Human-Computer Interaction Design
Project 4.A Music & Music Culture and Discovery Systems
Tuesday January 26th 2010

Eli Blevis, Associate Professor of Informatics
Kevin Makice, Associate Instructor

Project
Find or create your own images or illustrations of existing or currently imagined mechanisms by which music is a part of the digital and physical worlds—you may want to include notions of music apropos of sharing, learning, discovery, distribution, enterprise, commons, and other issues. This is the research part of the project—we are looking for your design research rather than your own creative concepts.

Choose three contrasting images or illustrations. At least one of your choices must be connected to digital technologies in some way.

Explain why your choices contrast and what’s interesting about them in any terms relating to HCID. The following notions may be particularly helpful: semantics differentials, creative commons, sharing, knowledge navigation, recommender systems.

Format:
Your project must be presented on a single landscape mode page in pdf format, for both the initial rough first iteration and the final form completed project. You may include auxiliary files of other media types, as instructed in class. Upload your work to oncourse, as instructed in class. Be certain to reference all of your sources accurately and completely.

The example on the page that follows gives an idea of what a design research project could look like for the purposes of this class assignment. The example is by no means the most ideal project—yours should not be longer, but it can be more compelling and interesting than the example. In particular, this week the sketch purposefully does NOT correspond to the final project examples, in order to show a range of approaches. Neither the sketch nor final examples should be taken as best examples.

DUE Wednesday January 27th no later than 11:59 PM An initial rough SKETCH first iteration of your ideas for how you will complete this project

DUE Tuesday February 2nd no later than 11:00 AM A FINAL form completed project.
This music map shows lists of top “artists” and albums at different places in the world. The site is operated by gracenote.com which is owned by Sony Corporation of America.

The gnod.net site accepts the name of an “artist” or composer and constructs a visualization in which spatial distance denotes proximity of musical style between nodes.

Pandora uses the metaphor of a radio station. A visitor specifies an “artist” she or he likes and the Pandora plays music by that “artist” without interruption. The system can suggest similar “artists” and add them to the playlist.
Primary Attributions ("First Hand" Sources)
None

Secondary Attributions (Sources other than "First Hand" Sources)
http://www.gracenote.com/map/ @ 10.12.09
http://www.gnod.net/ @ 10.12.09
http://www.pandora.com/ @ 10.12.09