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**ART 499** 

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Senior Project: http://www.francisfrankmoran.com

For my senior project, I assembled an online portfolio. The website consists of one PHP index page that links to other external PHP files within the page to generate the content. The pages that a user can visit include an about section, a contact section, and sections devoted to my works in online production, digital arts, digital imaging, video editing, and animation. The menu that links to each of these sections was animated with jQuery easing functions. When a cursor is put over the online production, digital arts, or videos link, the menu drops down to reveal the projects relevant to that section. Above the menu is a logo I designed in Illustrator. To the right of the menu, one out of three available images sketched in Illustrator is presented at random using the PHP rand() command. The image overlaps with the menu and appears underneath it by setting the image's z-index lower than the menu's z-index. The footer at the bottom of every page is a .PNG that makes it look as if one man is holding the page content up like a sign.

The home page's content starts with a banner that was animated in Flash. This was included to showcase my animation skills upon immediate viewing of my site. The banner also doubles as a piece of interactive media, in that moving the cursor over different coordinates of the banner will change its background color. Underneath this, I employed a jQuery slideshow that features four highlights from my portfolio and another instance of the PHP rand() command to present one random image out of seven.

The about section details my knowledge and interests in a simple manner. The contact section provides a form to the user to send an e-mail to me. The online production section showcases school projects made using DHTML, CSS, Javascript, and PHP for web design and production in ART 311. The digital arts section gathers school projects made with Flash in ART 310 and COM 346. The digital imaging section gathers photographs manipulated with Photoshop in COM 280. The videos section showcases my animating and video editing skills with Final Cut Pro, iMovie, Photoshop, and Flash for videos made in COM 241, ART 210, ART 211, ART 310, and ART 311.

The projects presented in the online production section were chosen for their interactivity, their employment of scripting and styling languages, and the ideas presented within them. First, the "Holiday Mad Libs" project was chosen because it uses Javascript to change every element on the page when the user interacts with it. It changes everything from images to background-color and operates just how a Mad Lib should operate in that a user chooses words that fill up the blanks in a story. I was also excited to utilize the skills I learned in WRI 200 when writing the stories for this project. The second link listed under the online production section is the "Family Tree" project. This project was chosen for inclusion in my portfolio because it is an amalgamation of the skills I've learned in my college career. The default page of the Family contains thumbnails created in Photoshop and illustrations sketched in Illustrator. Almost every page that the thumbnail links to contains a video that was animated in Flash. It was all styled with CSS and scripted with PHP. The Fan Page, Visual Poems, and ASCII projects all utilize CSS and in the case of the Visual Poems and ASCIIs, utilize an interactive element within them.

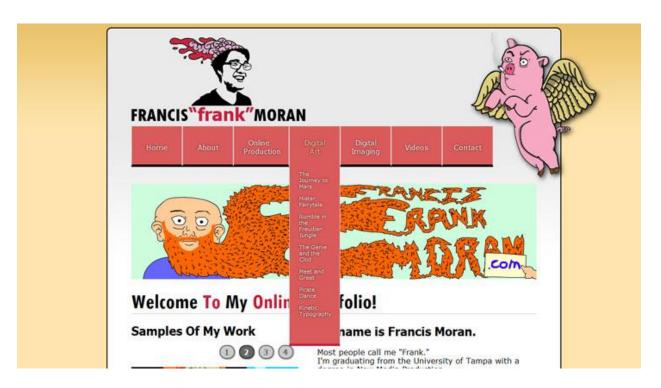
The digital arts projects displayed in my portfolio were chosen as good examples of interactive media and my animation. The "Journey to Mars" is presented first as it's a Flash

game with three parts: an intro movie, a first level, and a second level. In each of the levels, the player uses their arrow keys to navigate an object through the space of the game. The player must avoid colliding with other objects. This project utilizes Actionscript extensively and also features music I created in MUS 108 in the first level. The second project is "Mister Fairytale," which is a non-linear "choose your own adventure" Flash game. It is a good example of an interactive narrative because the choices that a player chooses will always result in a different outcome. The third project is "Rumble in the Freudian Jungle" which is a music video featuring music made by my friend and I. The project was mostly animated by rotoscoping frames of my friend performing that I recorded on video. The fourth project is "The Genie and the Clod," which serves the same function as "Mister Fairytale" does, which is as a non-linear interactive narrative. The project is sound tracked by music I made in MUS 108. The "Meet and Greet" project is an example of my understanding of buttons in Flash and the "Pirate Dance" project utilizes inverse kinematics. The "Kinetic Typography" project shows that I can animate text as well.

