

Laila Shereen Sakr  
UC Santa Barbara

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2022

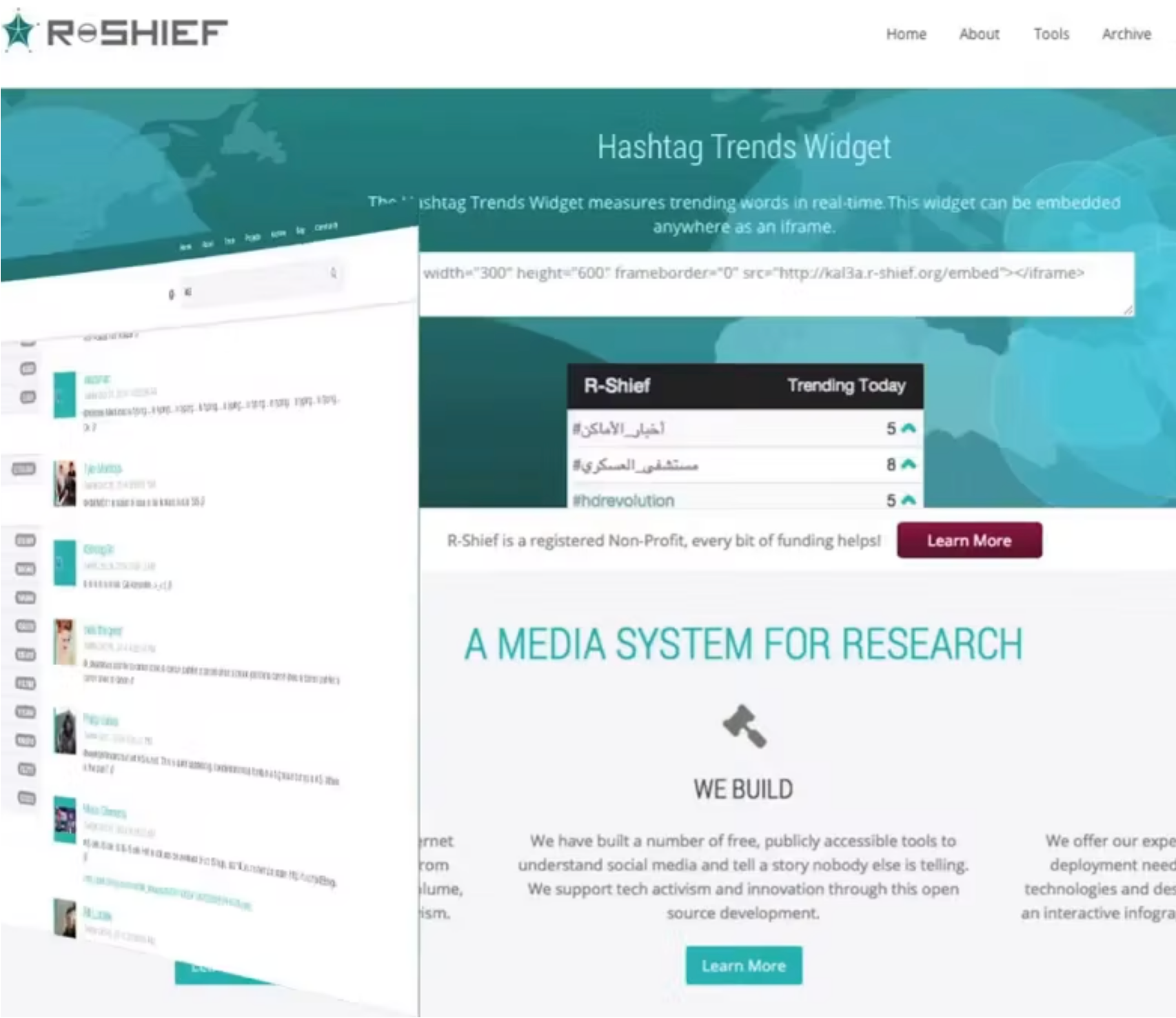
# Portfolio

selected works



WEBSITE

# Software



# R-Shief

2009-PRESENT

I built the original R-Shief in 2009 to collect, analyze, and visualize social media content, which has since harvested over 70 billion posts in 72 languages. In 2016, I launched Kal3a (the Arabic word for castle), an application stack that supports the R-Shief Trends Widget, Search API, the Historical Hashtag Visualizer, and Real-time Visualizer. These open software programs are available on [Github](#), while legacy sites (older versions built between 2009-2016) and data visualizations are available online at [r-shief.org](#).

