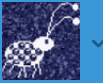




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AEASEA 2016 - The Physical Interface

Notes from Josh Clark's talk about devices and Internet of Things from An Event Apart Seattle 2016

by  Anne Gibson a year ago



Anne Gibson

@perpendicularme

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.@bigmediumjosh and the physical interface — that computer you keep in your pocket, for example #AEASEA

7:32 PM - 4 Apr 2016



Anne Gibson

@perpendicularme

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Curious Rituals: riousrituals.nearfuturelaboratory.com #AEASEA

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Christa Dickson

@IowaCodeNinja

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"It also helps that I'm high as a kite on gummy bears right now."
@bigmediumjosh #aeasea

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there are a million ways we can get the next generation of interfaces wrong — so we need to think hard! #AEASEA

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Disruption is a crummy goal when it comes to things like our home lives [#AEASEA](#)

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Christa Dickson

@IowaCodeNinja

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How can we make experiences that fit into our lives, rather than disrupting them. [@bigmediumjosh](#) [#aeasea](#)

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Christa Dickson

@IowaCodeNinja

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Ultimately we're trying to create mundane technologies. The idea of mundanity is what wildly successful technologies are made of. [#aeasea](#)

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Anne Gibson

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"My grandfather thought automatic car windows were ridiculous. You can't crank the window?" [#AEASEA](#)

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Christa Dickson

@IowaCodeNinja

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If technology becomes functional/accessible/cheap enough, it just becomes part of the fabric of the world. @bigmediumjosh #aeasea

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Anne Gibson

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Functional, cheap, accessible technology becomes part of our lives #AEASEA

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Christa Dickson

@IowaCodeNinja

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We have to make technology that bends to our lives, rather than the reverse. @bigmediumjosh #aeasea

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Christa Dickson

@IowaCodeNinja

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Technology is a thin layer of magic stretched over a framework of ones and zeroes. @bigmediumjosh #aeasea

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We started at punch cards, then teletype, then command line, then the GUI, then the touchscreen... #AEASEA

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The user interface metaphor is becoming more aligned with the physical world every year #AEASEA

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Our job is to translate intent into action - collapse the time between when they decide to do something and doing it #AEASEA

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Get the technology out of the way! #AEASEA

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The physical world is becoming more digital, and vice versa. The smartphone is stitching them together [#AEASEA](#)

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Christa Dickson
@IowaCodeNinja

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The smartphone is the first successful Internet of Things device.
[@bigmediumjosh](#) [#aeasea](#)

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Christa Dickson
@IowaCodeNinja

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The phone is the worst app on your pocket computer, the one you least want to use. [@bigmediumjosh](#) [#aeasea](#)

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There are tons of things we can do with the sensors on the browser w3.org/standards/tech... list a bunch of them [#AEASEA](#)

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Four kinds of physical interfaces

1. Sensor input to the web
2. Notifications from the web [#AEASEA](#)

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3. Avatar of digital info
4. Physical interaction [#AEASEA](#)