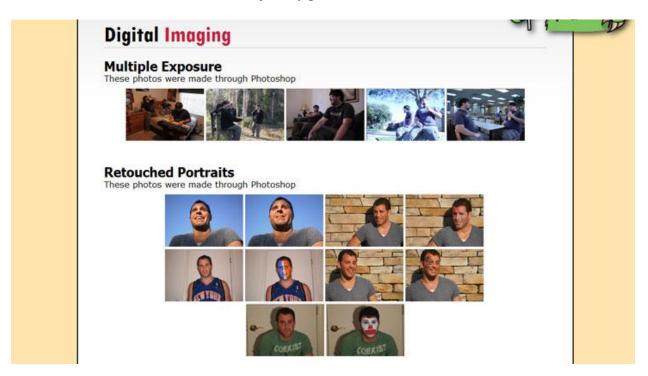
The digital imaging section is composed of three parts. The multiple exposure portraits, the retouched portraits, and the layer mask portraits demonstrate my understanding of how to use the tools that Photoshop provides. In the videos section, I chose the videos that are presented because they demonstrate my video editing skills. In "Trouble With Dreams," I animated each scene in Photoshop and exported them as .MOV files. Then, I edited it to sync in time with music. "Telephone" is an example of experimental video art that was inspired by David Hall's "This is a Television Receiver." "Baby and Snake" and the long edit of "The Garbage Throne" show that I know how to edit the passage of time in a narrative through montage.



A zoomed out screen shot of the home page



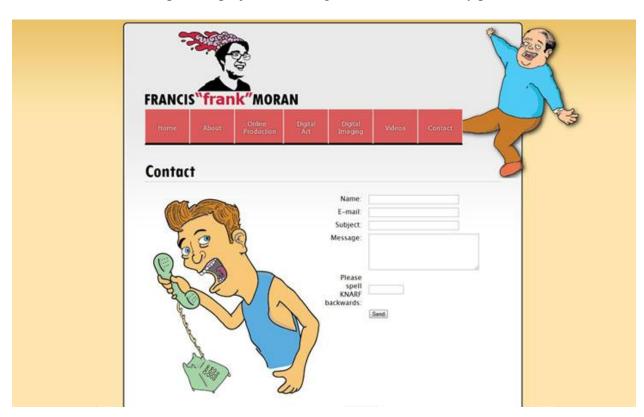
The animated jQuery pull down menu in action



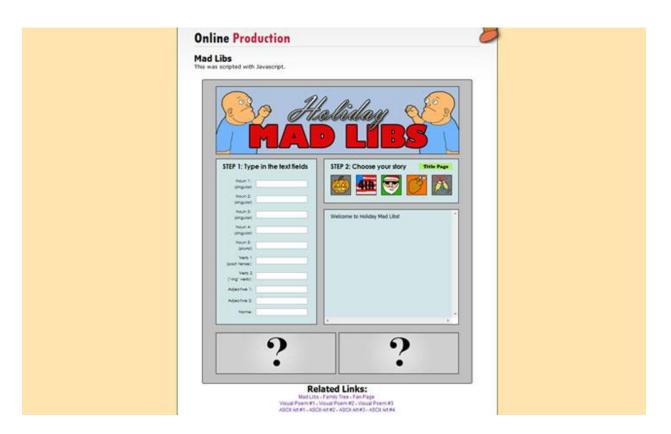
The Digital Imaging section of my online portfolio



An example of a project in the Digital Arts section of my portfolio



The Contact page of my website



An example of a project in the Online Production section of my portfolio



The footer of the website.