ON FINISHING STUFF PERSONAL REFLECTIONS ON DELIVERING CREATIVE OUTPUT

THOMAS MANN @PIXTUR / NVSCENE 2015







DISCLAIMER

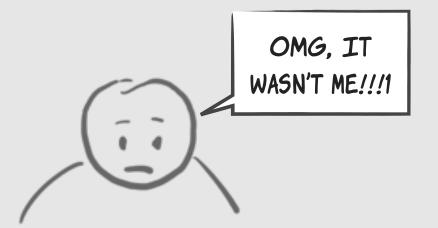


MAKING DEMOS



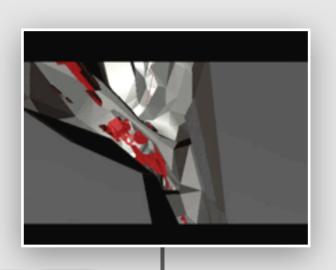
KC-DEMO

1990 / KC87



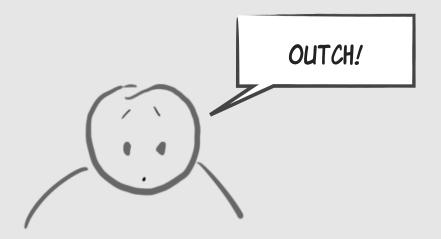


10 YEARS LATER



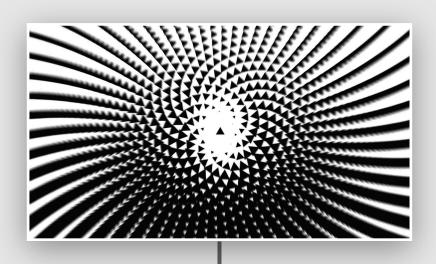
KASSIOPEIA

2002 / DEMO / (PREVIEW)



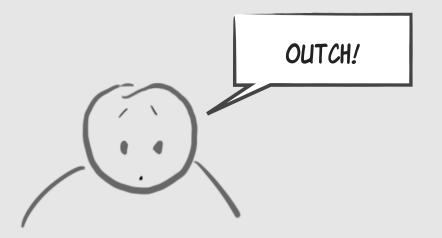


10 YEARS LATER



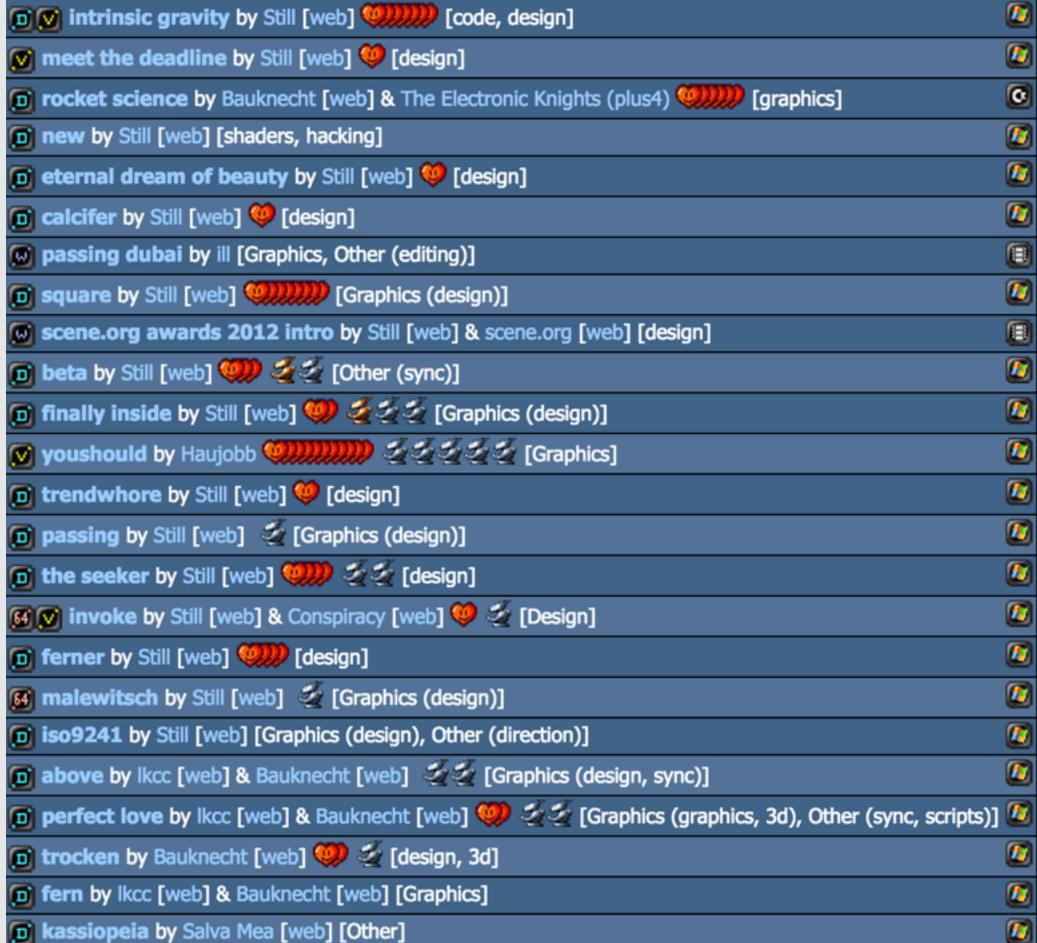
INTRINSIC GRAVITY

2014 / PC-DEMO



ANOTHER 15 YEARS...

THIS WAS SOOO STRESSFUL!
WE DIDN'T EVEN FINISHED.
BUT WE RELEASED IT.





ANOTHER 15 YEARS...

THIS WAS SO QUICK, EASY, AND FUN...



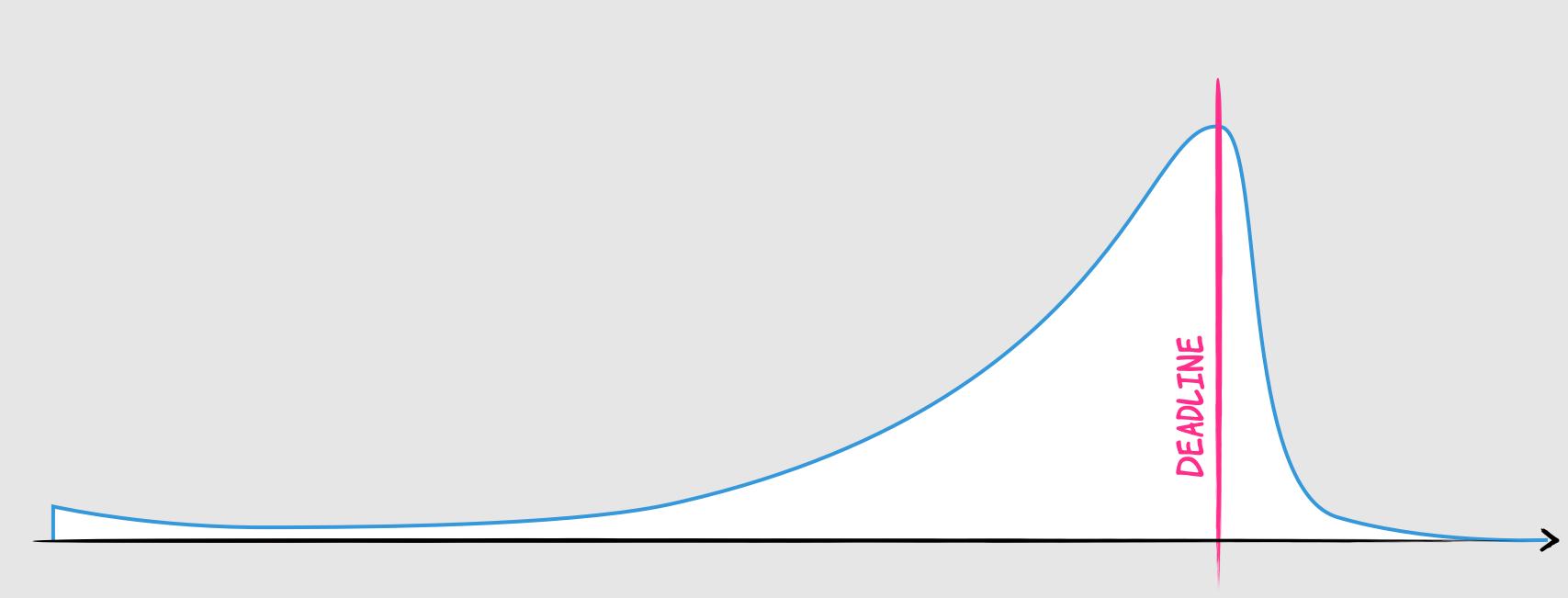


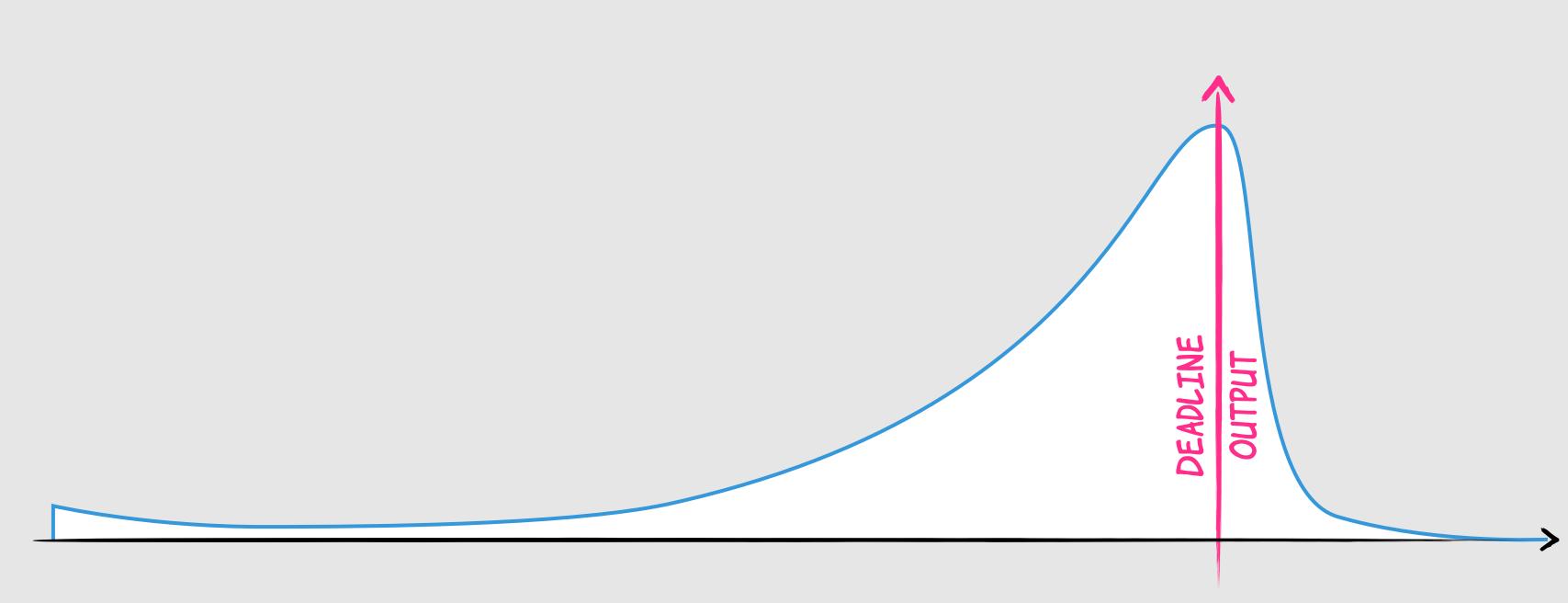
ANOTHER 15 YEARS...

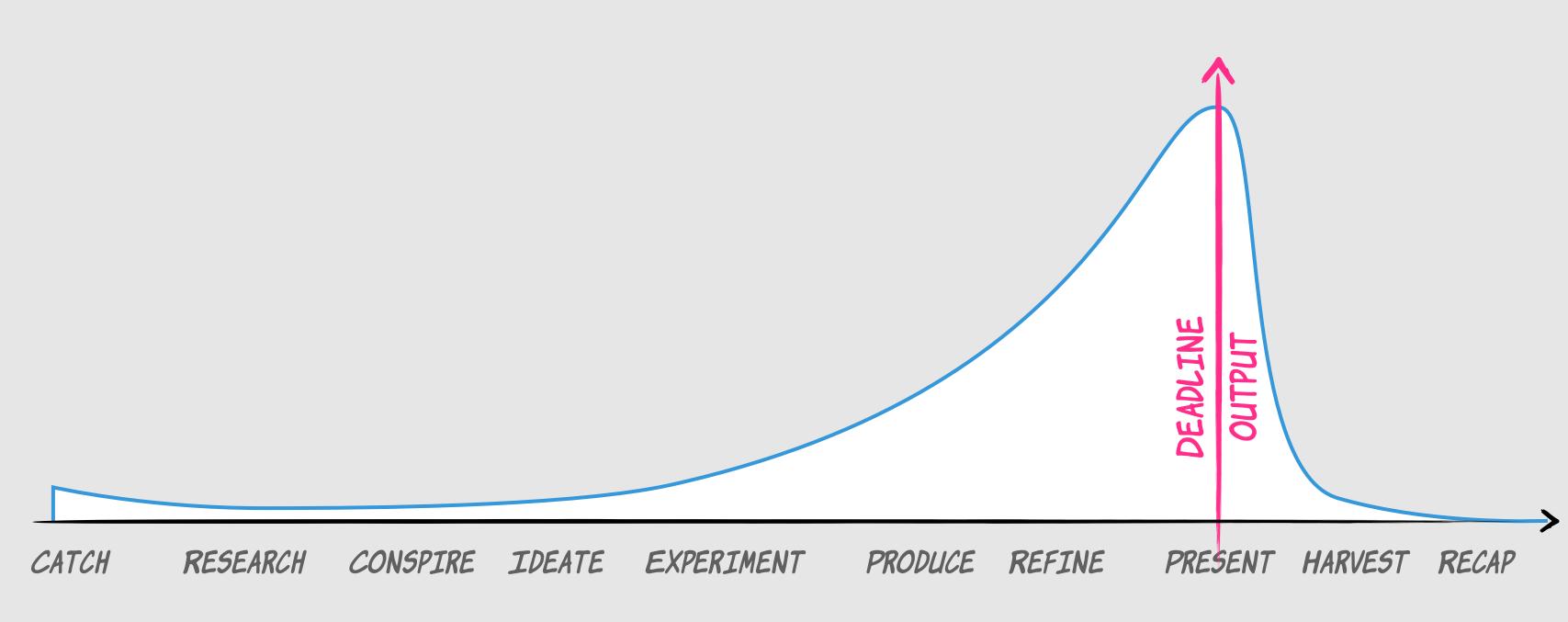


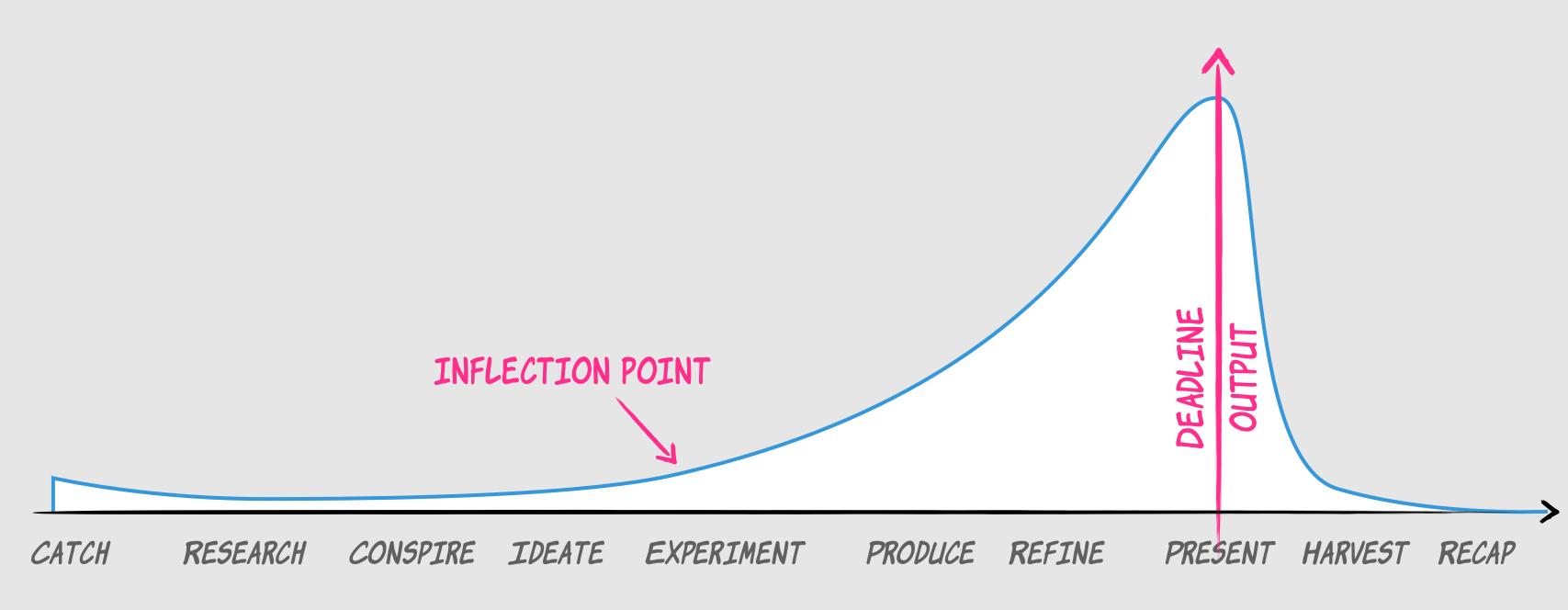
(meet the deadline by Still [web] 🍑 [design]	
(rocket science by Bauknecht [web] & The Electronic Knights (plus4) (1997) [graphics]	C
(new by Still [web] [shaders, hacking]	
(cternal dream of beauty by Still [web] 🍑 [design]	
(calcifer by Still [web] 🤎 [design]	(
(passing dubai by ill [Graphics, Other (editing)]	
(g square by Still [web] ((Graphics (design)))	(
(scene.org awards 2012 intro by Still [web] & scene.org [web] [design]	
(🗊 beta by Still [web] 🥨 🚀 [Other (sync)]	
(inally inside by Still [web] 🤎 🌠 🌠 [Graphics (design)]	(
(youshould by Haujobb 🕬 🎎 🏂 🏂 [Graphics]	
	itrendwhore by Still [web] 🤎 [design]	(
(passing by Still [web] 🗳 [Graphics (design)]	
(the seeker by Still [web] 🥨 🐲 [design]	
(invoke by Still [web] & Conspiracy [web] 🤎 🏈 [Design]	(
> [ferner by Still [web] ((design)	
>	malewitsch by Still [web] 炎 [Graphics (design)]	
>	iso9241 by Still [web] [Graphics (design), Other (direction)]	
• (above by lkcc [web] & Bauknecht [web] 🍇 [Graphics (design, sync)]	
-	perfect love by lkcc [web] & Bauknecht [web] 💚 🌠 [Graphics (graphics, 3d), Other (sync, scripts)]	
	📆 trocken by Bauknecht [web] 🥨 🏂 [design. 3d]	

intrinsic gravity by Still [web] (code, design)





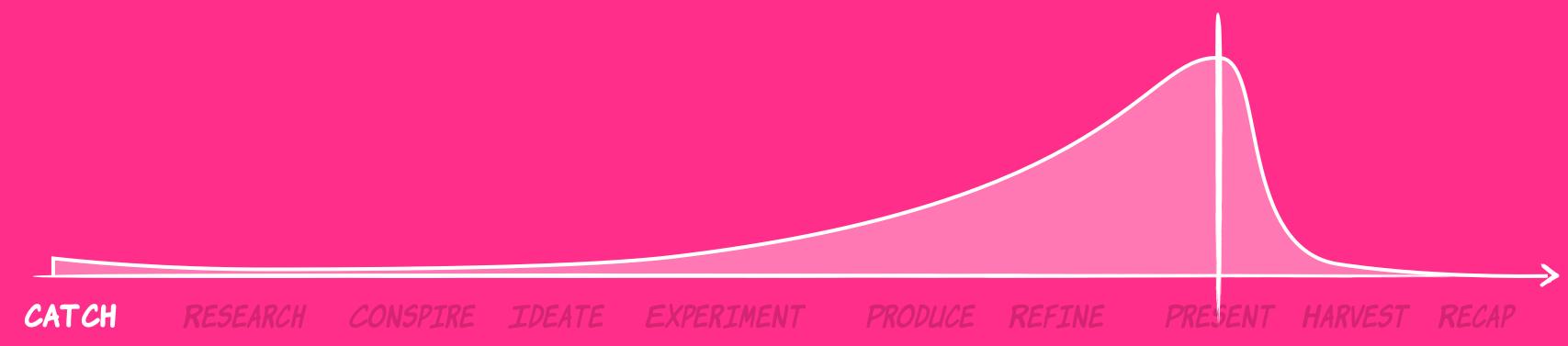




"THE SCARIEST MOMENT IS ALWAYS JUST BEFORE YOU START."