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Anne Gibson

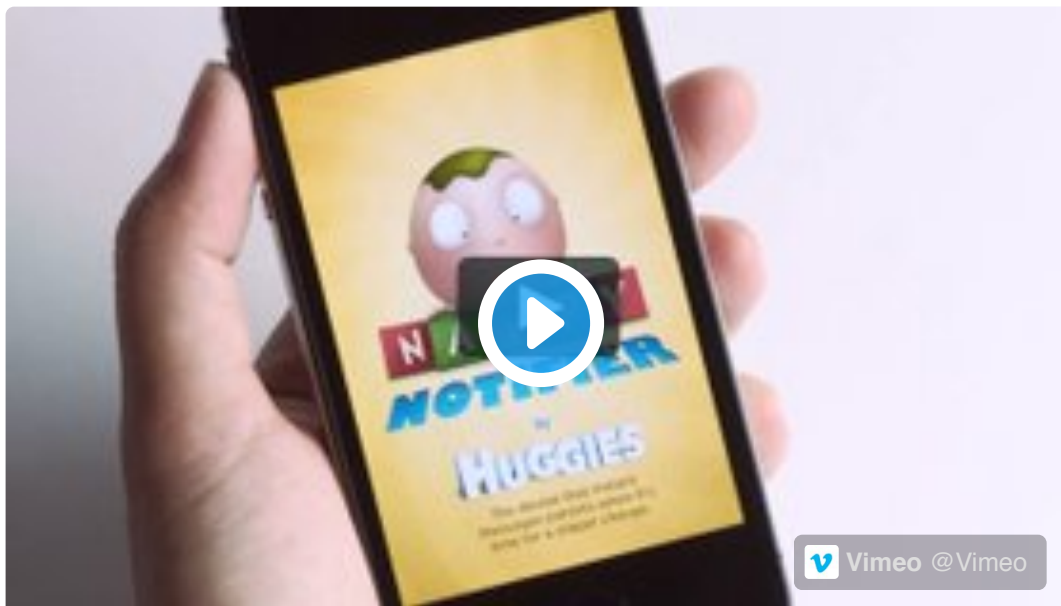
@perpendicularme

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1. Sensor inputs: mobile gives computing power to immobile objects. Always a powerful networked computer (phone) nearby [#AEASEA](#)

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Nappy notifier bit.ly/diaper-app (creeeeeeepy) #AEASEA

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Christa Dickson

@IowaCodeNinja

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"Basically, what I'm saying is: forget this web thing. Diapers are the future. Plastics, young man." @bigmediumjosh #aeasea

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Andrea 🦄🎨 & 🐕🏡

@amcvittie

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... That nappy notifier could save folks a lot of flooded basement woes if left on the floor by a sump hole... #AEASEA

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Christa Dickson

@IowaCodeNinja

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Mobile gives computing power to objects. Put a sensor in a thing, and presume that there's a powerfully networked computer nearby. #aeasea

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Propellerhealth.com - Bluetooth device registers time and place of asthma attacks based on inhaler use. Reports out #AEASEA

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Propeller Health | Respiratory Health Manag...

Propeller is the leading mobile platform for respiratory health management. Through sensors, mobile apps and services, we help propellerhealth.com



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Invisible interface! You don't change your behavior, but you get better reporting. Can also report at the community level #AEASEA

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How do I help the individual? Then, how do we understand public health issues on top of that? #AEASEA

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Christa Dickson
@IowaCodeNinja

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How can I take an individual problem and make it into community data that can transform industries? @bigmediumjosh #aeasea

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Jessica Tate
@missjessicatate

 Follow

Mobile is a reaction to the user's moment of inspiration. #aeasea

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@perpendicularme

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We don't necessarily want consumer product logos all over our homes (Amazon dash button), but it's an interesting direction #AEASEA

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@perpendicularme

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Bluetooth buttons you wire up to IFTT allow you to build your own devices. Simple physical sensor -> digital actions
[#AEASEA](#)

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2. Web gets physical: notification from web services [#AEASEA](#)

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Christa Dickson
@IowaCodeNinja

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We're starting to see lots of physical/digital bridges: e.g. Bluetooth buttons that talk to services like IFTTT.
[@bigmediumjosh](#) [#aeasea](#)

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Glow caps - pill bottle lights up and makes a sound when it's due for meds, texts you. [#AEASEA](#)

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Will Ogles
@WillOgles

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"The web doesn't always mean the browser" #aeasea

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Anne Gibson
@perpendicularme

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Web != browser. Not desktop. Maybe a ring? Ringly delivers notifications subtly by lighting up. Somewhat invisible #AEASEA

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@perpendicularme

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Shoes that buzz - haptic queues give you Spidy Senses, additional awareness. Done wrong it's a data rash #AEASEA

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Andrea 🦄🎨 & 🐕🖼️
@amcvittie

 Follow

My Apple Watch actually reduced Data Rash. I stow my phone far more and only let a tiny number of notifiers onto my wrist.

#AEASEA

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Anne Gibson

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Ditto - my watch helps me not check the phone constantly!

