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Spring 2011

Dr Who?

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University of Iowa

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DR. WHO?

by

Caleb Francis Gentry

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment
of the requirements for the
Master of Fine Arts degree in Art
in the Graduate College of
The University of Iowa

May 2011

Thesis Supervisor: Associate Professor Laurel Farrin

Graduate College
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CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL

MASTER'S THESIS

This is to certify that the Master's thesis of

Caleb Francis Gentry

has been approved by the Examining Committee
for the thesis requirement for the Master of Fine
Arts degree in Art at the May 2011 graduation.

Thesis Committee: _____

Laurel Farrin, Thesis Supervisor

John Dilg

Sarah Kanouse

Sue Hettmansperger

David Dunlap

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DR... WHO?

I use common materials to make fantastic scenes/objects that are from another time and place. The work is transparent, both in how the construction is gone about and in the general likeness of the forms to the insides of machines. I hope this transparency hides something all the more mysterious because it is plainly shown. Absurd and nonsensical, the substance of my work arises from the convergence of things, elements and attributes, which seem incompatible; these separate elements combine into a mutant.

If you ever played computer games in the 80s then you might recognize a similarity with my work in the hieroglyph like forms that these digital worlds are comprised of. Forms like the arrangement of colorful toy blocks stacked up against a wall in shallow relief; multi-tiered like the cross section of a building, elevators, fire escapes, plumbing and all. This blockiness is symptomatic of my low-tech aspiring to be hi-tech aesthetic. Failed utopias and painting centric worlds of the 20th century I hope to tap into to enrich the creation of my own alternate universe. I am interested in the flatness of abstract paintings; I always felt they were opening up something out of the every day world, another dimension with its own physics rebuilt from the bottom up. Strange fantastical realms are my passion. Maybe, I seek to know my own strangeness. Being in the world plainly, I stare into my navel and behold...why its... Dr... Who!??

