

Future Archaeology

Magnus, Cathy, Jon

Choreography

Magical object

Kinect

Archeology

Future

Movements

LIGHT

Geology

Control of mirror w. image

Gestures

occult/ritual

Reenactment

ghost

of gestures (position from diff. sources)

Icons

Illusions

Sex (like doing it)

Portals

Transportation

SM - MACHINES / TOYS

Compression

Train

Combining two spaces

applying to non-digital

Long form

Machine directing

duration

Cubos

Multiple dimensions

Failed simulacra

Domains

- History & Archaeology
- Ritual
- The FUTURE!

We are studying *future archaeology*
because we want to find out *what objects*
will be used in *future rituals*.

Research

Rituals in civic society (today)

Oaths of allegiance, monuments, flags, hanging flags differently, parading, judge's appearance in the court, the mayor's chain, key to the city

Rituals in civic society (today)



Rituals in civic society (today)



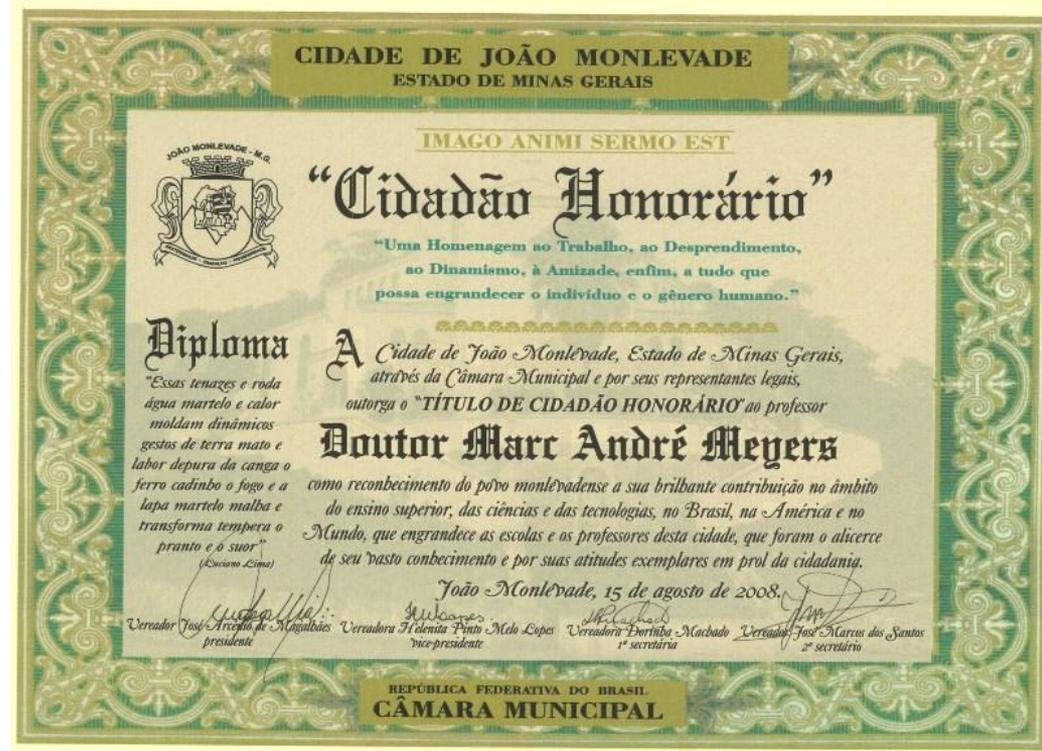
Rituals in civic society (today)



Narrowing in

Cargo cults (cult of goods)