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R-Shief NER (Named Entity Recognition)

DashboardAdmin UsersCategoriesCommentsEntitiesEntity Categories

ADMIN /

Entities

Batch Actions

	Id	Name	Brief	Created At	Updated At
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">76597</a>	طلاء فني	التصوير هو استخدام الطلاء أو الخضيب أو الألوان على سطح مثل الورق أو القماش، أو الخشب، أو الزجاج. ولكن عندما تستخدم في فني وبهذا المعنى، فإن مصطلح "اللوحه" يعني استخدام هذا النشاط في توليفة مع الرسم، والتشكيل وغيرها من الاعتبارات الجمالية، من اجل اظهار التعبير والمفاهيم	November 11, 2013 21:30	November 11, 2013 21:30
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">76596</a>	تصوير	التصوير هو استخدام الطلاء أو الخضيب أو الألوان على سطح مثل الورق أو القماش، أو الخشب، أو الزجاج. ولكن عندما تستخدم في فني وبهذا المعنى، فإن مصطلح "اللوحه" يعني استخدام هذا النشاط في توليفة مع الرسم، والتشكيل وغيرها من الاعتبارات الجمالية، من اجل اظهار التعبير والمفاهيم	November 11, 2013 21:30	November 11, 2013 21:30
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">76595</a>	هورست ياتكوفسكي	هورست ياتكوفسكي (30 يناير 1936 في برلين - 29 يونيو 1998 في رادولف تسيل) كان ملحناً وعازف بيانو ألماني وقائد أوركسترا ، كان هورست من عام 1954 إلى غاية 1955 عازفا للبيانو في فرقة المغنية الفرنسية - الإيطالية كاترينا فالانتي ،وابتداءا من عام 1955 إلى غاية 1960 عازفا أيضا مع أوركسترا الجنوب للرقص التي كانت تابعة لقائد الأوركسترا الألماني إيرفن لين ، في عام 1965 لحن هورس مقطوعته الشهيرة جولة في الغابة السوداء ، ومنذ عام 1975 حتى عام 1994 عمل كقائد رئيسي لأوركسترا الرقص رياس البرلينية ولحن أيضا مقطع موسيقي لفيلم مثل فيلم أوه جوناتان . أوه جوناتان عام 1973 .	November 11, 2013 21:30	November 11, 2013 21:30
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">76594</a>	نادي الوداد الفاسي	نادي الوداد الرياضي الفاسي هو نادٍ رياضي مغربي من مدينة فاس. هذا الفريق العريق الذي تأسس سنة 1948 يعتبر من الفرق التي فقدت بريقتها وتعيش الآن في مرحلة الظل بعد أن كانت أحد ركائز البطولة الوطنية في قسمها الأول. يعتبر فريق الوداد الرياضي الفاسي الفريق الثاني في المدينة العلمية للمغرب من حيث الإنجازات وعدد المشجعين مقارنة بالعملاق المغرب الفاسي. اختار النادي أقمصة مخططة عموديا بالأبيض والأسود، الوداد الفاسي يتوفر على طبقة من المشجعين لابس بها على الرغم من تدهور حاله حيث أنه كان يمارس بالبطولة المغربية ـ القسم الثاني. لقد كان للفريق جمهور يساوي جمهور المغرب الفاسي قبل الاستقلال لأن المغرب الفاسي كان يمثل البورجوازية المطلقة بالنسبة لمغاربة المدينة، في حين أن الوداد الفاسي كان يشكل الطبقة الفقيرة من أبناء فاس	November 11, 2013 21:30	November 11, 2013 21:30
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">76593</a>	عنز	لماعر	November 11, 2013 21:30	November 11, 2013 21:30
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">76592</a>	سعديه	مقبرة سعدي الشيرازي حديقة سياحية تقع في الشمال الشرقي لمدينة شيراز الإيرانية، أقامها الشاعر إيراني بهذا الاسم ويوجد بها قبره. كانت هذه الحديقة في السابق ملكاً للشاعر، وبعد أن توفي دفن فيها	November 11, 2013 21:30	November 11, 2013 21:30

# Arabic Text

# API

2015

A text analyzer of Arabic content that uses Wikipedia as its knowledge base to show various occurrences of Arabic.