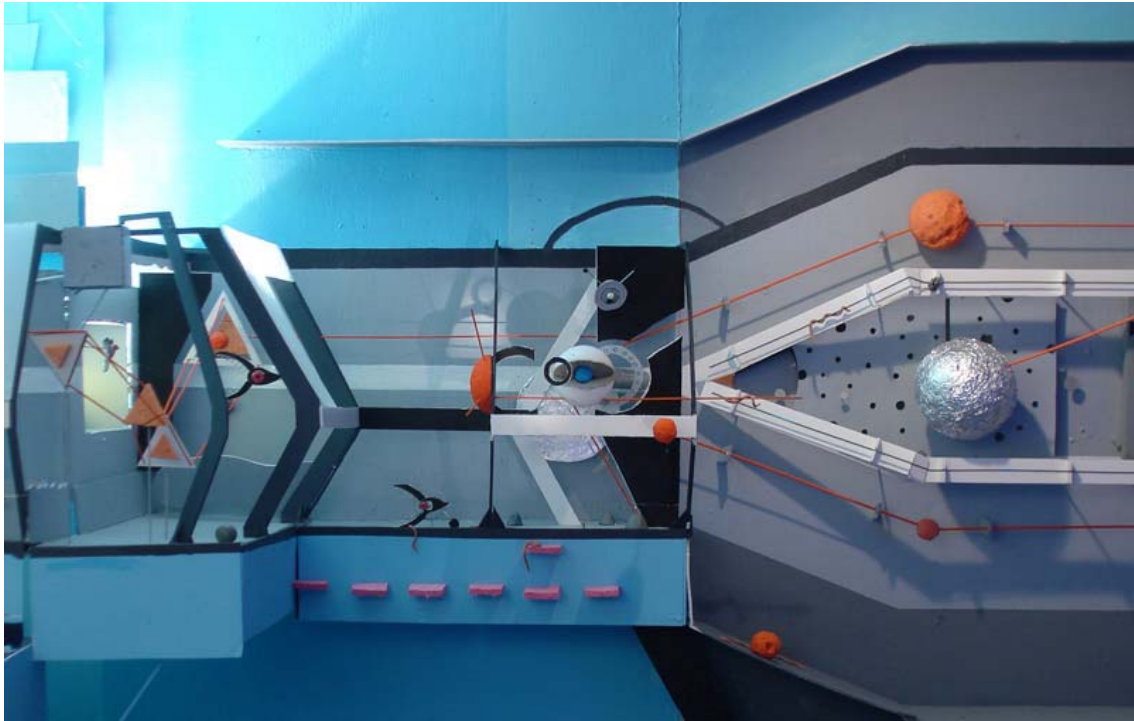


Figure 1. Blue 1

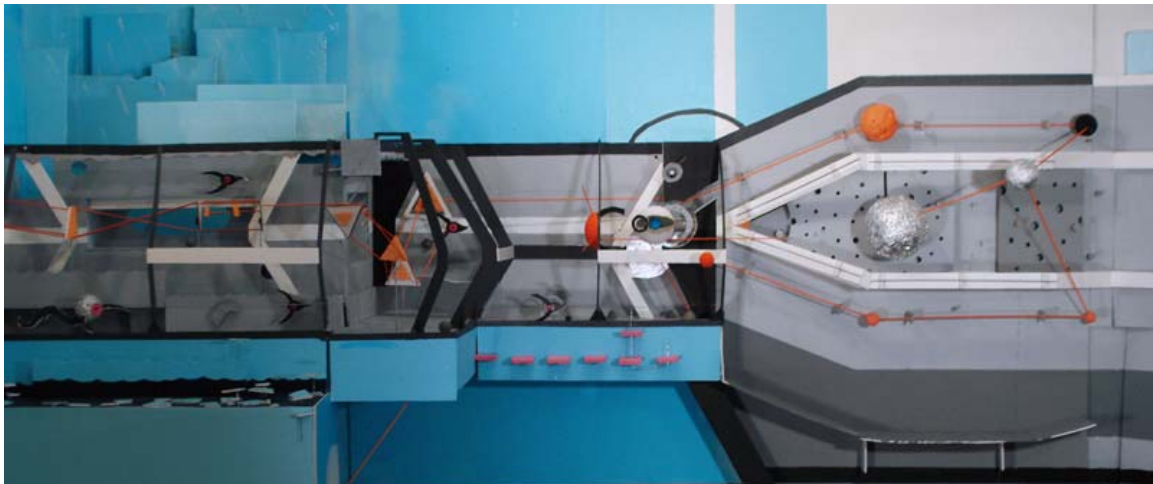


Figure 2. Blue 2



Figure 3. Blue 3



Figure 4. Robots 1

