

TANGIBLE MEDIA

BY CINDY CHAN.

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TANGIBLE MEDIA GROUP

They are designing human interfaces that employ physical objects, surfaces, and spaces as tangible embodiments of digital information and processes.

TANGIBLE MEDIA GROUP

Tangible User Interface

physical

digital



- Hiroshi Ishii in Tangible Bits

INTRODUCTION

A tangible user interface (TUI) is a user interface in which a person interacts with digital information through the physical environment.

ART IS EVOLVING



PRINCIPLES

4 Major Design Principles:

- Tangibility and materiality
- Physical embodiment of data
- Bodily interaction
- Embeddedness in real spaces and contexts

By Hornecker and Buur
(2006)

PROJECTS

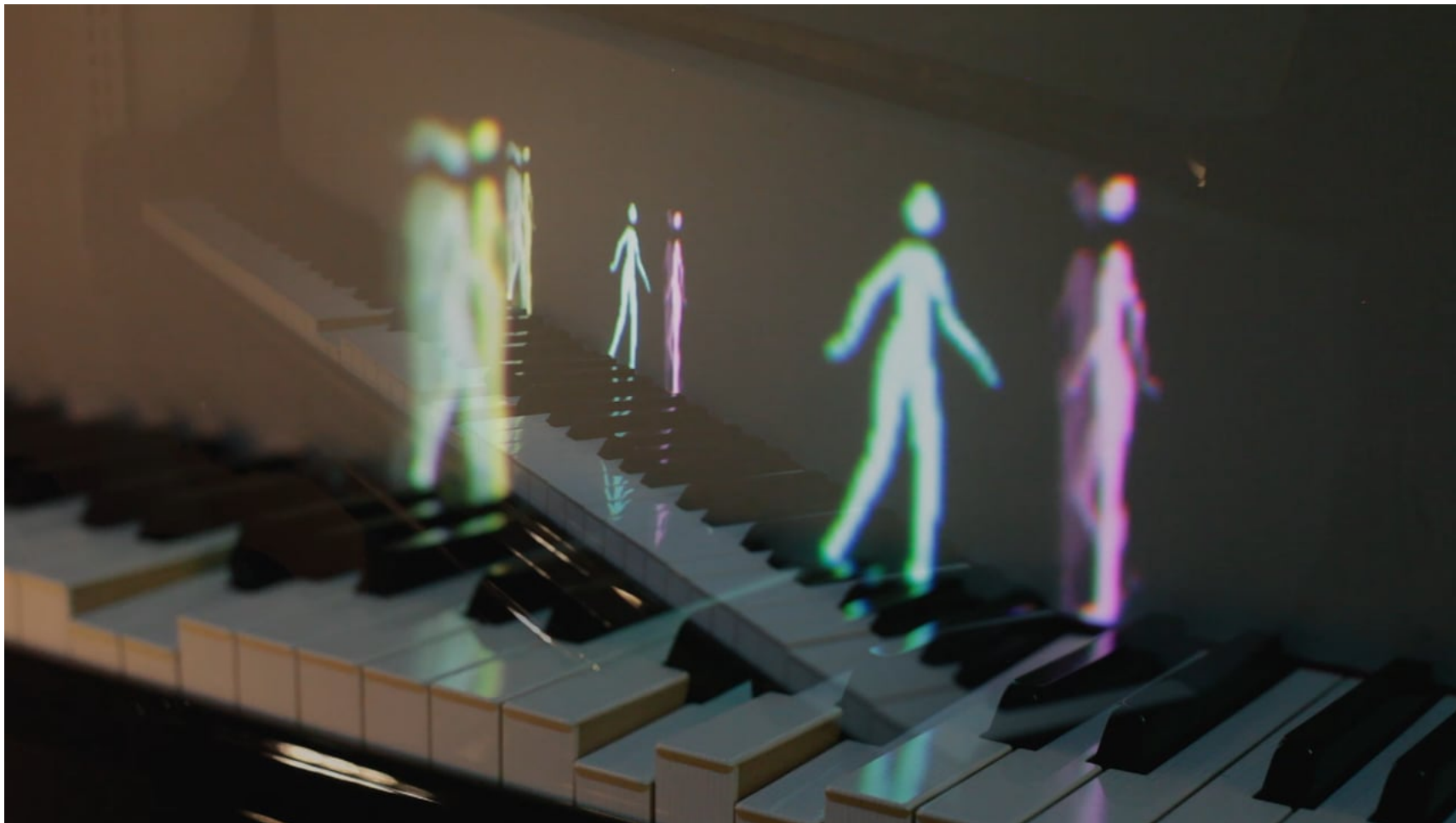
ZERON: LEVITATED INTERACTION ELEMENT



ZERON



ANDANTE



ANDANTE



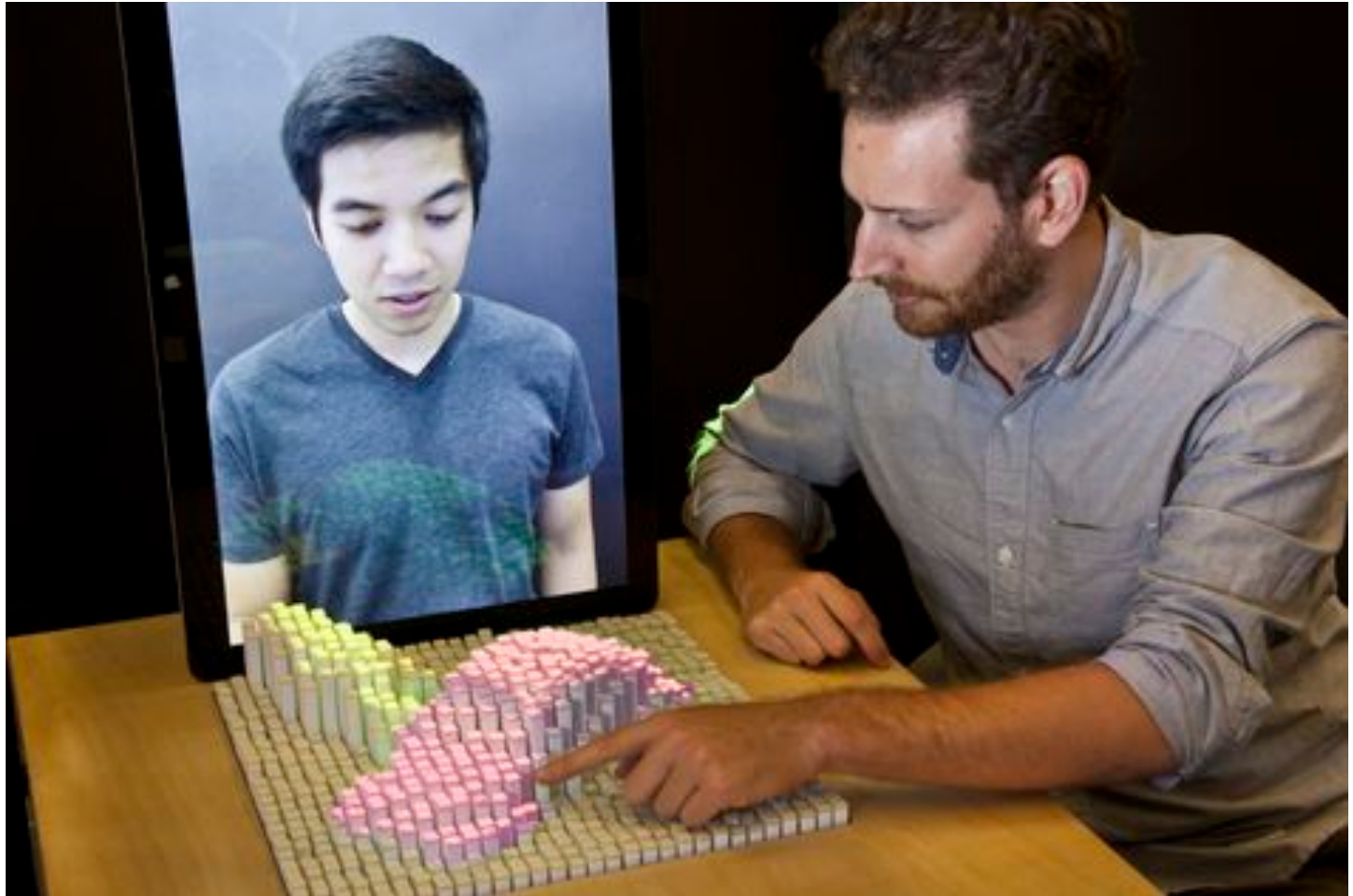
TANGIBLE INTERACTION

- Movements of the human body provide direct input into interactive technologies of various kinds
- Both gestures and whole-body movement (eg.dance) can be used to interact within these environments
- These movements can be pure and/or related to physical objects
- Tangibility and materiality of the interface
- Physical embodiment of data