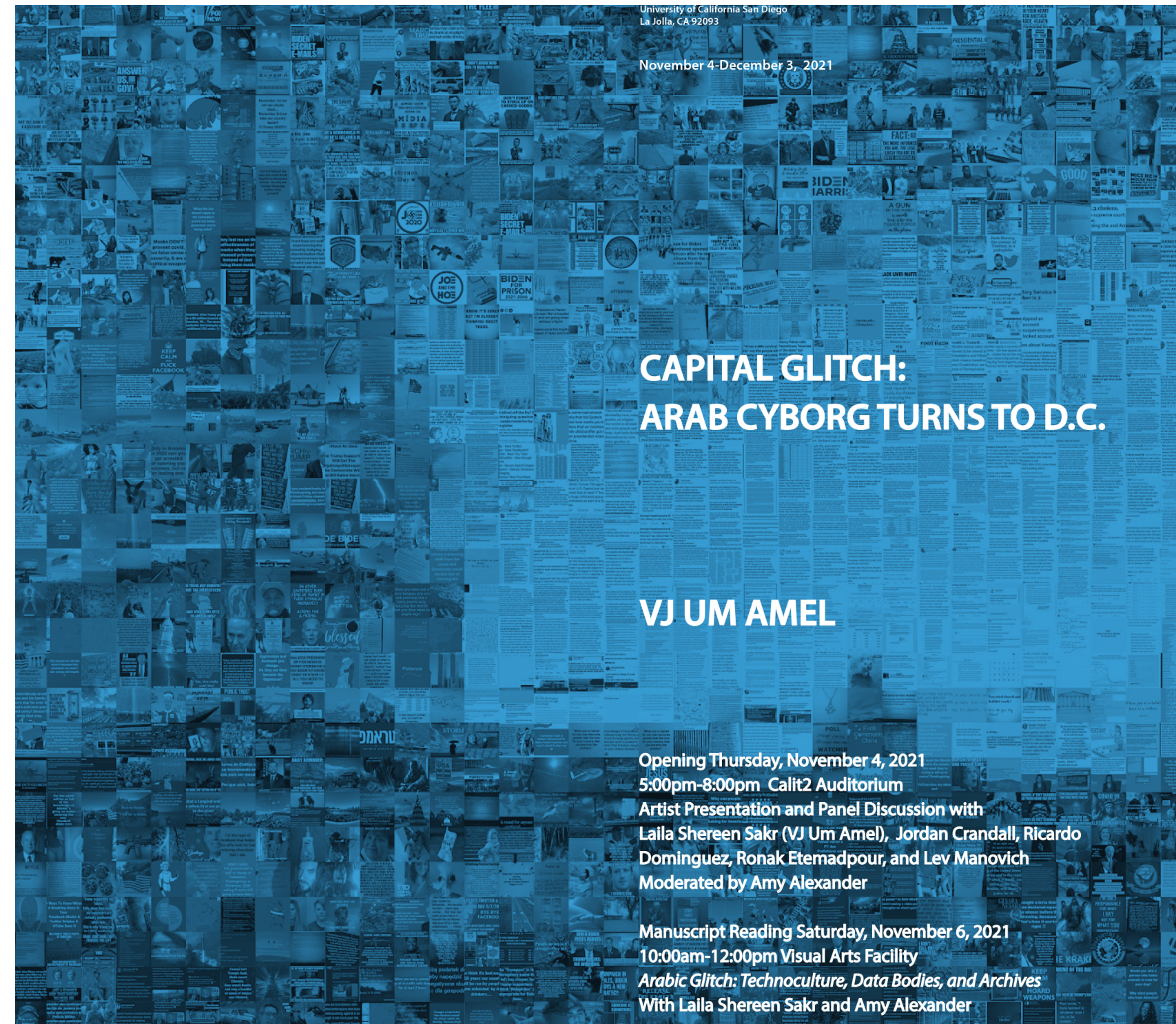
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# Exhibitions



# Capital Glitch

2021

The Qualcomm Institute (QI) at UC San Diego premiered a large-scale, **solo exhibition** of cultural analytics of social media collected on January 6 from the alt-right, conservative social media platform Parler and the broader network of Twitter, Capital Glitch: Arab Cyborg Turns to D.C. Reflecting on the events leading up to and taking place during the January 6, 2021 attack on the U.S. Capitol, the three-act installation consisted of interactive mosaics, glitch metal prints, and a mixed reality immersive experience.

Most applications are available as a web experience on [vj.live](https://vj.live).

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VJ UM AMEL  
BEIT UM AMEL

بيت أم امل

February 12- March 11, 2020

Future Gallery  
Tahrir Cultural Center  
The American University in Cairo

Curated by Shiva Balaghi, Ph.D.