- STEPHEN KING (ON WRITING)

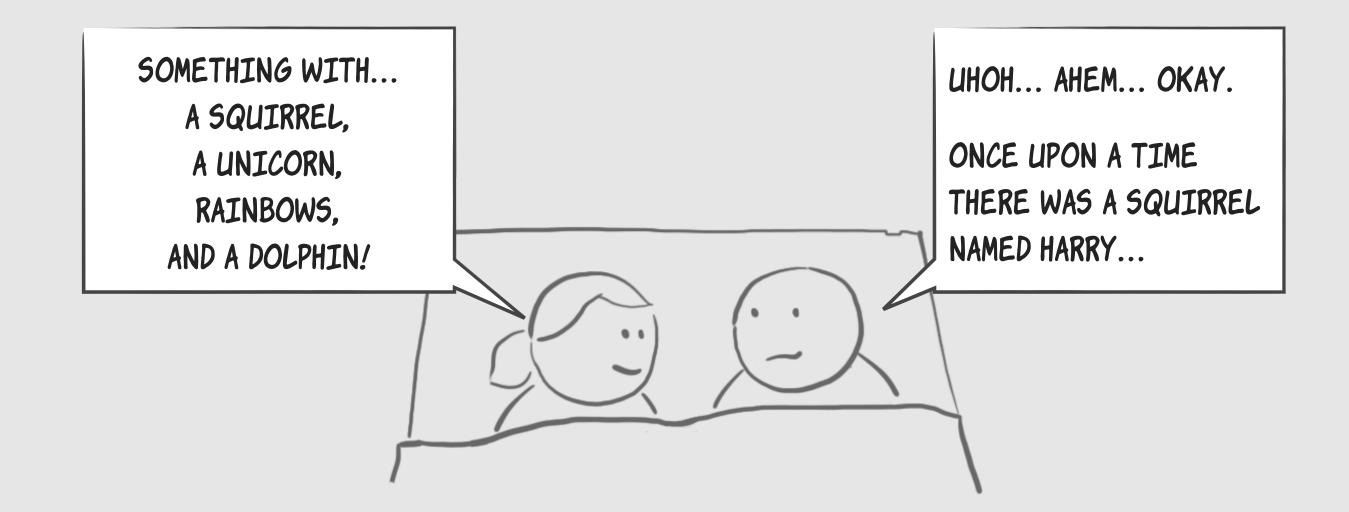
CATCHING IDEAS...



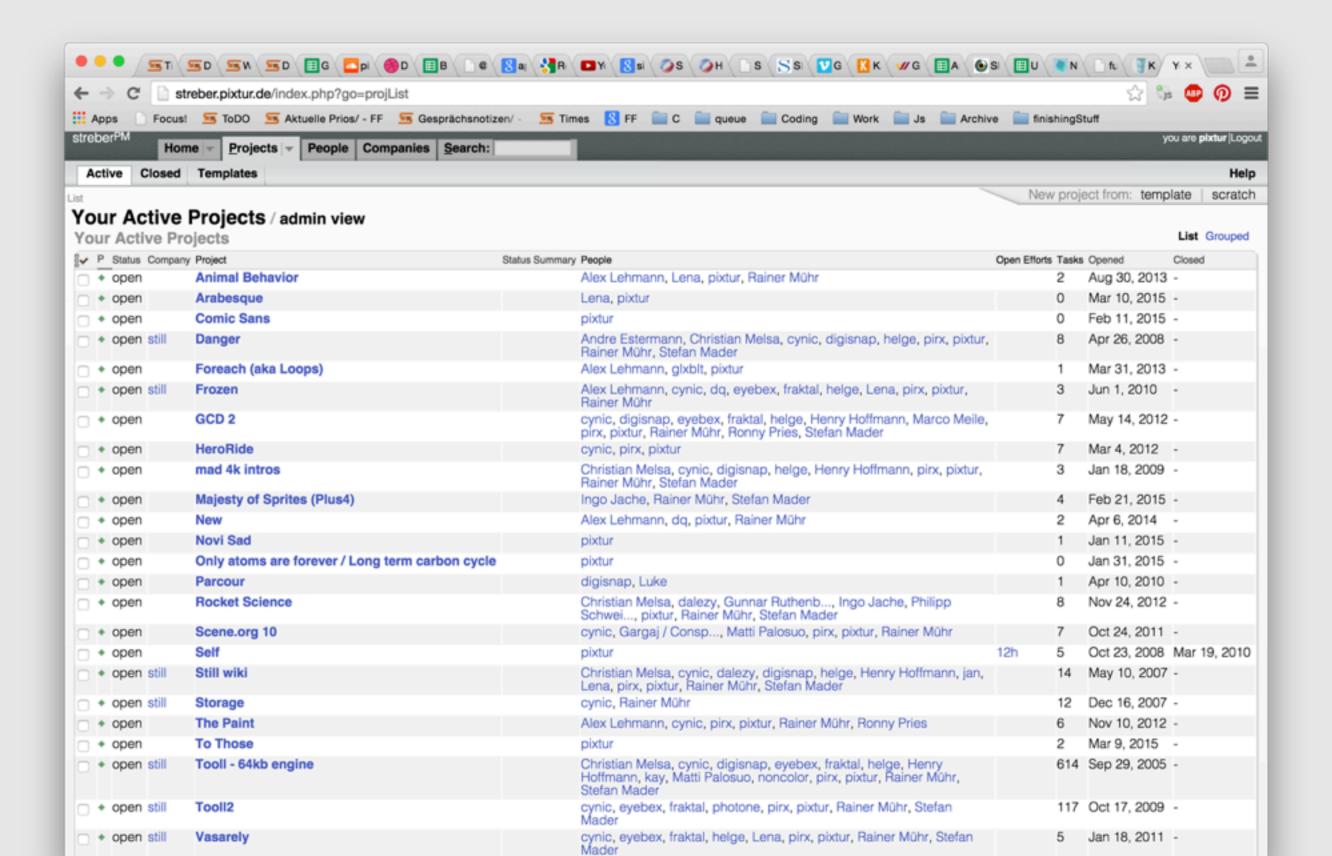
GETTING IDEAS



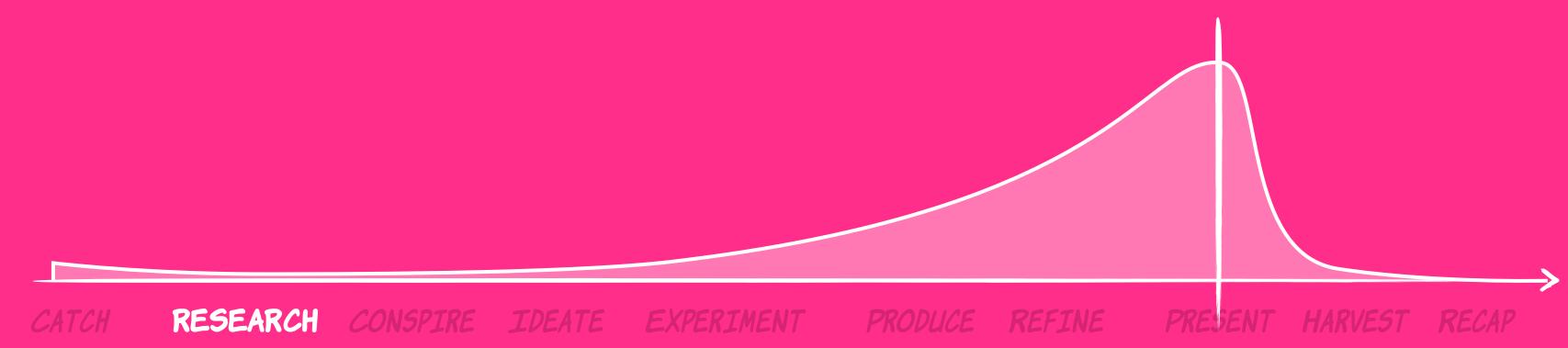
PRACTICE



WRITE IT DOWN - A WIKI WORKS FOR ME



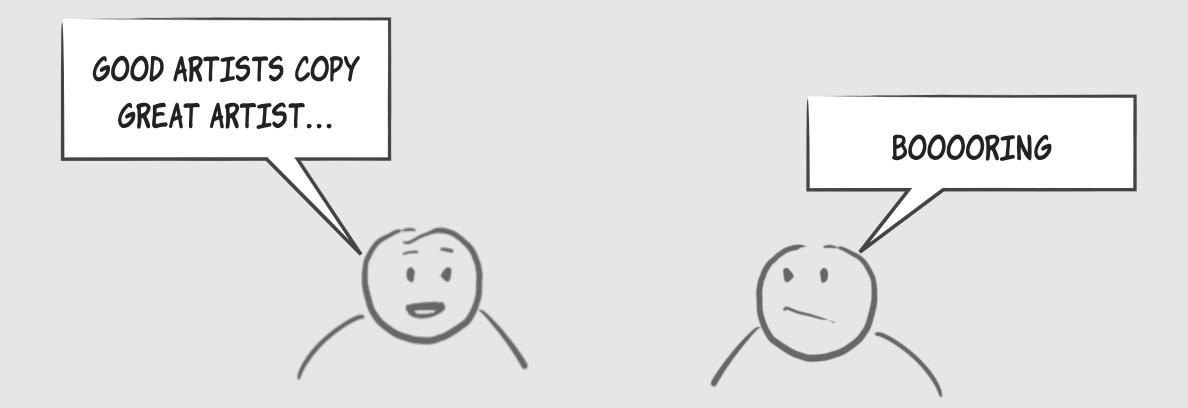
REFERENCES...



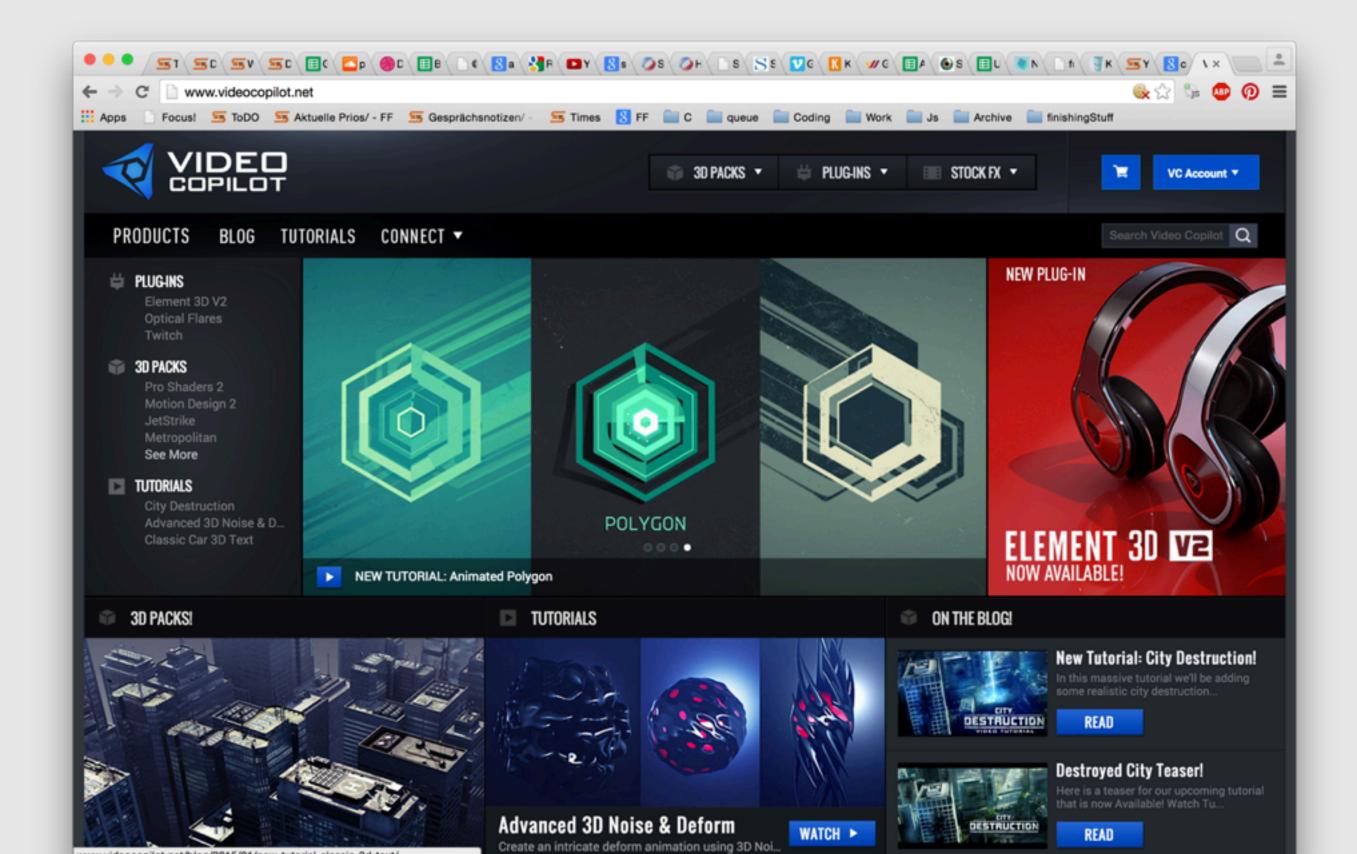
"YOU CAN'T HAVE ENOUGH REFERENCES."

GMUNK

STEALING VS. INSPIRATION

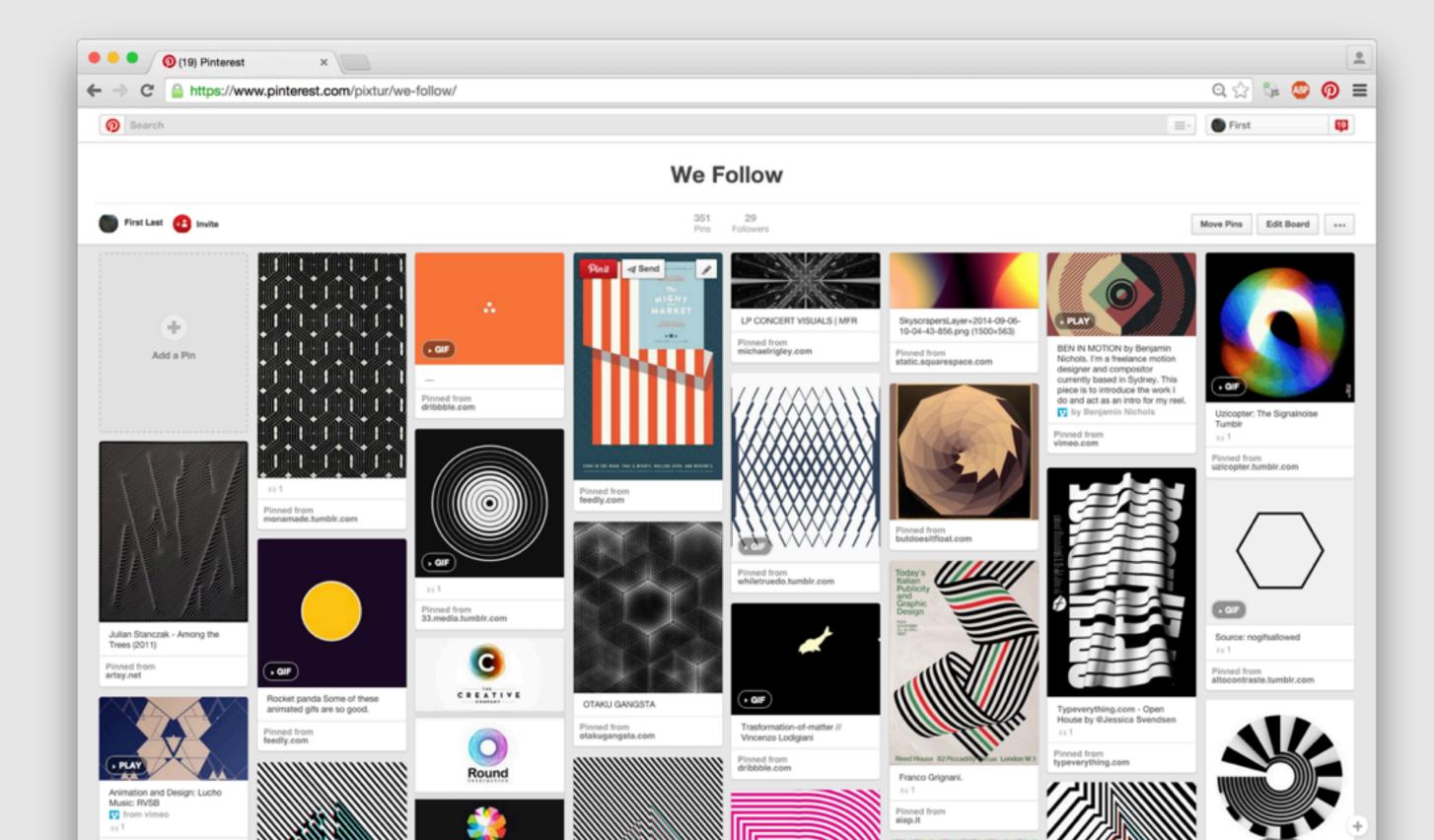


TUTORIALS...



ANALYZE AND RECONSTRUCT...

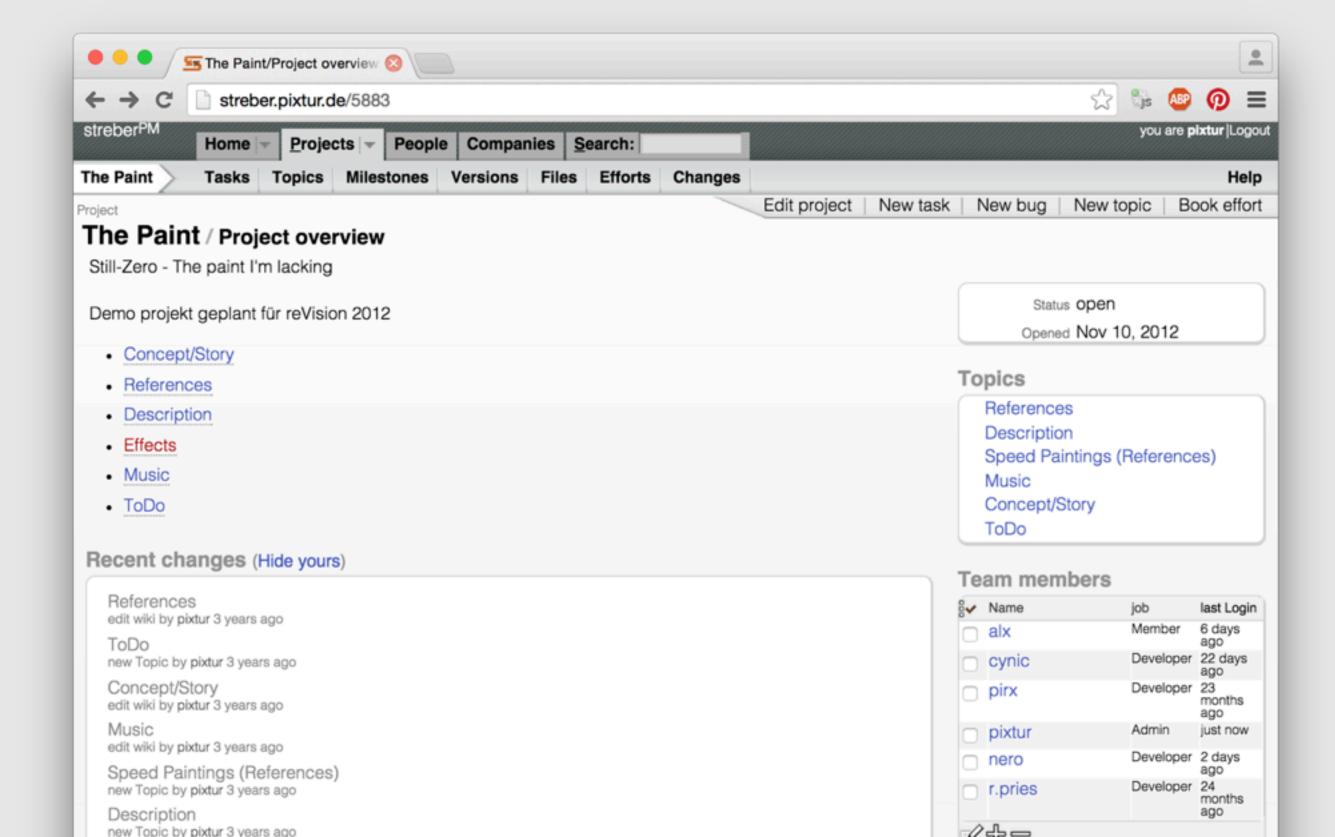
WHEN RESEARCH MEETS PROCRASTINATION... PINTEREST!



