Join

Concept
"join" a lunch with pigeons at Union Square.

Embrace Influence.

Background
Pigeons and us are the same. They are brought to New York from Europe and gradually overpopulate, while I flew here from China to study and reconstructed my knowledge by my surroundings.

Experience
Through this installation, people passing by Union Square are encouraged to get close to people, feel the influence from surrounding environments, and have a nice evening.
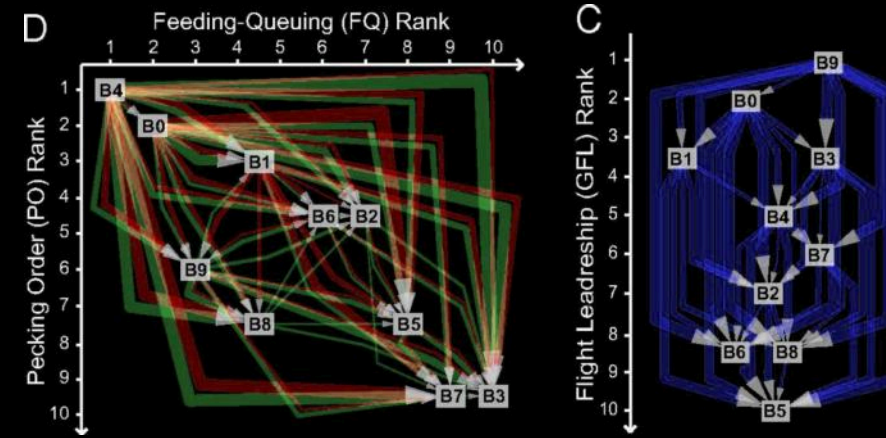
Visual effect demo:
https://youtu.be/v4S75CuQq8k

Research

Pigeons & Immigrants both changed by New York

Pigeons and us are the same. We travel to this city, we play roles as part of the society. They are brought to New York from Europe, and gradually overpopulates. I flew here from China to study, and reconstructed my knowledge by my surroundings.

Context-dependent hierarchies in pigeons

Studied respectively, social dominance and in-flight leader-follower relations in pigeons, and found hierarchically structured networks of directed interactions.

Source: Máté Nagy, Gábor Vásárhelyi, Benjamin Pettit, Isabella Roberts-Mariani, Tamás Vicsek, and Dora Biro
Edited by Raghavendra Gadagkar, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, India, and approved June 19, 2013 (received for review March 22, 2013)

Union Square - where people and animals transport and gather.

"join" a lunch

Experiment

Through the experiment, the pigeons are absent for a long time but eventually flood the stage. People passing by, some talk to me, some neglect me, some take steps on my work, but some help me to put them back. When pigeons eventually come, they wrap everything away to the sky.

Video link:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1cyAeDU4r3bQbH9y2oRqZGBUcmBgH1N9C/view?usp=share_link
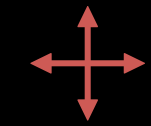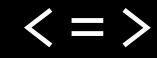
Concept

A public interactive installation that encourages people to step closer to other social groups.
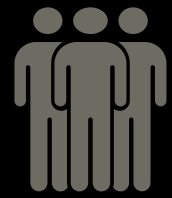
Pigeons <=> humans

walking directions = colors

colored pigeons = different groups

changing colors <=> Changed by others

Experience: You walked into a field and found pigeons following you, and flap their wings when you are close to others

Meaning: When you are close to others, you are stimulated and changed by your surrounding environment.