Key to the city / freedom of serfdom



Honorary citizenship; the idea of outstanding or special member of society



Cargo cults

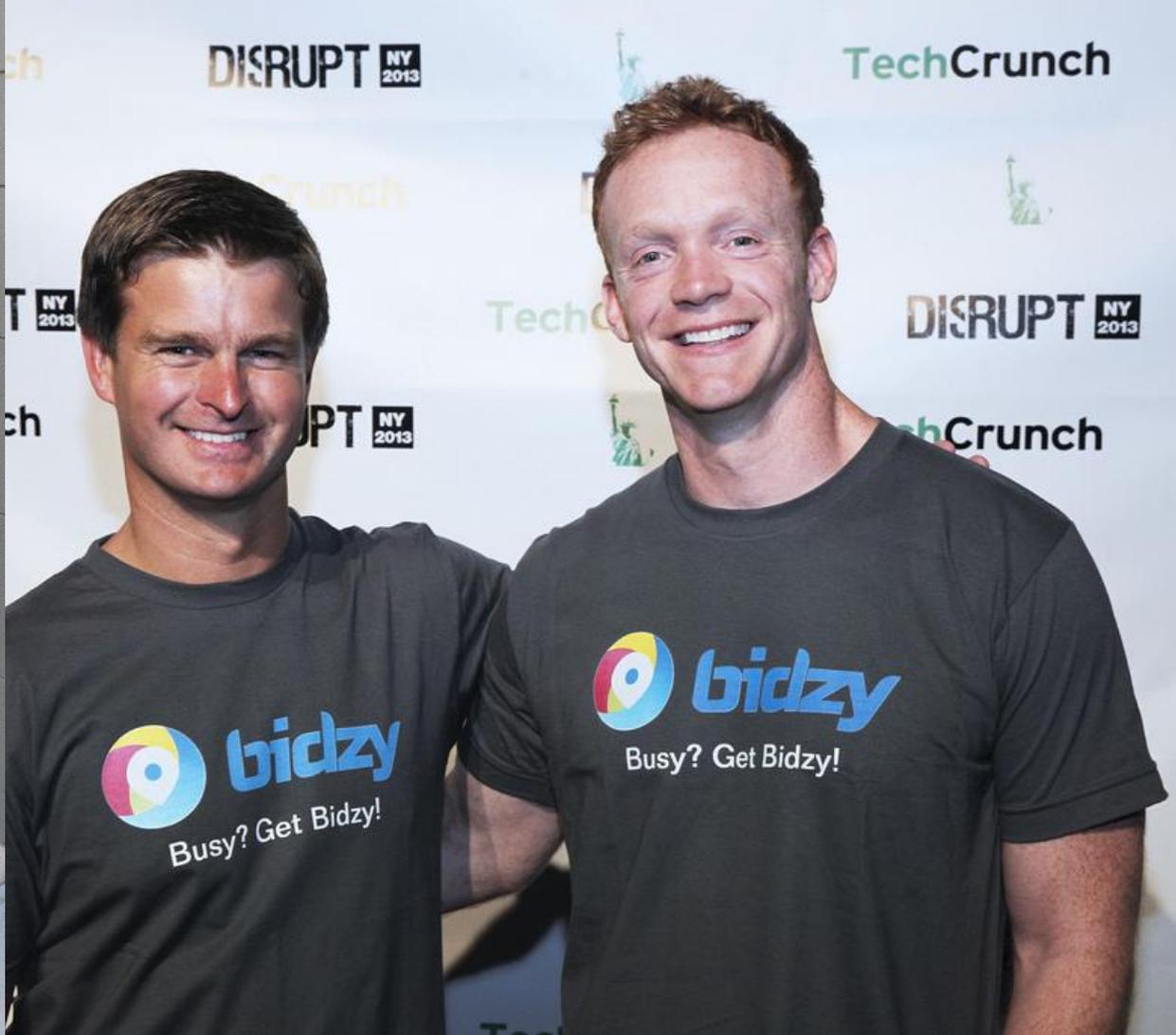


Cargo cults

Honorary citizenship derives from “Freedom of the City” which is a feudal concept of freedom from serfdom under a lord or master; it gives you freedom to not be a part of the rest of society.

Similarly, the cargo cults worship colonial goods (cargo), while still wishing them gone in a return to a time before colonialism.