FROM IDEA TO PROJECT



KEEP ADDING AND SHARE WITH PEOPLE



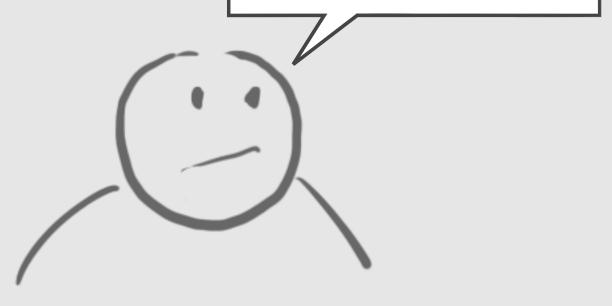
GIVE IT A NAME! IT'S NOT SET IN STONE...

"ENERGIE"
"EARTH"
"SQUARE"

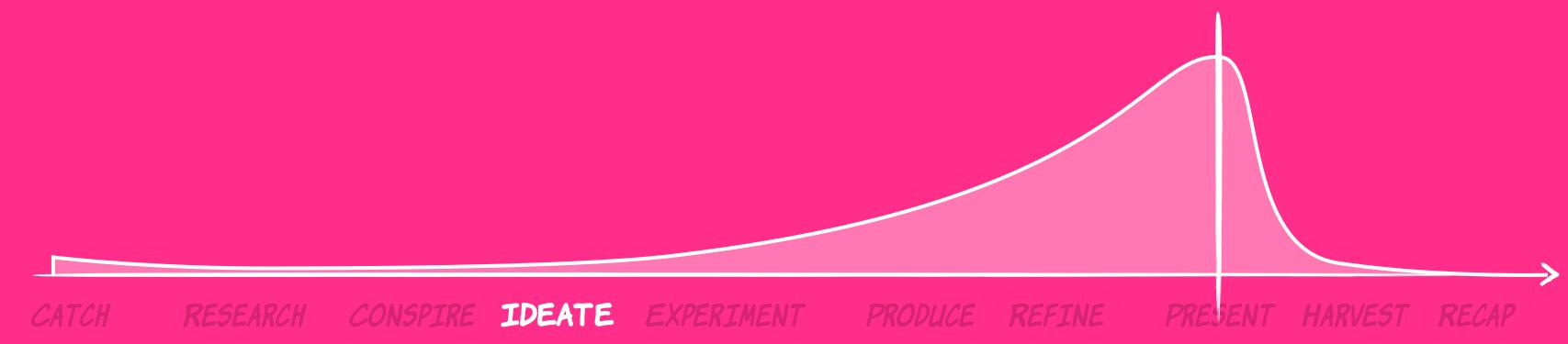
"WE-FOLLOW"
"GRAVITY"
"INTRINSIC
GRAVITY"

LET IT RIPE

WAIT A SEC! THIS MUSIC WOULD MATCH THAT IDEA I HAD SOME YEARS AGO.



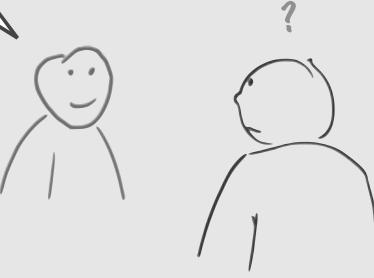
IDIATION



HOW TO DESIGN SOMETHING, WHEN I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR?

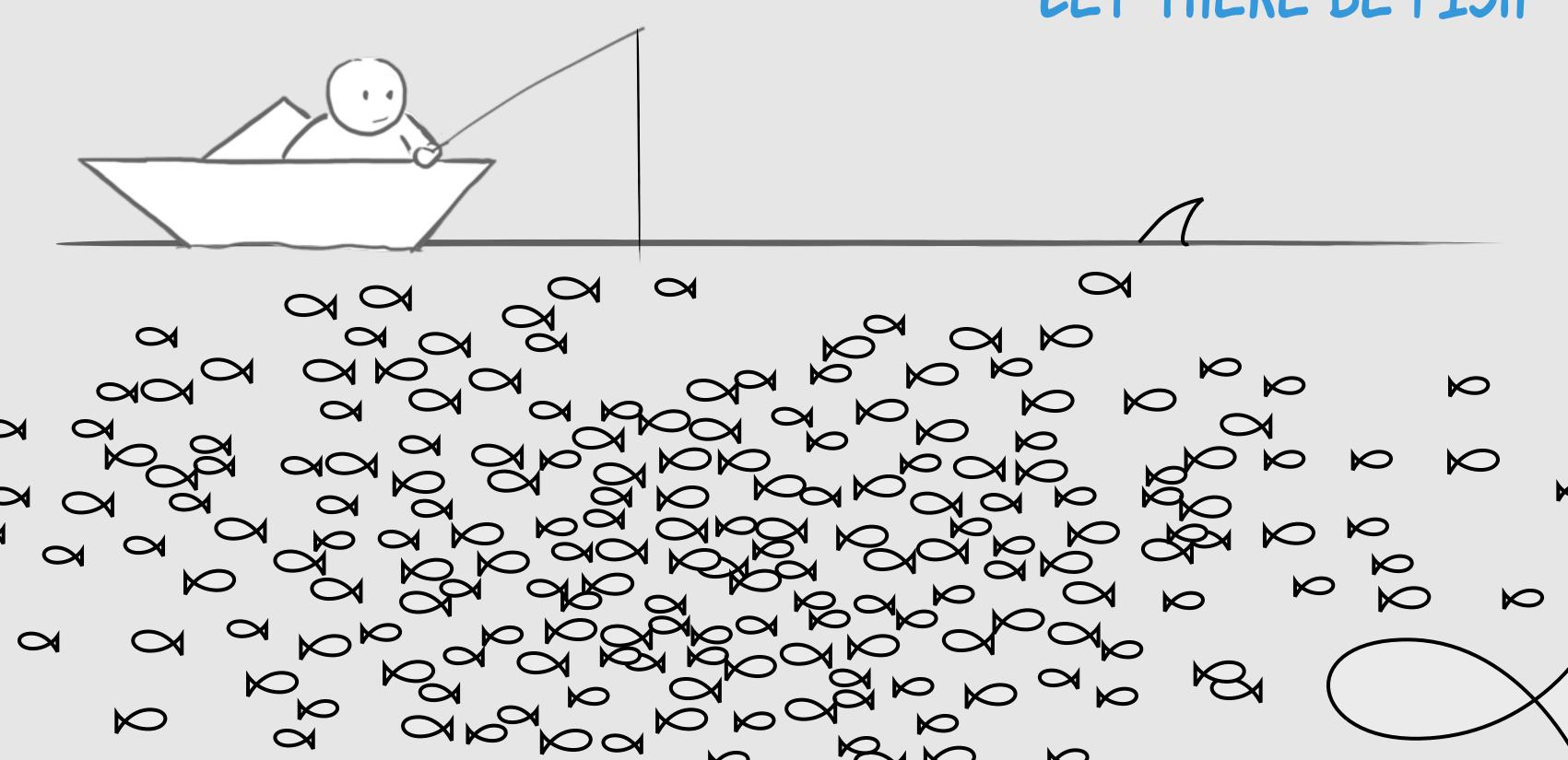


MAKING DEMOS IS LIKE FISHING: SOMETIMES YOU CATCH SOMETHING.



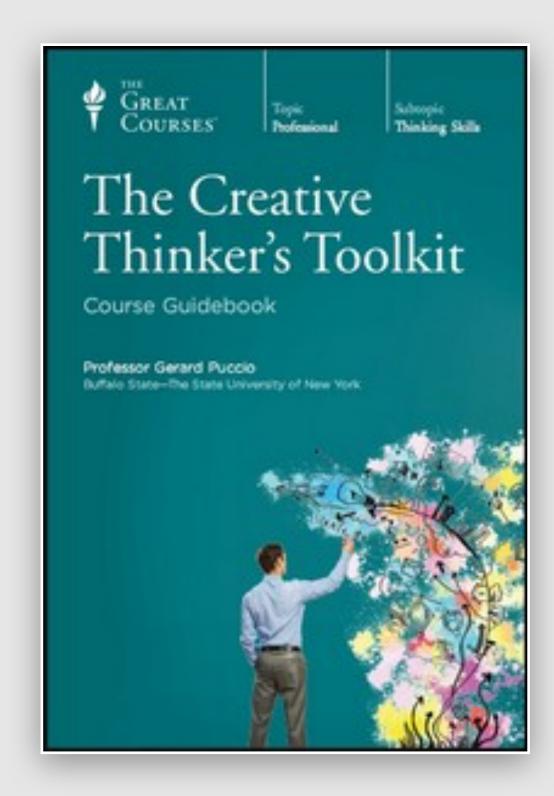


LET THERE BE FISH

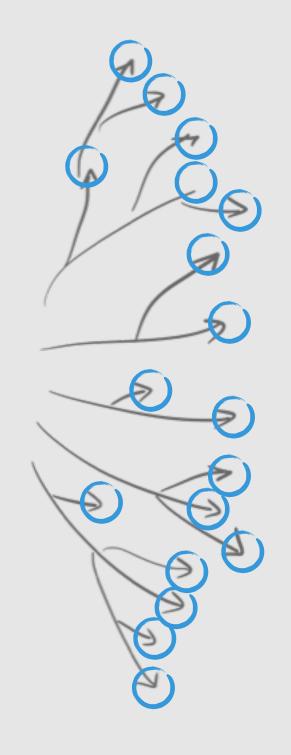


CREATIVITY IS NOT HEREDITARY.





BRAINSTORM - BUT DO IT RIGHT!

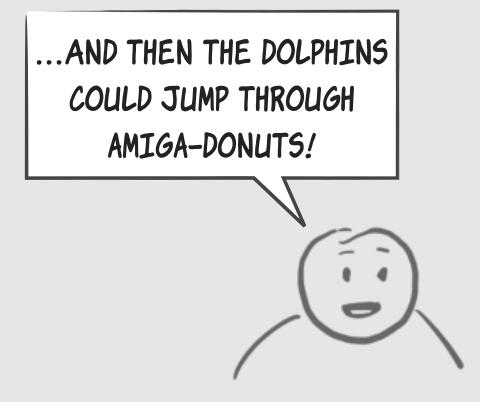


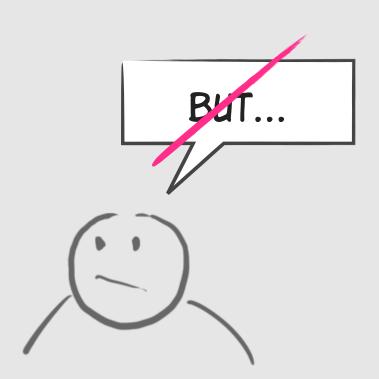
ALWAYS SEPARATE



DIVERGENT THINKING CONVERGENT THINKING

DEFER JUDGEMENT!



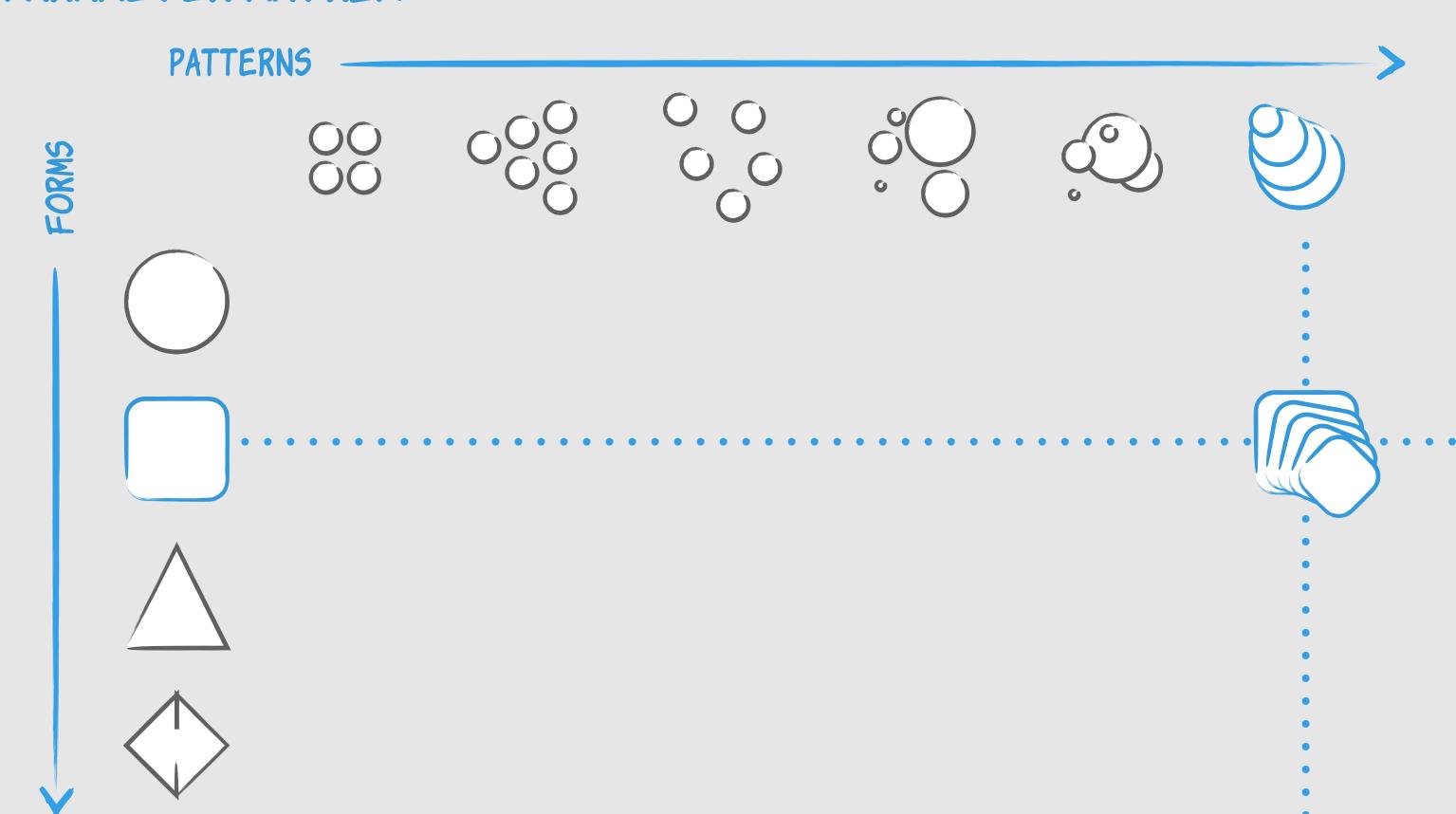


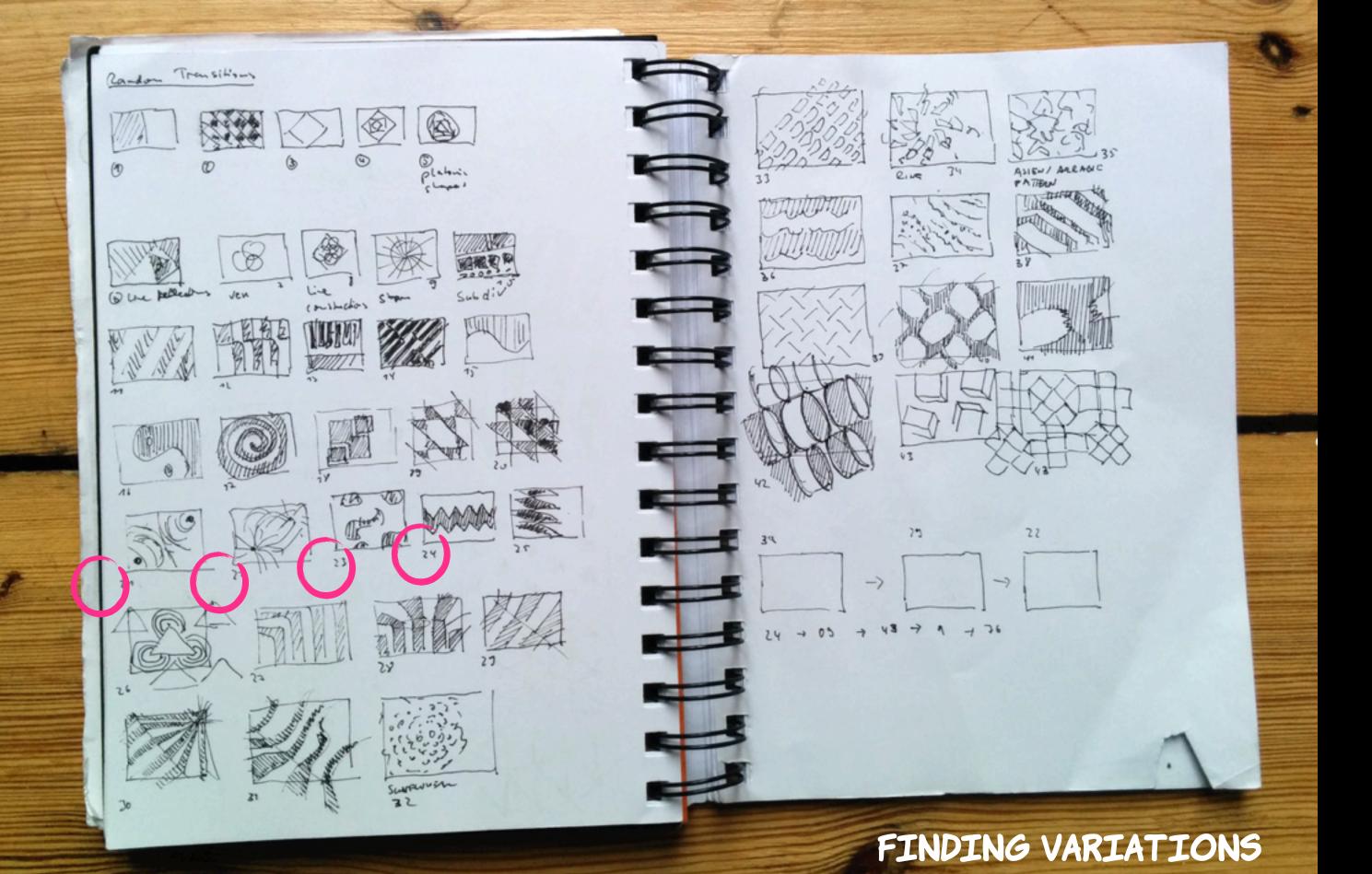
Zu Plach In schul Facts FILL WHITEBOARDS D Datton 46x36 -> Fun Bliother branche Vir als will the 92x 31 Pixel WE-CASES 1) Doops Breit Hodord Seit pelken 1) Finder nach Makeral ZW Seite minimal diseasions O Blitto in Buch - with "kay instruction where" - maximale touching der lubalte Clashe I des Centurs - Primarahhoun inner Buch seite V sichter / so lange wie ungl. Klickstellshrinking menn Verortele Content (3 " Du in ex text V -> Vedecke -> Highlighter V set set Weitere Frager ... Workseng leiste Features V - Seitenspalle "floating" ister Inch - poppublicky V 200 to 1×1(+ x) leher/Schile Unscheler 23 - Auftlinken von 2- sammen gepteppten " best guess" geswerte Thumbrails shellnevigati -Zoochstafe Speller Margin Bruher Seituspelle Spx? Sign Sph 10/2 - Spoller toggles - Einpresson des Buches Z Spellen erlanden TODO - Shory wrether + 70's 1 Spelle elaste Hole des Budes Vorberetter => Melndoten+ Var Beile des Buches Kaine Seilespulle V Tobbype ... - Klichstellen Floxibiler? Formail 70 - Scrollen US. Foomen Final seite Doffel sete 2000 Swex · lle Ex. 400 Fx Koshly Minimale Breite dard 96 8H V Schollballer estima 10 da as u lea ho'/ weiter blüttern 10% Fill Singly Flowby Matrick space (FM) Tit to ADOUT.