Story Board

Workflow

Visual Elements

Interaction during nights

0. Sensor: Cameras and sensors set at the top of 3 sculptures, detection approximately a circle with 10 m diameter.

1. Walking into sensor area
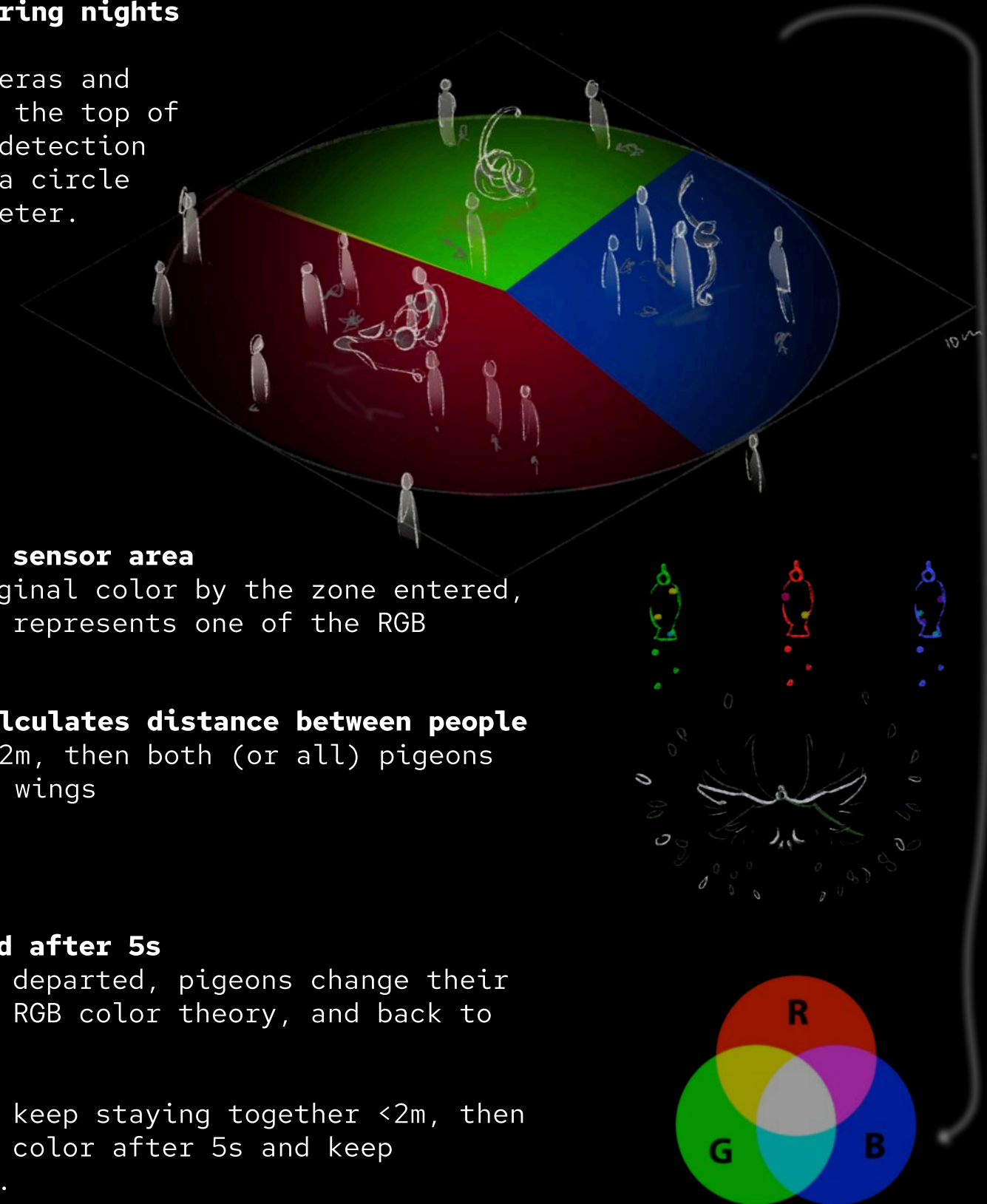Assign the original color by the zone entered, each sculpture represents one of the RGB colors.

2. Real time Calculates distance between people
If distance < 2m, then both (or all) pigeons start flapping wings

3. Color changed after 5s
If both people departed, pigeons change their color based on RGB color theory, and back to walking.

If Both people keep staying together <2m, then pigeons change color after 5s and keep flapping wings.

Americanized pastry

Pretzel

A German word, invented in Europe.

Commonly appears on New York's streets.

