun. Instead of changing out the entire phrase, which would be hard to track, I decided that I would create a spinning-totem animation, with each word rotating to reveal the next.

To accomplish this, I set the 3D Renderer of my composition to “Cinema 4D” which allows me to manipulate cubes differently than the regular After Effects renderer. I then created a set of cubes and attached words to each side. The rest is a simple rotation animation for each cube.





LESSONS LEARNED

The Cinema 4D renderer is useful for when you want to style specific sides of a cube. It can be a bit slower than the usual renderer, so patience is necessary.

[Watch on TikTok](#)

SONG

“Grazing in the Grass” by The Friends of Distinction

TOOLS USED

Adobe After Effects, Blender

TYPING EFFECT

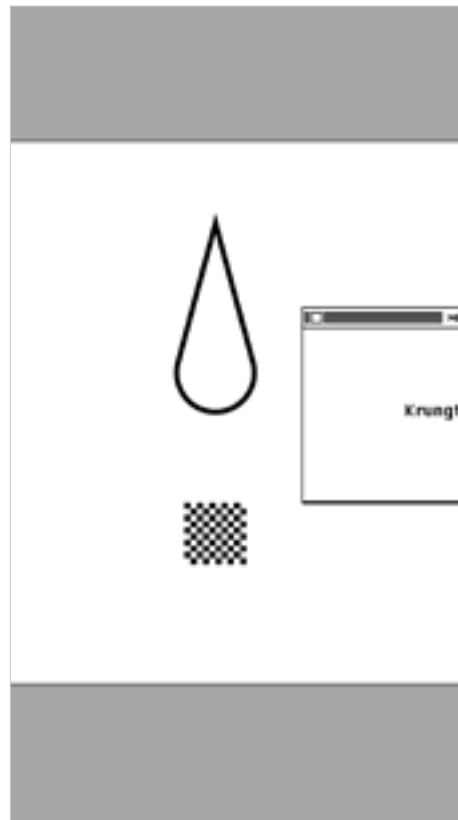
Simulating a classic UI with a typing effect

The punchline of the song “Revenge” by Sentinus is the hook “I deleted your game save” followed by an upbeat bossa nova beat.

For the animation, I wanted to channel Instagram-story vibes, followed by retro-looking computer windows being “deleted” with sass pop-up messages.

Inspired by the classic Mac OS 7, I created UI elements in Adobe Illustrator and then imported them into After Effects. I used a text animator to simulate computer typing for the pop-up messages.





LESSONS LEARNED

The gray background of Mac OS 7 was actually a very small checkered gradient.

[Watch on TikTok](#)

SONG

“Revenge” by Sentinus

TOOLS USED

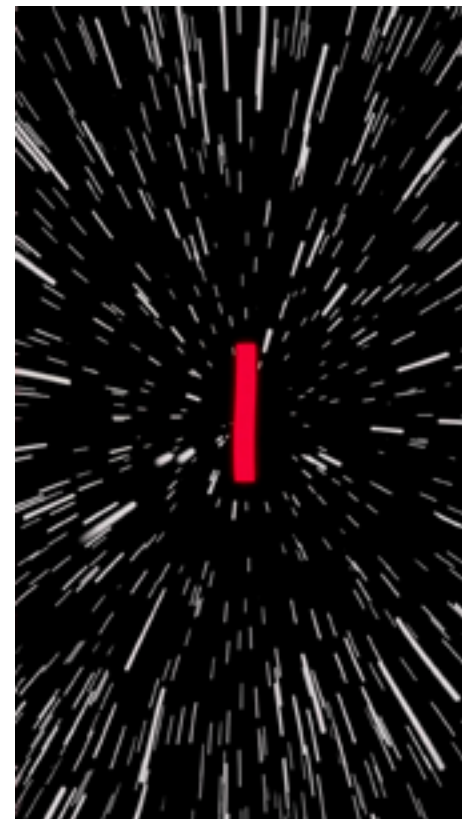
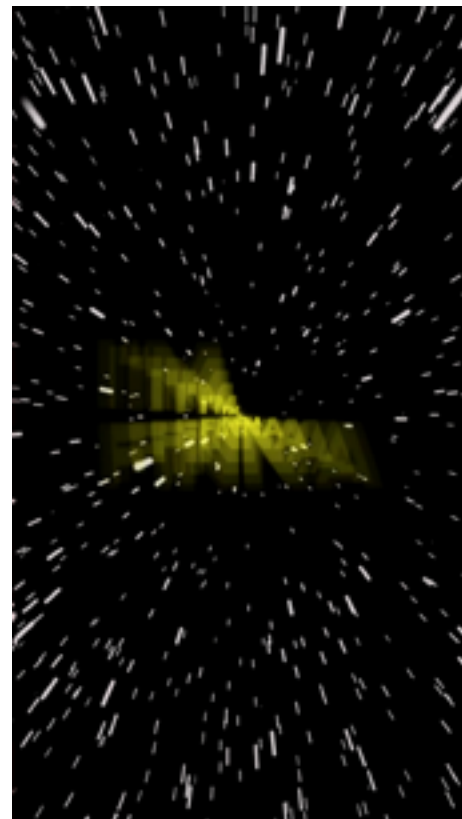
Adobe After Effects, Adobe Illustrator

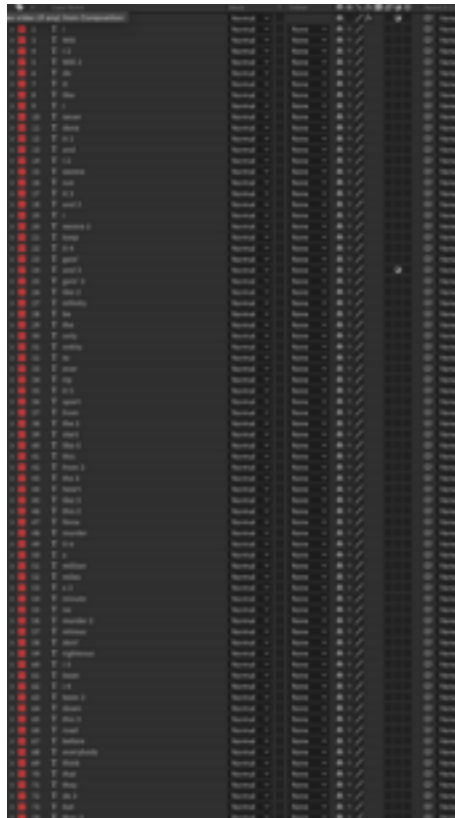
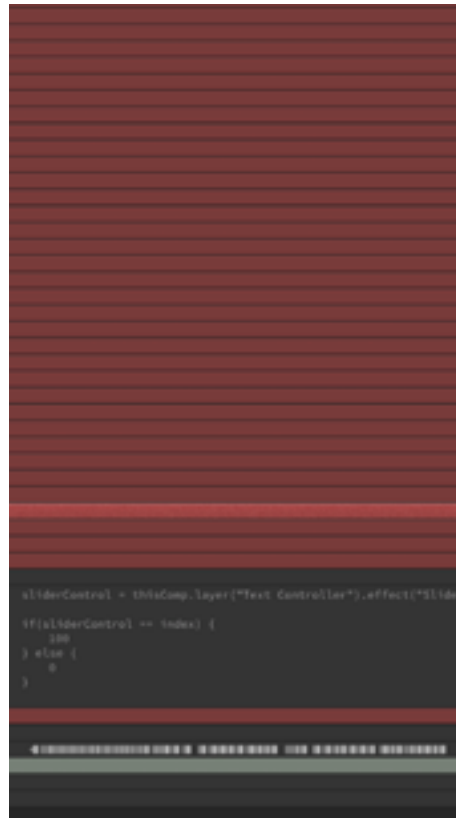
SYNCING FAST TEXT

Using a slider-based opacity expression to audio sync 100 words in 20 seconds

Syncing text to audio can be somewhat difficult in After Effects, and so I wanted to pick a song with fast-moving lyrics that would test me. The song “44 More” by Logic was a perfect fit.