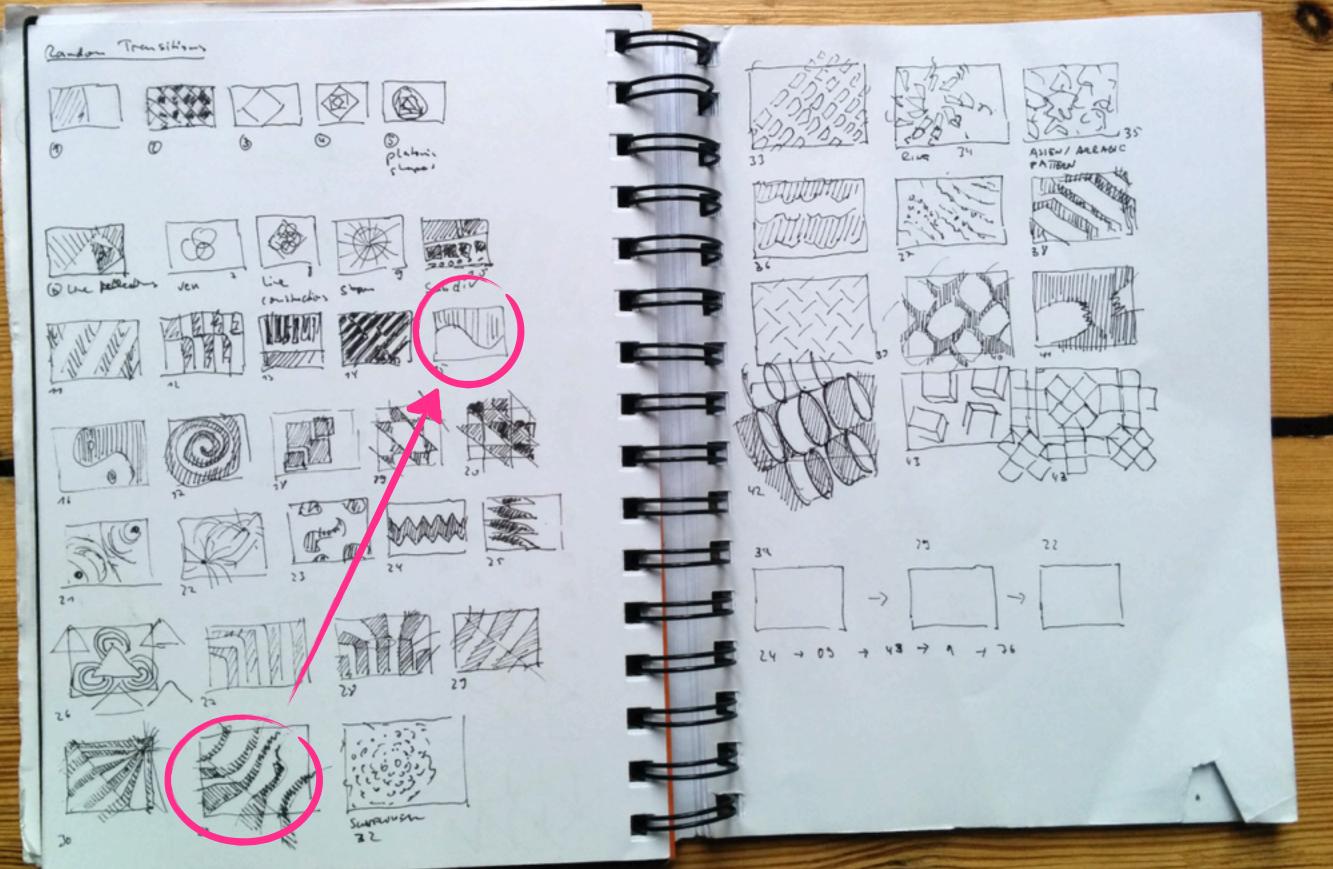
SCRIBBLE! variables miled scale of tex scale Date

DIVERGE HORIZONTALLY

PARAMETER MATRIX



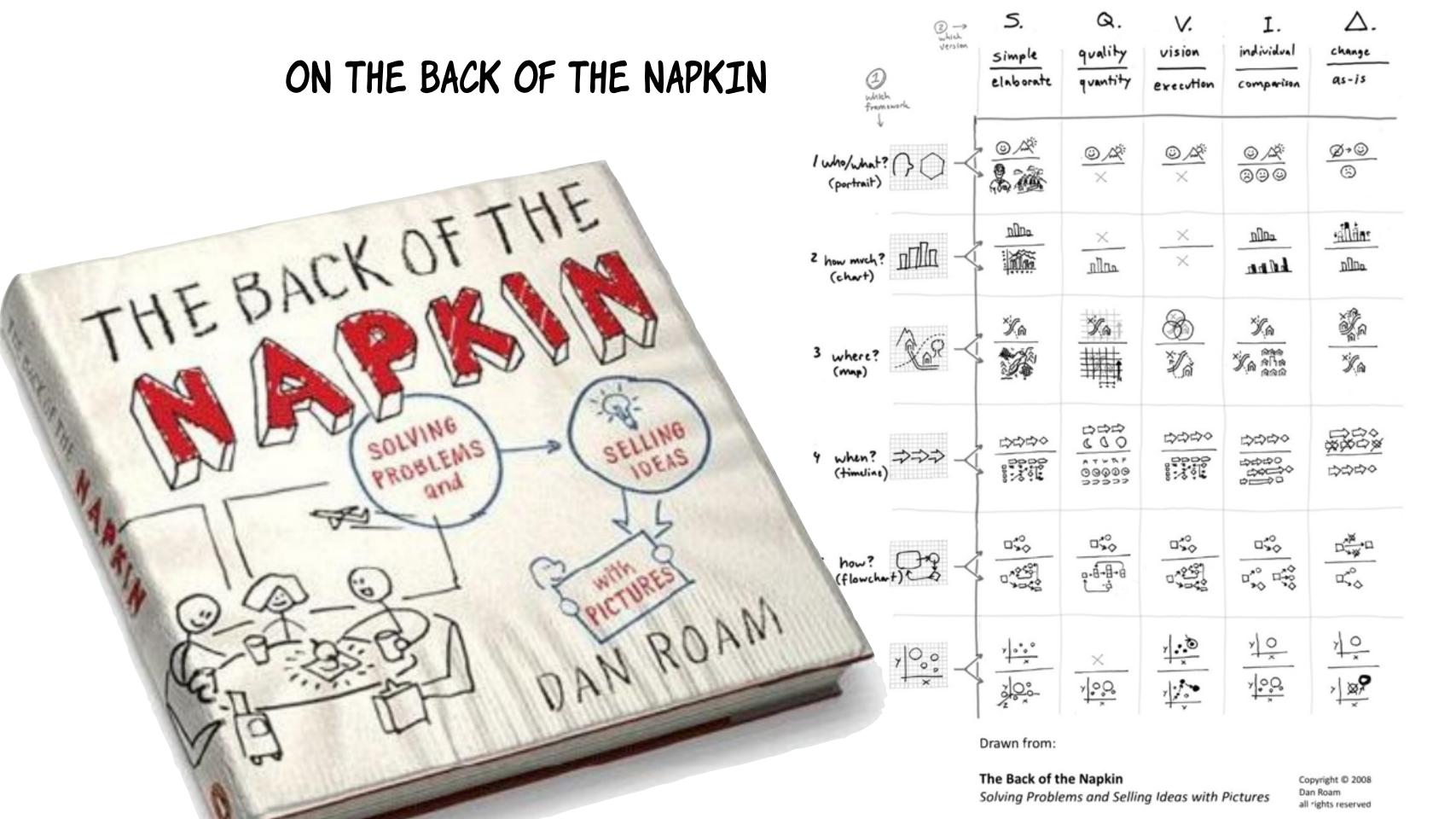




BLEND RANDOM CHOICES



COMBINE RANDOMLY



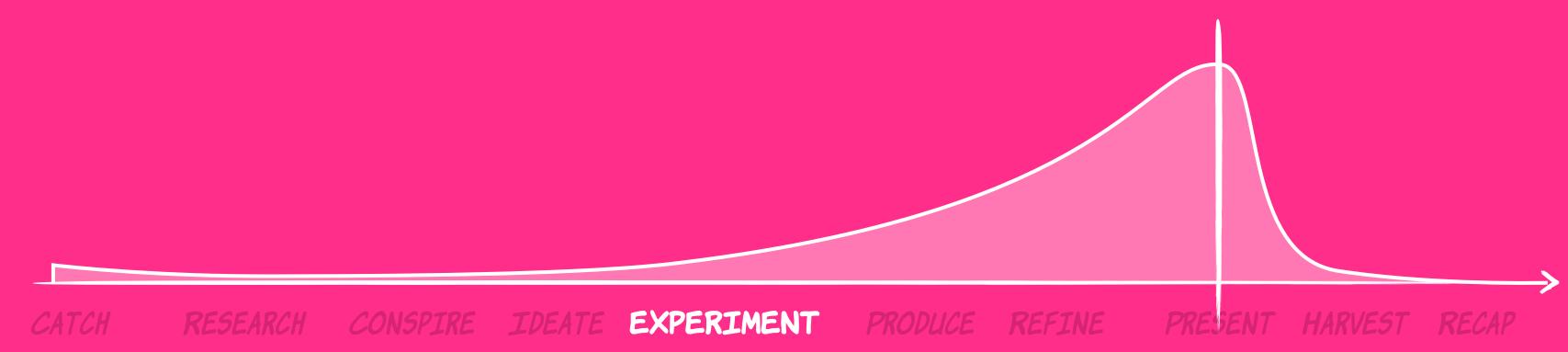
IF IT LOOKS GOOD, IT'S NO LONGER A BUG.



USE RANDOM-SEEDS

(INSERT LIVE DEMO HERE)

GETTING IN THE FLOW



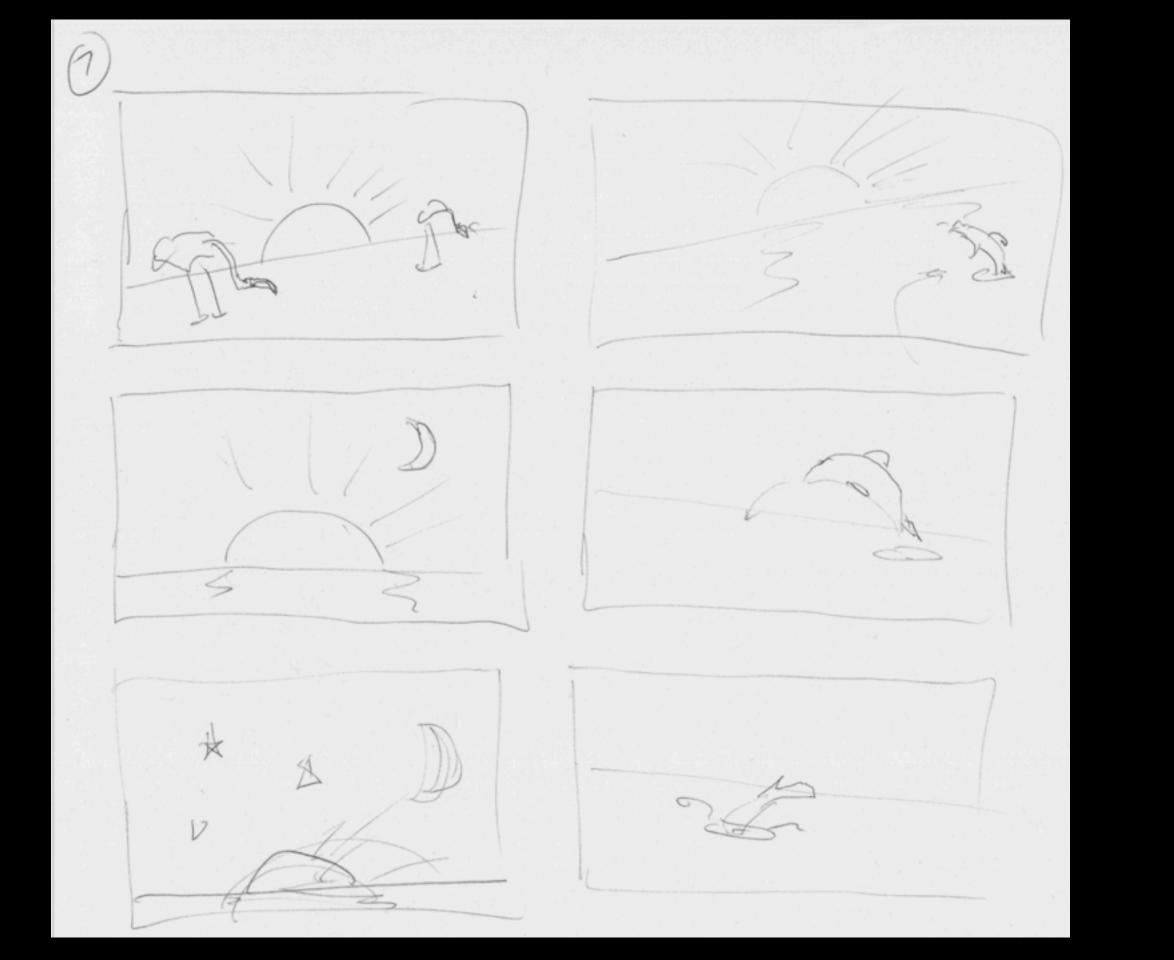
GET RID OF WHITE CANVAS AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE

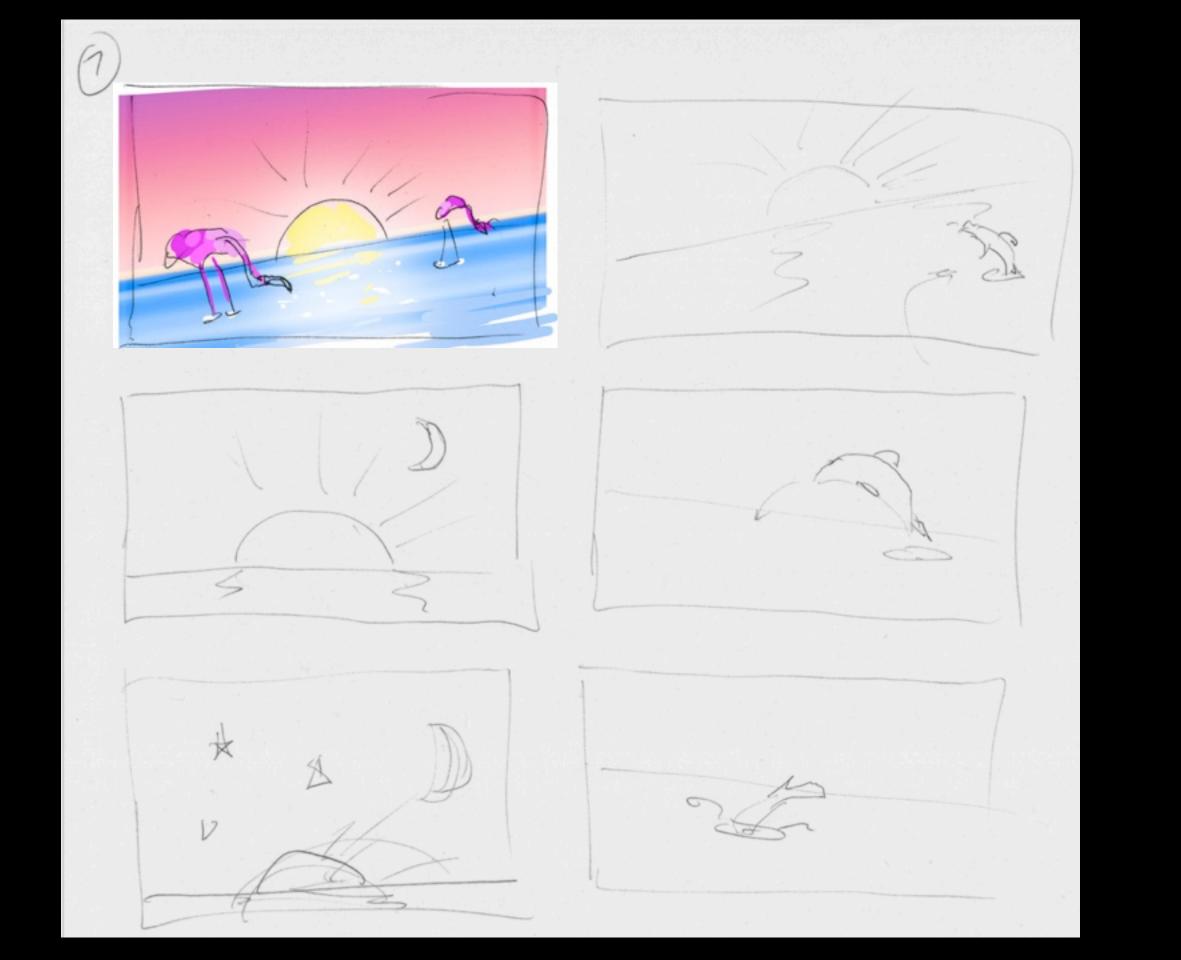


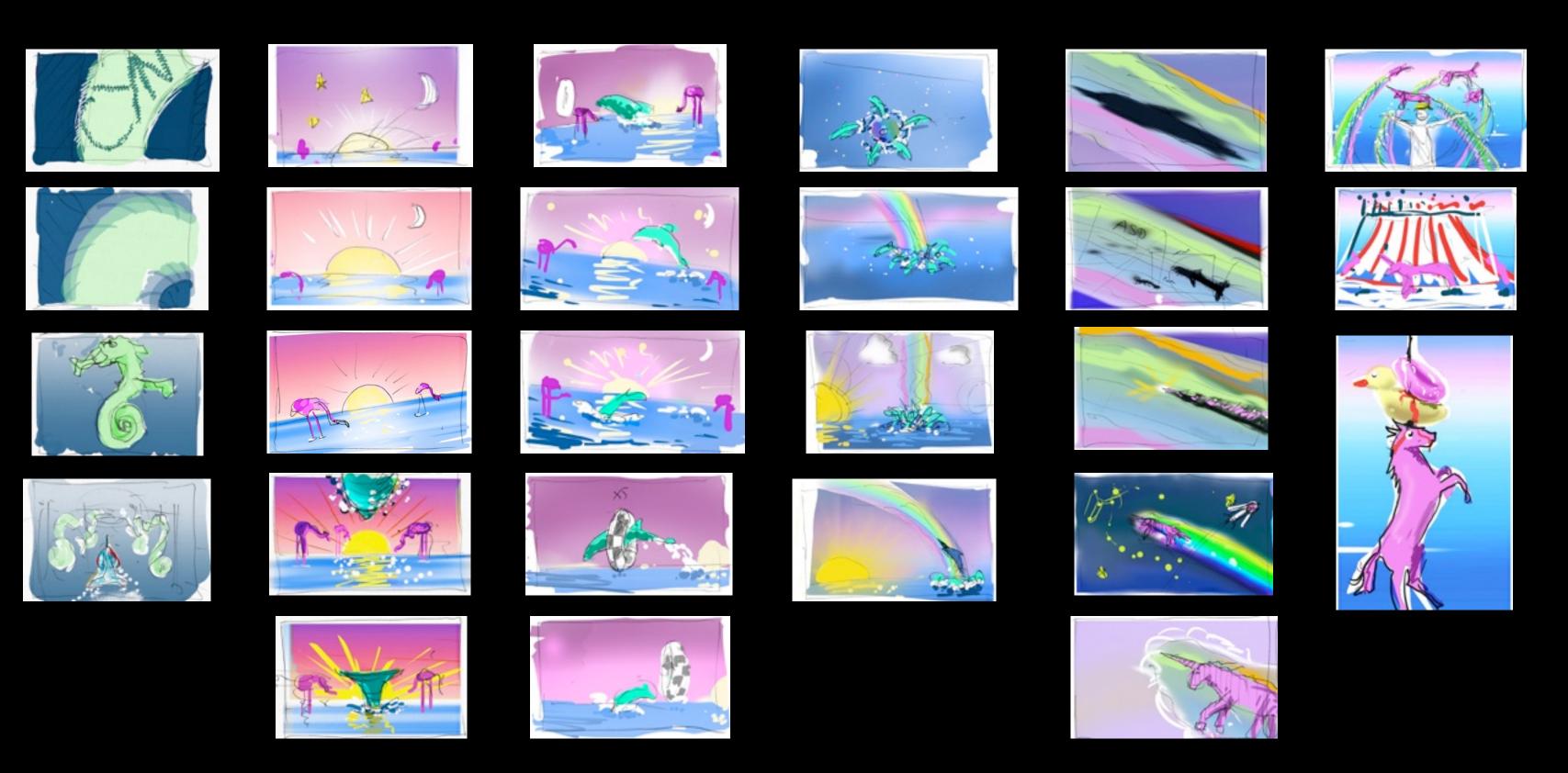
USE WHATEVER IS AVAILABLE

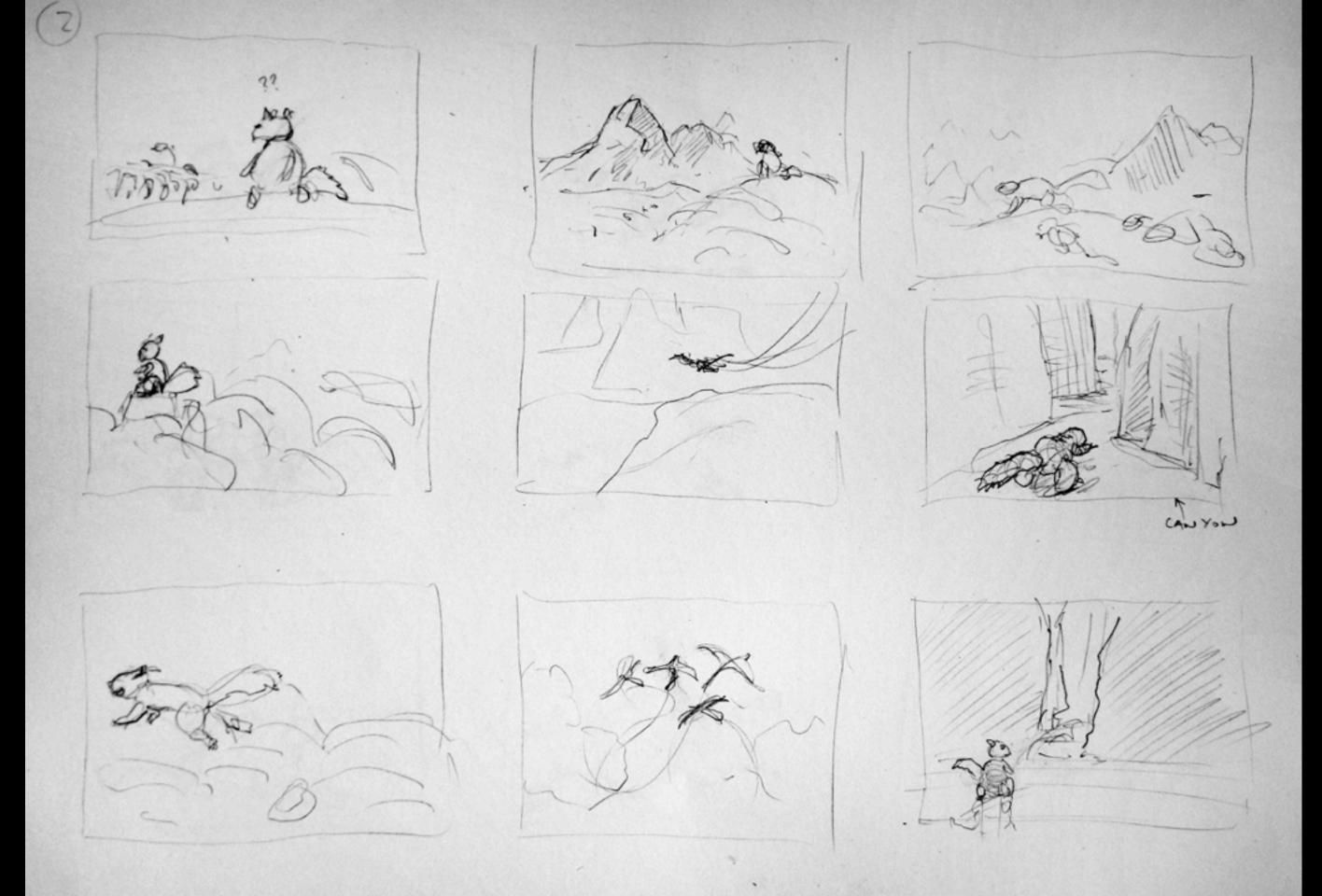
- ✓ COMMERCIAL MUSIC
- ✓ YOUTUBE-VIDEOS (YES, RIPPING THEM)
- ✓ SCREENSHOTS
- ✓ RANDOM TEXTURES









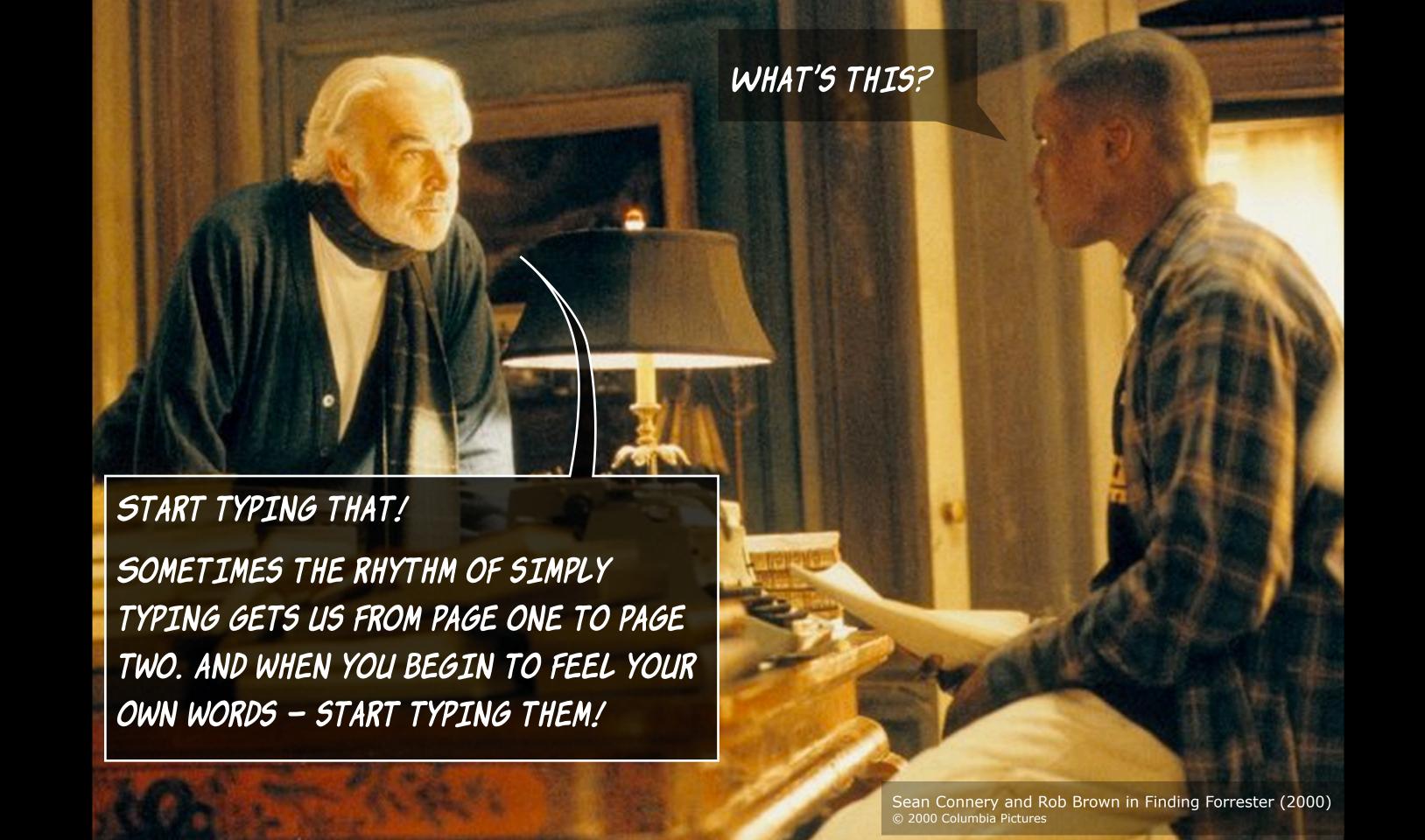


START WITH THE ENDS, THEN PROGRESS INWARDS



LAST RESORT: RECONSTRUCT AND BUILD UP MATERIAL



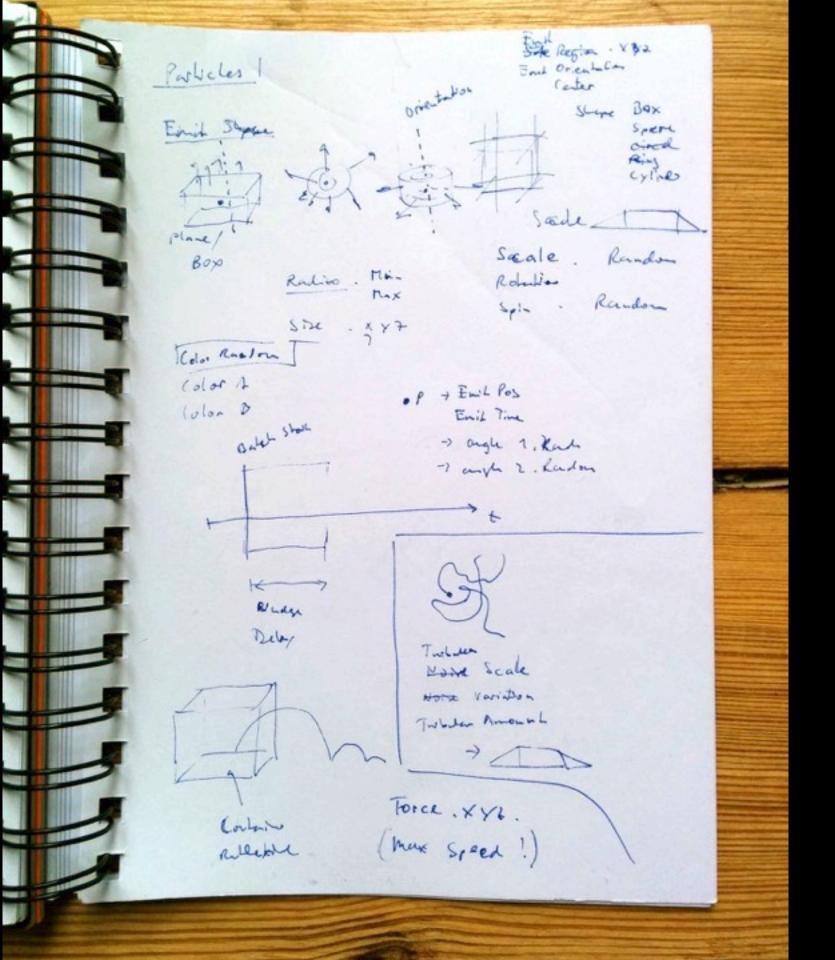


PUNCH THE KEYS FOR GOD'S SAKE!

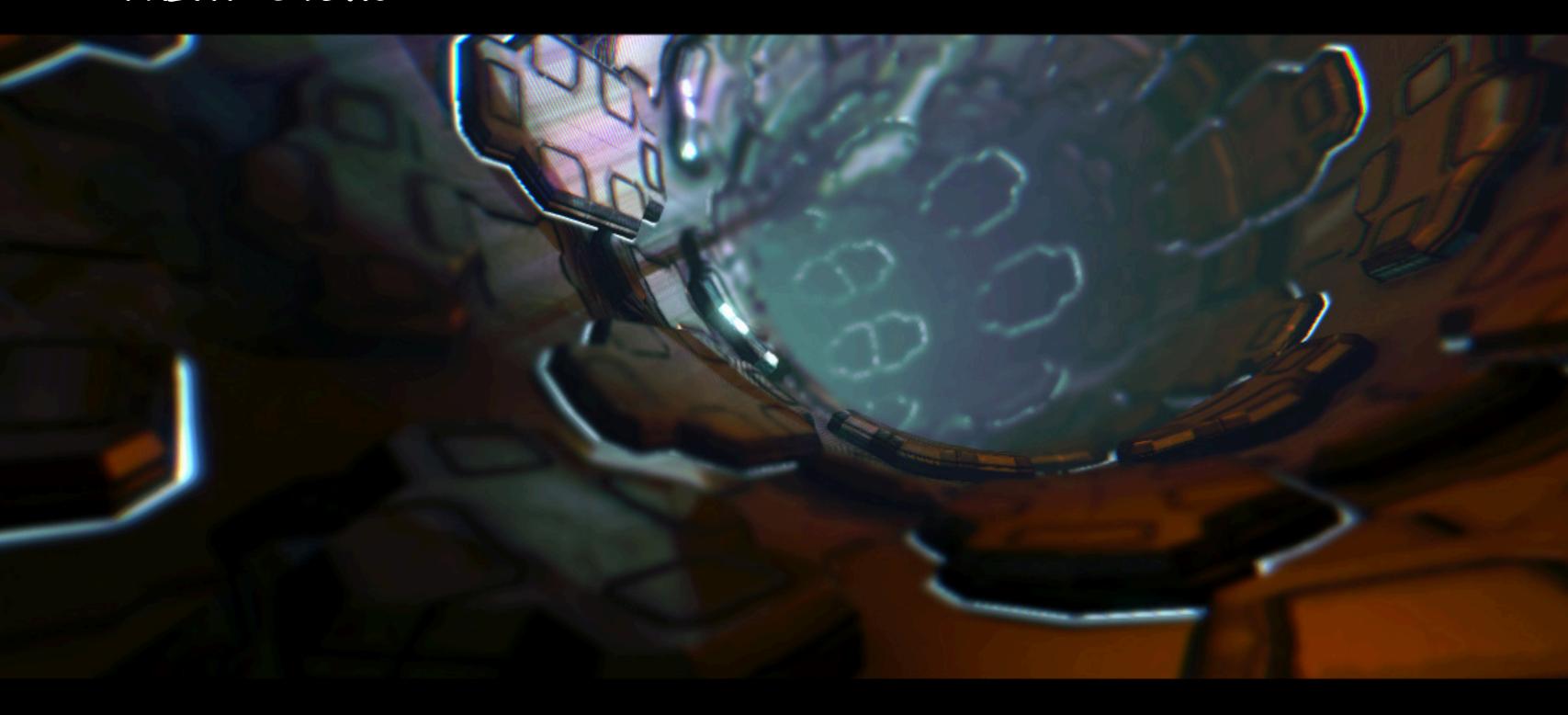


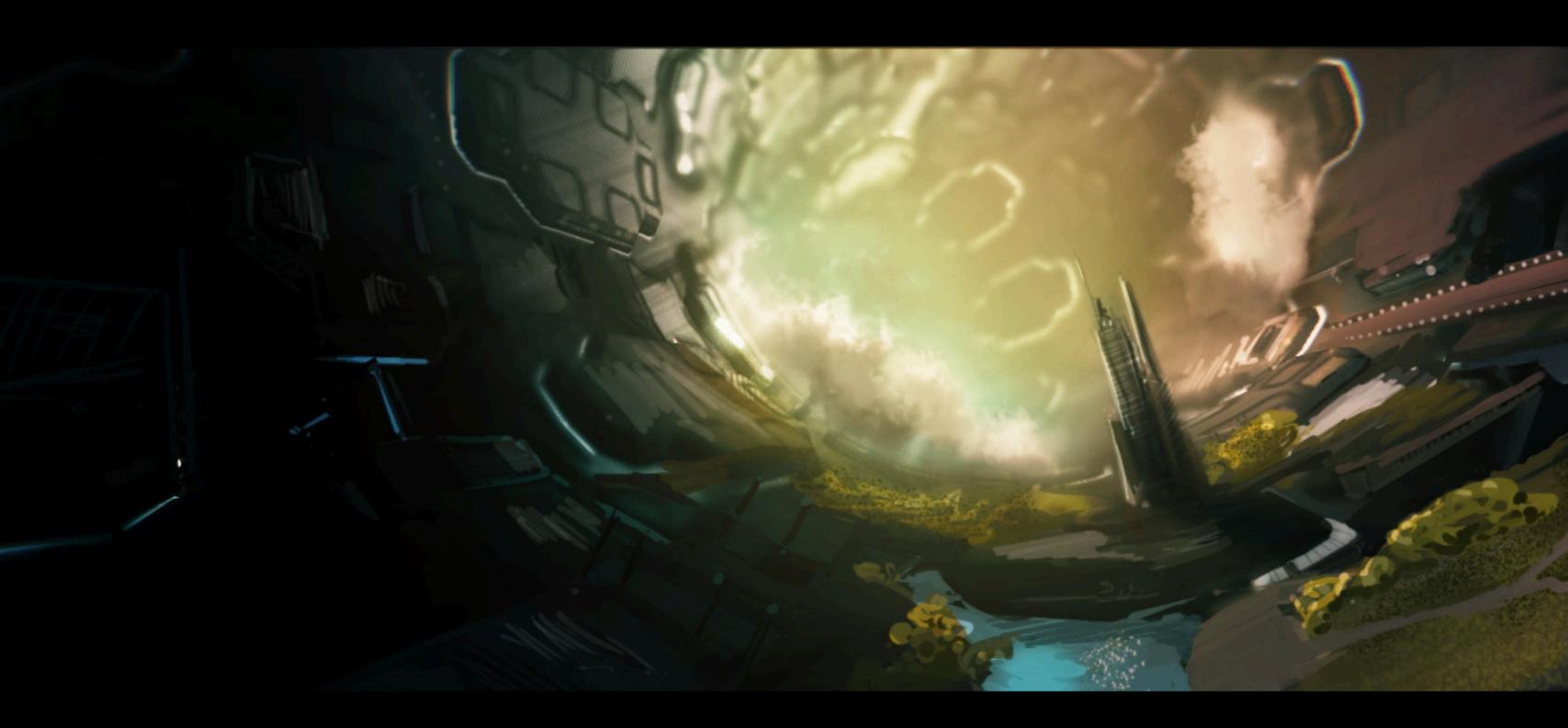
WHEN IN FEAR OF CREATING SOMETHING FOR THE BIN: SWITCH THE MEDIUM





PAINT-OVERS



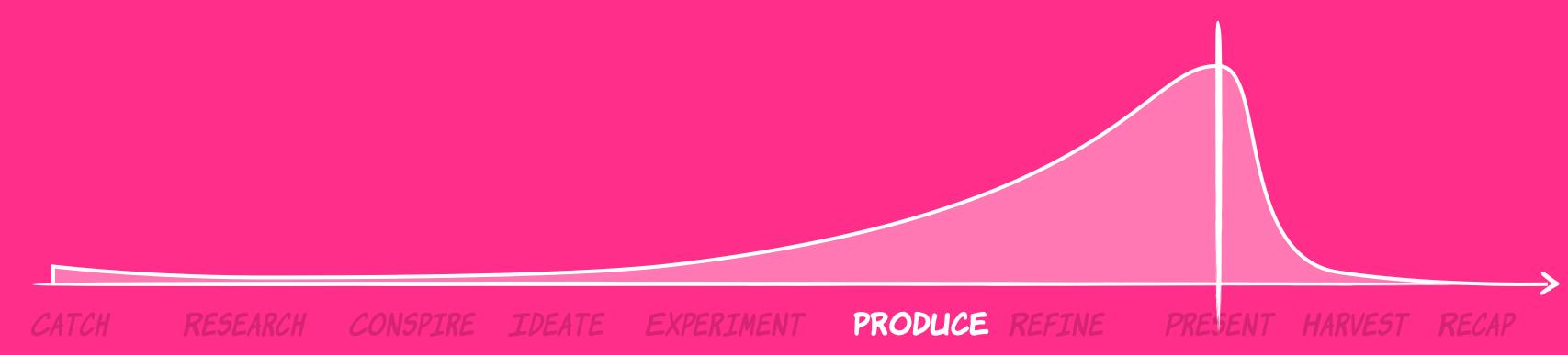




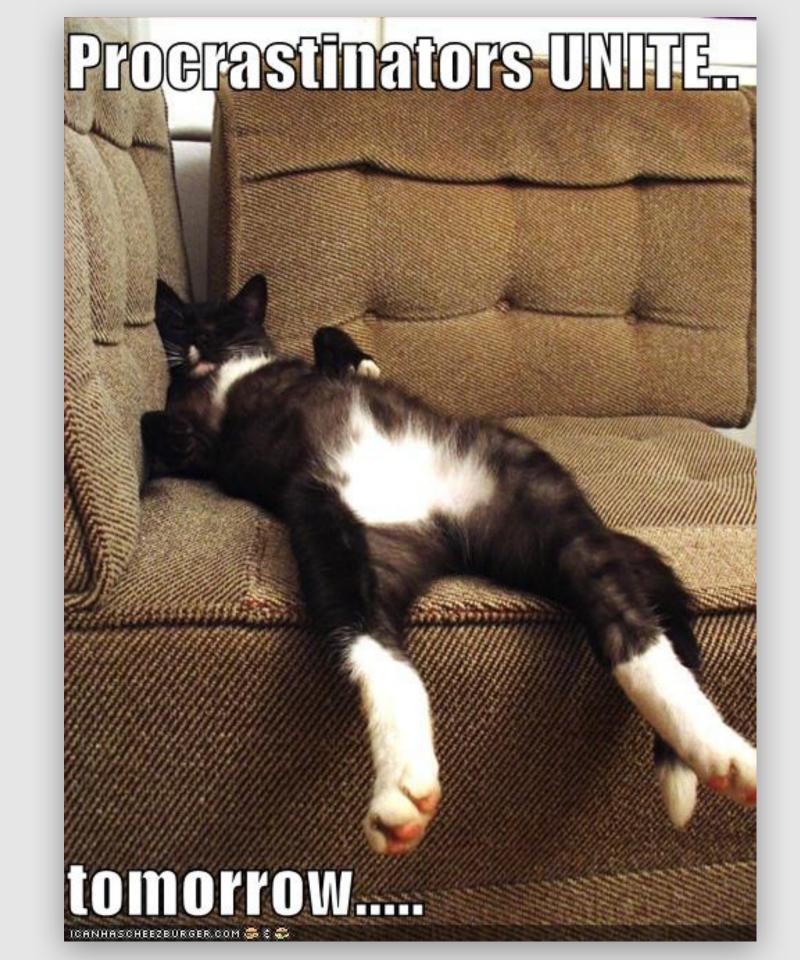
HAVING A CONCEPT ALWAYS HELPS



FOCUS!