[#AEASEA](#) [twitter.com/amcvittie/stat...](#)

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Anne Gibson

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How do we design *calm* technology? Less distracting, less attention [#AEASEA](#)

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Christa Dickson

@IowaCodeNinja

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We need devices that move data gently into the background, instead of making it a constant nag. [@bigmediumjosh](#) [#aeasea](#)

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3. How are we creating physical avatar of digital info? We've been doing the reverse for 20 years [#AEASEA](#)

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What if we can get info direct from an object? How do we access that data? #AEASEA

8:00 PM - 4 Apr 2016



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@IowaCodeNinja

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What if a physical store could do all the best things an online store can do? e.g. Amazon Books @bigmediumjosh #aeasea

8:01 PM - 4 Apr 2016



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What if you could touch a product to get its info? Pay by walking out with a product? Rent a zip car by touch? #AEASEA

8:02 PM - 4 Apr 2016



Christa Dickson
@IowaCodeNinja

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Amazon Books has covers, user ratings, reviews, easy ways to check info online. But what if you could touch a product to get info? #aeasea

8:02 PM - 4 Apr 2016





Anne Gibson

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In China nearly every commercial activity is through a QR code, but that's the only place it's working [#AEASEA](#)

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Anne Gibson

@perpendicularme

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[Lifefprintphotos.com](#) - print a photo, hold it to your camera on your phone and it will play a video associated with the photo [#AEASEA](#)

8:04 PM - 4 Apr 2016



Christa Dickson

@IowaCodeNinja

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So far, all smart devices require proprietary apps. An amazing novelty, but it doesn't scale. [@bigmediumjosh](#) [#aeasea](#)

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What if every light bulb brand had its own app? Ugh. Hard to manage the apps we have [#AEASEA](#)

8:04 PM - 4 Apr 2016





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Apps have same distribution as tasks - top 4 get vast majority of usage, most are unused most of the time #AEASEA

8:05 PM - 4 Apr 2016



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@perpendicularme

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Where's the universal connector network? The World Wide Web of things? It's "the physical web" #AEASEA

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YouTube @YouTube



Anne Gibson
@perpendicularme

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The Physical Web bit.ly/physical-web : see a list of nearby devices, tap, and do what you need. Only about getting URL to phone #AEASEA

8:07 PM - 4 Apr 2016





Will Ogles
@WillOgles

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"The physical web is like QR codes, except people will actually use the physical web." @bigmediumjosh #aeasea

8:12 PM - 4 Apr 2016

  2  1



Anne Gibson
@perpendicularme

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This space (room) is broadcasting its URL, so we can get to the slides for the presentation #AEASEA

8:09 PM - 4 Apr 2016



Christa Dickson
@IowaCodeNinja

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Our screens already play too big of a role in our lives. How do we get eyes-free digital experiences? @bigmediumjosh #aeasea

8:10 PM - 4 Apr 2016



Anne Gibson
@perpendicularme

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4. Physical interaction! bit.ly/mint-thaw shows a way to control a laptop with a phone & use the phone to transform it #AEASEA

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“The way we do it right now is we constantly email shit to ourselves.” #AEASEA

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[Bit.ly/happy-larry](http://bit.ly/happy-larry) — tap the desktop with the phone and the music moves from the phone to the desktop computer #AEASEA

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Anne Gibson
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These devices are physical, so they can work together. Imagine if the information itself was physical, shake it out #AEASEA