EXAMPLES

PHYSICAL TELEPRESENCE

inFORM



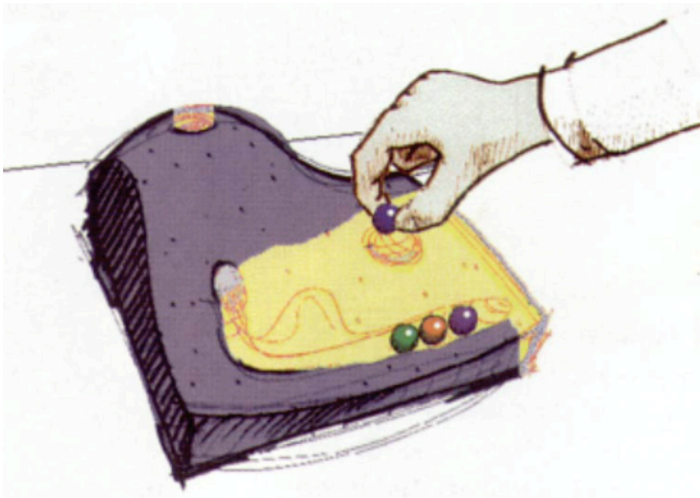
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HISTORY

MARBLE ANSWERING MACHINE

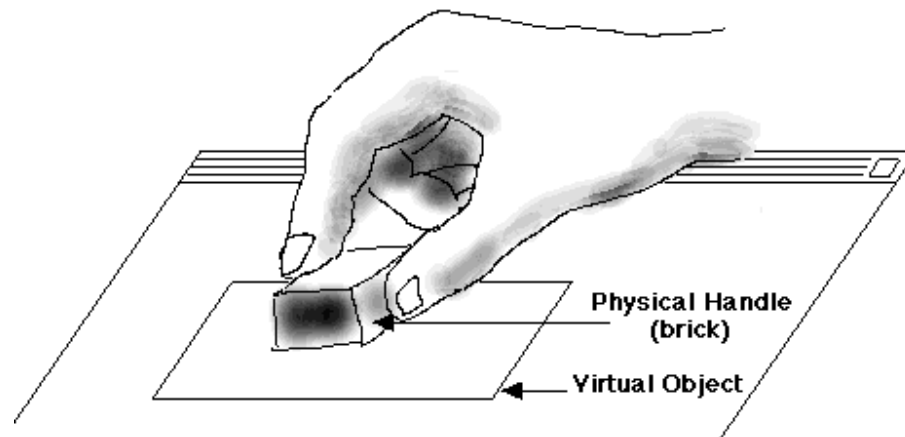
- Durrell Bishop, 1992, RCA
- Phone call represented by coloured marbles
- Drop marble to play message or call back



SIMON & IMOGEN'S HOUSE

GRASPABLE USER INTERFACE

- Now known as Tangible User interface
- (Fitzmaurice, Ishii, Buxton, 1995)
- Uses wooden blocks as handles to manipulate digital objects, early form of multi-touch
- Blocks are placed on monitors



TECHNOLOGY

“ We have been very good at putting computers into the environment, but we have been very bad at getting them out of the way.”

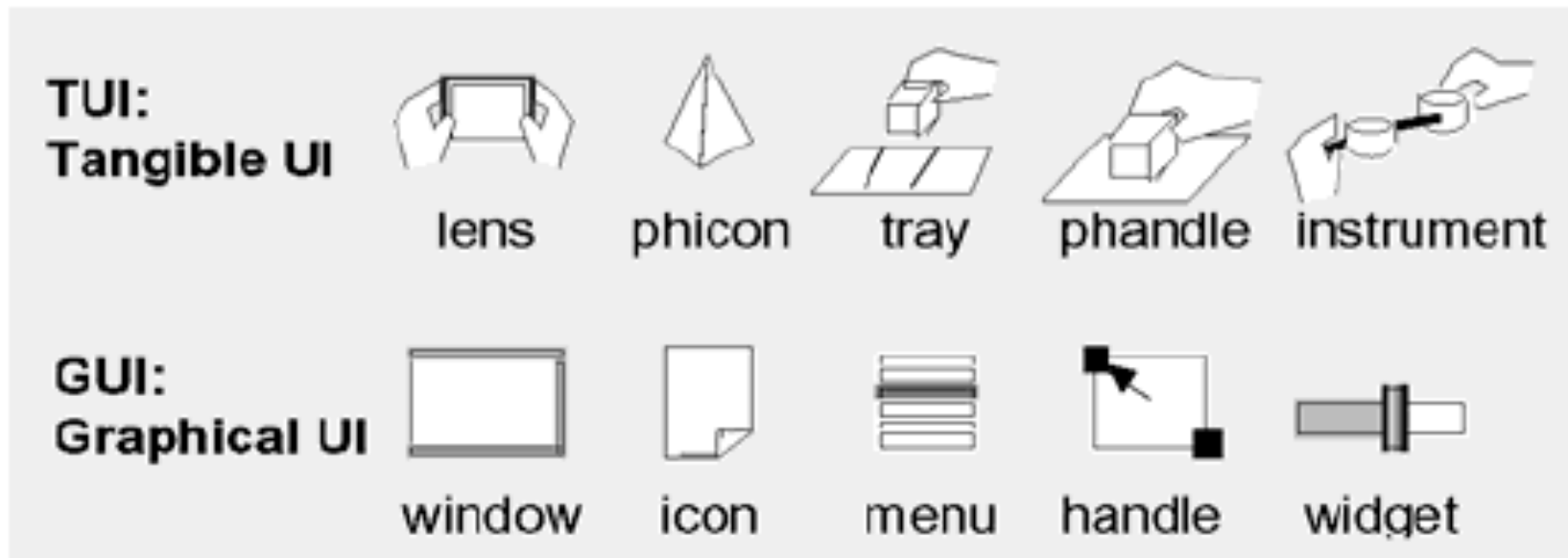
- Weiser (1991)