To keep up with his light-speed rapping, I wrote a created a null object and attached a slider. I then wrote an opacity expression on each text layer to check if the value of the slider is equal to the index of the layer. The result is a single slider that controls the lyrics; instead of having to hand-time over 100 layers of lyrics, I just had to hold-keyframe the slider.





LESSONS LEARNED

I used a tool called “IzoTope RX 7” to isolate the vocals in the song. This allowed me to more-reliably keyframe the lyric timing using the acapella’s waveform.

The Star Wars galactic alphabet is called “Aurebesh.”

[Watch on TikTok](#)

SONG

“44 More” by Logic

TOOLS USED

Adobe After Effects

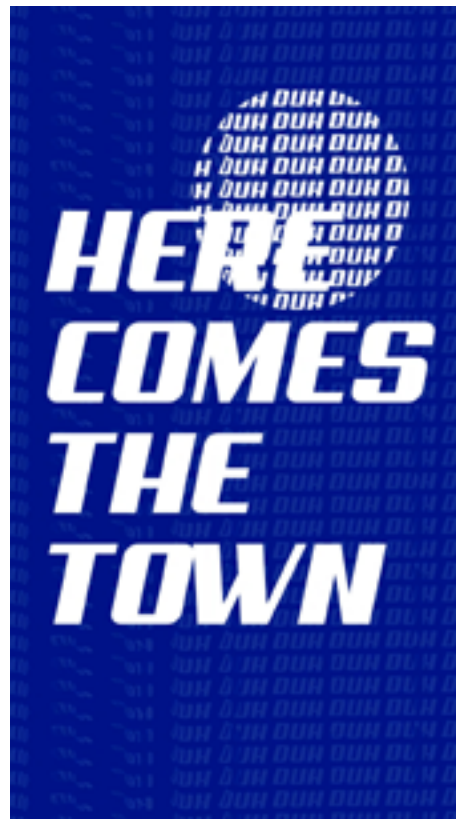
CLOTH SIMULATIONS

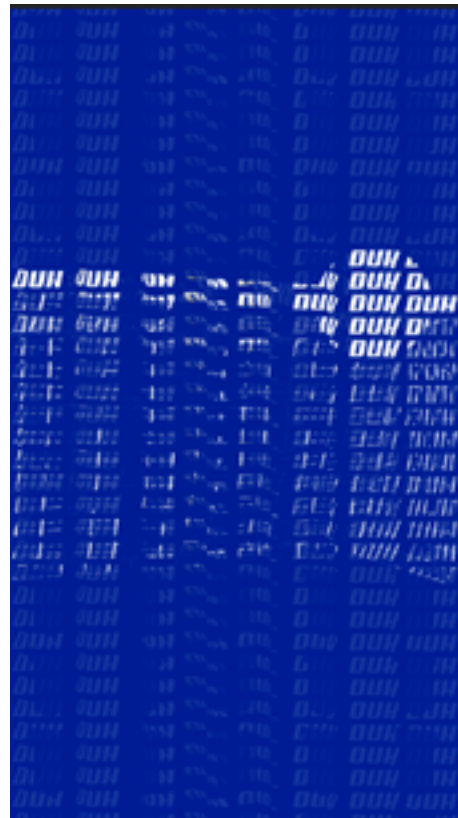
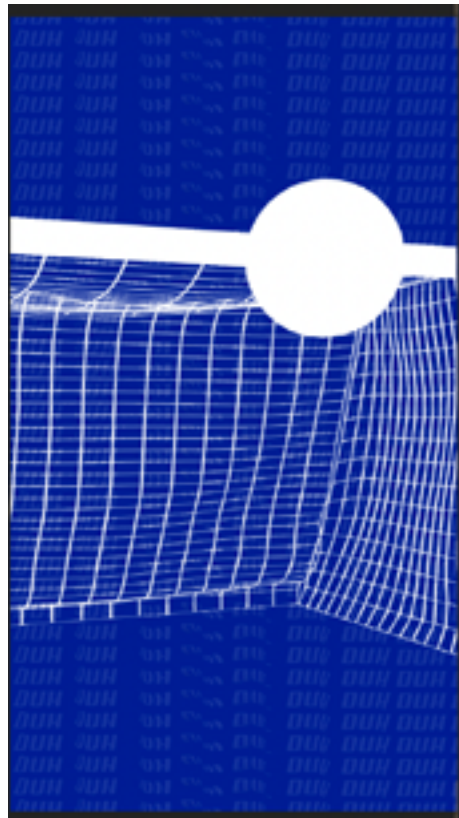
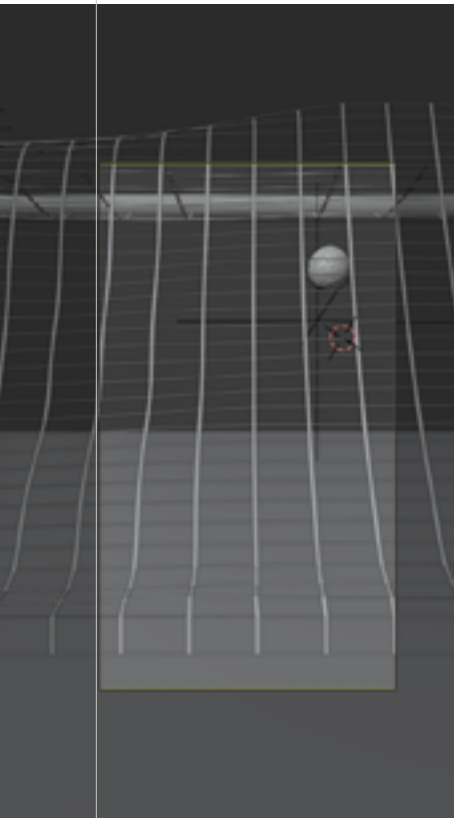
Scoring goals using words

This video was an experiment to see if I could take the lyrics from a popular soccer chant and make soccer imagery out of it.

To accomplish this, I made a net and a ball in Blender and used cloth simulations to create a couple different angles of a goal being scored.

This was then imported into After Effects, and I used keying, alpha mattes, and a displacement map to make goals out of the words.





LESSONS LEARNED

Cloth simulations are taxing on your computer and so they don't always play back in real time. "Baking" the physics simulation allows your computer to pre-calculate the animation so it can be played back at full speed.

[Watch on TikTok](#)

SONG

"Chelsea Dagger" by The Fratellis

TOOLS USED

Adobe After Effects, Blender

DATAMOSHING

A Trippy Effect

“Datamoshing” is an effect that purposefully garbles video footage to simulate the corruption of a file. The result is not only visually-interesting but also a bit off-putting as pixels linger and disappear at what is seemingly random.

This effect felt perfect for the song “Fever Dreams” by Diveo, which has a unique song structure.

