

Book Productions

**The Latest in
Computer-Generated Literary Art**

nom de nom

a.k.a. Nick Montfort

nickm.com

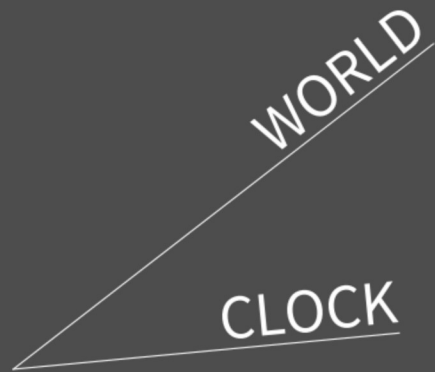
@party

10 June 2017

1. Introduce myself & my work
2. Compare demoscene productions with computer-generated books
3. Discuss 10 compelling books (being handed around now)
4. Announce a new series of computer-generated literature
5. Read from The Truelist (my next one, forthcoming in December)

ppg256-1

```
perl -le '  
sub b{@_=unpack"(A2)*",pop;$_[ra  
nd@_]}sub w{" ".b(cococacamamade  
bapabohamolaburatamihopodito).b(  
estsnslldsckregspstedbsnelengke  
msattewsntarshnknd)}{$_="\n\nthe  
".w."\n";$_=w." ".b(attoonnoof).  
w if$_;s/[au][ae]/a/;print;$_=0i  
f$_++>rand 9;sleep 1;redo} #Rev2  
'
```

NICK MONTFORT

ME NI MO
GA CK NT
WA FO
TT RT

NICK MONTFORT, SERGE BOUCHARDON,
CARLOS LEÓN, NATALIA FEDOROVA,
ANDREW CAMPANA, ALEKSANDRA MAŁECKA,
AND PIOTR MARECKI

2×6



LES FIGUES PRESS
LOS ANGELES

PIAU
NICK MONTFORT
PIOTR

Nanowatt

HERE HE STOOD. HERE HE
SAT. HERE HE KNELT.
HERE HE LAY. HERE HE
MOVED, TO AND FRO,
FROM THE DOOR TO
THE WINDOW, FROM
THE WINDOW TO THE
DOOR; FROM THE WIN-
DOW TO THE DOOR,
FROM THE

Demoscene Productions

Code/computing key

Non-interactive

Structure & “design”

Graphics & music

Often collaborative

Self-contained, original

Executables spread

Computer- Generated Books

Code/computing key

Non-interactive

Structure & concept

Printed language

Often solo

Network data, derivative

Source or nothing

Demoscene Productions

New graphical effects

Parties

For show/performance

Platform-specific

Sizecoding

Computer- Generated Books

New literary effects

NaNoGenMo, publishers

Few of us, not mainly

Only mine?

Only mine? But Twitter
output is constrained

Books Circulating

The First Book Ever Written by a Computer

THE POLICEMAN'S
BEARD
IS
HALF
CONSTRUCTED

Computer prose and poetry
by
Racter



Illustrations by Joan Hall

Introduction by William Chamberlain

A Bizarre and Fantastic Journey into the Mind of a Machine

WINNER SOFTWARE
WINNER BOOKS
© 1985 (U.S.A.)
0-13-021-101-1

Nanni Balestrini

Tristano

A Novel

#1272

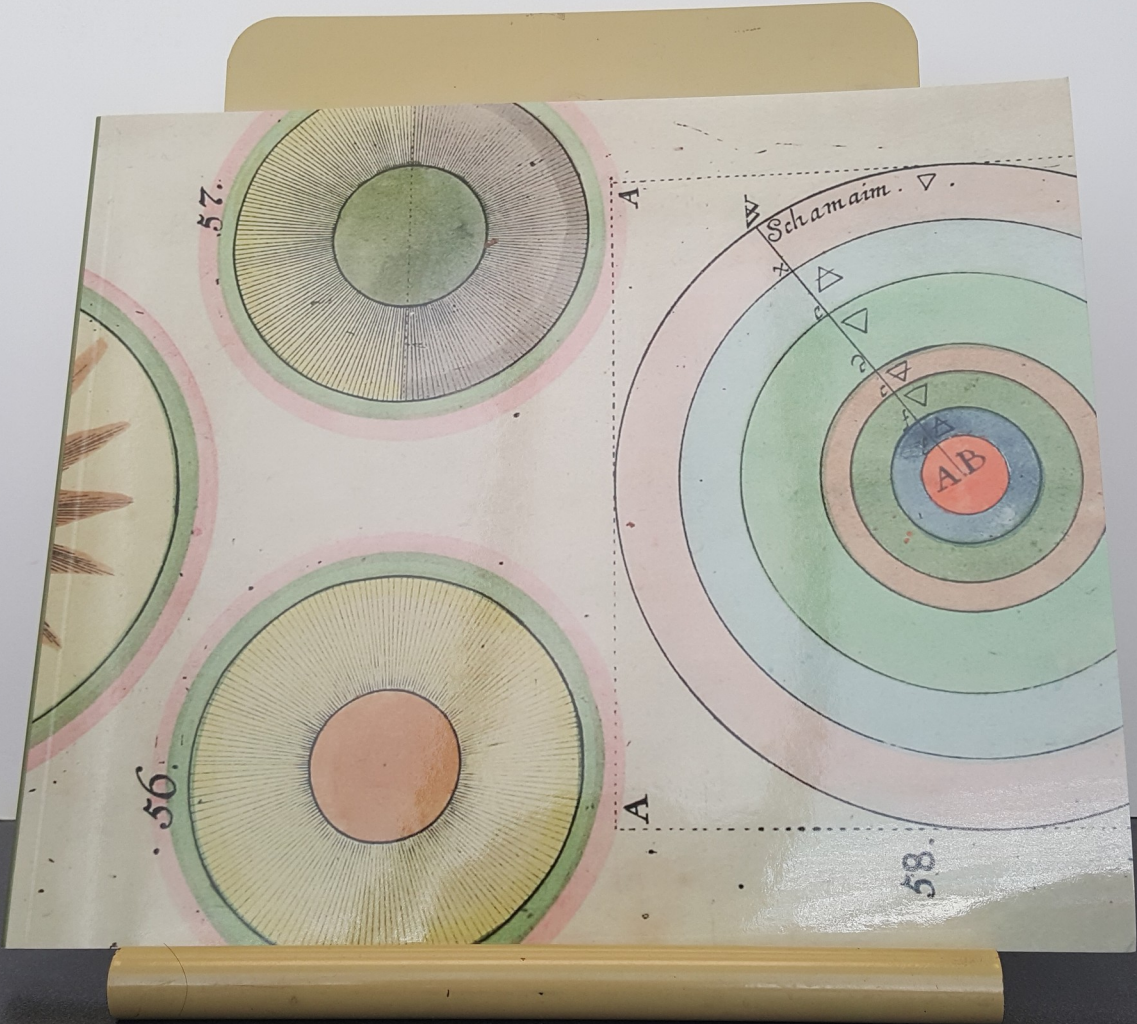
*'Balestrini's readers have become
co-authors (or maybe sole authors):
by exercising their own creativity.'*
From the foreword by