OPENING RECEPTION  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2020  
6:00 - 9:00 PM

"Beit Um Amel" marks VJ Um Amel's first solo exhibition in the Arab world. The Egyptian-American artist suggests there is no longer a digital divide between theory and practice, that the integration of technology into our everyday lives means we are all already living an immersive digital experience. The figure of Arab cyborg and mother come together in VJ Um Amel who will transform AUC's Future Gallery into her home, Beit Um Amel. Welcoming visitors into her home, the cyborg asks that we navigate shifting data landscapes with greater attention, awareness, and an insistence on hope.

Please present this invitation for admission at AUC gates.

# Beit Um Amel

بيت أم امل  
2020

Beit Um Amel" marked VJ Um Amel's first **solo exhibition** in the Arab world. Welcome to the home of the cyborg where she suggests there is no longer a digital divide between theory and practice, that the integration of technology into our every day lives means we are all already living an immersive digital experience.

[VIEW PORTFOLIO ITEM](#)



# Birds

2015

Birds is a glitched image printed onto aluminum using a sublimation technique that transferred dye from a gas state into a solid, theoretically bypassing the liquid form. It showed in the **group exhibition**, Glitch, at the Tahrir Cultural Center in Cairo, where the curated noted Birds 1.0/طيور was the inspiration for the theme of the show when she first saw it hanging.

[VIEW PORTFOLIO ITEM](#)



# Touch Data

# Body X

2017

This interactive media installation enables users to manipulate frequency modulation. The call to touch Data Body X is an invitation to experience haptic manipulation.

## **Group exhibitions**

Codame Arts + Tech Festival, June 4-7, 2018

Beyond Embodiment, Glendale, CA, January 25 – March 20, 2020

## **Solo exhibition**

Beit Um Amel, Tahrir Cultural Center, Cairo, EGYPT, February 12-March 11, 2020

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# Ten-Year Retrospective

2017

"Ten-Year-Retrospective" audio/video installation premiered in the **group exhibition**, *Visibility*, at the Centro Cultural Kirchner in Buenos Aires, Argentina. In 2017, it launched an eighteen-month project on Glitch Resistance and provided a montage of her original work chronicling a decade.