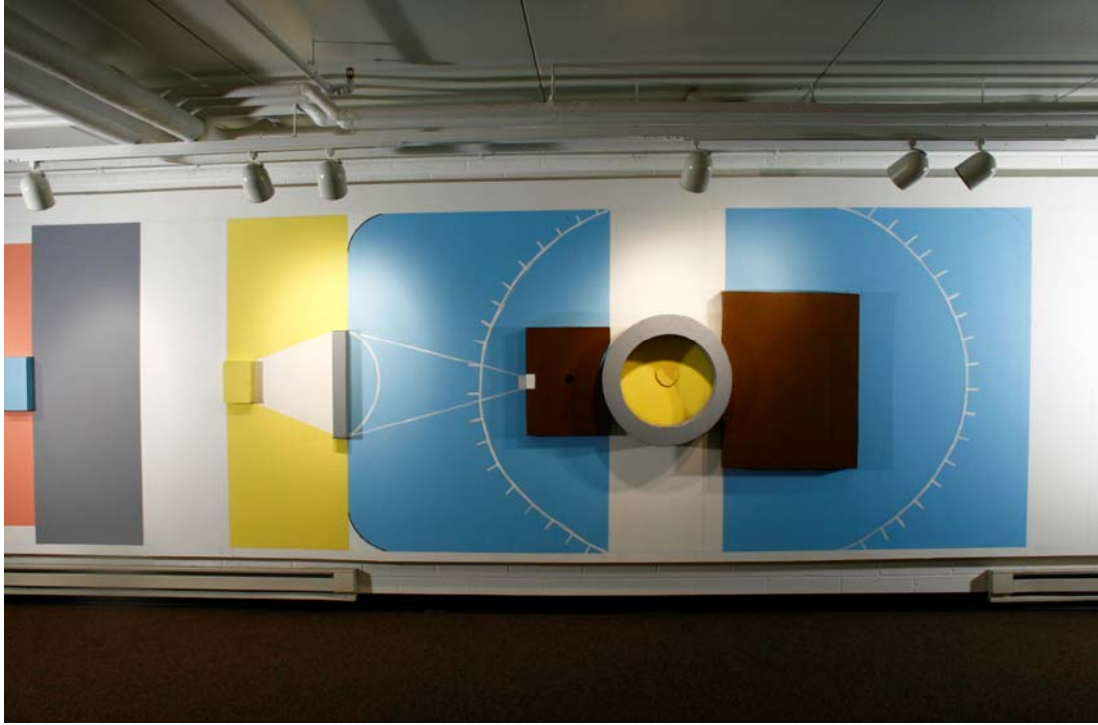


Figure 5. Robots 2



Figure 6. Robots 3

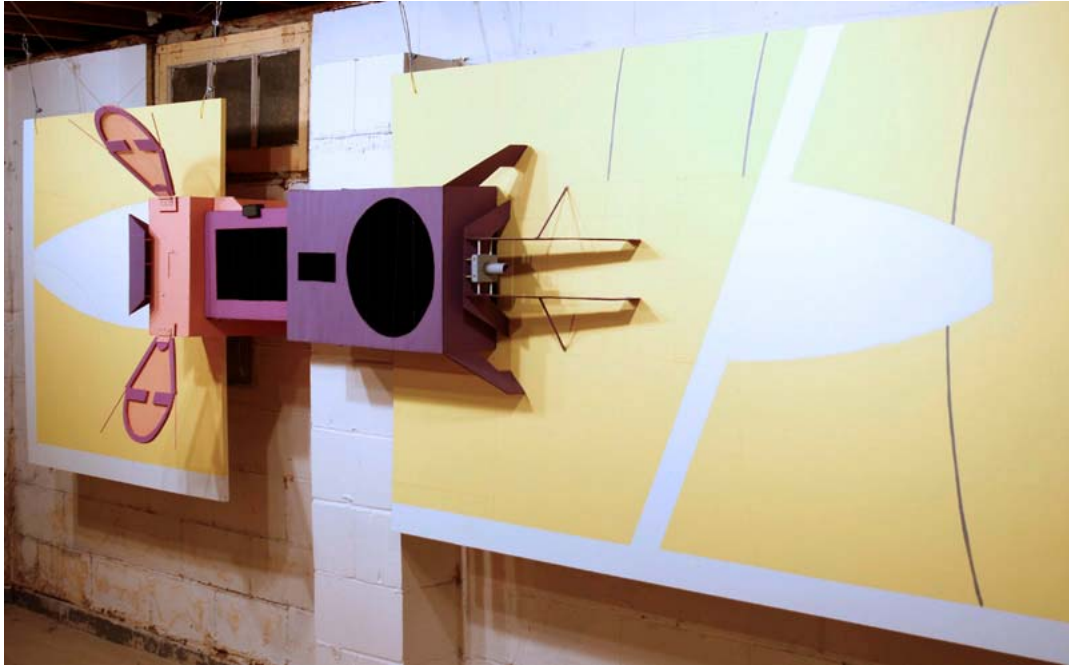


Figure 7. Yek 1



Figure 8. Yek 2



Figure 9. Yek 3



Figure 10. Yek 4