Corporate Culture



Corporate culture

- Gallup: average American work-week has ballooned to 47 hours (4 in 10 work > 50)
 - <http://www.gallup.com/poll/175286/hour-workweek-actually-longer-seven-hours.aspx>
- Corporate Personhood:
 - 14th Amendment (interpretation of 'person')
 - <https://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/ourdocs/14thamendment.html>
 - Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission:
 - <https://www.law.cornell.edu/supct/html/08-205.ZS.html>
 - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Citizens_United_v._FEC

Corporate Ritual

Corporate Ritual

- CEO ringing the opening bell on Wall Street when their company IPOs
- Group feasts for the board members

Rituals in Religion

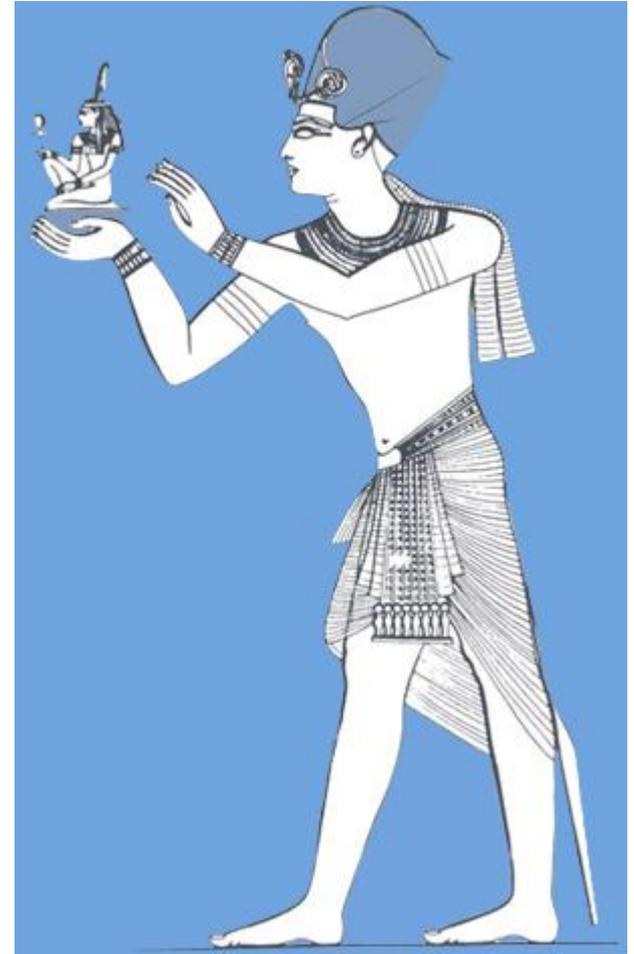
Religious ritual is a complex language composed of speech-acts & meaningful activities.

Egyptian Rituals

Soul's Journey to Afterlife

Religious Ritual - Egypt

- No one doubts Egyptian religion was highly ritualistic.
- As an example and perspective ritual behavior in ancient Egypt: Mummification
- Mummification synchronized with a series of natural events in complex mythologies, a theology of human being's spirit and afterlife fantasy.



Religious Ritual - Mummification

- It is a special event in time and space.
- It is a process of drying out and preparing a body to ensure preservation.
- Original belief is that only human body is preserved can store the human's spirits so that humans can reborn and continue an after based on its parent.



Abbott and Costello Meet the Mummy.
(Universal/Photofest)

Religious Ritual - Mummification

- Organs are removed except the heart.
- Believed heart was the center of intelligence and emotions that generated souls.
- Keep a purified human body just for spirits and souls to live in, which is a reverence to human spirits rather than physical bodies.







Jonathan Elias, director of the Harrisburg-based Akhmim Mummy Studies Consortium, explains the background of a three-dimensional model of Pesed, the 2,300-year-old Egyptian mummy at Westminster College in New Wilmington, PA, April 4, 2006. (AP Images/Pittsburgh Tribune-Review/Keith Hodan)

- AMSC is a leading proponent of 3D printing technology applied to ancient mummies.
- The mummy CT scan (cat-scan) is a powerful tool for new mummy discoveries and for achieving a new understanding about Egyptian views of life and death, further-achieving eternal life.