Pizza

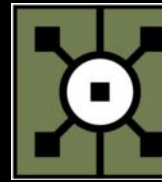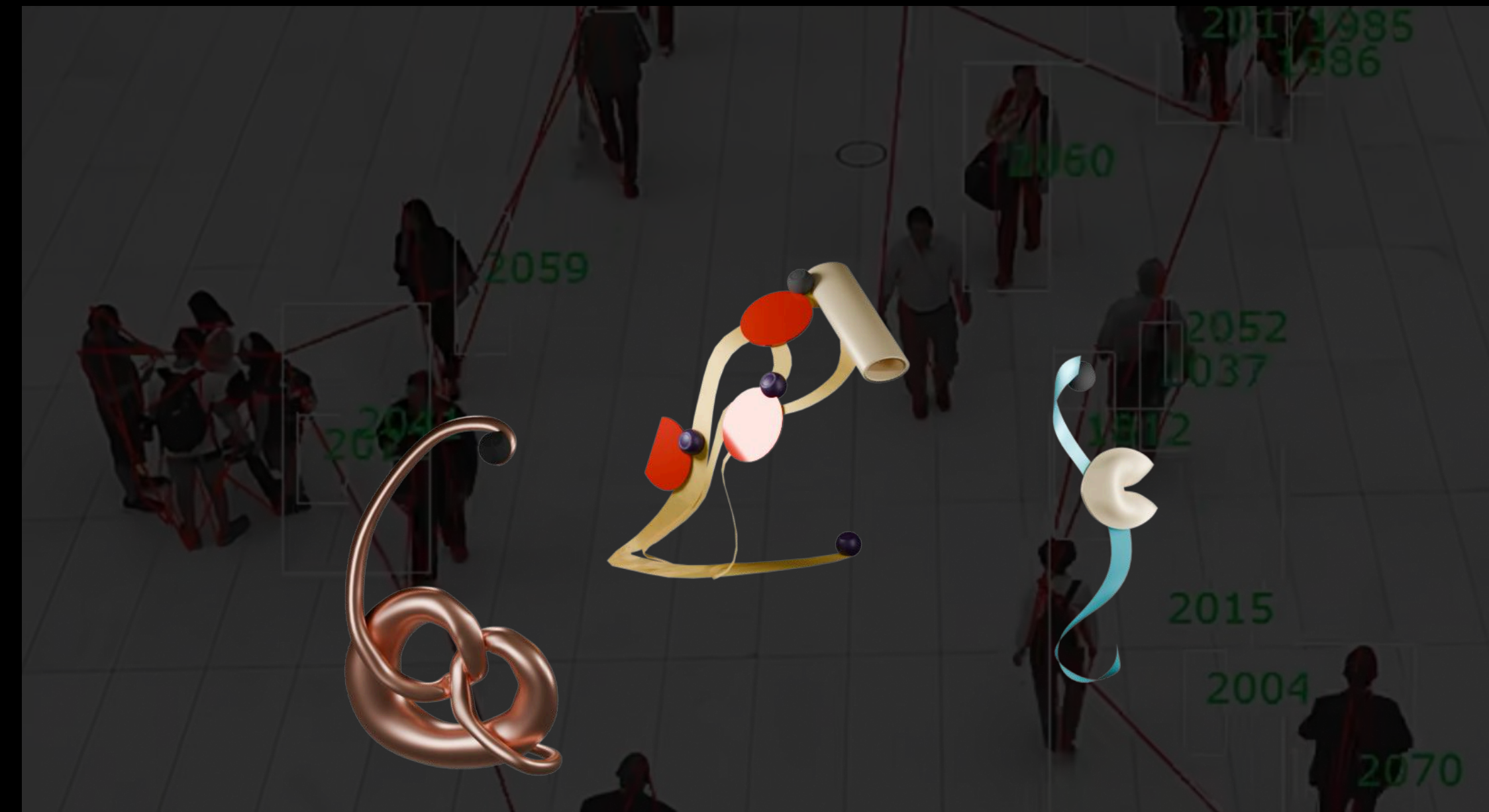Italian dish. Got to America and changed into Hawaiian pizza.

Fortune cookie

Developed from a Japanese cookie, but famous for being in Chinese restaurants.