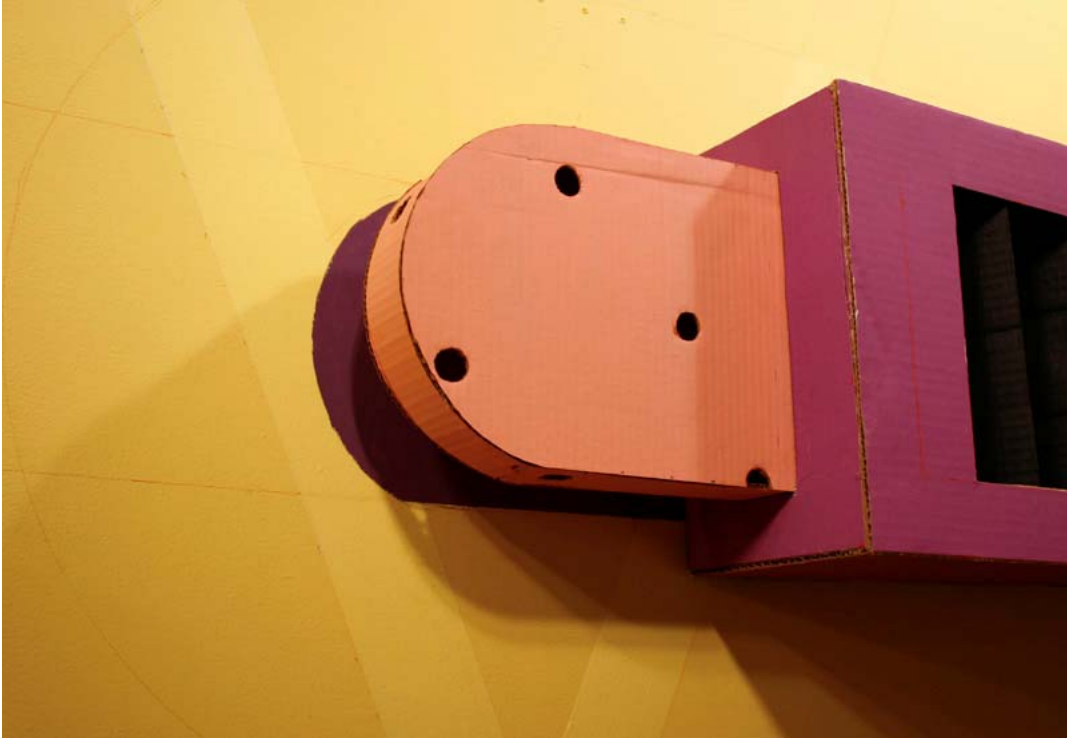


Figure 11. Yek 5



Figure 12. 4 Bit syntax 1

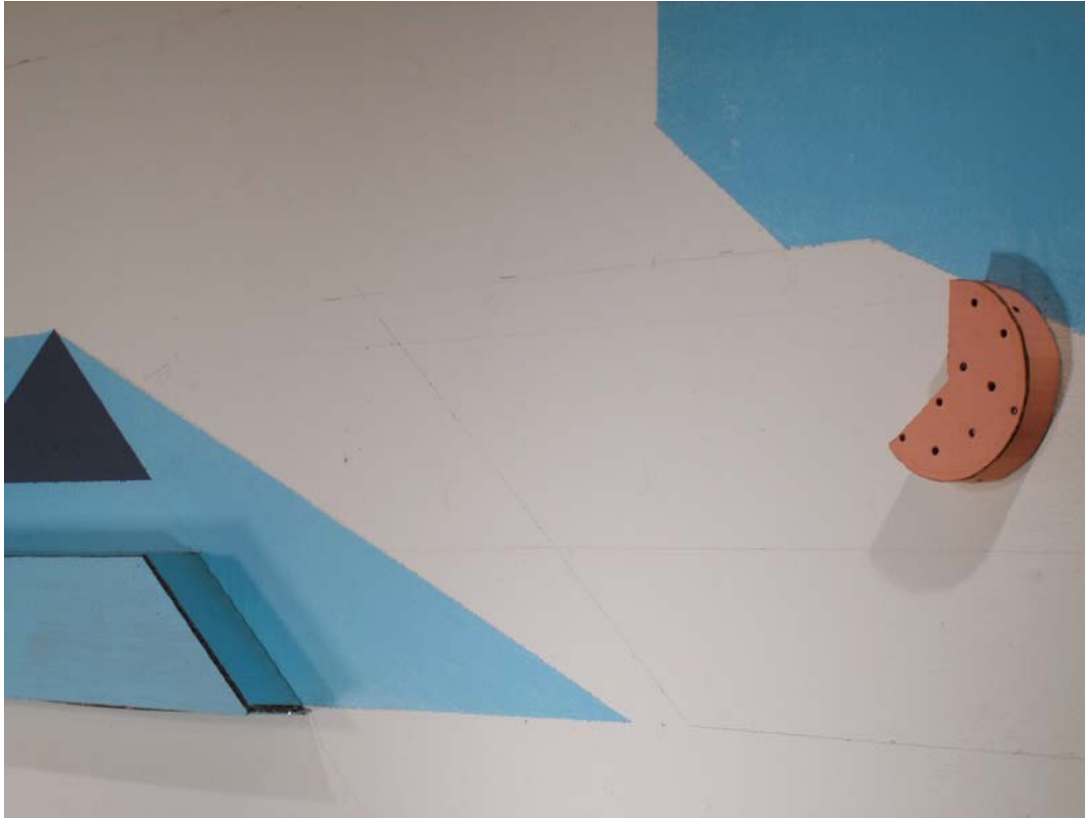


Figure 13. 4 Bit syntax 2



Figure 14. Eye Test