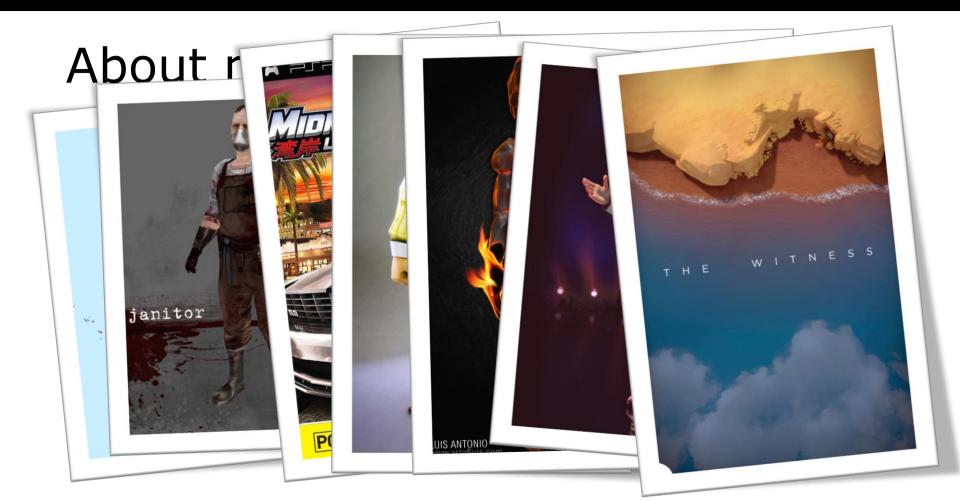


The Art of the Witness

Luis AntonioThekla Inc.





DIRECTIONJonathan Blow

ART

Eric A. Anderson
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Orsi Spanyol
Alex Haworth

PROGRAMMING

Ignacio Castaño Andrew Smith Salvador Bel

THEKLA INC.

COLLABORATORS

Casey Muratori
Jonathan Beilin
Eric Urquhart
Shannon Galvin
Andrew Hynek
Nicholas "Indy" Ray
David Hellman
Andrew Burlinson

FOURM design studio

fourm-designbuild.com



fletcherstudio.com



THE WITNESS Jonathan's art goals

- Minimize the amount of noise we put into the player's mind.
- Art must support and extend the gameplay principles.
- Island based in the real world.

THE WITNESS Original island visuals



THE WITNESS Finding the art style

Research and Inspirations

THE WITNESS Finding the art style

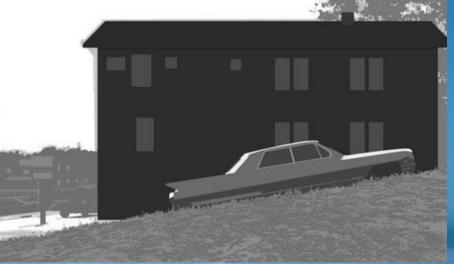
- Research and Inspirations
- Define Art Guidelines

THE WITNESS Finding the art style

- Research and Inspirations
- Define Art Guidelines
- Implement and iterate

THE WITNESS Research - Simplification





THE WITNESS Research - Simplification





THE WITNESS Research - Simplification



THE WITNESS Research





THE WITNESS Research





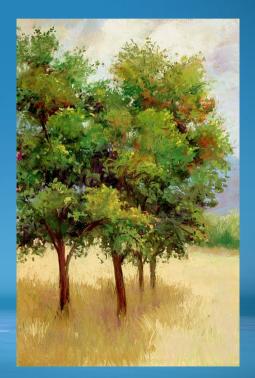
THE WITNESS Research - Stylization



THE WITNESS Research - Expression







Tom Brown / Deborah Secor

THE WITNESS Research - Expression





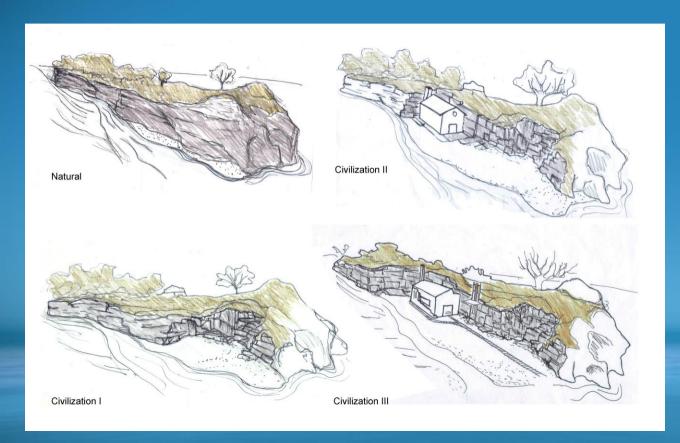
Tom Brown

- Why don't we just hire concept artists?
- How much can they actually bring to the project?
- They don't have a videogame development background!