To achieve this effect, I animated my text using Echo trails, text stretching, camera flips, and pixel sorting, and then purposefully corrupted parts of the video at key transitions. The effect is unique.





[Watch on TikTok](#)

SONG

"Fever Dreams" by Diveo

TOOLS USED

Adobe After Effects

INFINITE ZOOM

Oscillating text with Dubstep

Dubstep is made using low-frequency oscillators (LFO) to modulate aspects of a sound at a specific rate. The Adventure Club Remix of the song “Undercover” features a frantic oscillation which I wanted to visually emulate using an infinite zoom effect.

Using a null object to control the scale of two objects, and with a loopOut(“cycle”) expression, I made an infinite tunnel using the lyric “I Got You” and set it to the same rate as the dubstep oscillator. The resulting effect is a bit bombastic, but effective.





[Watch on TikTok](#)

SONG

"Undercover" (Adventure Club Remix) - Kehlani

TOOLS USED

Adobe After Effects

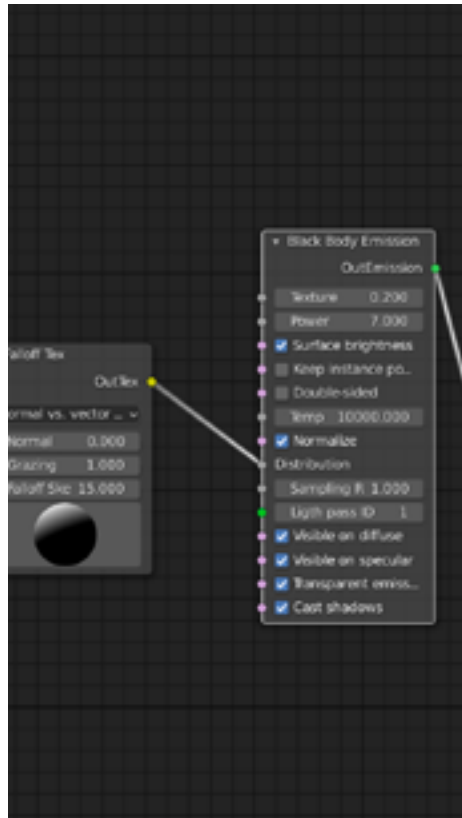
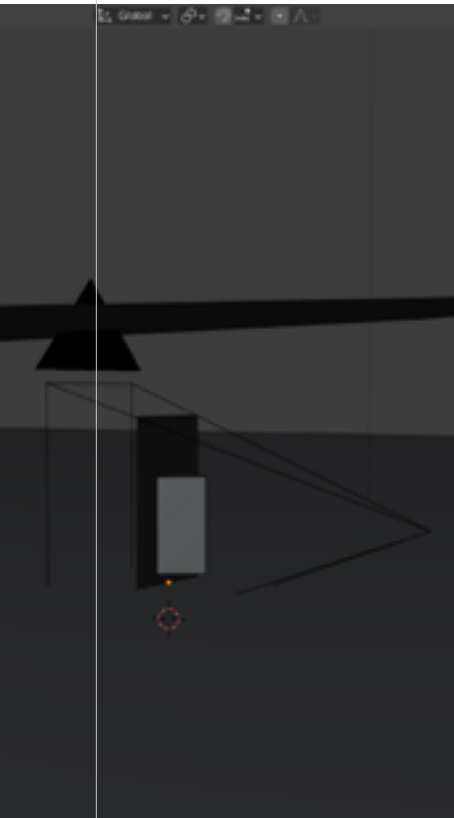
TEXT AS A 3D LIGHT

Using an Image Sequence as a Light Source

The title and lyrics of “Crystals” by Of Monsters and Men invoked a mental image of light refracting through a crystal, casting a rainbow. I began to wonder, would it be possible to export an image sequence of animated text from After Effects and import it into Blender as an emission shader? Yes, it is.

The resulting animation is a ray-traced simulation of text-shaped light being passed through an Xbox-shaped prism. To render it in time to meet my deadline, the animation was up-scaled and denoised.





LESSONS LEARNED

Octane has some fantastic up-scaling and denoising options. Upscaling and denoising are a huge part of many animator's workflows (even big-budget films).

[Watch on TikTok](#)

SONG

"Crystals" by Of Monsters and Men

TOOLS USED

Adobe After Effects, Blender, Octane Renderer

3D TEXT IN A 3D HEAD

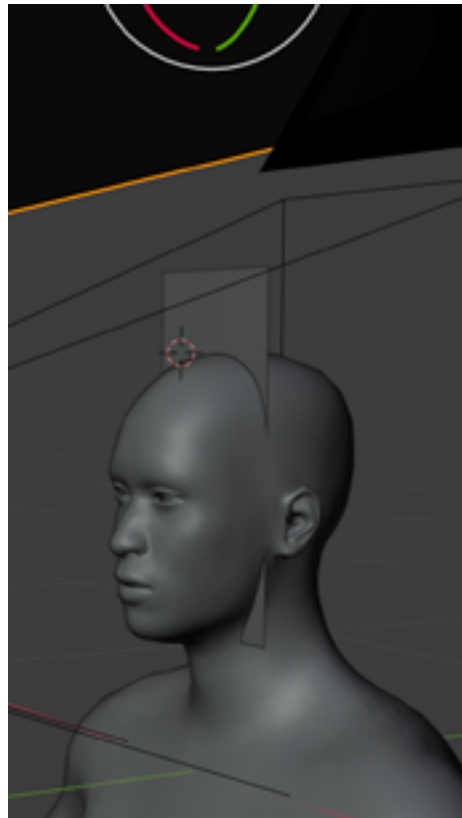
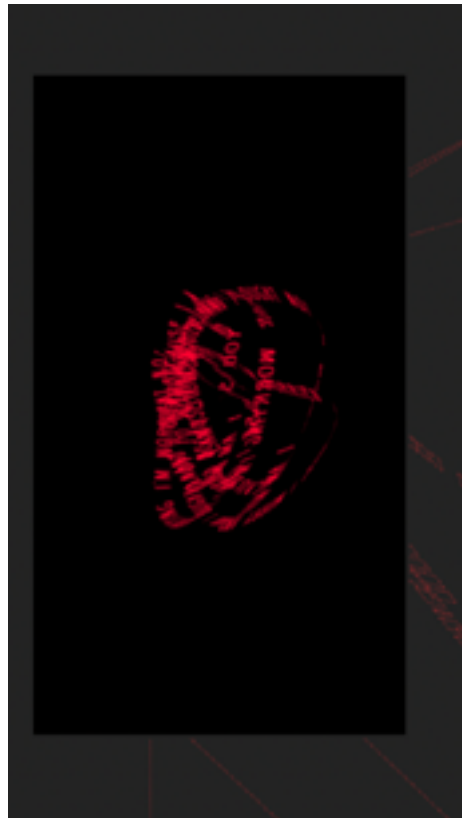
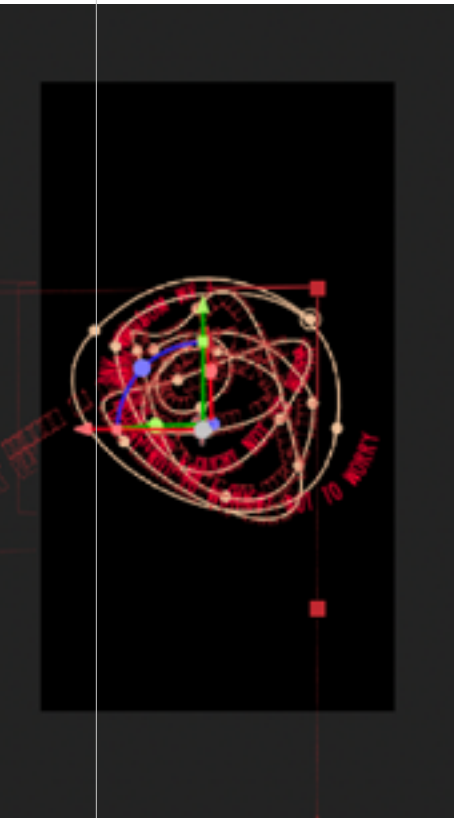
Visualizing "feedback" inside your head

In audio-engineering, "feedback" is an ear-piercing scream produced by a microphone and a speaker picking up and endlessly amplifying the same sound. For this animation, I wanted to visualize "thought feedback" using the words of this Alan Watts speech.