“Container”

- Mummification is not only an ancient cultural fascinations, but about ourselves: what we have collectively believed, hoped and feared as being known as spirit.
- Contains desire, storing souls
- Each individual’s spirit can be stored as “data” in the future.

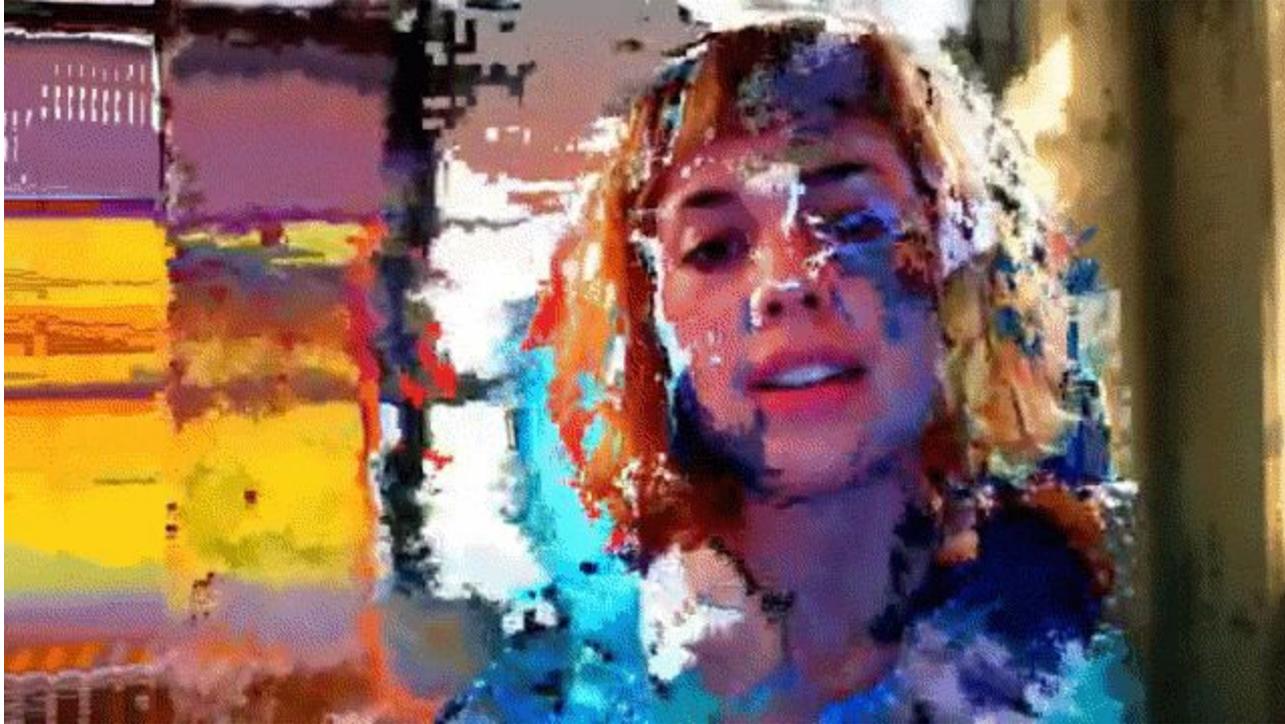


Precedents & Influences

Archeology

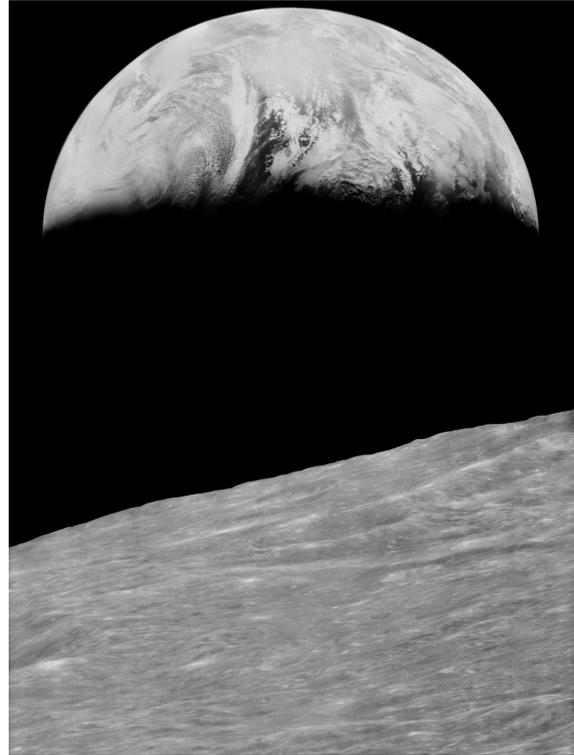


Archeology



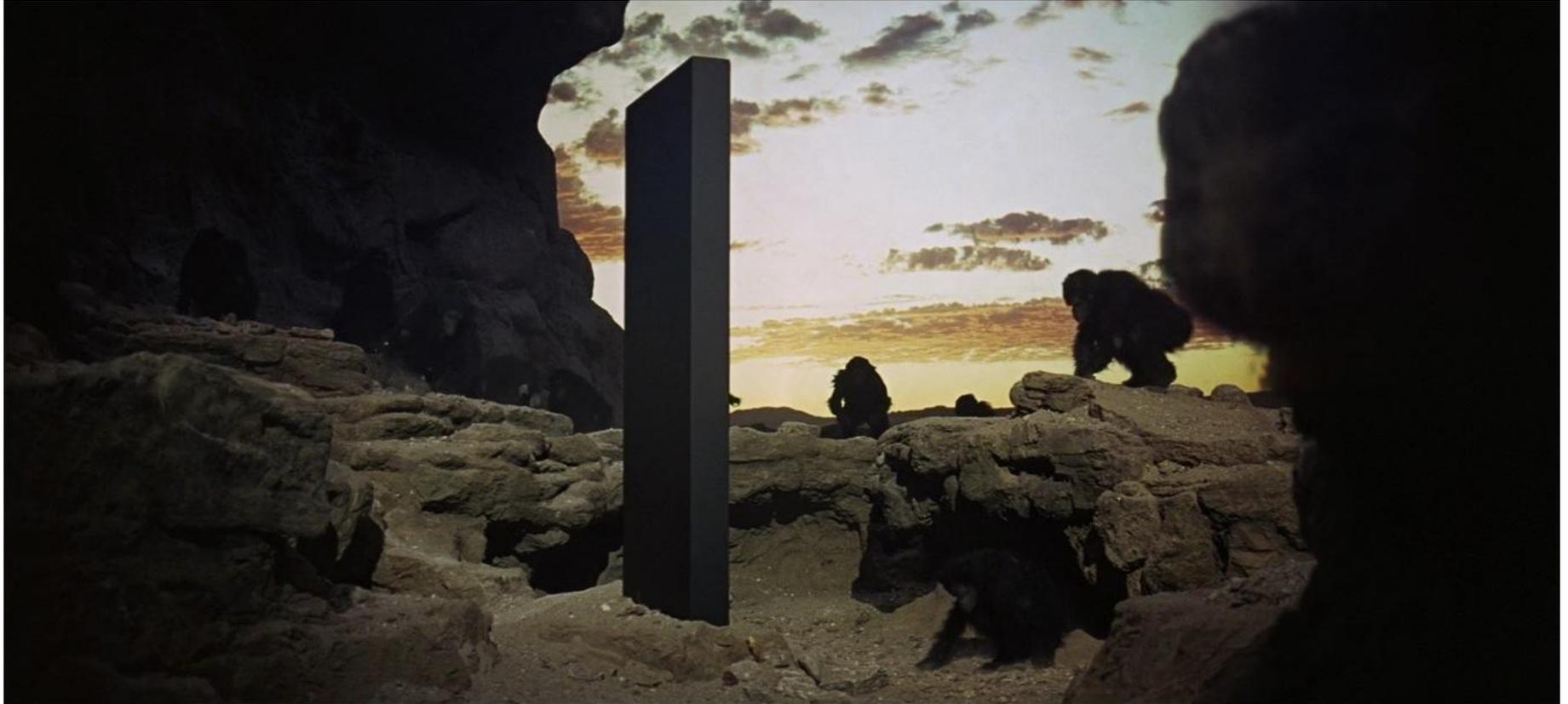
LOIRP

Lunar Orbiter Image Recovery Project



2001 Space Odyssey

Tools for the apes



Archer

Anachronistic time



John Cage “As Slow As Possible”

Will be finished in the year 2640



Ten Thousand Year signage

Nuclear waste signage problems

Design solution:

Thorns in the ground, creating folklore/myths, creating a comic strip warning
(source: 99% invisible radio episode Ten Thousand Years)

Premise

We must play two roles, separated in our minds:
the future citizen (artifact creator) and the
archaeologist of today

Future citizen (concepting, prototype, & fabrication)

- What is ritual in the future?
- In the present, we have ritual surrounding religion, government, and corporations
- In the future, the roles of these organizations is both stronger and collapsed into one

Process: separating the three areas (religion, government, corporations) and then combine the three ideas into one object

Civic Artifact

- In the present, a person can receive a special status in society; for example be exempt from paying tax, receive special honorary status in a city or a society (example: key to the city)
- In the future, a similar concept will exist: people will be allowed to ritually *cut themselves from the world*, so that they are allowed to be not considered persons anymore.
- It is a paradoxical situation - the person can only be cut from the society, if society exists
- The ritual is cutting of a stomach (a future symbolic version of the japanese *seppukku*)

