THE BIG REVEAL

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Introduction

Welcome to the 20th edition of my independent innovation newsletter, The Big Reveal. You can also watch or listen on YouTube here.

It was my pleasure to host the Innovatours conference and be opening keynote at The VFX Festival.

I'm excited to be speaking at Building the Ultimate Creative Workspace 12th, PRG's Hear Yourself Think 25th, Oxfordshire Creative Industries Showcase 27th, and exhibiting with INITION at the ARVR World Summit 12-13th as part of London Tech Week!

Check out my video interview with ERPinNews here, and my thoughts on how VR will impact consumer behaviour here. Hit me up if you'd like to see the Insight Studio or to collaborate!

Thanks!
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Photo by Andrew Leo

01
Winston

Winston is a plug-n-play privacy filter that reclaims your use of the internet on all connected devices to stop tracking, spying and hacking. It scrambles, encrypts, and anonymises your home internet activity, and unlike VPNs that only work with a single device and can be slow and unreliable, it can work across all devices to stop personal data tracking. Currently on Kickstarter where a unit can be bought for $209, Winston plans to ship in October 2019.
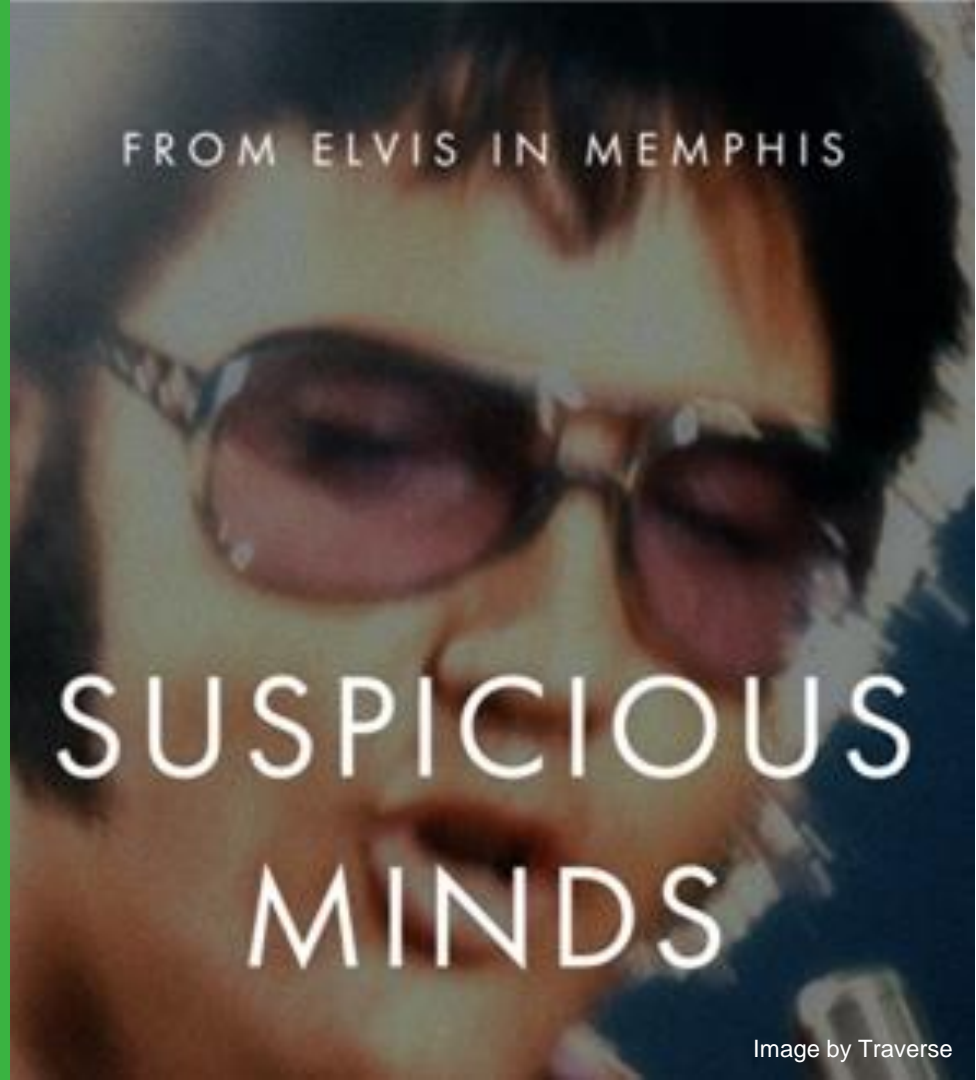
Kickstarter.