To accomplish this, I created 3 squiggly mask paths in After Effects, and made 3 sets of lyrics follow each path. As more words are said, the words begin to collide until they are a nasty jumbled bunch.

This was exported as an image sequence and then imported into Blender as a plane with an emission source. This plane was then placed into a translucent head and rotated with the 3D model.





LESSONS LEARNED

Using text directly inside of Blender instead of composing it allows the text to interact with the lighting and model in a way that really elevates it.

Animated 3D mask paths are powerful.

[Watch on TikTok](#)

SONG

“Angst” by Inzo

TOOLS USED

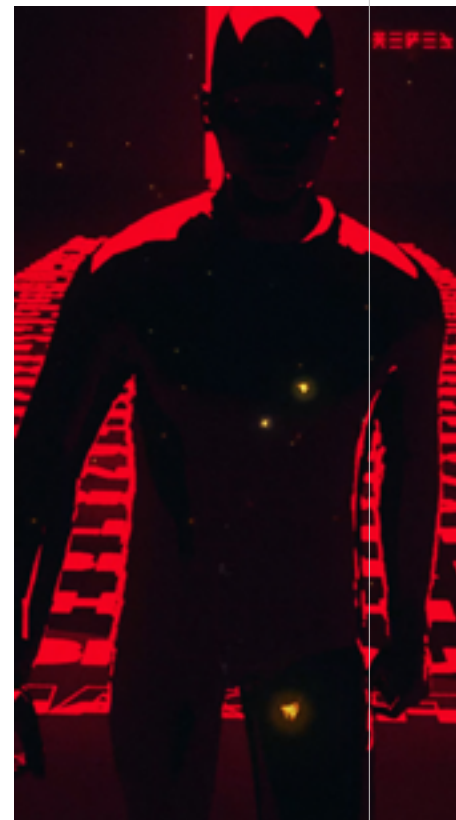
Adobe After Effects, Blender, Octane Renderer, MakeHuman

ENVIRONMENTAL TEXT

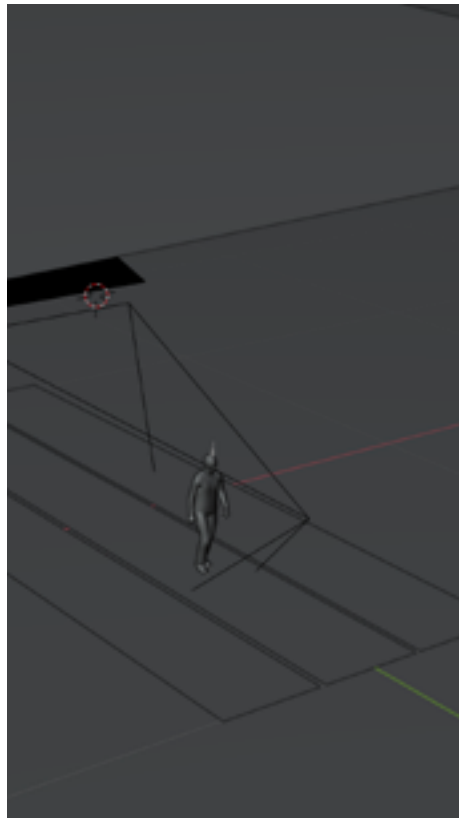
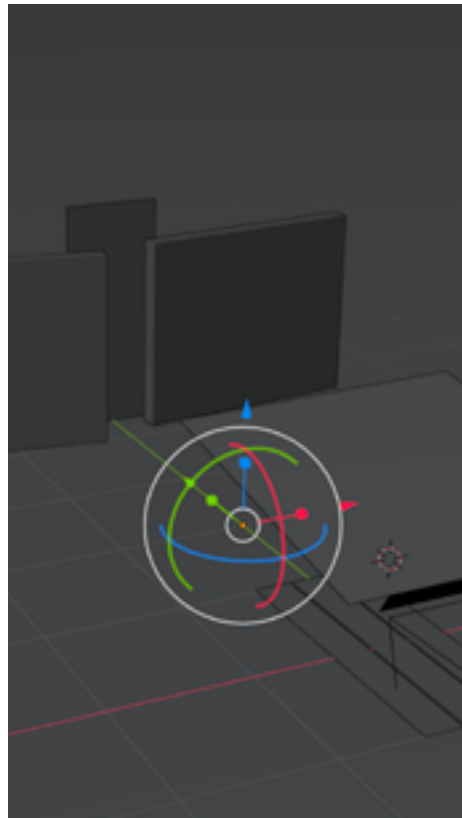
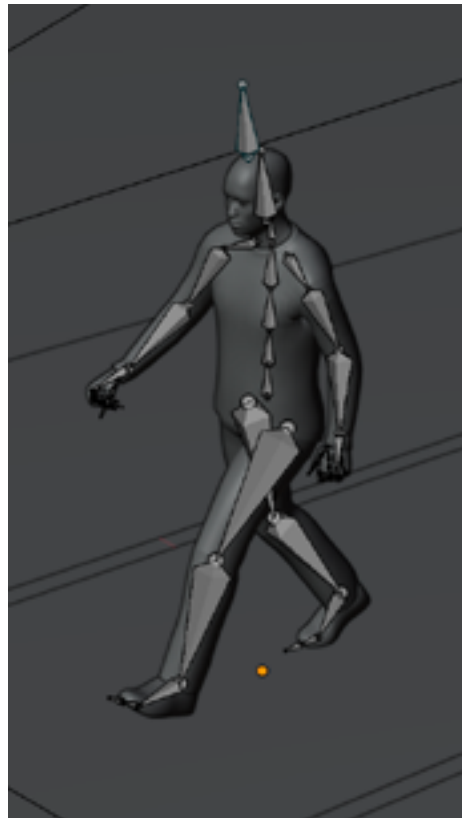
Layering text in a 3D environment

Furthering my experiments with animated text in a 3D simulation, I exported a tall set of animated text from After Effects and imported it into Blender.

I then used it as one of the main lighting elements of the scene and for the walking chrome humanoid.