8:14 PM - 4 Apr 2016



Zeldman ✓

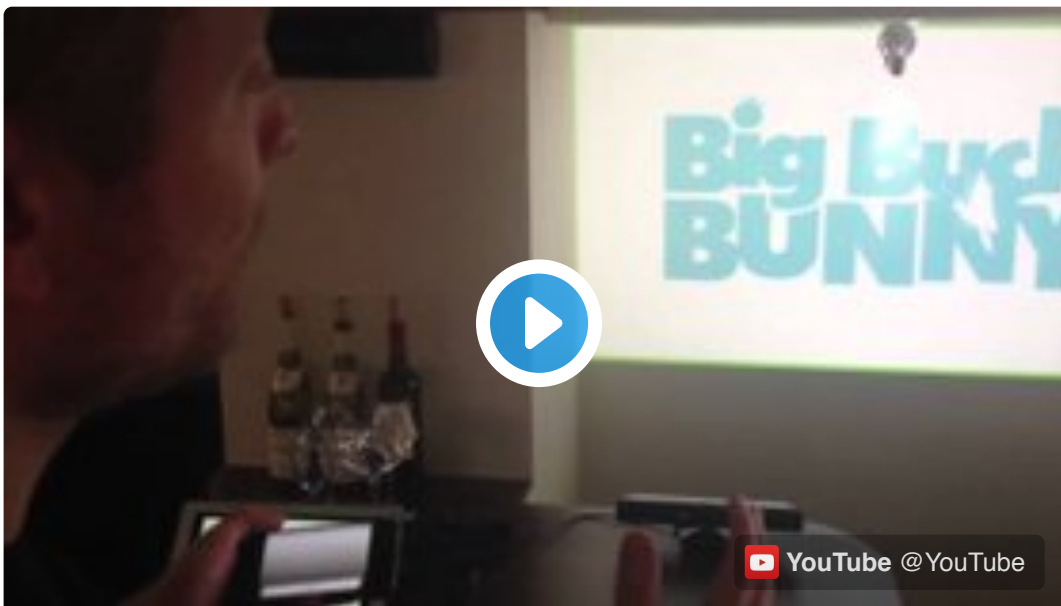
@zeldman

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Josh Clark, "The Physical Interface" #IoT #aeasea
[@bigmediumjosh](#) #IXD #InternetOfThings

8:15 PM - 4 Apr 2016 · Seattle, WA





Anne Gibson

@perpendicularme

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Grab Magic bit.ly/grab-magic Uses Kinect on a tv to “grab” something with a gesture and throw it onto his phone to then tweet #AEASEA

8:16 PM - 4 Apr 2016



Christa Dickson

@IowaCodeNinja

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These gestural languages are some Minority Report-level shit here, y'all. @bigmediumjosh #aeasea

8:15 PM - 4 Apr 2016





Christa Dickson

@IowaCodeNinja

 Follow

Digital/physical magic comes out of the combination of very simple things. The magic is in the combination.

[@bigmediumjosh](#) [#aeasea](#)

8:17 PM - 4 Apr 2016



Anne Gibson

@perpendicularme

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We've barely scratched the surface of what the common technology we already have in a middle class home can do

[#AEASEA](#)

8:17 PM - 4 Apr 2016



terryfritsch

@terryfritsch

 Follow

The physical web is a real thing...already on Android Chrome. This just changed my entire feeling about the uselessness of the IoT. [#aeasea](#)

8:18 PM - 4 Apr 2016



Christa Dickson

@IowaCodeNinja

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What if you could wire up your own magic switches and dials to edit reality? [@bigmediumjosh](#) [#aeasea](#)

8:19 PM - 4 Apr 2016





Anne Gibson
@perpendicularme

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Realityeditor.org - designs on items allow you to “wire” physical objects together so dials control lamps, etc. #AEASEA

8:20 PM - 4 Apr 2016



Reality Editor

A new kind of tool for empowering you to connect and manipulate the functionality of physical objects.

realityeditor.org

1



'''-(๖಼಼)~'''
@whozzawuzza

Follow

Ok this realityeditor.org video is straight up insane. #aeasea

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Reality Editor

A new kind of tool for empowering you to connect and manipulate the functionality of physical objects.

realityeditor.org

3



Anne Gibson
@perpendicularme

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Maybe we use the screens to do the configuration, and the physical objects do the operations. MIT’s Open Hybrid program #AEASEA

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Christa Dickson

@IowaCodeNinja

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Screens configure, objects operate. @bigmediumjosh #aeasea

8:21 PM - 4 Apr 2016



Anne Gibson

@perpendicularme

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openhybrid.org is available now - make your own physical device experiments #AEASEA

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Open Hybrid

Open Hybrid is an Open Source AR Platform for Physical Computing and IoT. It is based on Web and Arduino.

openhybrid.org



Christa Dickson

@IowaCodeNinja

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Physical objects tell us how they're used. Form follows function.