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# Art Objects



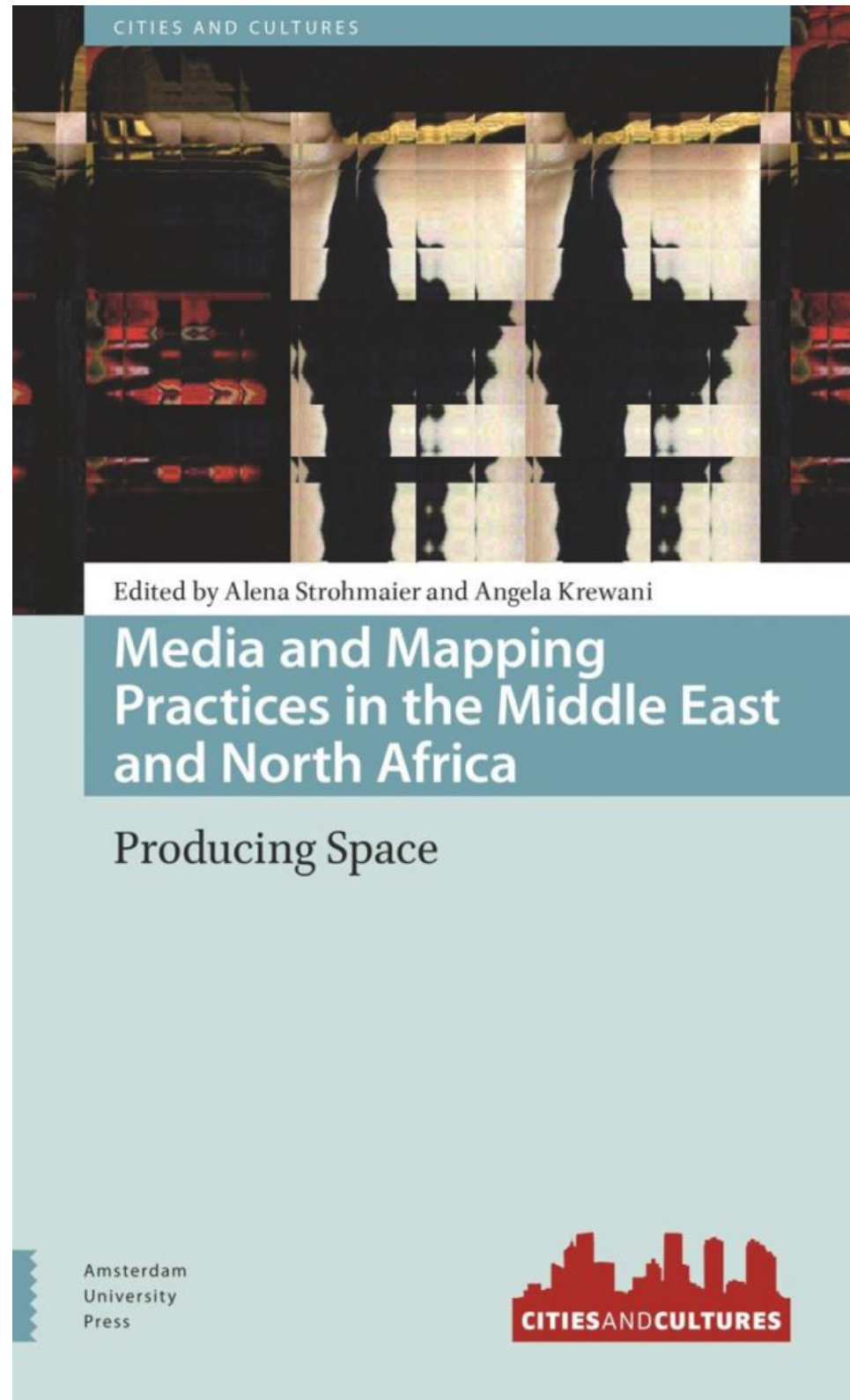
# Bernie Memes

# Reset the Internet

2021

On a historic inauguration day, January 20, 2021, a week after a historic insurrection at the U.S. Capitol, the meme that trailblazed across the internet is understated, if overheated, fashion sense of simple Bernie Sanders on a fold-out chair. Using a collection of the viral Bernie memes, I made this signature mosaic video remix.

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# Body of a Cyborg 1.1

## سايبورغ مجسّم من البيانات

2017

### Cover art

Strohmaier, Alena, and Angela Krewani, eds. *Media and Mapping Practices in the Middle East and North Africa: Producing Space*. Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, 2021.

In Triangulation series that premiered at Beit Um Amel solo exhibition in Cairo in 2020.

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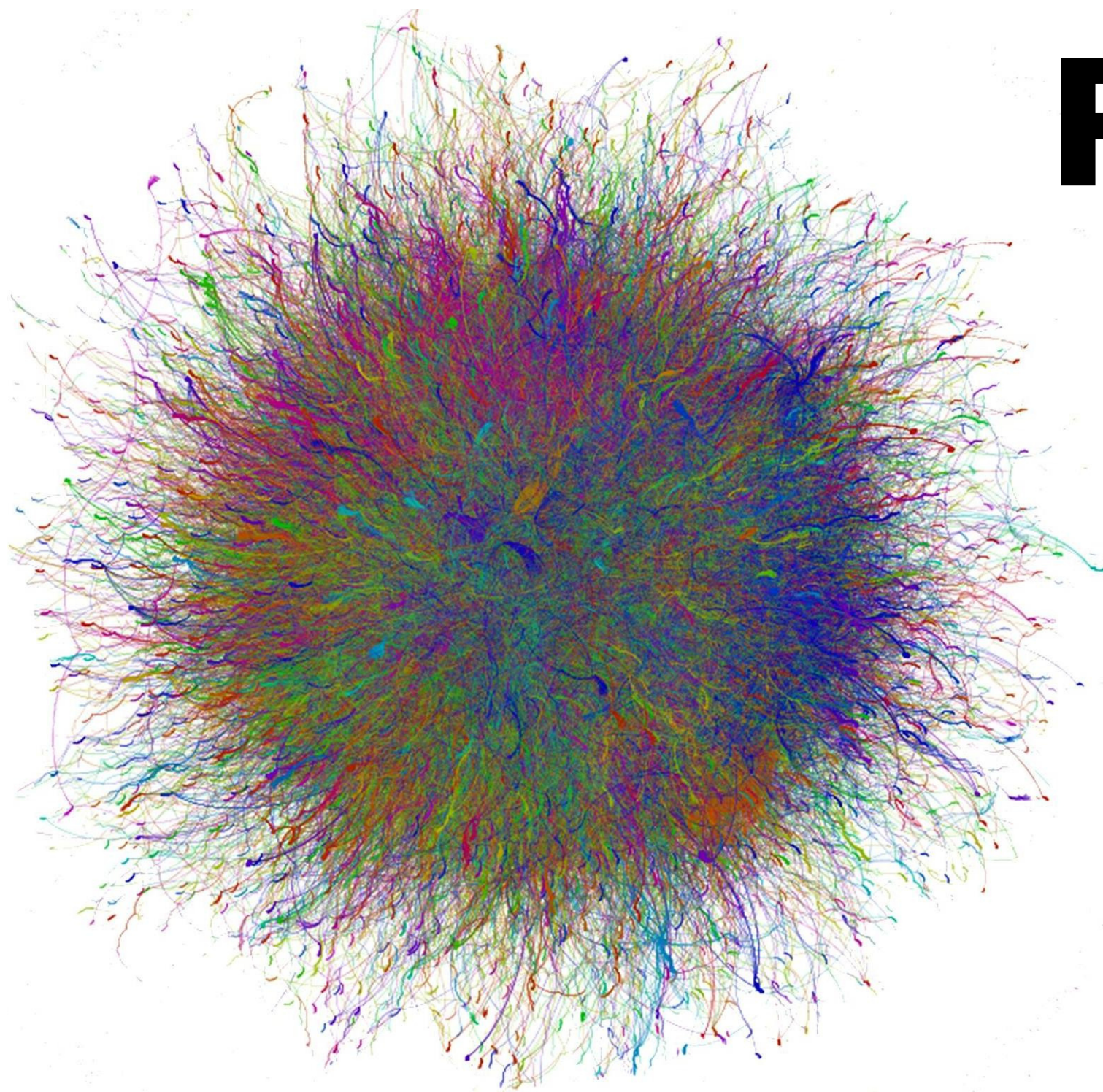