I USE
MY
TONGUE
AS A
WEAPON
I LIESE
MY LUNGS
AND MY
BREATH
IS PUSHIN
OUT THE
EFFORT
I'M BEST
WHEN I'M
DESPERATE
A HUNGRY
AND LEFT
TO SOGART
YOU LIKE
HUMPHREY
DONT CARE
IF YOU
LOVE ME
I'M DOING
SOMETHING
BIGGER
THAN MY
SITUATION
IT'S A
JOURNEY
NOT A
DESTINATION
LIFE IS
BIGGER
THAN THE
ISH YOU
MAKE IT



[Watch on TikTok](#)

SONG

“Ruckus” by Konata Small

TOOLS USED TOOLS USED

Adobe After Effects, Blender, Octane, MakeHuman

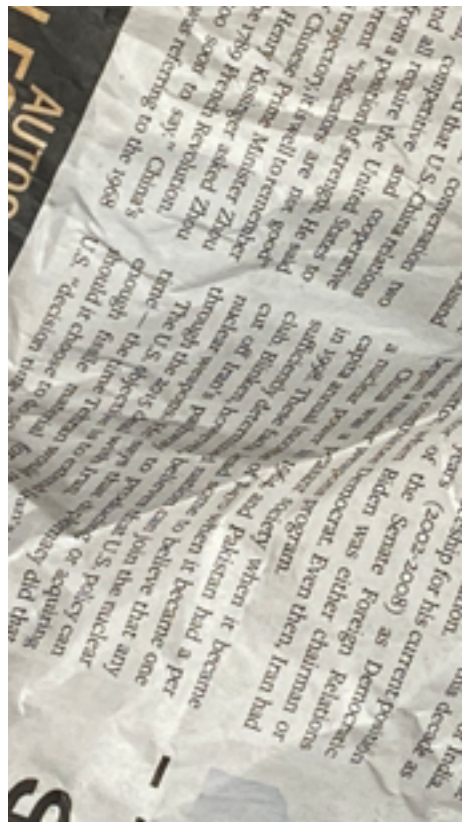
LONDON PUNK

A low-budget Punk-inspired Animation

My father went to University College London in the '80s when Punk Rock was in its heigh-day. I grew up to the sounds of The Jam, The Sex Pistols, and Sham 69, with their classic song "Hurry Up Harry."

Inspired by that generation of artists, I set out to make something that felt distinctly punk - which is honestly a bit low budget. The artists of the punk era were quite broke, and so they would take whatever Magazines/leftover paper they could get their hands on to make posters, which they would break into copy shops to Xerox. To simulate this, I tried to make loud, messy, shapes that look like they could have been made from construction paper, and took photos of a newspaper that I found outside of a classroom to use as texture.





LESSONS LEARNED

Photos of paper can be imported as an image sequence, time posterized, and looped to add literal texture to your visuals.

[Watch on TikTok](#)

TOOLS USED

Adobe After Effects

VACCINATION ANIMATION

A character-based animation with text

For some reason, the lead synth of "Ode to Oi" has a quality that reminds me of a duck quack. I used this as an opportunity to create a little character-based animation of a chubby dancing duck with the word "Oi!" passing over him to the song.

I wanted to make an animation where the lyrics supplemented what was going on, instead of being the sole focus.

PLEASE GET YOUR
SHOT SO WE CAN
GO CLUBBING



PLEASE GET YOUR
SHOT SO WE CAN
GO CLUBBING

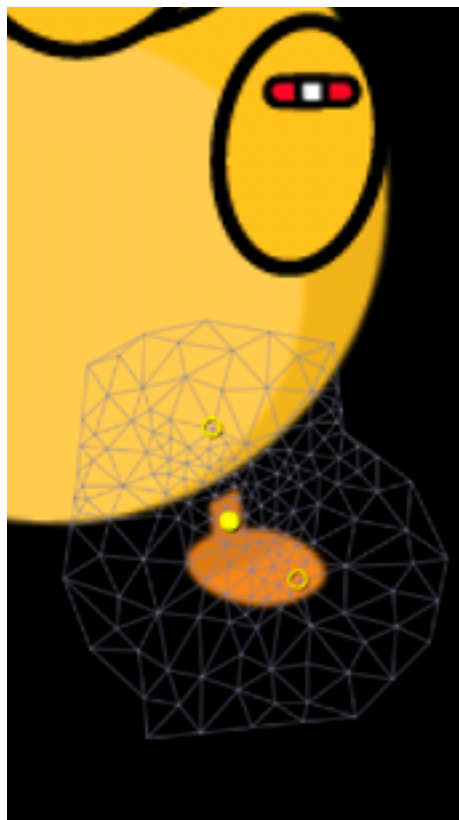
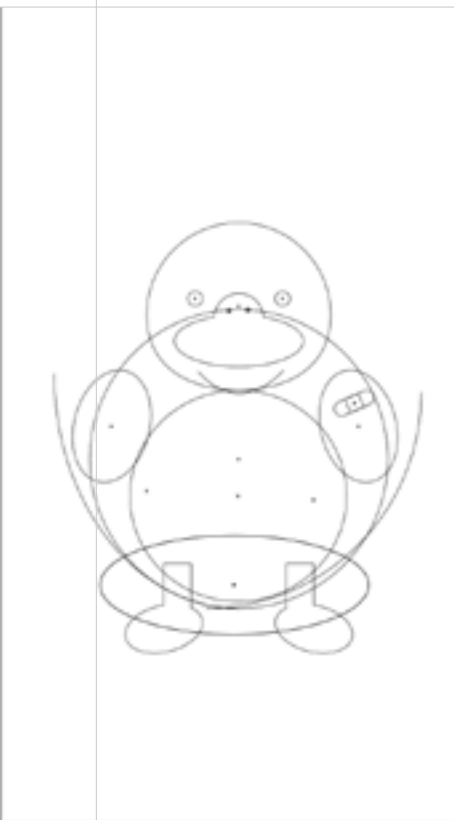


PLEASE GET YOUR
SHOT SO WE CAN
GO CLUBBING



PLEASE GET YOUR
SHOT SO WE CAN
GO CLUBBING





[Watch on TikTok](#)