Track Motion and project animation

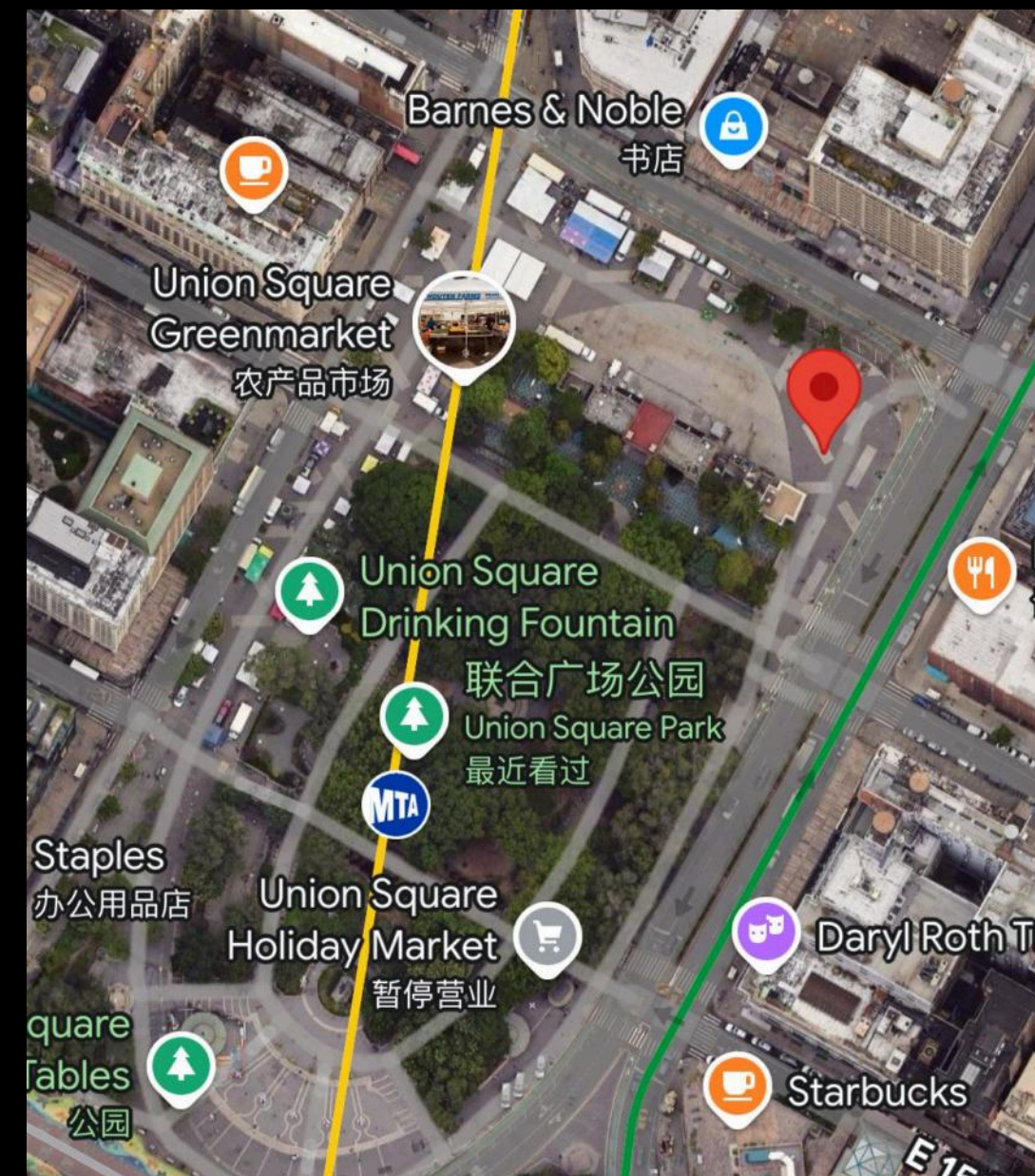Technical solution proposal: 3 cameras read footage they took real time, and generate spots to follow.

Installation

Prototype

location

North-east part of Union square. High traffic from the Green-market and Subway Lines, but very empty space in this area.

Targeting people who pass by.

Create more entertainment for public

During the day, here's markets, the park and traffic.
During nights, this project can offer people another reason to stay.