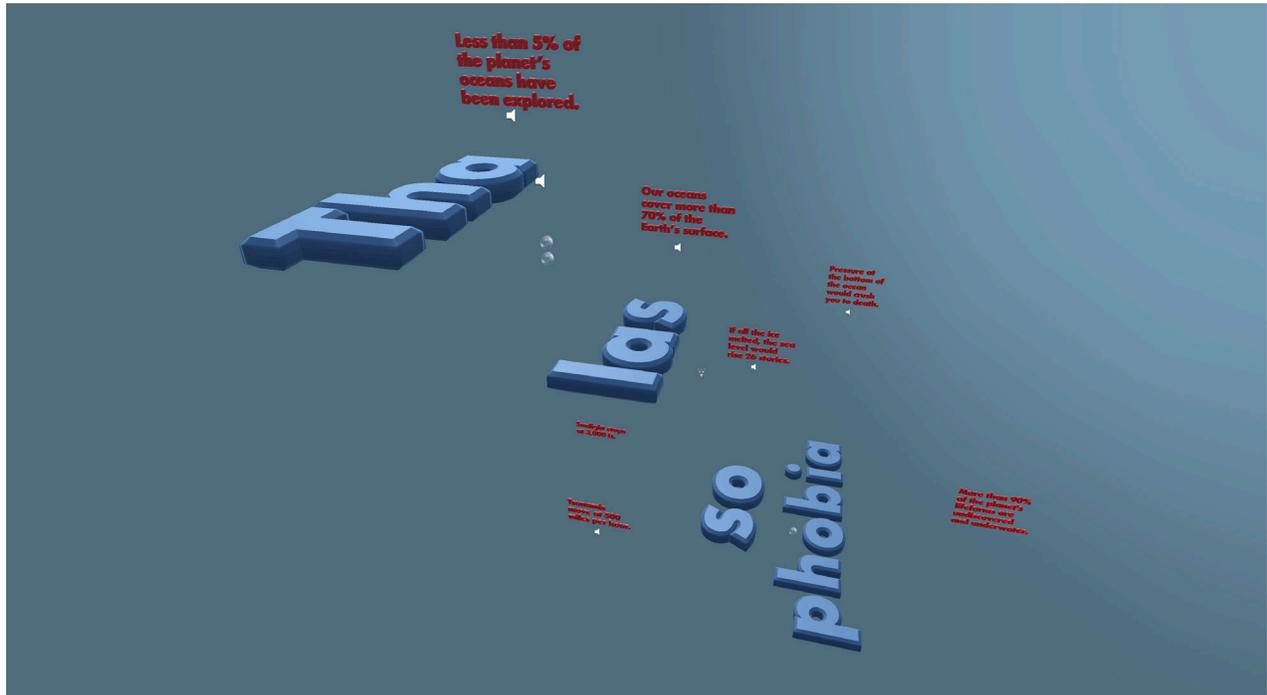# THALASSOPHOBIA

Vanessa Camacho

The thought of the unknown makes anyone uneasy. What most people are not aware of is that the unknown lies below us. Specifically speaking, the ocean offers this intimidating environment. To many, the ocean causes fear and paranoia. To others, this fear may not appear, but it's important to educate ourselves as to why this fear is triggered. While some may not be as heavily struck with dread, the ocean still stands as an impossible element.

RESEARCH

The topic of my project focuses on thalassophobia. Victims of thalassophobia fear deep bodies of water, sea creatures, and the vast emptiness. Causes of this phobia can include past experiences, influence of popular culture, and evolutionary context. Symptoms of this phobia include panic attacks, feeling of choking, trembling, and nausea.

INTERACTIONS

My project aims to educate others of how the ocean can be overwhelming, and why people develop thalassophobia. This was done through the use of typography, the use of environment, the use of audio, and the use of interactions.

To illustrate, the content I used were facts and statistics associated with the ocean. With this text, the user will confront these realities and feel uneasy. I mainly made the type approach the user gradually. All of the text is filled in red in order to indicate that these facts are uncanny.

As for the environment, I chose to submerge the user in a body of water. Eventually, they would fall on a platform and navigate their way further down while confronted these facts.
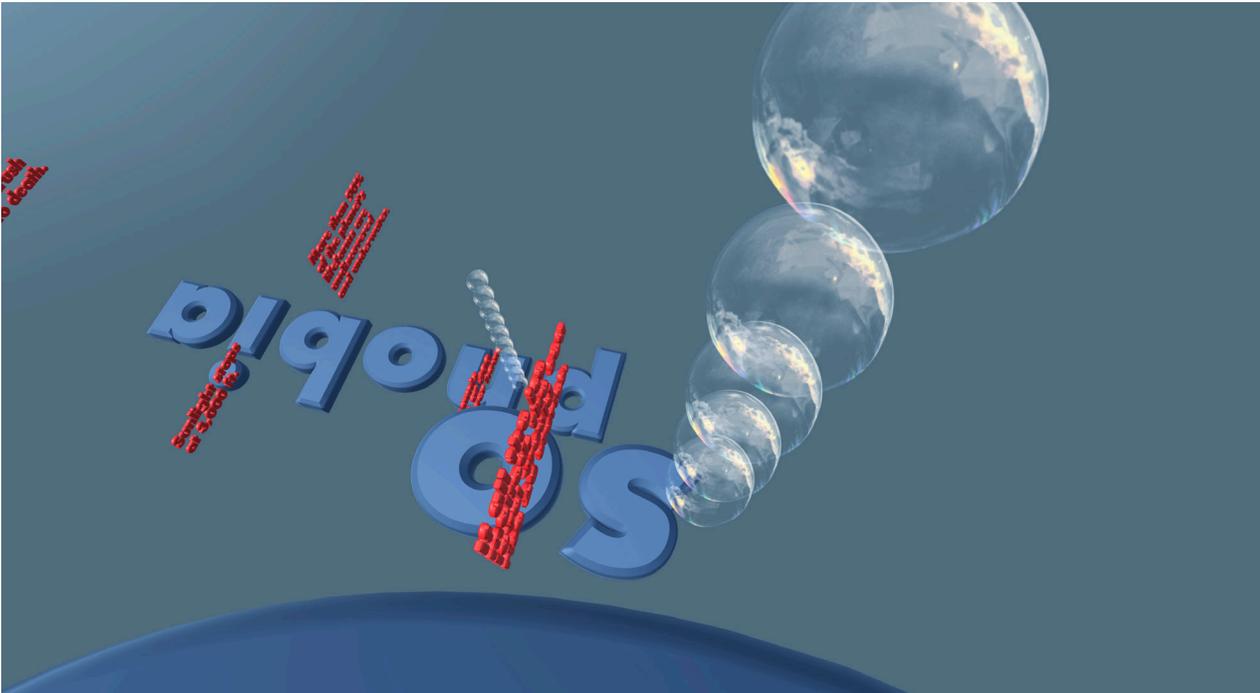
The audio allows for better understanding of the type and creates an intense ambiance. The minute the user lands on the water, a splash sound effect erupts, and the background music begins. I used the space bar, up, down, left and right keys to trigger my narration of the facts.

The interactions I chose were scripts that involved moving game objects at a slow pace along their x-axis and y-axis, as well as bubble particles that allowed the user to navigate on to the next platform.

CREDITS

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