

Ragtime

Trevor Anderson
tander5@uic.edu

Abstract

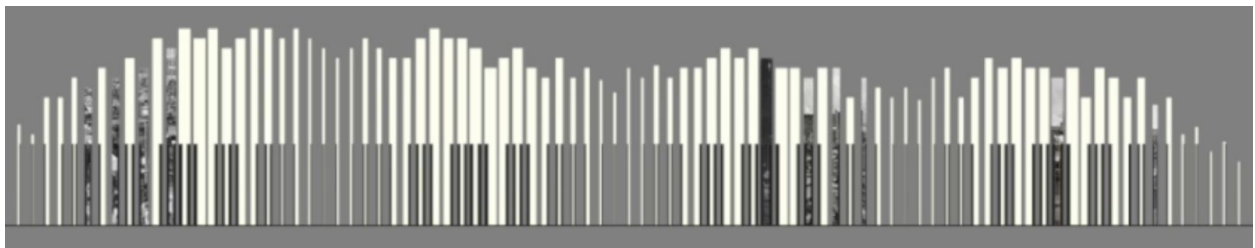
Ragtime music, while not conceived in Chicago, became a sensation following Scott Joplin's performance of his ragtime compositions at the World's Fair in 1893. The installation would capture both this music and the historical context of Chicago at the time; the soundtrack of Chicago at the turn of the 20th century.

The sequential bands of the media wall bring to mind keys of a piano. In the installation that is precisely what they are. Ragtime music such as that of Scott Joplin's are entirely piano pieces. As the music is played over the spaces speakers. We see the keys being played, or pressed, as though the installation is playing the piece live. Instead of simply being pushed down however, a pressed key reveals a sliver of an image behind the piano; as though the music is the gateway, or unveiling of a world beyond. The image or images are archival, black and white photos of a downtown, pre-skyscraper Chicago. A played sliver may not reveal much in and of itself, but the rapid tempo and intricate ragtime music would unveil many of these slivers in quick and often simultaneous succession, creating a semblance of an entire whole image of series of changing images. The media wall is 89 keys long. To keep viewers passersby engaged, the installation would be repeated on both *halves* of the wall, think two monitors playing the same thing right next to each other.

Materials and Methods

The installation will be created in Adobe Illustrator and After Effects for the animation portion.

Design



Timeline

Development Milestones TBD	M1 (May)			M2 (June)			M3 (July)		
Concept Revisions	x								
Final Prototype				x					
Initial Testing		x							
Beta Version						x			
Software Development				x					
Audio Design						x			
Iterative Software Revisions									
Iterative Graphics Revisions			x						
Iterative Software Revisions						x			
On-site Testing					x				
Revisions							x	x	
Final Opening									x

Timeline explanations

Budget

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	EST. COST
Materials	Software, hardware, metal, etc	

	[Specification]	\$5000
Tools or equipment	buying or hiring	
	[Specification]	\$1000
Labor	Artist assistants, collaborators, etc.	
	[Specification]	\$2000
Transport	For equipment, laborers, art project, yourself	
	[Specification]	\$0
Site preparation	Cleaning the container and setting it up for your art project	
	[Specification]	[Ugx]
Installation needs	Lighting, sound, mounting boards, stands	
	[Specification]	\$1,000
Maintenance	Repairs, changing concepts	
	[Specification]	\$500
Other people related costs	Photographer, attendant	
	[Specification]	\$1000
Communication	Telephone, handout i.e. cards etc	
	[Specification]	\$1000
TOTAL		\$11,500.00