# نسبج Tapestry

2015

Two in series on Yemen — "Tapestry" and "Yemen on Fire" were shown in **group exhibition** at Codame in San Francisco. In the images, the glitch renders the golden haze of smoke and fire against black, the bright spots of interruptions. It asks a viewer to feel the disjunction and visual fascination for watchers from outside.

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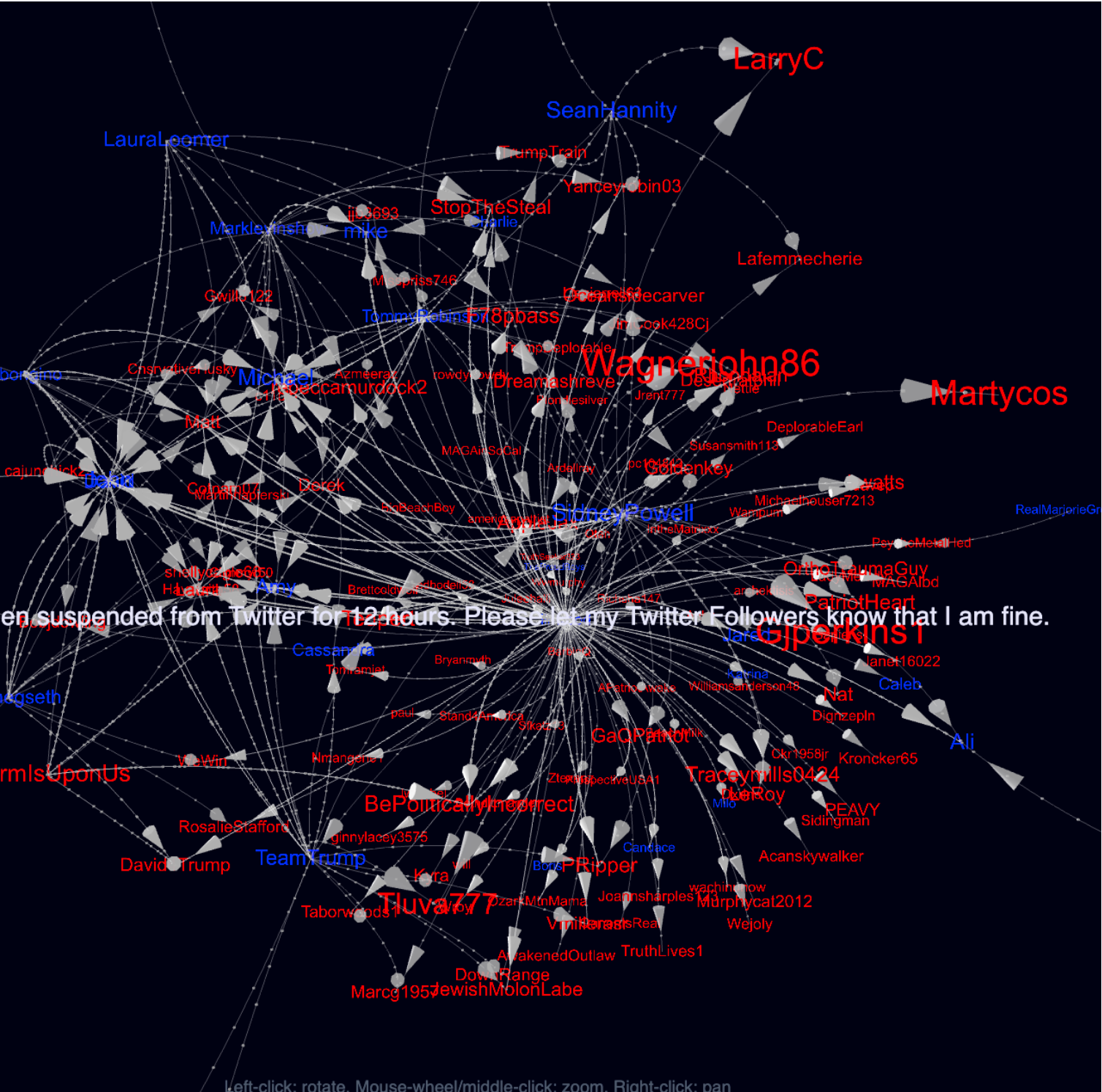