Umberto Eco

**DEATH
DEATH
DEATH
DEATH
DEATH**

ROB SEWARD

no people



A Sonic Atlas
of English Language

David Gissen

A SLOW YEAR

GAME POEMS

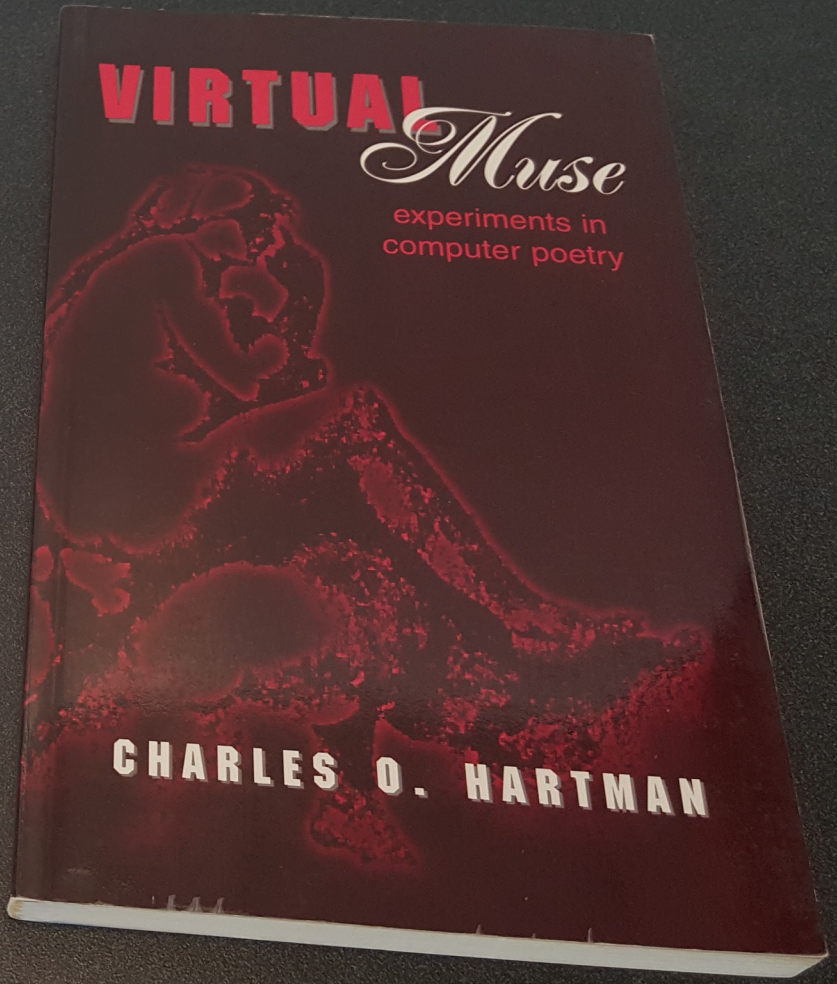
4 VIDEO
GAMES

1k MACHINED
HAIKU



Ian Bogost

SENTENCES.
SENTENCES.
SENTENCES.
Charles O. Hartman
and
Hugh Kenner
with an Afterword by
Hugh Kenner
SENTENCES.
SENTENCES.
SENTENCES.
SENTENCES.



USING ELECTRICITY

Counterpath Press, Denver

Nick Montfort, *The Truelist*

Rafael Pérez y Pérez, *Mexica: 20 Years–20 Stories*
Mexica: 20 años–20 historias

Allison Parrish, *Articulations*

Li Zillers, *Machine, Unlearning*

Ranjit Bhatnagar, (A Pentrametron book)

... and more? ...



THE TRUelist

NICK MONTFORT

Bonus Slide: Resources

- A good Python library for NLP:
<https://textblob.readthedocs.io>
- A bibliography of computer-generated books:
<https://nickm.com/post/2016/07/computer-generated-books/>

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Thanks – questions?
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