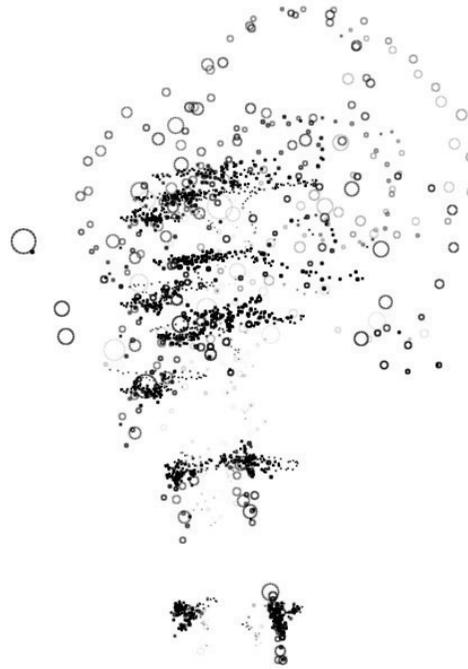
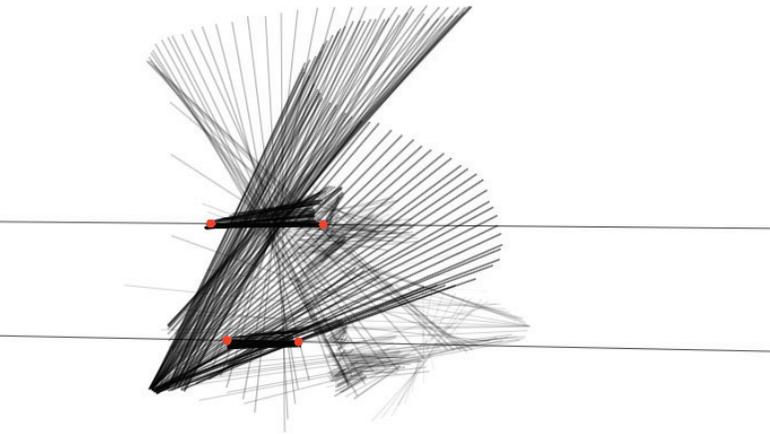


Lise Amy Hansen

# COMMUNICATING MOVEMENT

Full-body movement as a design material  
for digital interaction

11 June 2014



## ADJUDICATION COMMITTEE

Professor Jay David Bolter  
New Media, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta  
First opponent

Professor Lars Hallnäs  
The Swedish School of Textiles, University of Borås  
Second opponent

Associate Professor Alma Leora Culén  
Institute of Informatics, University of Oslo  
Coordinator

## THE CANDIDATE

Lise Amy Hansen (1971) holds an MA in Communication Art & Design from the Royal College of Art, London and a BA (Hons) from Central Saint Martins (CSM). She has been a lecturer at CSM, KHiO and AHO, and run the design agency Witt Hansen Ltd, working with arts and culture as well as urban regeneration in London and Oslo. She has also arranged and participated in international workshops and artlabs on the intersections of communication, computation and choreography.

## PROGRAM

### 10am TRIAL LECTURE

Welcome  
Introduction to today's program by  
Master of Ceremony, Design Institute Leader  
Rachel Troye, AHO

The candidate gives a lecture (45 mins) on the topic:  
Movement as material in interaction design practice -  
tools and examples.

– Break–

### 12am DISPUTATION

The adjudication committee presents their  
evaluation of the trial lecture

The candidate presents her thesis (30 mins):  
Communicating Movement - Full-body movement  
as a design material for digital interaction

#### FIRST OPPONENT

Professor Jay David Bolter disputes with the candidate

– Break– (30 mins)

Questions ex auditorio (Questions are given to  
Master of Ceremony during the break)

#### SECOND OPPONENT

Professor Lars Hallnäs disputes with the candidate

– Break–

#### ASSESSMENT

The adjudication committee presents their final  
assessment of the candidate's defense

## SUMMARY

Today our surroundings are increasingly perforated by digital systems that inform and influence, shift and shape our movements. The aim of this thesis has been to explore and present a creative potential in conceptualising full-body movement and movement data for digital interaction, motivated by the expressive and performed movements that we observe and act upon in interpersonal communication every day. I have developed theoretical concepts and intermediary digital tools as a means to explore full-body movement as a design material, that is, as a communicative resource for meaning-making in the design of digital interactions.

The focus is on communication and how corporeal qualities are in part expressed through our movement dynamics. Movement requires a body and this body is aged, gendered, cultured and conditioned as well as sensate, expressive and performed. I adopt a Social Semiotics framework to explore how to address such notions through their visual form as well as design investigations in collaborative, explorative workshops to develop Sync, a tool for visualising movement dynamics.

Through research on choreography and digital tools I have positioned movement in relation to design and argue that there are creative and pivotal decisions in how we materialise movement and movement data for design. Corporeal qualities may be made creatively available through materialising acts, such as through digital tools for the dynamic visualisations of movement data. By unfolding the concerns of the various stages of materialising movement, designers can consider the role of movement at a conceptual level, and in turn, enable interactions to be built that are informed by a critical view on movement and, by extension, the role of our bodies.