# Rosetta Archive

أرشيف روزيتا  
2012

This series of network visualizations were each made with a data set of 500,000 tweets collected on the hashtag #Syria over the month of July 2011. The colors represent language, and the nodes represent approximately 60,000 users. This immersive experience offers a new perspective on the microcosms within macrocosms of this world, somewhat unfinished, and unknowable.

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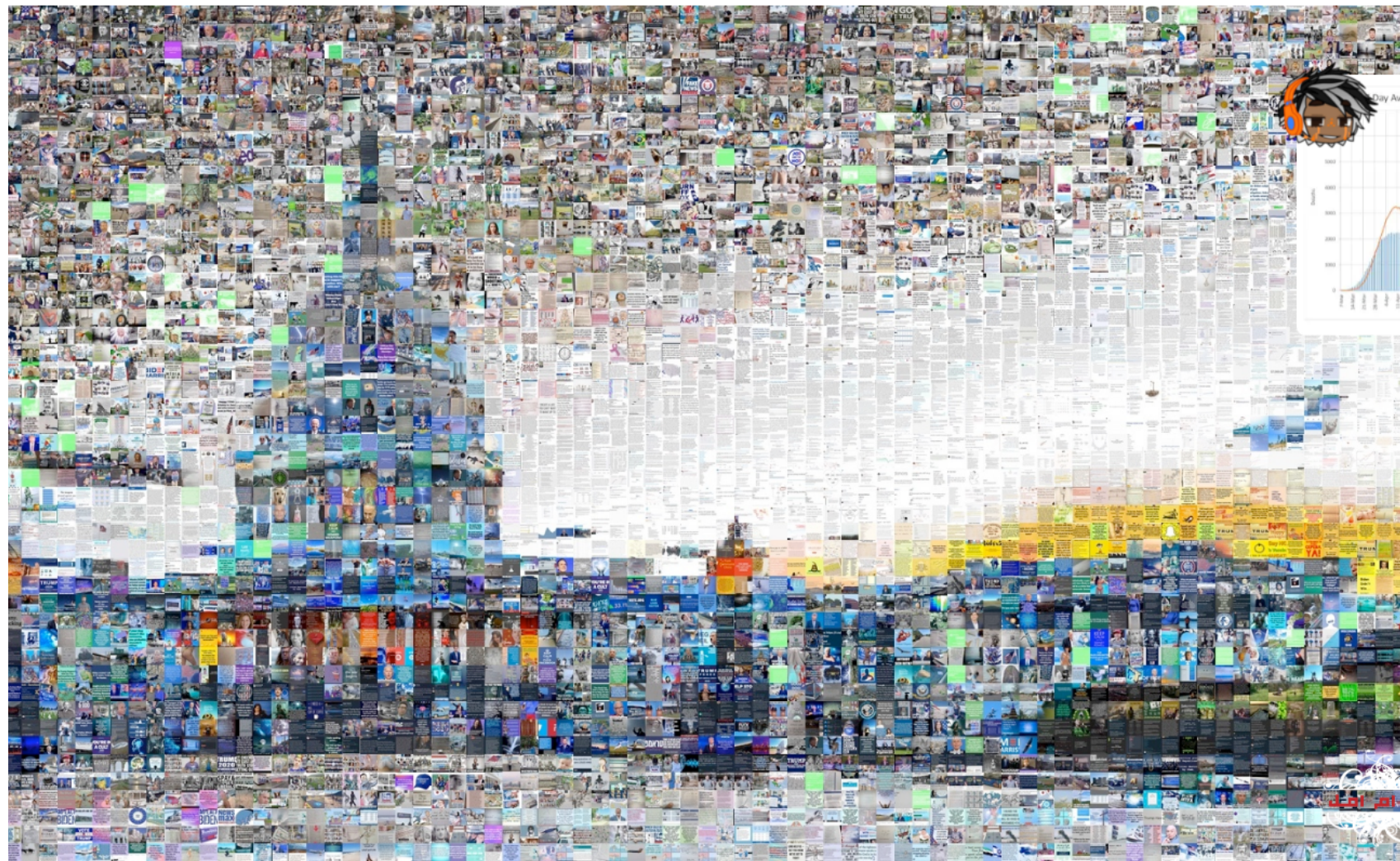
# Parler