I SENT YOU SOMETHING TO HELP YOU FOCUSING FINISH YOUR TALK.



EATING THE FROG FIRST

POMODORO FOR THE WIN START



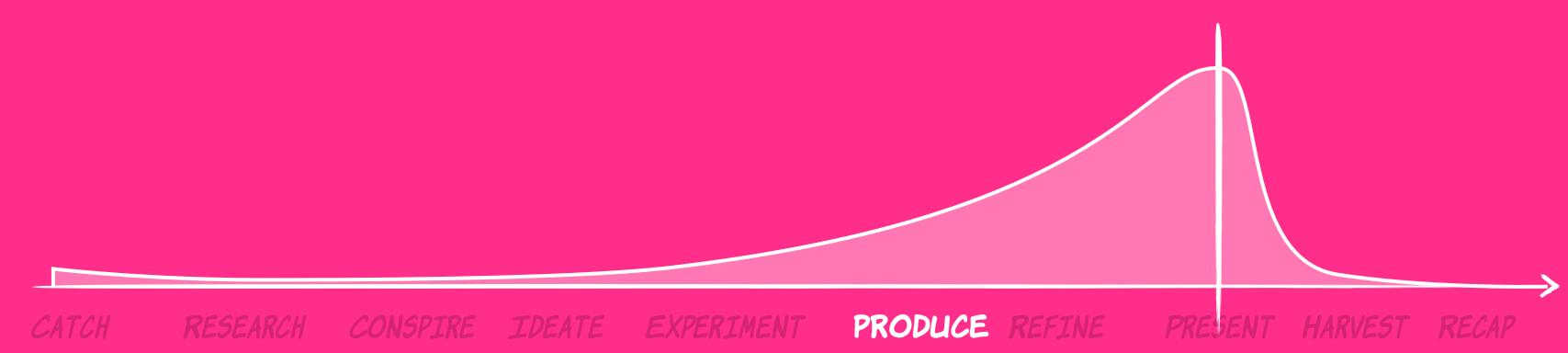
THE USUAL STUFF:

NO EMAIL

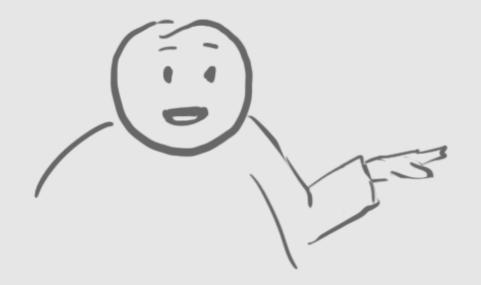
NO SURFING

SKYPE ON DO NOT DISTURB

MAKING PROGRESS



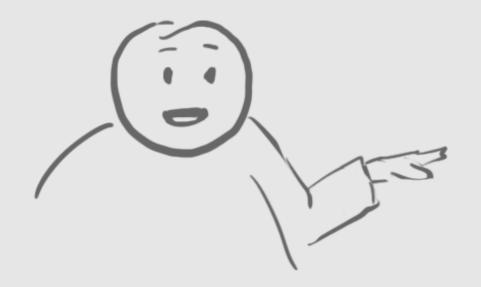
CONSPIRE (E.G. FIND A TEAM)



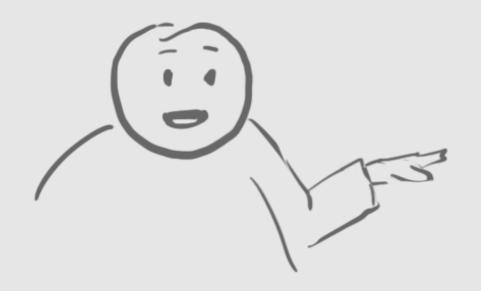
WEEKLY MEETINGS ARE AWESOME!



A WIKI HELPS



THE MARVELS OF MODERN TECHNOLOGY: GIT, DROPBOX



CHAT (IRC-CHANNEL?) WITH ALL GIT-COMMITS AND SCREENSHOTS



EXPORT OFTEN AND FREQUENTLY (IMAGE SEQUENCES, ANIMATIONS, EXECUTABLES)



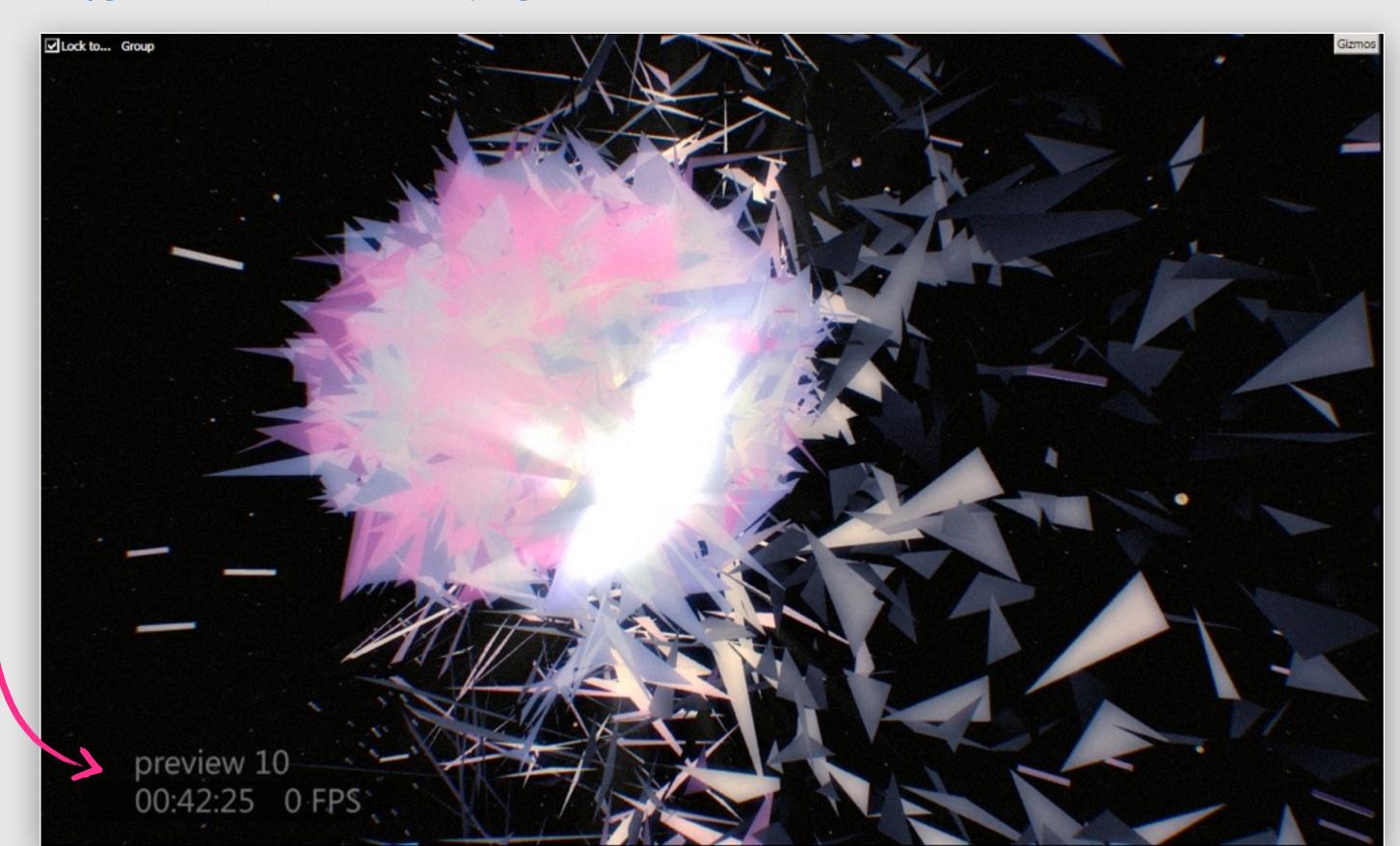
RULES DON'T (NECESSARILY) KILL CREATIVITY

- 1. NAMING-CONVENTIONS
- 2. VERSIONS-NUMBERS ARE YOUR FRIEND
- 3. SETUP DIRECTORY-STRUCTURE AT THE BEGINNING

```
YOU ARE SO GERMAN...
```

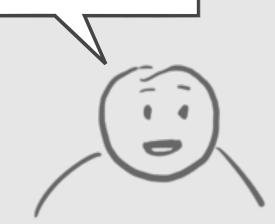
```
we-follow/
  3d/
  psd/
  releases/
    2014-11-23 We-follow-v03.zip
    2014-11-24 We-follow-v04a.zip
  references/
  music/
  screenshots/
Tool12/
   assets-we-follow/
   assets-we-follow/
     images
     sound
     3d
     references
```

ADD TIMESTAMP AND VERSION



CELEBRATE FEEDBACK

THE CONCEPT IS COOL, BUT THE COLORS SUCK.



THANKS! I KNOW... I'M STILL WORKING ON THE COLORS.

LEARN TO BE KIND

AWESOME CONCEPT, BUT
THE COLORS ARE NOT
REALLY MY CUP OF TEA...

THE CONCEPT 15 COOL,
BUT THE COLORS SUCK.





DID I MENTION SCRIBBLES?