SONG

"Ode to Oi" by TJR

TOOLS USED

Adobe After Effects, Adobe Illustrator

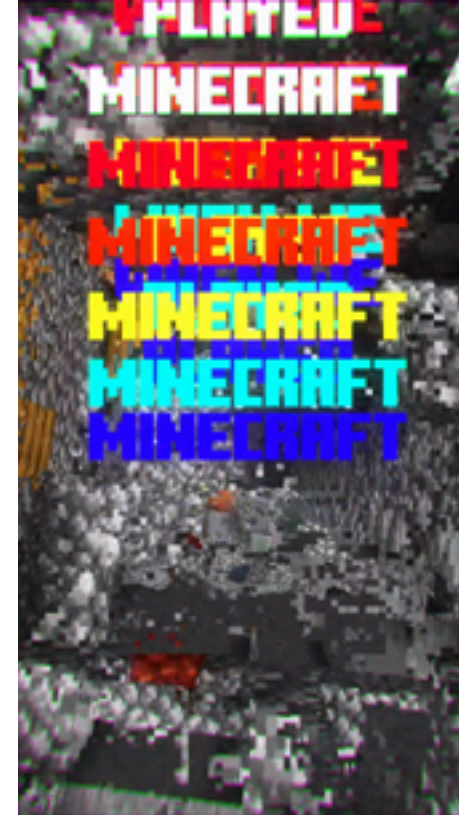
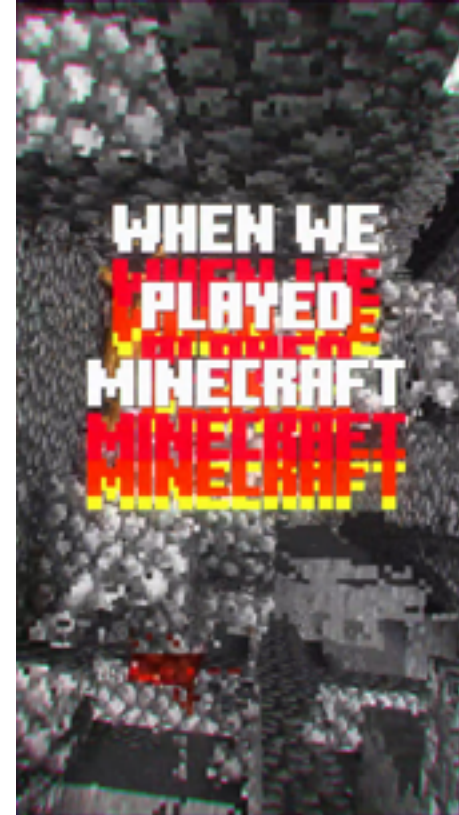
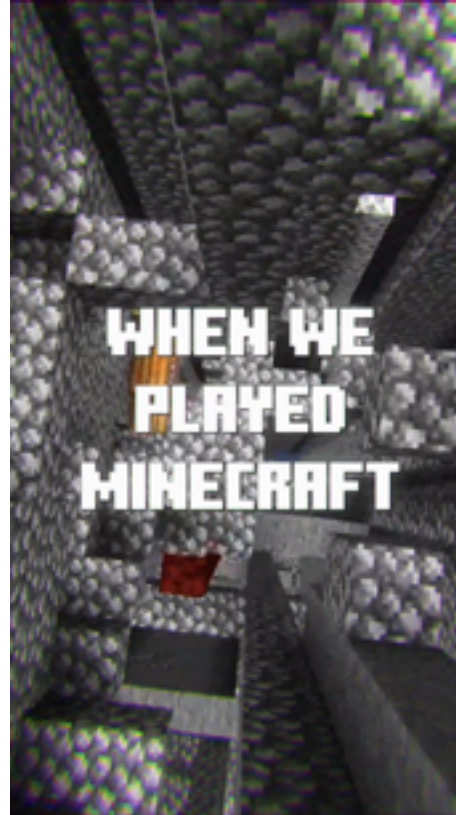
IN-GAME FOOTAGE

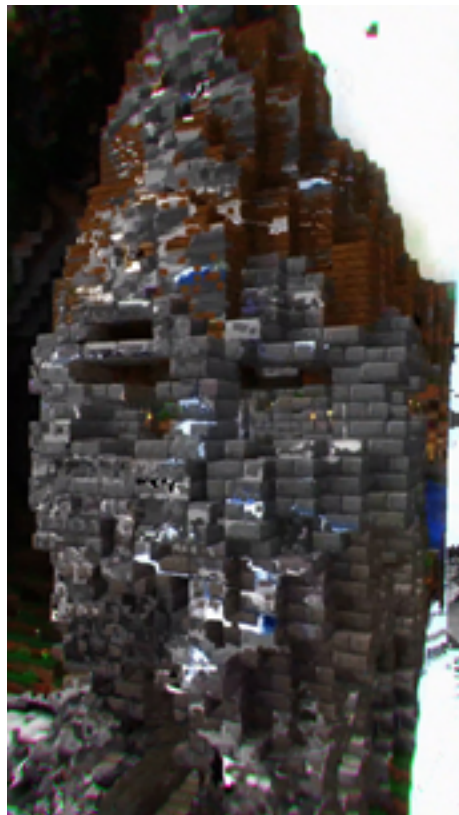
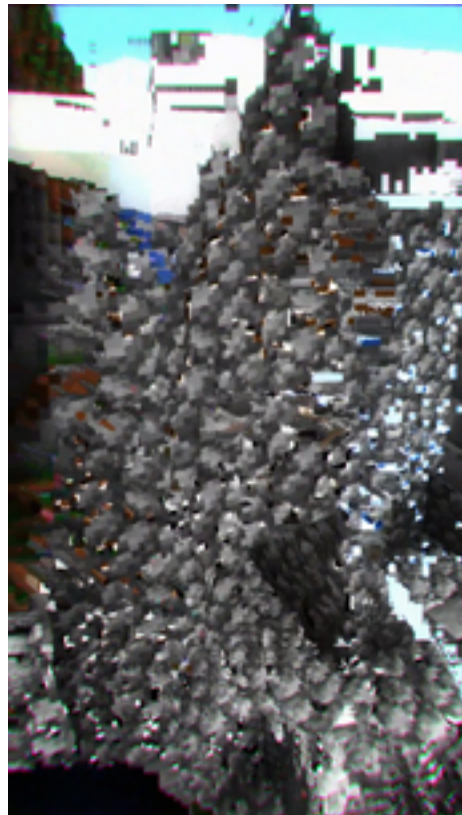
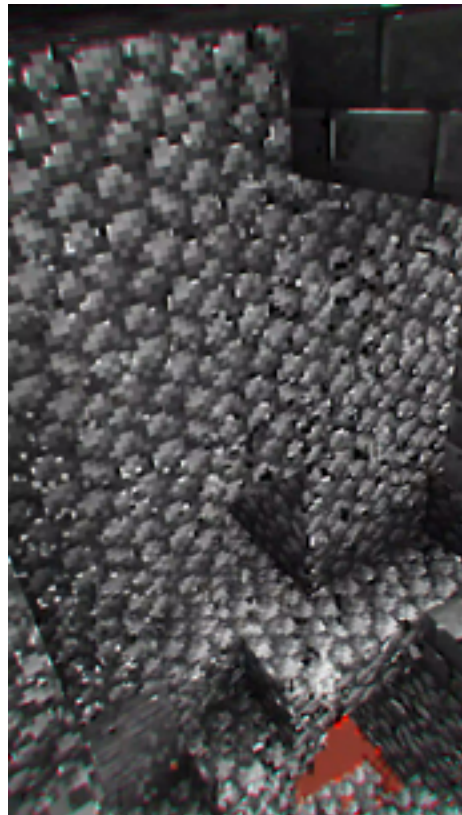
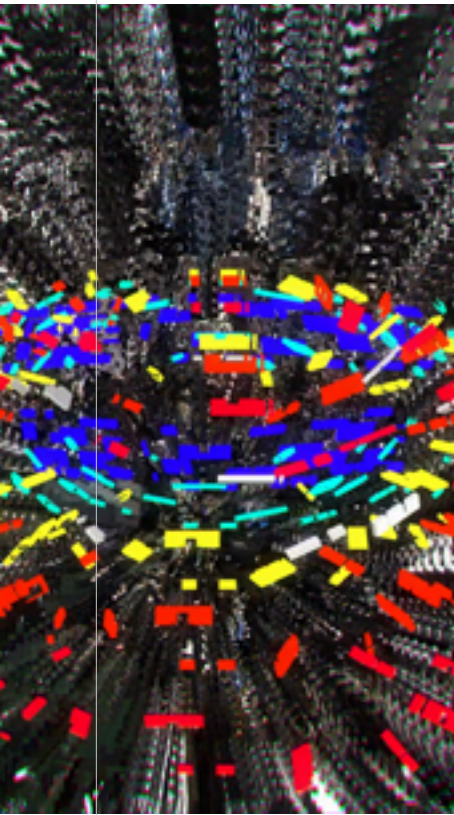
Capturing video game footage for animation

With the rise of e-sports and popularity of gaming as a whole, it is not uncommon for businesses to capture in-game footage to produce a montage with text elements.