Image by Winston

02
Traverse

Traverse is an app for iOS and Bose AR Sunglasses that makes listening physical, delivering immersive 'augmented reality audio' experiences. The sensors in Bose's AR audio wearable incorporates a person's movements through the sound-space. Visit Elvis' recording studio and walk around the space to hear 'close-ups' of different instruments and vocalists as if you are really there.

Website.

Image by Traverse

03
Runway

A new desktop application called Runway allows anyone to run their own AI experiments with no technical knowledge required. It is 'like an App Store' for a type of artificial intelligence called GAN - generative adversarial network - used to make and manipulate text, images, or videos. Dozens of GANs are available, including facial recognition, image labelling, and OpenAI's super-trolling text-generating AI. Because GANs use a lot of power, Runway does the processing on cloud-hosted servers, requiring users to pay 5¢ per minute.

Article.

Image by The New Scientist

04
Hipanda

Chinese streetwear brand Hipanda has opened a flagship store in Tokyo that features an Augmented Reality customer journey. The AR begins from your mobile as the logo triggers a panda to jump out of the screen. AR brings products to life with movement and visitors can navigate the 'haunted panda house' to discover hidden characters. With mirrored wall and shadow-free lighting, the perception between physical and digital is blurred to create what they call an 'Augmented experience'.

Article.

Image by Design Boom

05
Lilium

German start-up Lilium has unveiled a five-seater jet-powered all-electric air taxi to be fully operational in cities by 2025. The prototype aircraft is designed to take off and land vertically before flying horizontally. Future passengers will be able to book the flying taxi service through an app that will let them locate a landing pad near them. The aim is to make prices comparable to a regular taxi, but four times faster. It relies on the lift generated by its fixed wing to remain airborne, reducing the amount of power required whilst cruising.

Website.

Image by Lilium

06
Dali Lives

The Dalí Museum in St Petersburg, Florida has used artificial intelligence technique, Deepfakes, to bring the surrealist artist "back to life". In this video installation, Dalí greets visitors from multiple screens and engages in a short interactions with them, speaking in a mix of genuine Dalí quotes and invented present-day commentary. He even takies out a smartphone to snap a selfie with his audience. A machine-learning algorithm studied hours of video and then superimposed his facial features over an actor .

Website.

Image by The Verge

07
Rognan

IKEA and Ori have revealed a new range of robotic furniture for small-space living. 'Rognan', a shape-shifting furniture system, allows you to transform a living room into a bedroom or walk-in closet at the touch of a button. The system creates a map of the space using machine learning, allowing the system to build up an accurate picture of the room.
Rognan will be trialled in the Hong Kong and Japanese markets from early next year, with a view to expand worldwide.
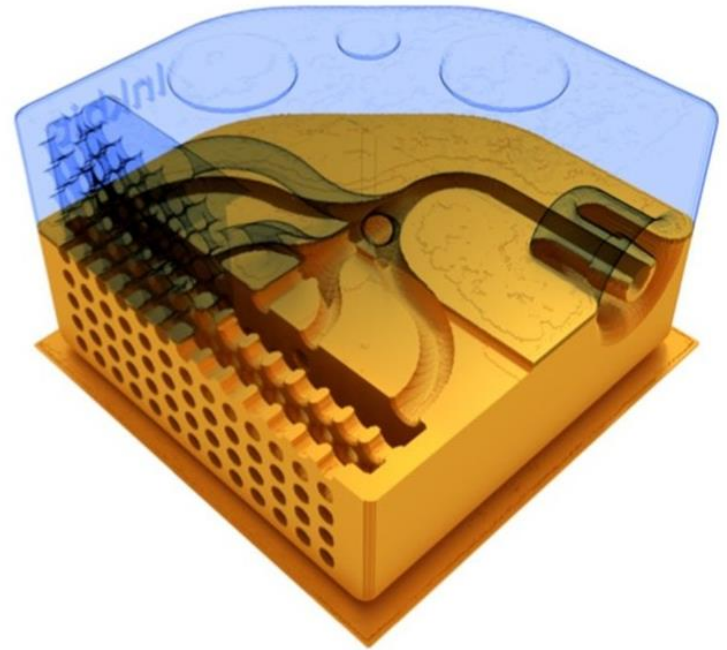
Article.