TALKING TO MUSICIANS

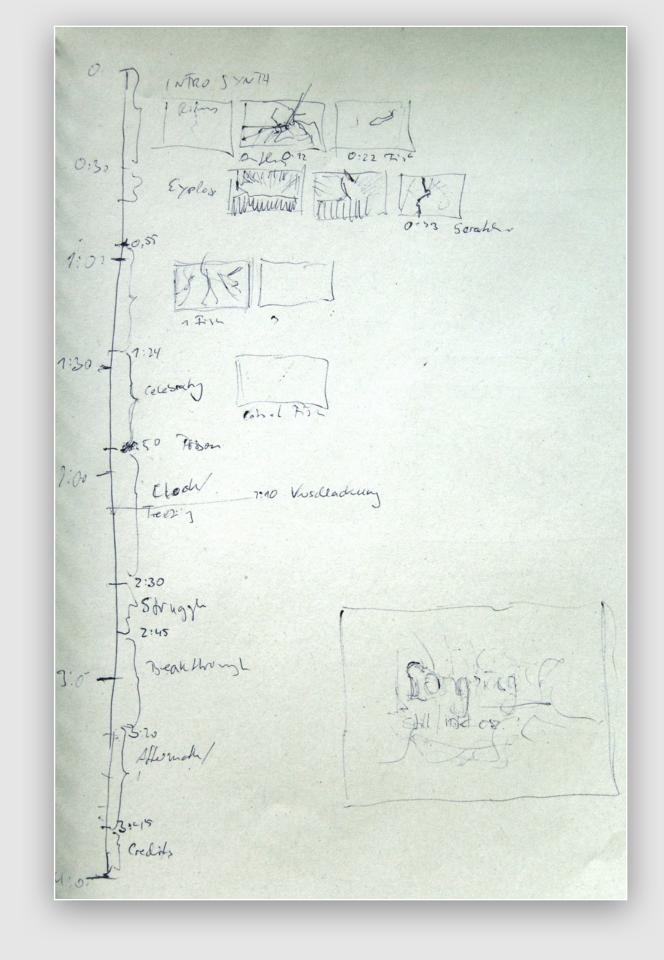
SET STRICT DURATION

DESCRIBE WHAT'S GOING ON

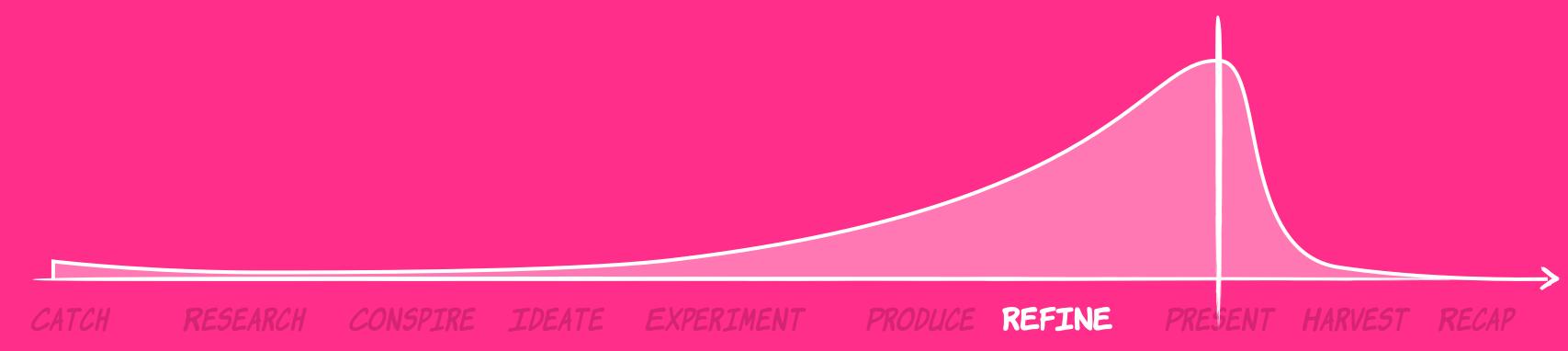
COMPARE, DESCRIBE, EXPLAIN

LEARN TO DISCUSS MUSIC

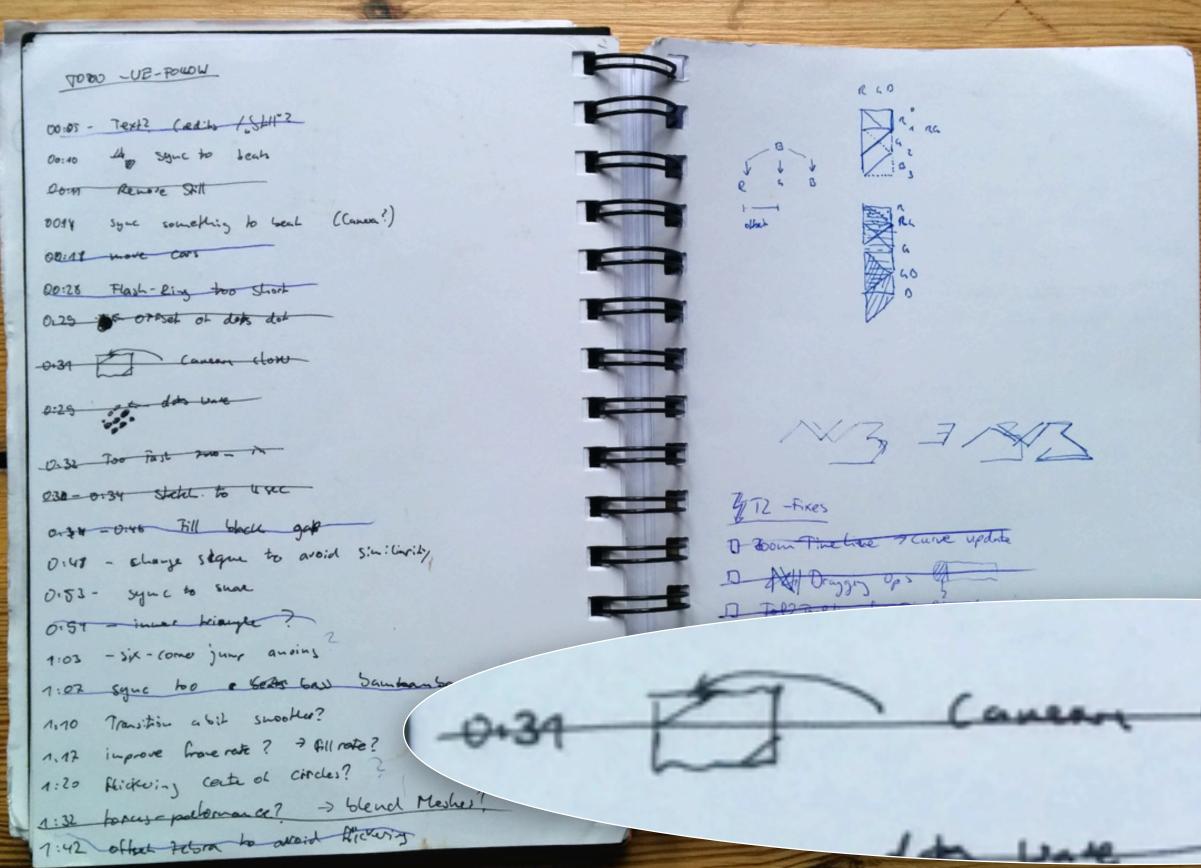
RESPECT THEIR DOMAIN



TWEAKING



TODO-LISTS ON PAPER ARE AWESOME



FLIP HORIZONTALLY

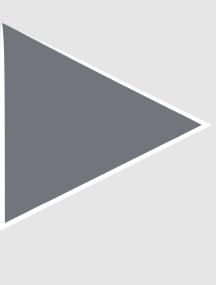


FLIP HORIZONTALLY



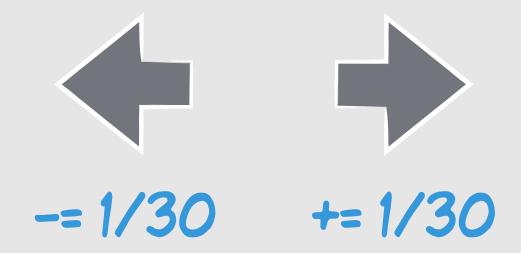


SLOW PLAYBACK

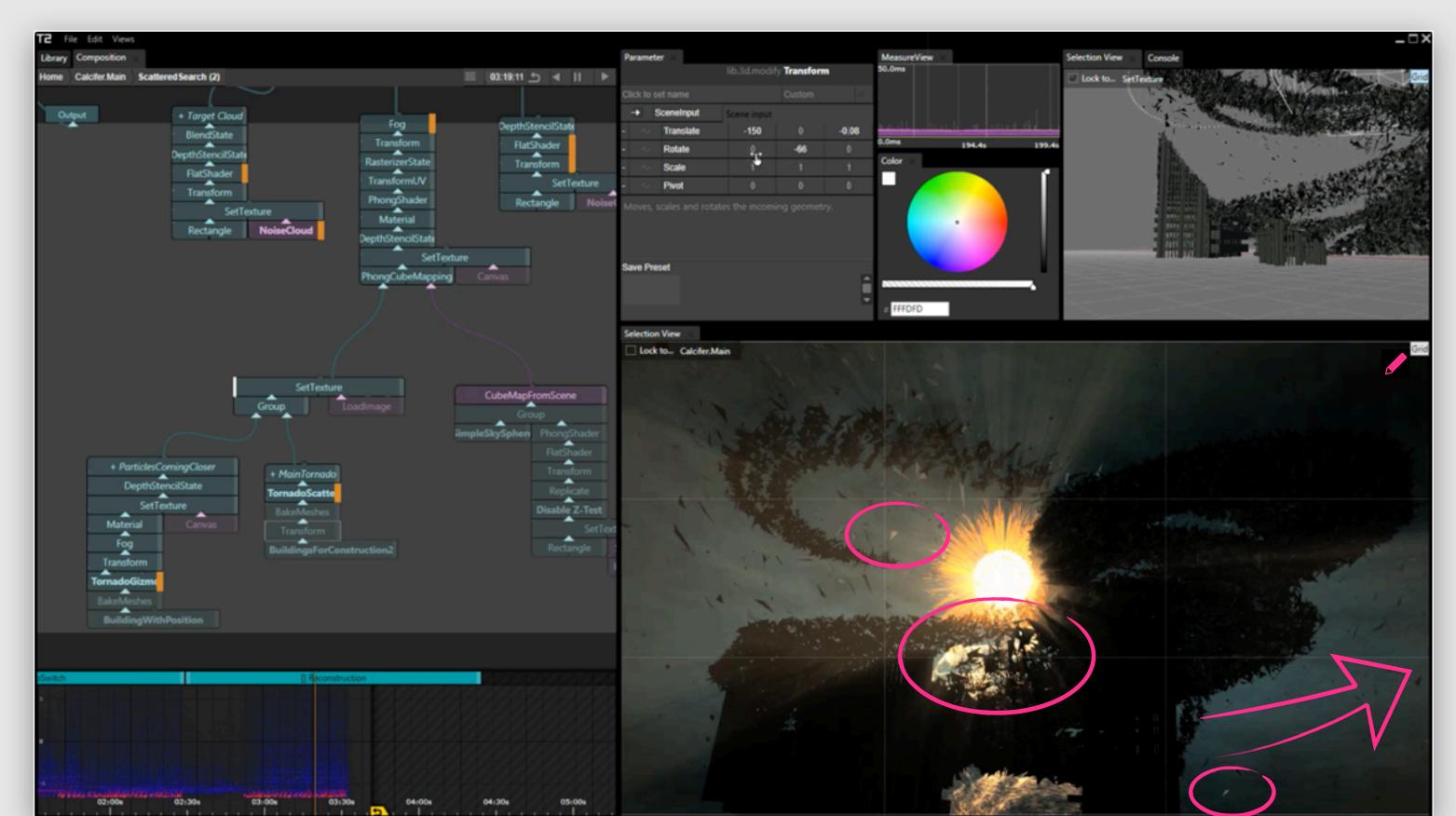


X 0.25

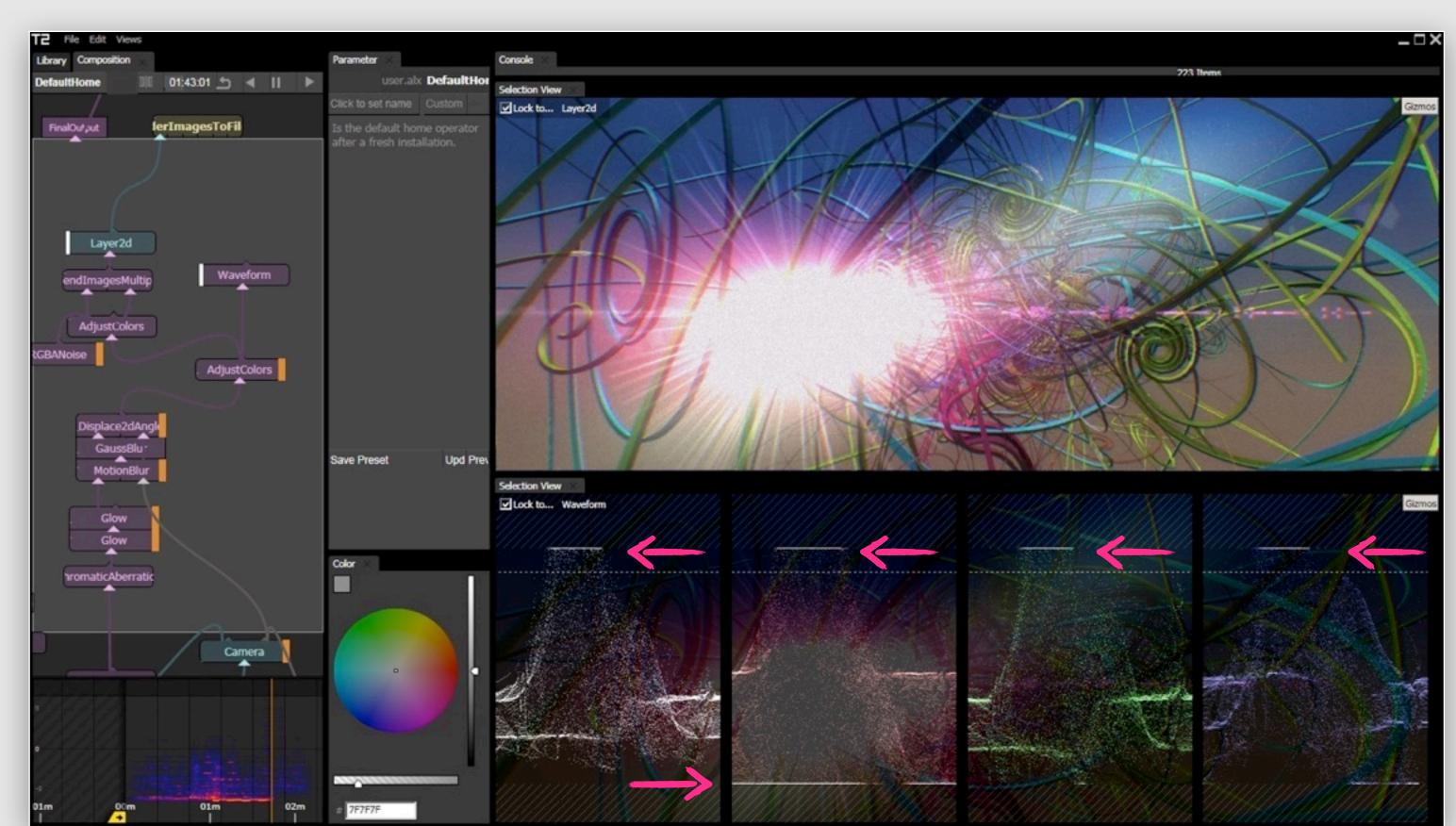
SLOW PLAYBACK



ON OUR TODO-LIST: PAINT IN ANNOTATIONS



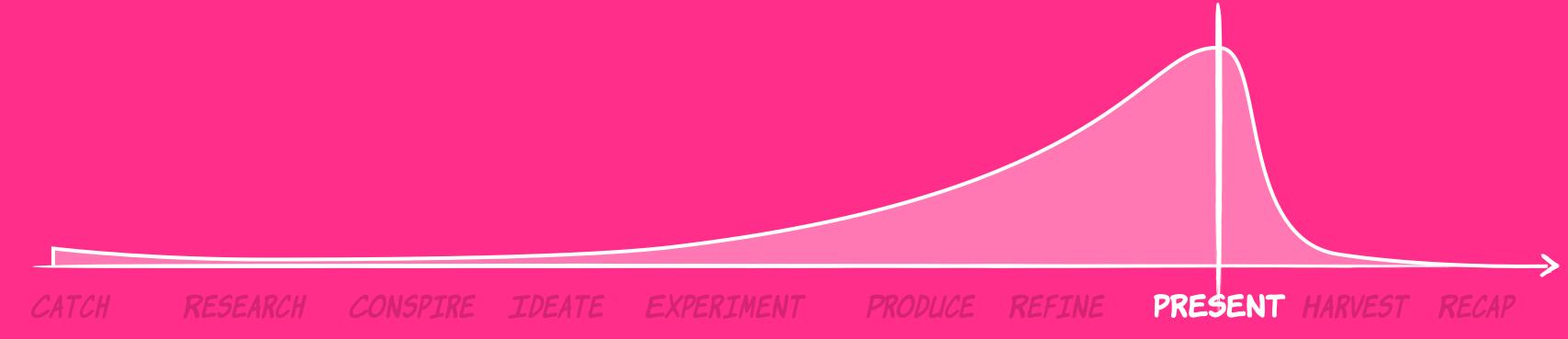
WATCH OUT FOR COLOR-CLAMPING



CHECK IN FULLSCREEN

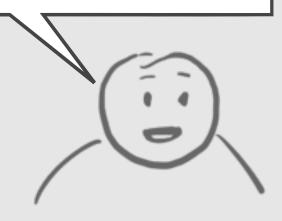


PRESENTATION & HARVEST



DISCUSS HOW TO SPLIT EVENTUAL PRICES

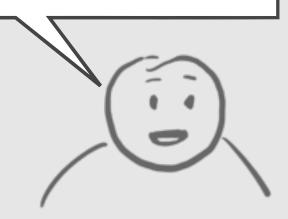
WHY DO WE HAVE TO CREDIT HIM, IF HE NEVER FINISHED THE EFFECT ANYWAY?





DISCUSS HOW TO SPLIT EVENTUAL PRICES

SINCE WE WON BECAUSE OF THE EFFECT, I SHOULD GET MORE OF THE PRICEMONEY.





DISCUSS LICENCES

I DON'T THINK THAT ANYBODY SHOULD USE WHY? OUR STUFF FOR COMMERCIAL PROJECTS.

MOST FREE















LEAST FREE

PREPARE RELEASE ON ALL CHANNELS







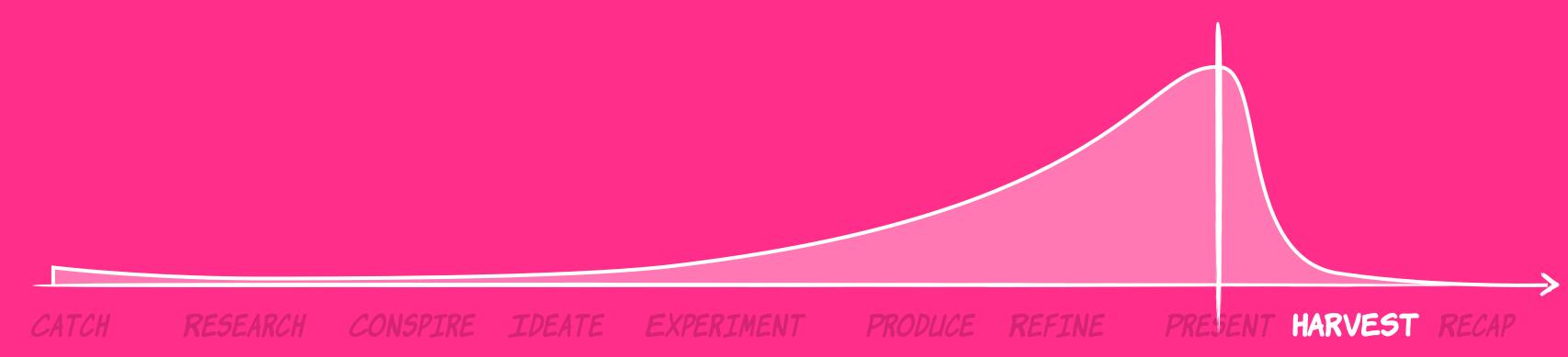






TOOLL.IO

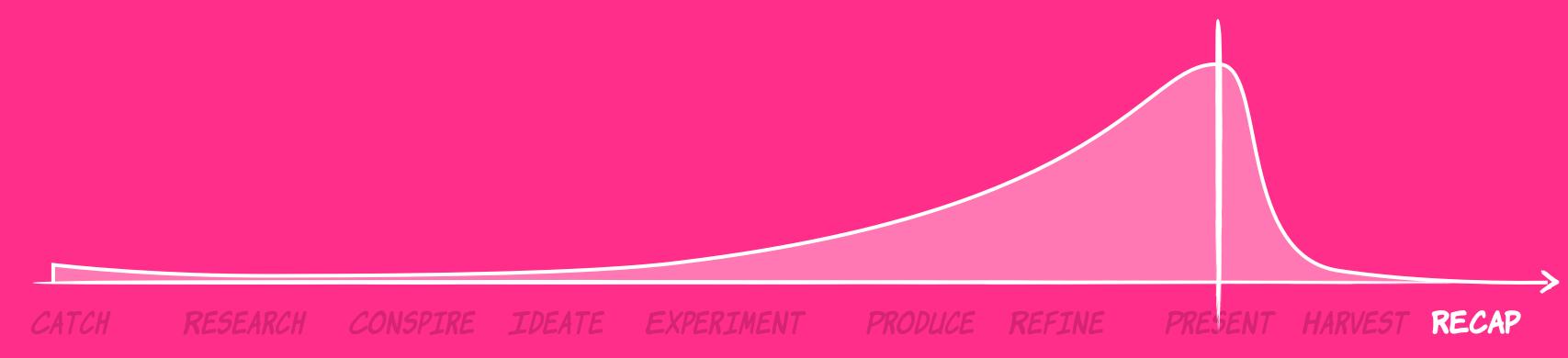
HARVEST & SHARE





EXPLAIN, SHARE SOURCE-CODES, GIVE TALKS

RECAP



LISTEN TO CRITIQUE (SELECTIVELY)

Great direction in here; beyond the perfect sync, the flow is flawless, I can't tell when one object is replaced by another. My only suggestion would be to increase the number of polygons in some places, as they're noticeable and that takes away a bit of the magic.

Anyway, my favourite scene is the vertical gradient interlude. <3



added on the 2014-12-29 16:04:13 by Zavie



The tune is great, but I just don't think the visuals suit the music very well, but the synch is good, the visuals are still smooth, it's just a bit underwhelming. Weak thumb.



added on the 2014-12-29 16:10:45 by keito 🖈



Indeed there were loads of small glitches that prevented all of the effects being shown exactly as intended. Sadly also that means that one of my favorite screens in the demo was completely wrong.

Overall I concur with kusma and keito. Lots of inventiveness as far as transitions go, but the visuals just boring geometric shapes. There's a good palette of ideas here that could be applied loads of different visuals, but I'm just grown too numb of the whole gif animation scene. The thing I guess that is missing is some meaningful attachments or symbolism to the shapes because I'm not really interested in them just performing the visual equivalent of acrobatics.

added on the 2014-12-29 16:36:46 by noby

Is there a reason why there's a "Z" in the middle of the youtube cap? :D





Great sync and overall performance. Onlyhe transition to colors and the blur feel a bit out of place.



added on the 2014-12-29 16:54:15 by raer



added on the 2014-12-29 17:22:27 by mogui

pretty cool, i see what you did there. but it was missing something it needed to become properly engaging - maybe lost the sense of a journey, needed to find a meaning, needed some big moments of surprise in the transitions, im not sure what.

also with something this "simple" it needs to be technically executed really really perfectly. because anything that's not perfect - (e.g. limitations of antialiasing / under-tesselation in places / motion blur would have helped) - stands out a mile when it's in flat white on black. black on white, whatever.

added on the 2014-12-29 17:30:28 by smash (a)



The last scene was broken similarly on NVidia Titan Black like @noby had. I had no idea as I didn't watch the youtube cap until now.

added on the 2014-12-29 17:40:12 by visy 300



WHY I MAKE DEMOS ...

TEAMWORK

RELEASE



EXPLORATIVE

PARTY!

MANAGABLE

DEADLINES

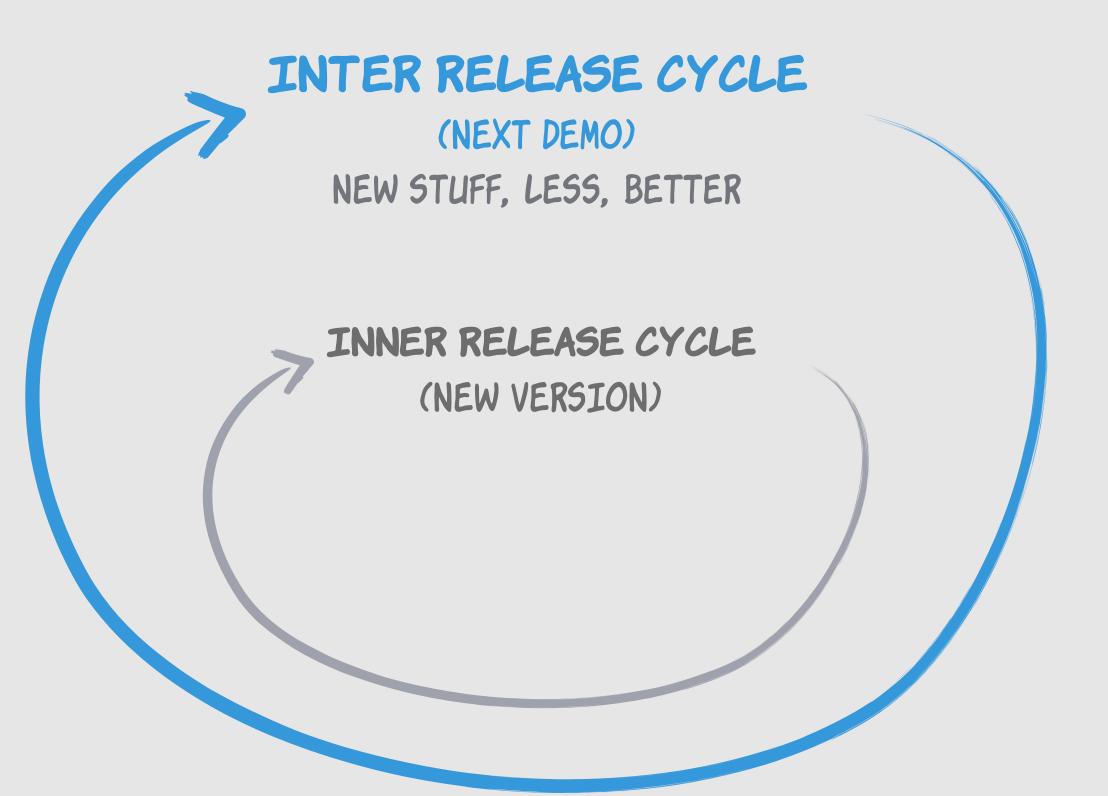
INNER RELEASE CYCLE (NEW VERSION)