For this animation, I wanted to practice capturing in-game footage (in this case from the game "Minecraft") and creating a lyric-based montage.

I used echo trails on the text and data moshing on my captured footage to keep the animation visually interesting. Strangely enough, this has been my highest-performing video on TikTok.





[Watch on TikTok](#)

SONG

"Minecraft Nostalgia" by Sentinus

TOOLS USED

Adobe After Effects, Blender

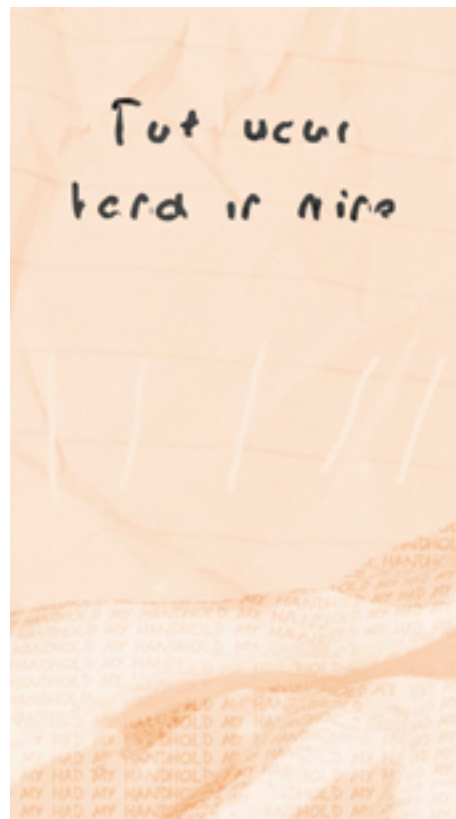
HANDWRITING TEXT

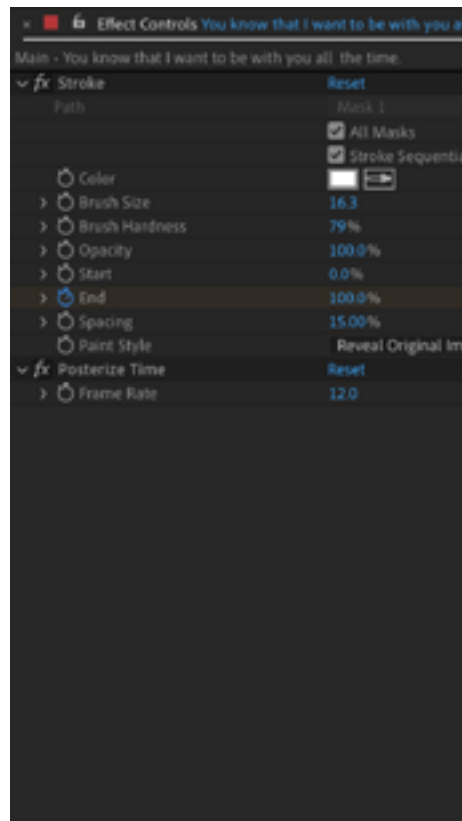
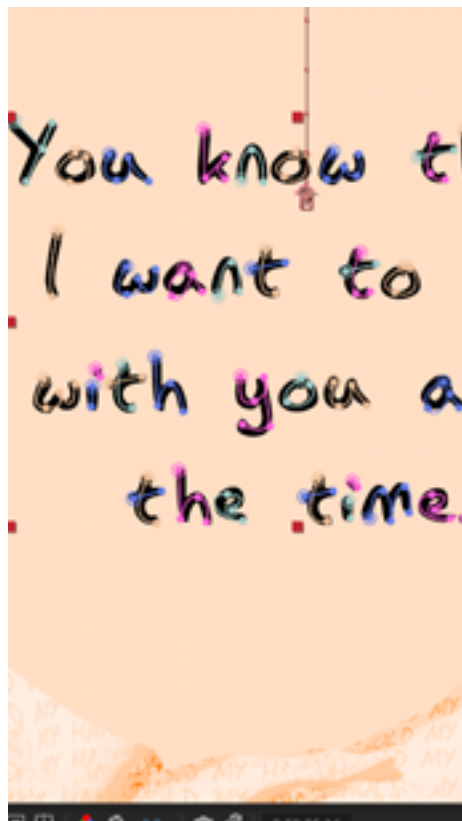
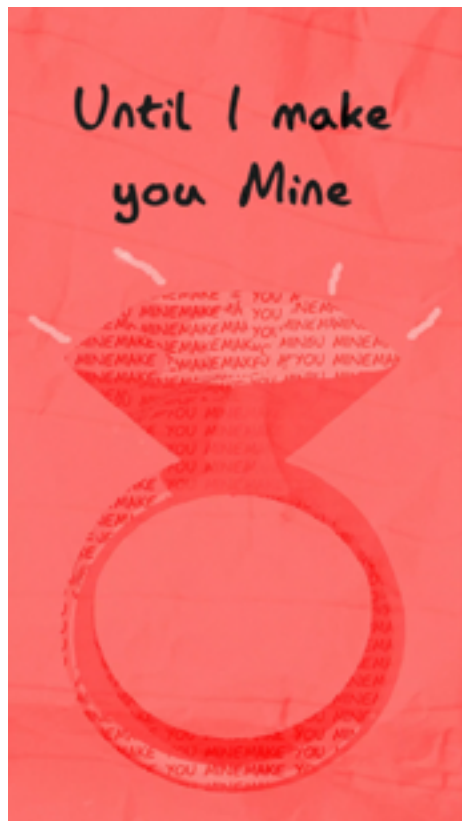
Handwritten text and time posterization

The song “Make You Mine” has a certain sound design that reminds me of music I’d listen to in Middle-school.

Using the pen tool, I created masks around each character in the font, and used the “Stroke” effect to simulate hand-writing. The process was somewhat tedious, but when paired with some time posterization, the effect turned out quite well.

I took more pictures of notebook paper to use as an image texture and used the brush tool in After Effects to hand-draw on various frames.





[Watch on TikTok](#)