# User Web

2021

A 3D directed network graph that serves as a representation of user interactivity. It contains user interactivity between Parler users during the Capitol Riots of 2020. Users are connected by arrows in which the tail contains the user who is being reposted by another user found on the opposite side or head of the arrow.

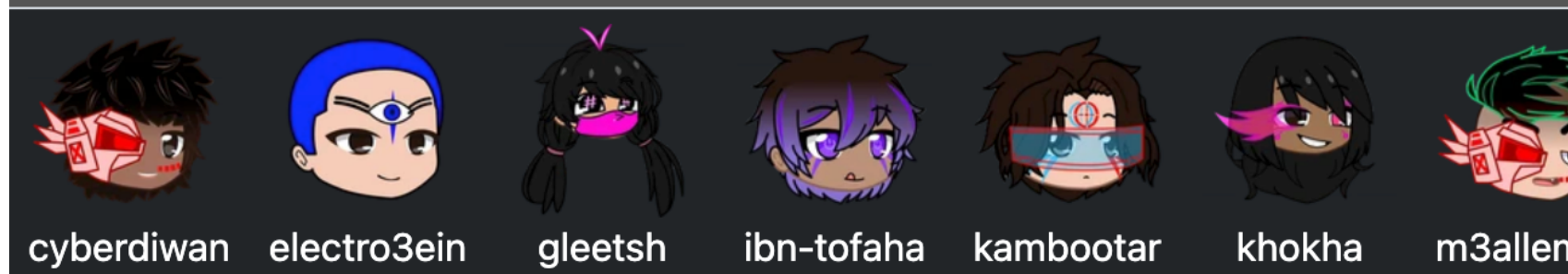
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# Capitol Mosaic

2021

Gallery participants can populate Capital Glitch's 30-foot mosaic by choosing among topics analyzed in the images, using their phones as game controllers. Viewers could choose among a dozen images of Arab cyborgs as their avatar to navigate an archive of images and memes sourced from Parler rendered into "day" and "night" mosaics of the U.S. Capitol building. The "day" version of the Capitol mosaic derives from a set of Parler social media and the "night" version from a set of Twitter data posted on January 6, 2021.



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# Insurrection Video Procession

2021

Wearing a headset, participants can gesture inside holograms to interact with an archive of videos that populate a map around the U.S. Capitol building. This is an augmented reality (AR) data visualization of over five hundred videos posted onto Parler on January 6, 2021, from the stage where Donald Trump gave his “Stop the Steal” speech to the U.S. Capitol building where the attempted coup took place.

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# Performances

Performances

SOFTWARE

EXHIBITIONS

ART OBJECTS

PERFORMANCES



# From Gaza to Cairo

2015

A live cinema performance curated by Laura Marks at the “Information Erupts into Perception” screenings at the International Symposium on Electronic Art (ISEA) in Vancouver, Canada.

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# #OpenEgypt Live Cinema

2013

The goal of this interactive gig was to share a live cinema performance by VJ Um Amel and DJ Ali Shaath (with Djs Maat and Ali, Jr.) with the community in Cairo. The artistic intervention efforts to support creativity and with [#الفن\\_مشاع](#), [#OpenEgypt](#) free and legal tools

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# Contact Information

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