MORE,

BETTER,

COOLER,

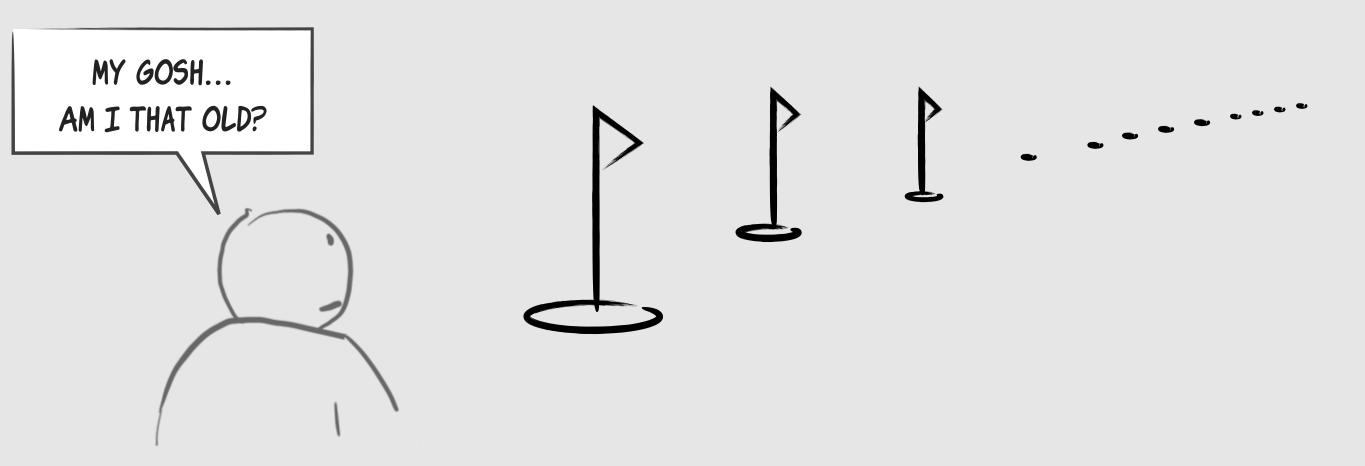
CLEANER



CIFE (NEXT PROJECT) KNOWLEDGE EXPERIENCE

BEEN THERE, DONE THAT

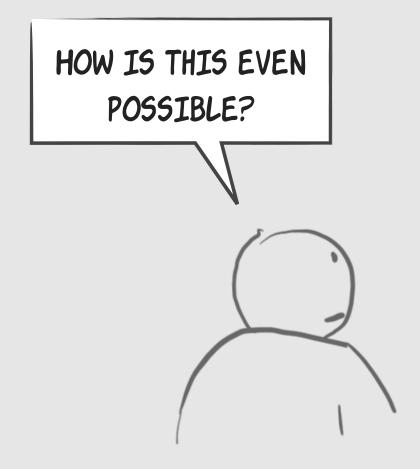
LIFE... IS A JOURNEY





WHY TO START

THE DANGER OF SETTING THE BAR TOO HIGH

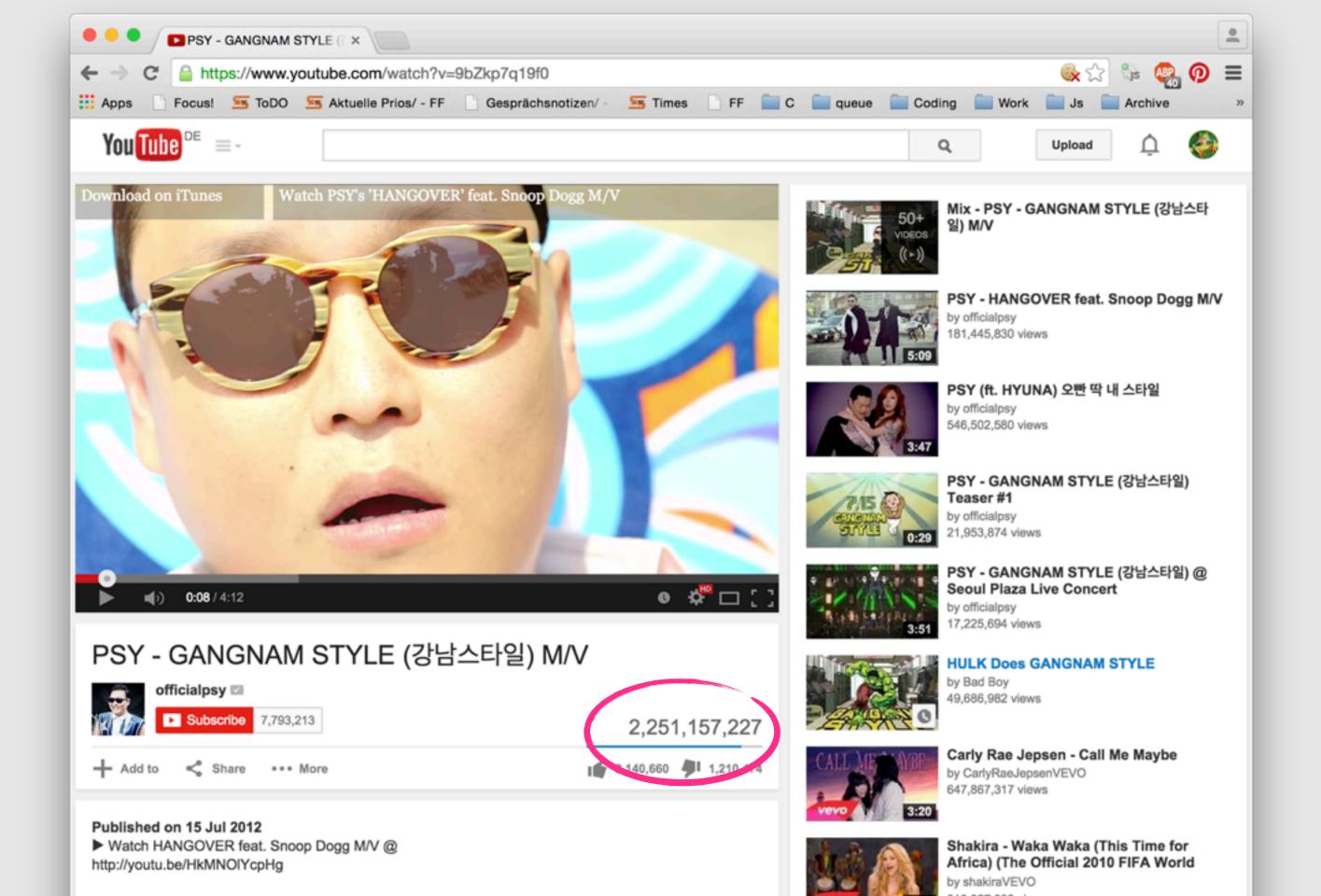


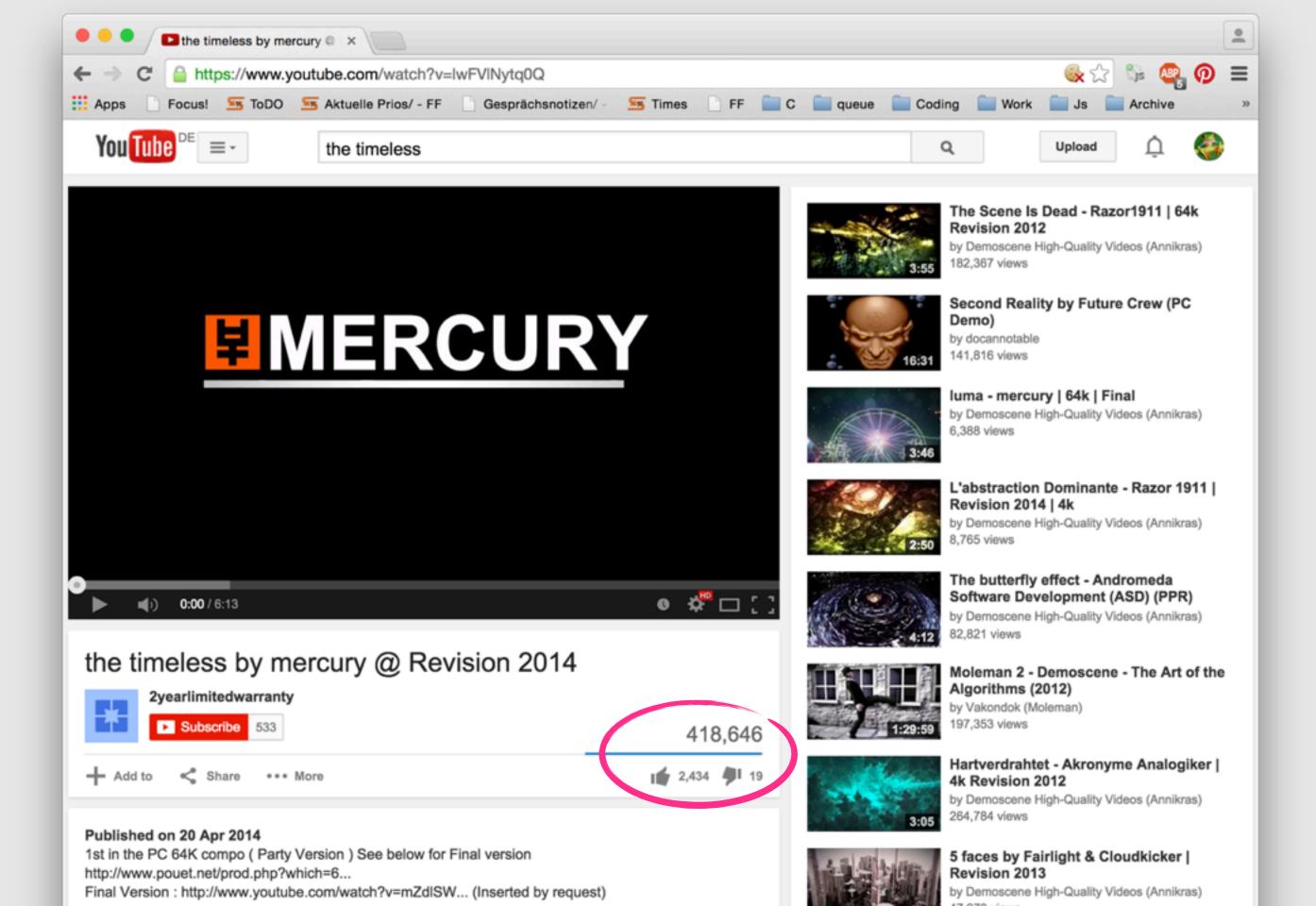


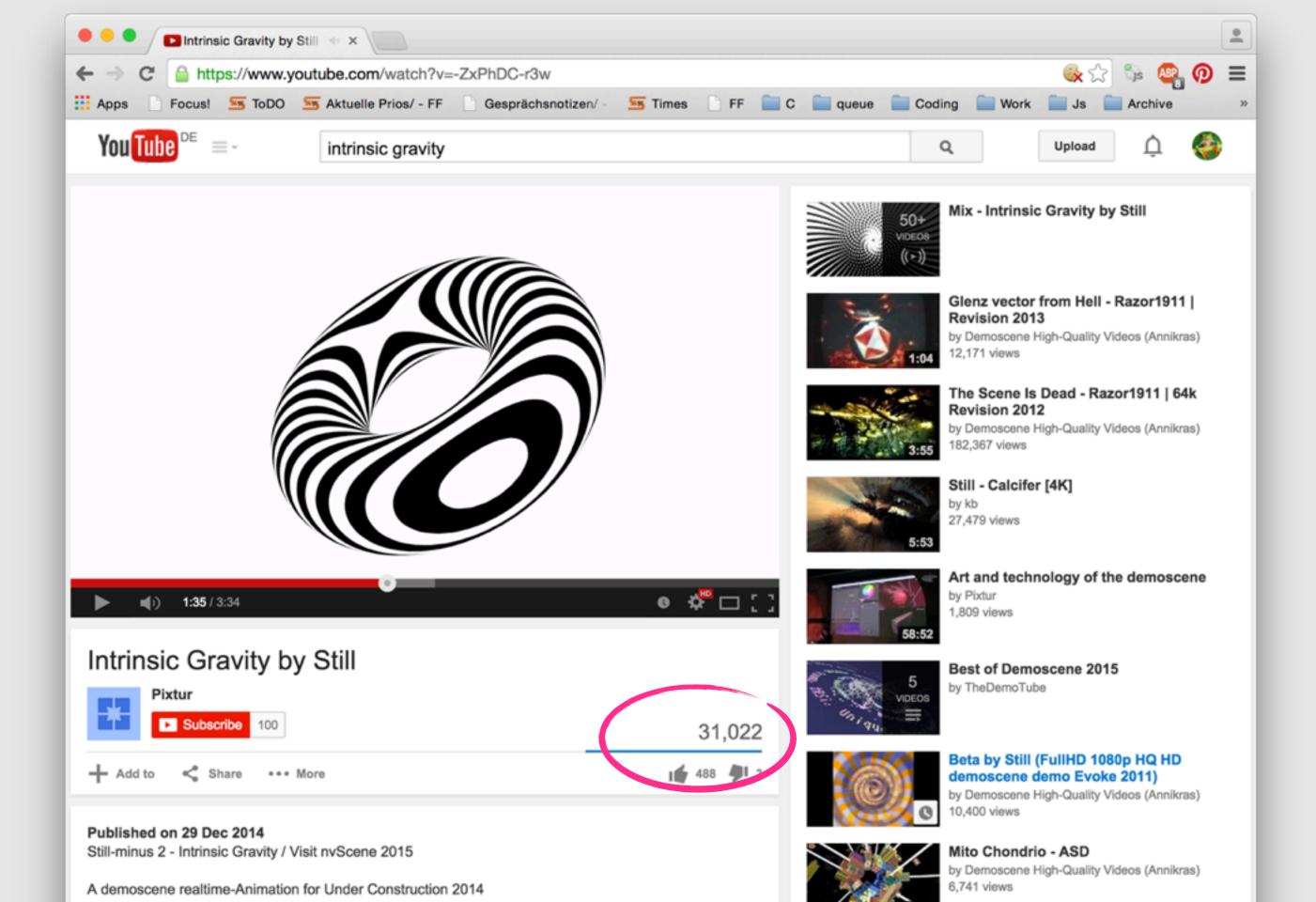
"NUMB RES" BY CNCD

YOU DON'T MAKE DEMOS TO GET FAMOUS.

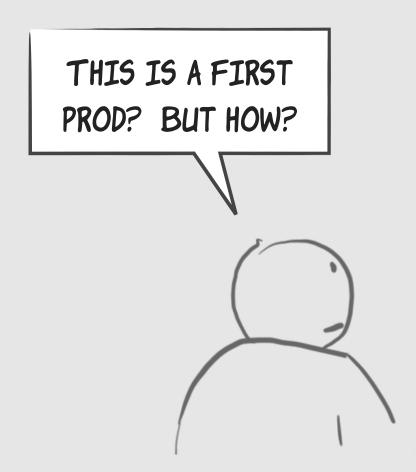


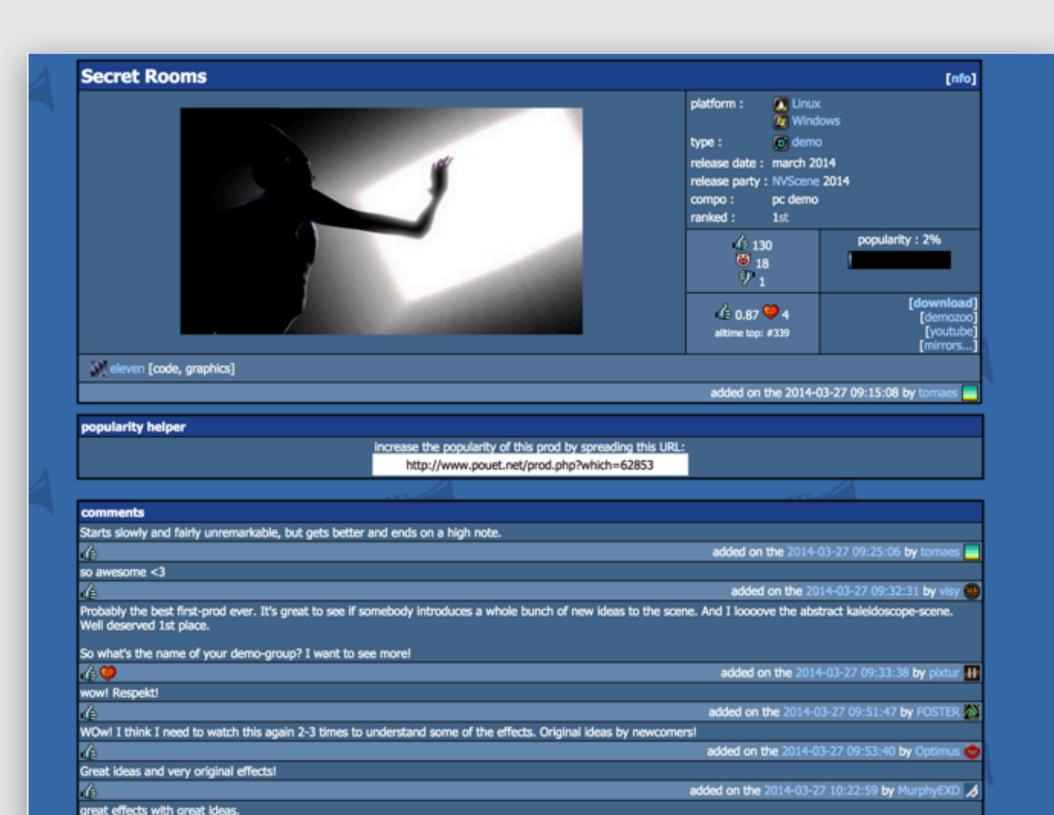




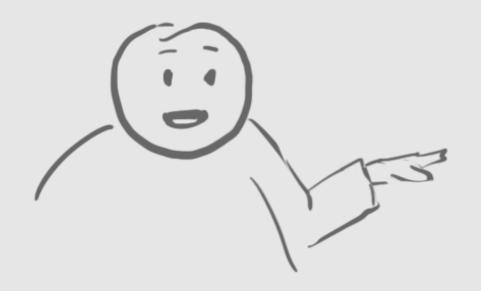


THE DEMOSCENE HAS A TRADITION OF WELCOMING AND RESPECTING NEWCOMERS

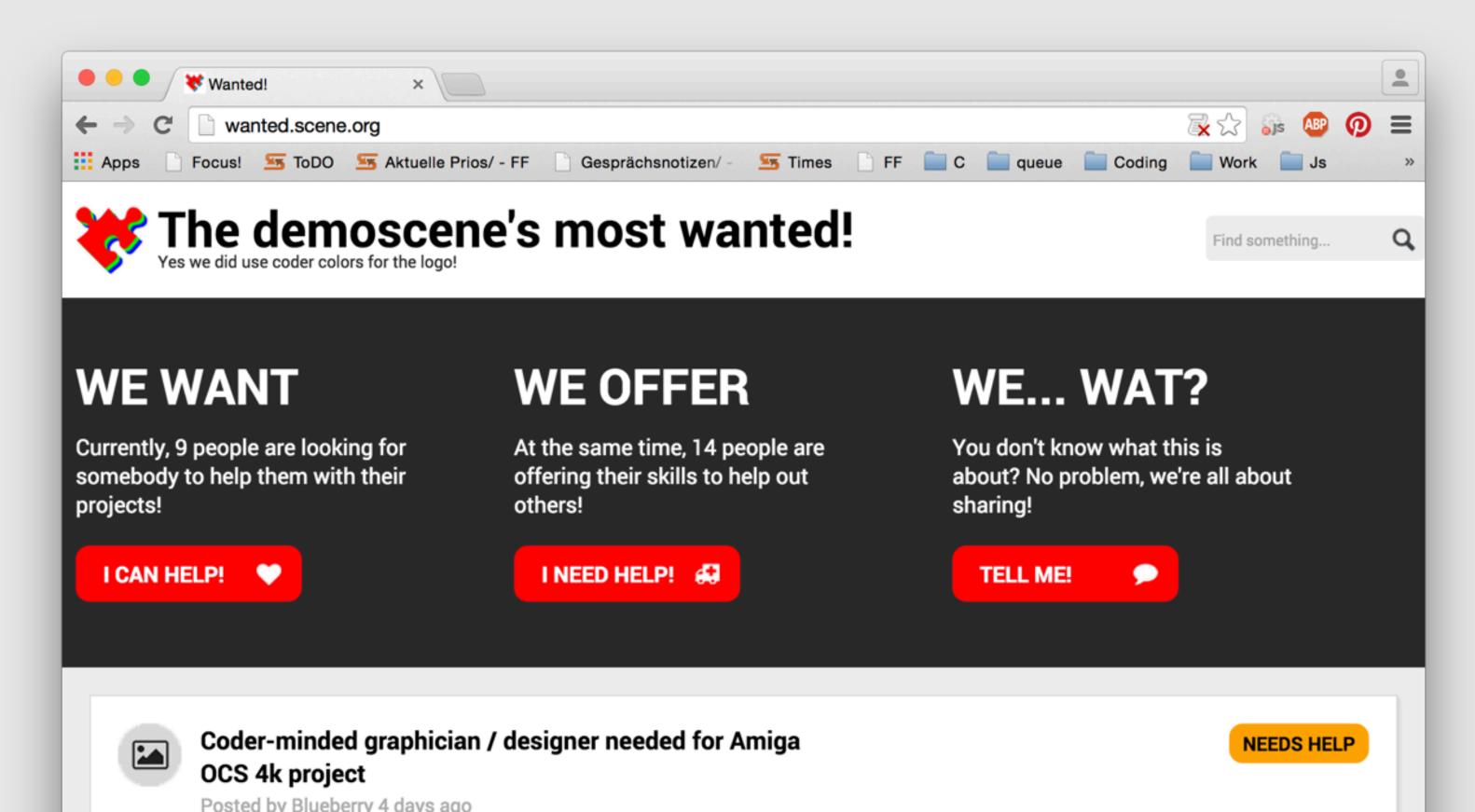




THE ENTRY IS EASIER THAN EVER.



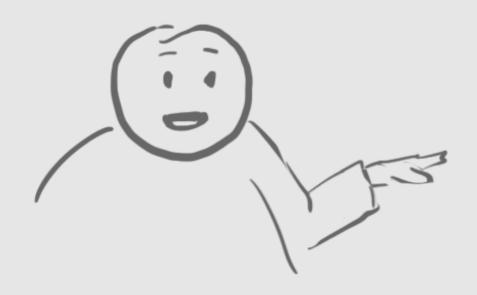
DATING SITE - THE DEMOSCENE WAY



YOU HAVE NOTHING TO LOOSE, (BUT TIME).



THERE ARE FEW THINGS MORE VALUABLE THAN STUFF WE MADE OURSELF.



THE ONLY WAY TO LEARN MAKE DEMOS IS TO RELEASE DEMOS.