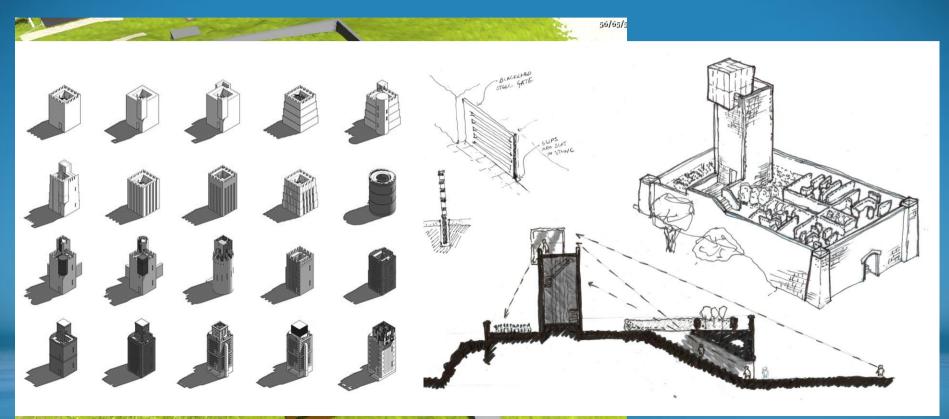




| pyschological | CIVILIZATION I | CIVILIZATION II | CIVILIZATION III |
|---------------|---|--|---|
| spiritual | Toddler, Rapprochement, Maiden, Birth | Young Adult, Oedipal stage, Mother, Marriage | Adulthood, Crone, Death |
| economy | - Pagan/Polytheism, Buildings for Burial + Dieties - Worship of Nature, Animism | - Monotheism: Buddhist, Christian, Islam, Judiasm - Separation from Nature | - Age of Reason: Idividualistic, Self Determinant - Atheism, Rationalism |
| | - Pagan/Polytheism, Buildings for Burial + Dieties - Worship of Nature, Animism | | |
| narrative | | | |
| | 1. The Death of Thomas's father while fishing. Thomas blames hiself for not being able to help him. | 4. Thomas's first break with Maggie, his sister. Expressed in creating a girl's bedroom in a house? | 8. Team comes together. Express by creating a space with party favors, celebration. |
| | The loss of Thomas's Christian faith at 14 or 15. The ruin? Ecclesiastical item there? Piece of broken stained glass? | 5. Thomas's meeting with friend Justin (helped him create the project). Expressed in a work space with side by side computers? | Thomas's thorny relationship with sick mother. Express by creating subite hospital room or use beach scene. Thomas and mother have irreparable emotional break. |
| | 3. Thomas's frustration with "rationalism" in college. He burned his books. | Thomas's Buddhist pilgrimage walk around Japan searching for "Eastern" answers, greatly dissapointed him. Create a Japanese garden-like space. | 10. Maggies comes to live with Thomas. |
| | | 7. Thomas's idea for the project. Express with single chair, desk and sketch of something on it? | "Intervention" scene. The team, Maggie and Justing confront Thomas for being a bullheaded perfectionist. He kicks them all out. Need some object to express scene and location. |
| | | JAMES VATE | |







THE WITNESS Art Guidelines

- Simplified reality
- Pleasant and harmonious
- Extension of the gameplay and core game design

THE WITNESS Implementation

- Man made structures
- Rock formations
- Vegetation

THE WITNESS Implementation- Stone walls



THE WITNESS Implementation- Stone walls





THE WITNESS Implementation- Stone walls



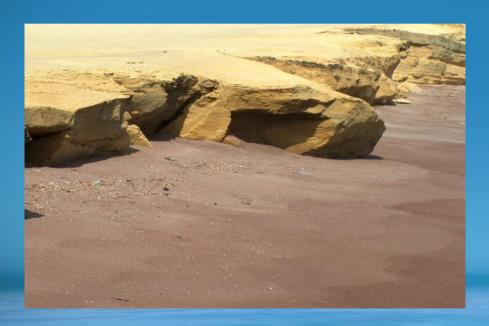














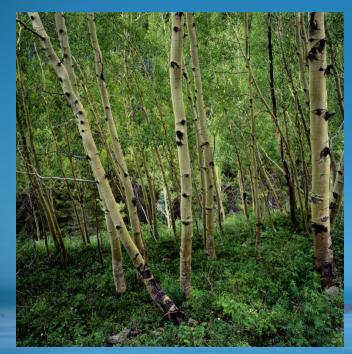






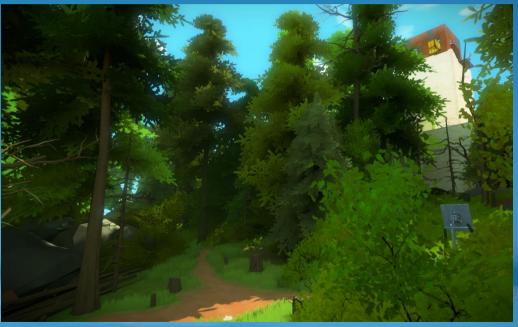






















THE WITNESS Conclusions

- Don't think about technical limitations
- Be aware of the big picture
- Have a reason for everything you do. (or at least for most of it!)

THE WITNESS Thank you!

Questions?