BENEFITS OF TANGIBLE UI

- Appropriate for those who have lost their sight or have difficulty with motor control
- Enhance learning – physical learning environments engage all sense and thereby support the child development.
- Support ambient awareness
- Can use tags to trigger digital information

CHALLENGES

- Requires not only designing the digital [software] but also the physical [hardware] and the interrelations between the two [affordances]



PRIVACY

Intelligent Fridge Scenario

- Knows what products you regularly buy and sources offers and coupons
- Re-orders food when your stock levels are low



INTERACTIVE LEARNING

SIFTEO CUBES

Sifteo Cubes Intelligent Game System (Newest Model)

by [Sifteo](#)



[34 customer reviews](#)

[5 answered questions](#)

Price: **\$250.14** + \$4.84 shipping

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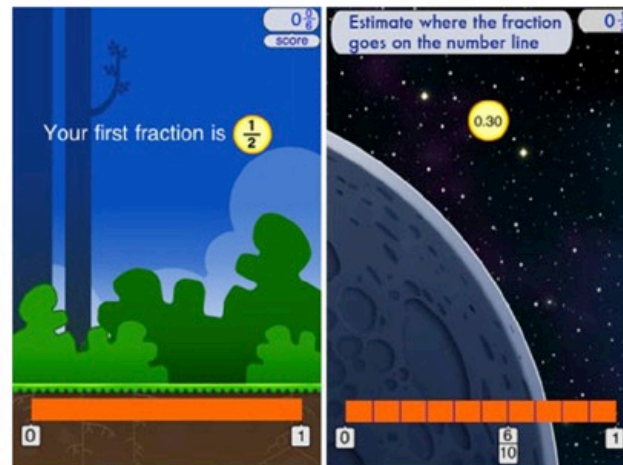
Ships from and sold by [BrittonsBooks](#).

- Portable interactive game system for Intelligent Play
- Sifteo Cubes sense each other, and react to your moves
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- Sync to your computer to get more games
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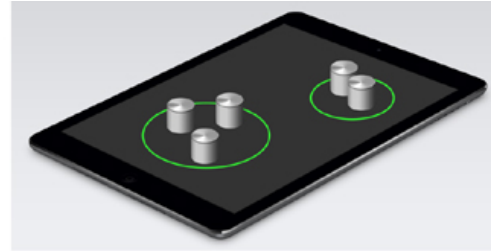









MOTION MATH



CASE STUDY

An appcessory for early math concepts



1 	1 2  
2 + 3 = 5  	1 + 4 = 5  

ALTERED WAYS OF DOING

While much of this looks to a future in which physical and digital converge, there is one profession that has been exploring this intersection for some time now:



Museums


EXAMPLE

Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa

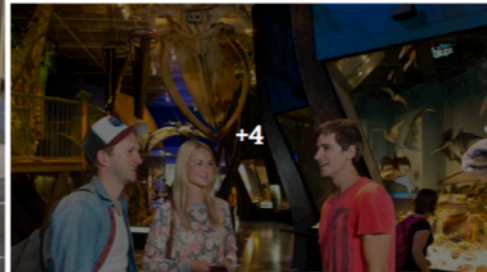
Te Papa is New Zealand's bold and innovative national museum and a recognised world leader in interactive and visitor-focused museum experiences.

BOOK NOW



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I WONDER..

What if physical objects could reshape themselves in the same way that pixels do?

What if one device, could reshape into an infinite number of things?