SONG

“Make You Mine” by Public

TOOLS USED

Adobe After Effects, Blender, MakeHuman

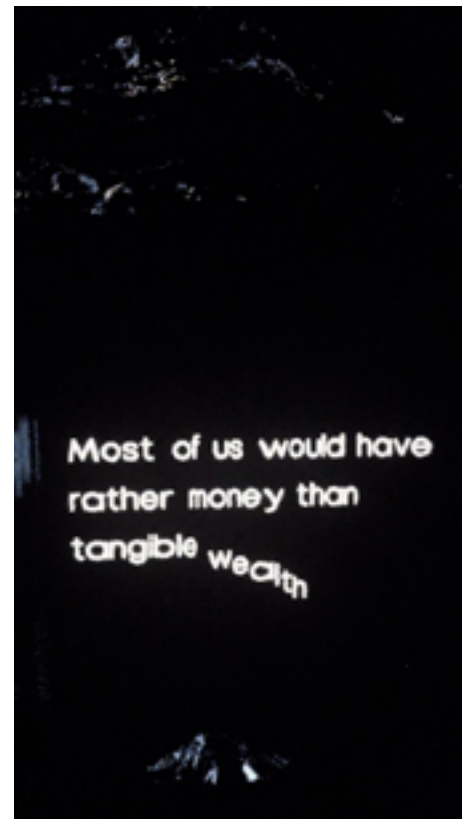
WATER SIMULATION

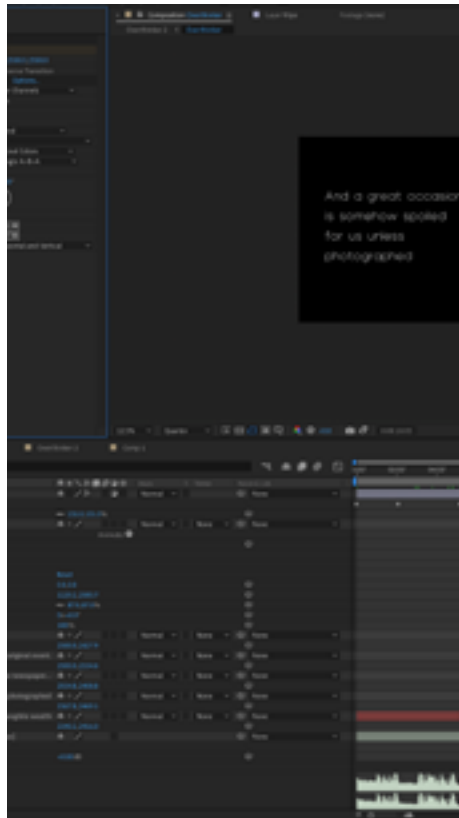
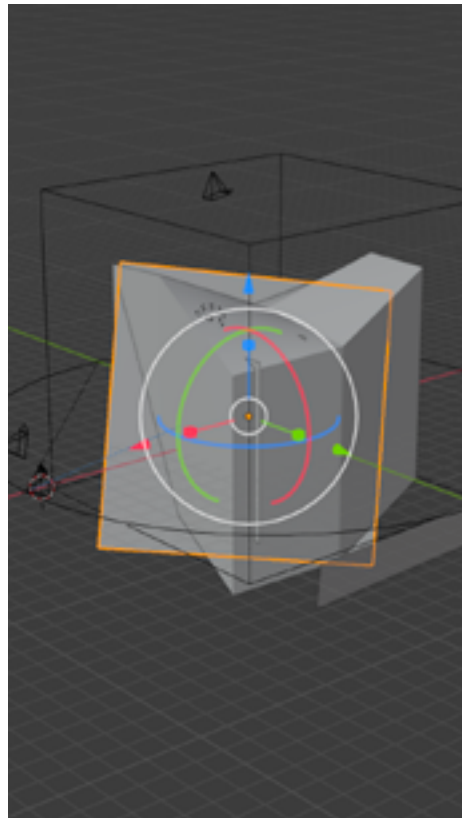
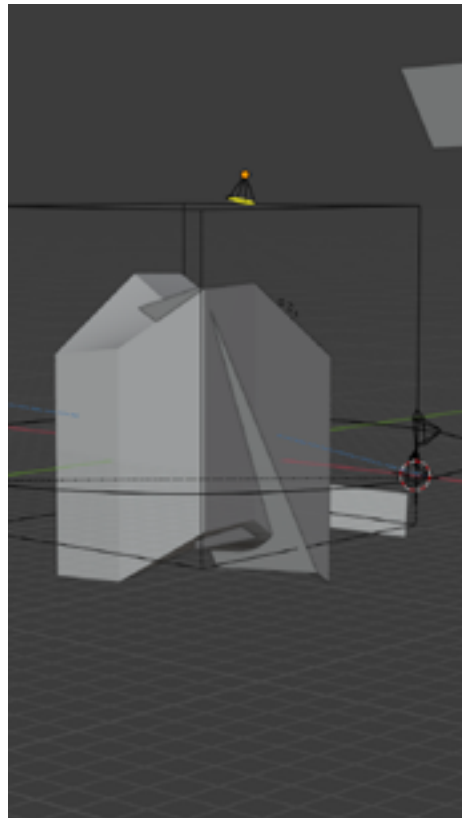
Text-based Water Simulation

For this animation, I exported animated text as an image sequence from After Effects and imported it into Blender.

I used the "Ocean" modifier on a cube to simulate water, and created a refractive material that would react to light similarly to water.

I used several different cameras (including a 360 camera rig) to capture interesting abstract shots of the water, and rendered it using Octane raytracing.





LESSONS LEARNED

The Blender "Ocean" modifier activated on a cube can be effectively used instead of a resource-intensive Mantaflow fluid animation.

[Watch on TikTok](#)

SONG

"Overthinker" by Inzo

TOOLS USED

Adobe After Effects, Blender

ENDING WITH A BANG

Bringing down the castle

For Day 18, I wanted to go out strong, so I chose a power-balad by the Killers which features strong fairytale-themed imagery.

To create this, I began by building a 3D castle in Blender and a flaming boulder which I would throw at it.

Using rigid bodies and cell-fracturing, I created a physics simulation which would send the wall flying, and spew flames and smoke everywhere.

Unfortunately, this led to a massive crash, and I was forced to turn in the animation in its previs state.





LESSONS LEARNED

The Blender viewport can be exported as an animation sequence to save you in a pinch.

Volumetric fire can crash an export.

[Watch on TikTok](#)

SONG

"A Dustland Fairytale" by The Killers

TOOLS USED

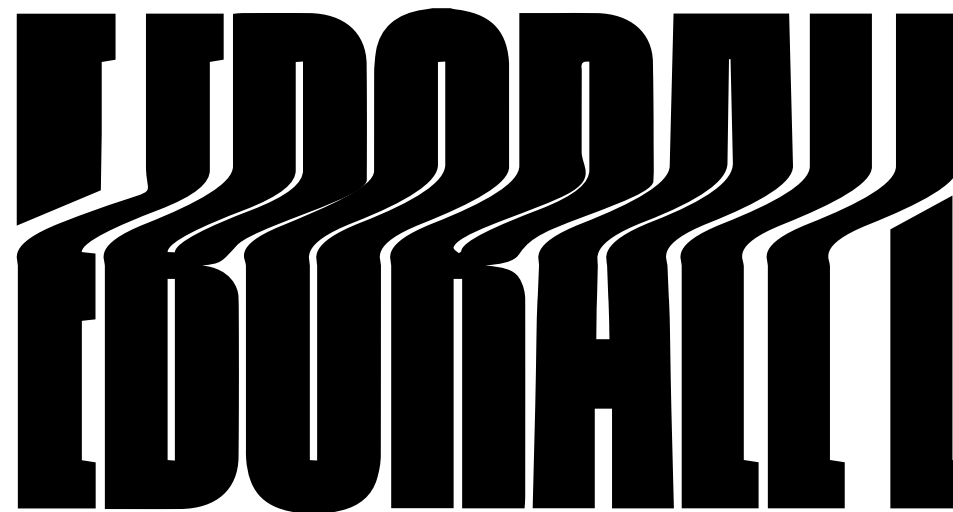
Adobe After Effects, Blender

SUMMARY

Knowing how to animate text in meaningful ways will be important to the future of content-creation because many people now consume content with the sound off, putting a greater importance on captions and text.

Kinetic text is a way to create scroll-stopping content because it gets people's attention, it can communicate/reinforce the message of your content, and can even serve as a visual reward that makes users feel good after completing an action.

I have successfully completed 18 animation in 20 days, and couldn't be more proud.



JOSEPH EBORALL

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