@bigmediumjosh #aeasea

8:22 PM - 4 Apr 2016





Anne Gibson

@perpendicularme

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Today's digital devices are all shapeless white goo. Plastic white boxes FTL. Form divorced from function [#AEASEA](#)

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Will Ogles

@WillOgles

 Follow

"Form has divorced from function". Irreconcilable differences, probably. [#aeasea](#)

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Anne Gibson

@perpendicularme

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Industrial design and interaction design both have to do a better job of investing physical objects with digital super powers [#AEASEA](#)

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   4



Anne Gibson

@perpendicularme

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Make the objects magic!

(Btw the little icons on the slide tops are awesome [@bigmediumjosh](#)) [#AEASEA](#)

8:24 PM - 4 Apr 2016



Christa Dickson

@IowaCodeNinja

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I had two Newtons at a previous job, BTW, [#aeasea](#) Bingo folks.
[#JustSayin](#)

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Anne Gibson

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Design for the thing's essential "thingness". A viewfinder that can show the nighttime at day, or 50 years ago today [#AEASEA](#)

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What are the possibilities around a digital jacket? [#AEASEA](#)

8:26 PM - 4 Apr 2016



Anne Gibson

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AEIOU
Activities
Environments
Interactions
Objects
Users [#AEASEA](#)

8:27 PM - 4 Apr 2016



James Cliburn
@JCFGD

 Follow

The AEIOU of thinking about / framing the conversation about making a product smart #aeasea #aea16

8:30 PM - 4 Apr 2016

  2  7



Christa Dickson
@IowaCodeNinja

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We need to observe how real people use things in their native environments. @bigmediumjosh #aeasea

8:27 PM - 4 Apr 2016



Anne Gibson

@perpendicularme

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Jackets are about moving between things. They're fashion elements. They have physical and emotional contexts. What can we add? #AEASEA

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Anne Gibson

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 Follow

What is the emotional possibilities of conversation in physical context? #AEASEA

8:28 PM - 4 Apr 2016



Anne Gibson

@perpendicularme

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Alexa is a single AI interface for over 300 services, and you can hook up your own (and it doesn't have a screen) #AEASEA

8:30 PM - 4 Apr 2016



Anne Gibson

@perpendicularme

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Man runs in "Alexa, how tall is Mt. Everest?" - What was that guy doing in the back yard? #AEASEA

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Anne Gibson
@perpendicularme

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Dangers: computers are better at speaking than listening. And they talk CONSTANTLY. How do we reduce the chatter?

[#AEASEA](#)