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Image by IKEA

08
Inkbit

Inkbit is a 3D printer powered by machine vision and artificial intelligence that overcomes traditional constraints by giving machines "eyes and brains." Inkbit is working to bring all of the benefits of 3D printing to products that have never been printed before, aiming to do so at volumes that would radically disrupt production processes in multiple industries. The vision system scans each layer of an object as it's being printed to correct errors in real-time, while the machine-learning system uses that information to predict the warping behaviour of materials and make more accurate final products.

Article.

Image by 3D Printing Media Network

09
Roboats

The city of Amsterdam is teaming up with MIT to help them move towards a future where autonomous boats may populate their canals. Looking to develop the world's first fleet of self-driving floating vessels, these autonomous platforms will combine together to form floating bridges, stages and marketplaces, collect waste, deliver goods, and transport people, all while collecting data about the city. The boats have small AR tags that other boats can recognise for orientation when docking.
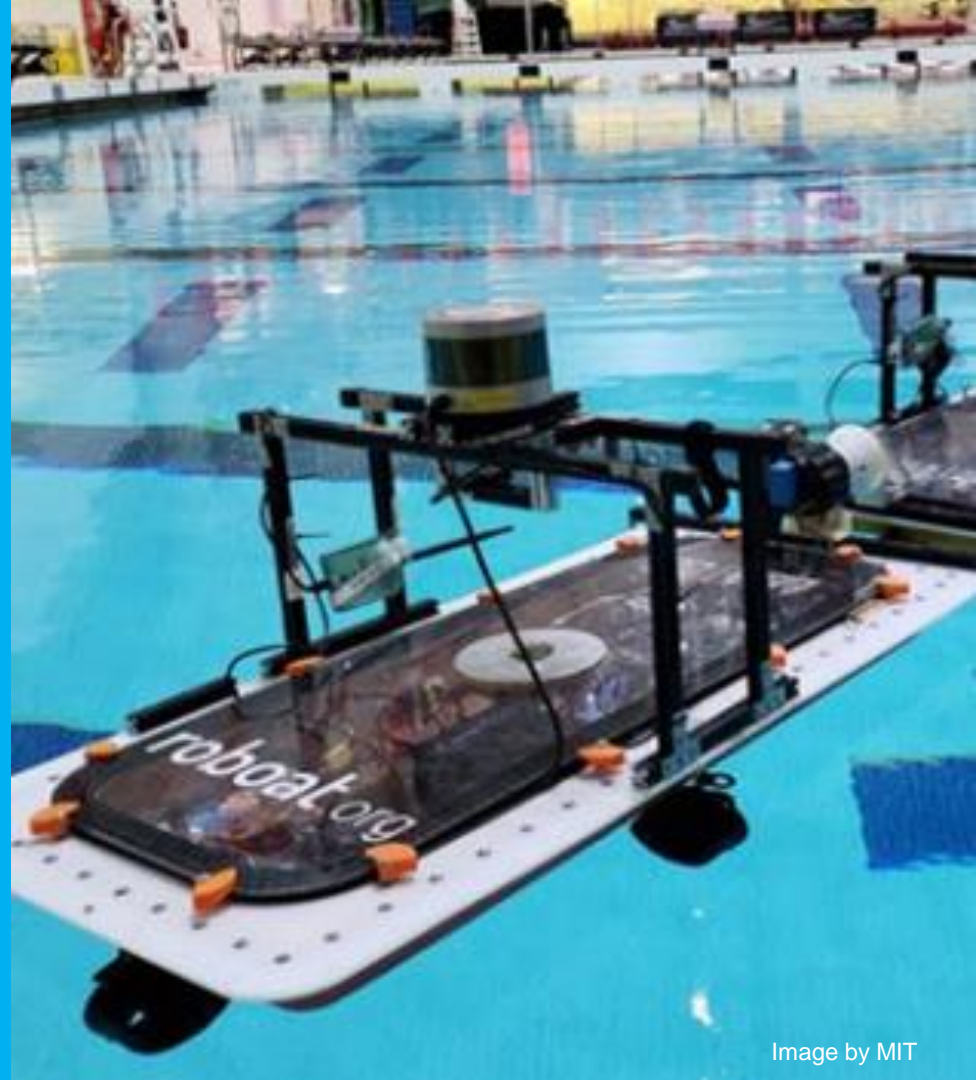
Website.

Image by MIT

10
Focals

Putting fashion first, Focals are custom-built smart glasses with a holographic display only you can see. They can keep you connected with friends and navigate without having to look at your phone, and come with Alexa built-in to play music, hear the news, see the weather, and control your smart home. Available with prescription lenses, they have showrooms in Brooklyn and Toronto, and retail for about $599.

Website.

Image by North

Thank you

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