Religious Artifact

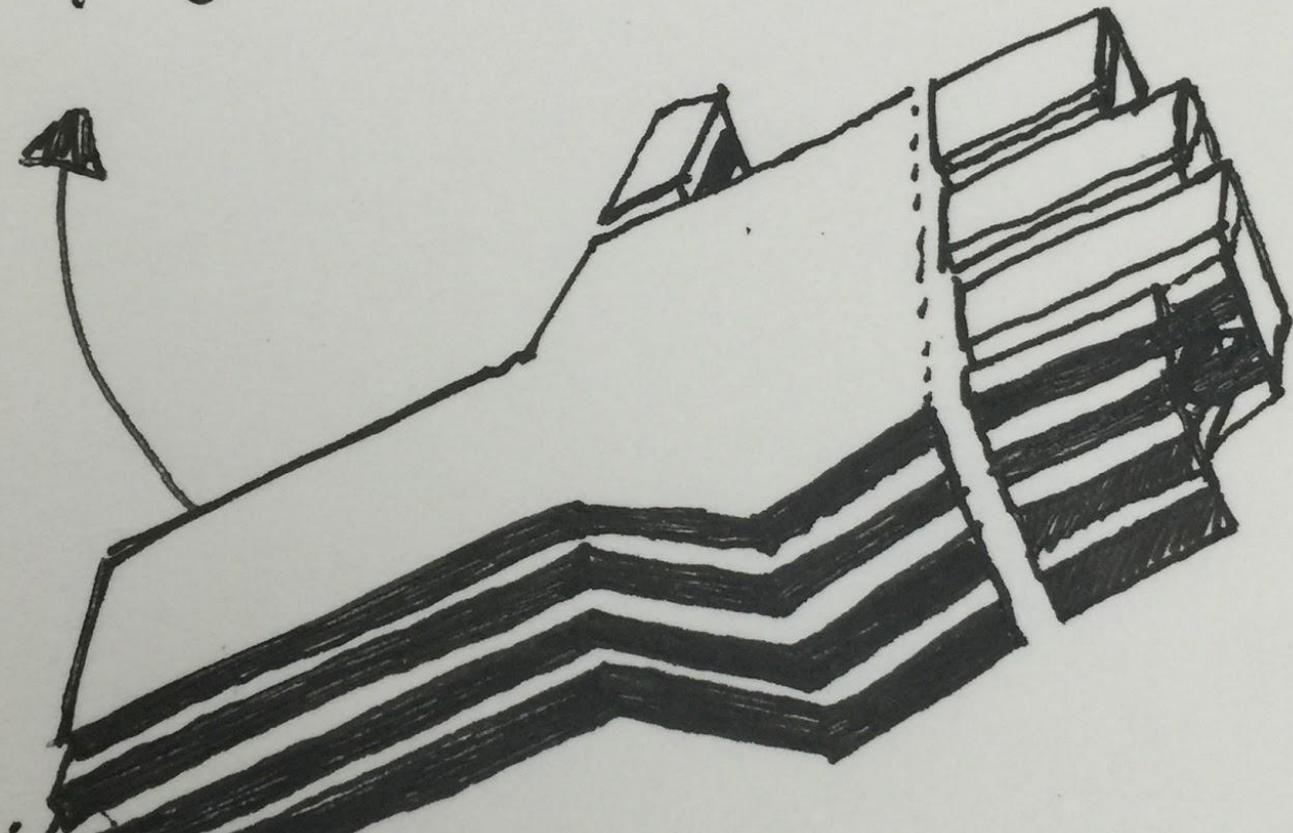
- Religions have beliefs in afterlife and form of further enlightenment (example, heaven-space for free spirits)
- In the future, a container of storing human's spirit and soul will be an object in religious rituals, achieve an "afterlife" free spirit when alive.
- Each individual's spirit can be stored as "data" in the future.