8:31 PM - 4 Apr 2016



Christa Dickson
@IowaCodeNinja

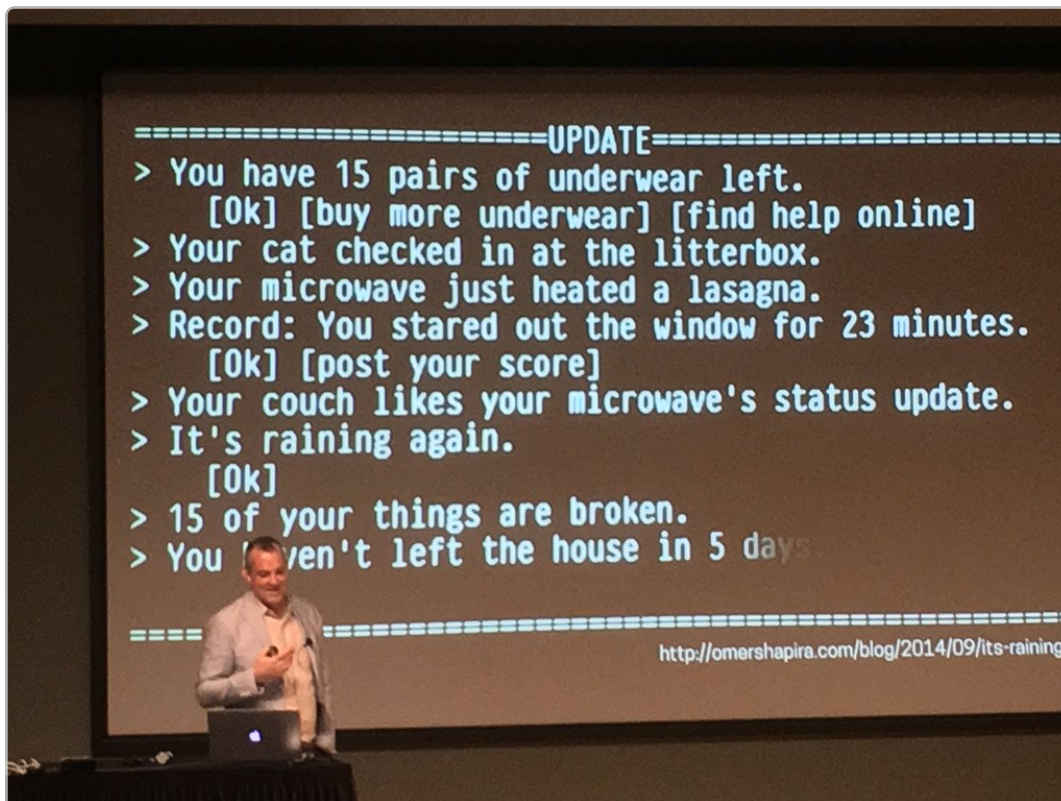
 Follow

We need to be careful not to over-clutter ourselves with data.
We need to deliver on a real human need.

omershapira.com/blog/2014/09/i... [#aeasea](#)

8:32 PM - 4 Apr 2016





Will Ogles
@WillOgles

Follow

"Maybe our devices are too invasive..." @bigmediumjosh
[#aeasea](#)

8:36 PM - 4 Apr 2016

2 3



""-(๖ಘಘ)-""
@whozzawuzza

Follow

your cat checked in at the letterbox [#aeasea](#)

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James Cliburn
@JCFGD

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"The goal isn't making the house smart, it's about making it better at what it's already doing" - @bigmediumjosh #aeasea #aea16 #IoT

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1 1



Will Ogles
@WillOgles

Follow

"Connected does not mean smart and smart does not mean good" @bigmediumjosh #aeasea

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2 2



Christa Dickson
@IowaCodeNinja

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How does all this data tie into surveillance capitalism/Big Brother nanny state concepts? @bigmediumjosh #aeasea

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Anne Gibson
@perpendicularme

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What happens when individual tracking gets into your house?
Was that product created with your best interests in mind?
#AEASEA

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Anne Gibson

@perpendicularme

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When tech gets too smart, it gets to be a little too much.
(Creeeeeeepy!) Need to amplify our humanity #AEASEA

8:34 PM - 4 Apr 2016

   1



Christa Dickson

@IowaCodeNinja

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Use technology to amplify our humanity, not the reverse.
[@bigmediumjosh](#) #aeasea

8:34 PM - 4 Apr 2016



Anne Gibson

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Technology is a multiplier of the values we apply it to #AEASEA

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  1  2



Ronald Farber

@ronald_farber

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The goal is not to make things talk, it's to improve the
conversation and amplify our humanity. - [@bigmediumjosh](#)
#aeasea

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Christa Dickson

@IowaCodeNinja

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Ethical Design Manifesto: ind.ie/ethical-design/

@bigmediumjosh #aeasea

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2



Nicki Rios

@nicki_rios

Follow

Beyond the phone. @bigmediumjosh #aeasea

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2



Zeldman

@zeldman

Follow

Awesome 30-second video on the underside of the smart home.

“We need to talk.” #iot #aeasea @bigmediumjosh

youtube.com/watch?v=axAqJO...

8:37 PM - 4 Apr 2016 · Seattle, WA

9 17



Anne Gibson
@perpendicularme

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[Ind.ie/blog/ethical-d...](#) by @indie to check the values of our creations #AEASEA

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Christa Dickson
@IowaCodeNinja

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We're the ones designing this future, which gives us both great power and great responsibility. @bigmediumjosh #aeasea

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