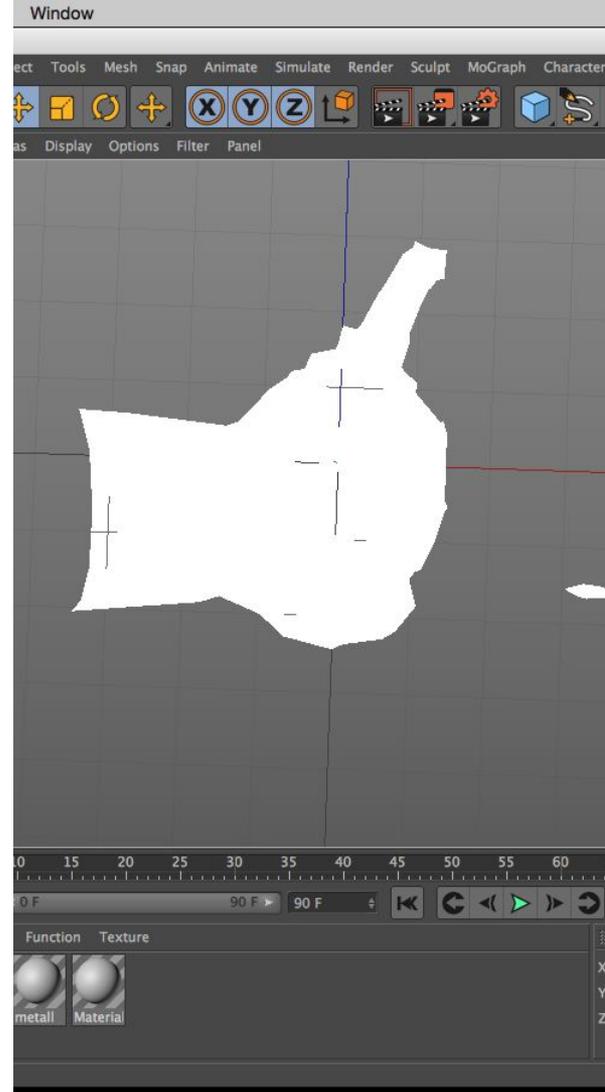
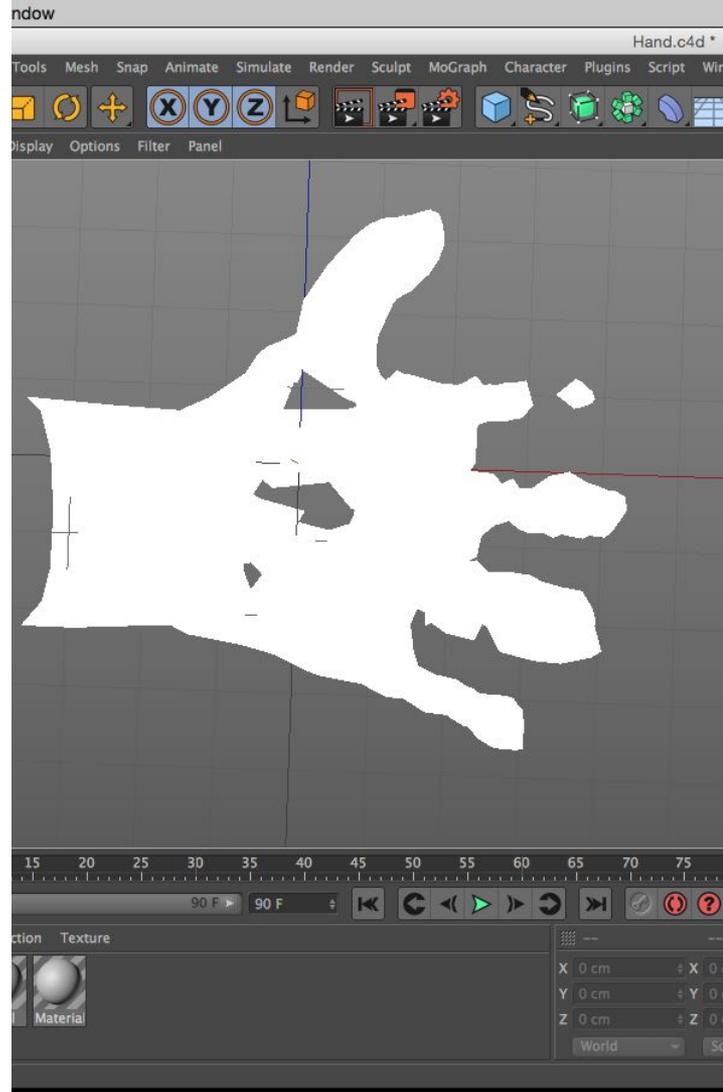
Corporate Artifact

- In the present, corporations and people are blurring; corporations, legally, are people, and socially, people are increasingly subsumed by work (branded clothes, longer hours, unpaid weekend team-building retreats)
- In the future, CEOs will be expected to become the physical manifestation of a corporation
- To fulfill that role, they must transfer an aspect of their identity to the corporation -- the fingerprint

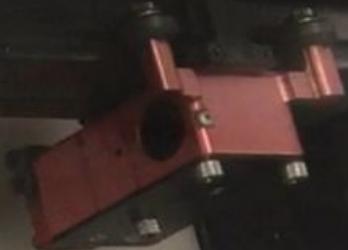
Fabrication

layers.





WARNING
AFTER CUTTING, WAIT 30 SECONDS
BEFORE OPENING





Future Archaeologists

- Time wears in both directions
- We only received a digital file from the year 2500
- The file has some corruption, but we are able to make it parseable
- We recreate the file in physical form and examine it
- We do not know what the artifact was used for

Interpretations

- The ritual could be:
 - a spirit saving ritual
 - a ritual suicide where you “kill” your identity and become something else (or nothing)
 - a ritual of a person becoming a corporation & the corporation becoming a person

Thank You