PROCESS BOOK

Lupe Rodriguez

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About the Project

DESCRIPTION

Many people can see with their eyes, but there are some people who can see through sound. Chromesthesia is when sound involuntarily evokes an experience of color through shapes and movement. The goal of this project is to show what this experience is like and give people an opportunity to experience it in a way themselves.

PROBLEM

Synesthesia is a physiological phenomenon where one sense triggers another. Since I was born I've this physiological condition or ability that no one has ever heard of or truly understood. And those who do have it don't really know others or have anything to showcase this ability for.

SOLUTION

To create a website that educates people on what synesthesia is, specifically chromesthesia. As well as showcasing a first person account of what it is like to live with this in order to further help people understand. For my app, to create a unique experience where people can listen to music and create pieces of art – similar to how people with chromesthesia experience sound and see colors.

TARGET AUDIENCE

- Creatives artists, graphic designers, illustrators etc.
- Colorbook enthusiasts
- Musicians
- Knowledge seekers
- Synesthetes especially those with Chromesthesia
- All genders
- Age range: 18-40 years (but anyone really!)

GOALS

Website

- To educate people on the phenomenon of Synesthesia, with a deeper explanation on the subcategory of Chromesthesia.
- To help people further understand for someone to have Synesthesia by telling my personal experience.

App

 To create a unique app where users create art by listening to music and being inspired by it.
 So that they can experience chromesthesia themselves.

REASEARCH

Books

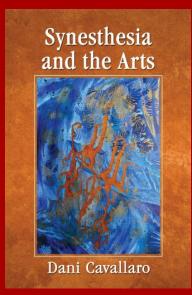
Online

Interviews

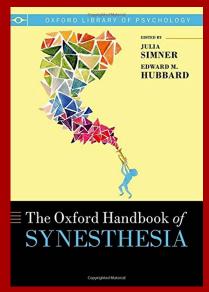
Personal



Wednesday is Indigo Blue Dmitri Nabokov



Synesthesia and the Arts
Dani Cavallaro



The Oxford Handbook of Synesthesia Julia Simner, Edward M. Hubbard

Despite having Synesthesia/Chromesthesia, I didn't actually know too much about the phenomenon itself apart from what I experience.

Thankfully there's quite a few resources that I found while just searching online that helped me out a lot. Despite finding out that the science behind it all isn't as important to some people, for others it was still interesting to understand. This is why I did thorough research to showcase this information in an understandable way that people would understand and that would help them understand this crazy concept.

BOOK RESEARCH

Books seemed like the most reliable source to obtain scientific research about what synesthesia is, why synesthesia exists, and how it even works.

The books I used for this project are listed above, but for the most part I used *Wednesday is Indigo Blue*. Due to the limited research on synesthesia, the books often cross referenced each other. Most of the time the research featured in *Wednesday is Indigo Blue* was referenced, which is why it was the book I mostly referenced in the site.

5 Synesthesia Artists Who Paint Their Multi-Sensory Experiences By Emma Taggart | My Modern Met

Chromesthesia: Feeling Music in Colors By Errol Anderson | Vice

Chromesthesia as Phenomenon: Emotional Colors Research Paper by Jessica Makhlin

Seeing Sound and Hearing Colors: Exploring the Concept of Chromesthesia By Michelle Tan | Sound of Life

Sound Synesthesia
Via Synesthesia.com

What Color is this Song?
By Stephen E. Palmer | Nautilus

Types of Musical Synesthesia Via Synesthesia Tree

Everyday Fantasia: The World of Synesthesia Research by Siri Carpenter

Sites used for scientific research

5 Synesthesia Artists Who Paint Their Multi-Sensory Experiences By Emma Taggart | My Modern Met

Chromesthesia: Feeling Music in Colors By Errol Anderson | Vice

Chromesthesia as Phenomenon: Emotional Colors Research Paper by Jessica Makhlin

Seeing Sound and Hearing Colors: Exploring the Concept of Chromesthesia By Michelle Tan | Sound of Life

Sites used for "The Colors Behind your Fav Artists

ONLINE RESEARCH

By using research found online, I was able to find stories from other people about their experiences and how they use their synesthesia. After discovering that this isn't a trait that everyone possesses, I always thought I was sort of alone but this helped me discover and learn about others with it (and all the other types as well).

INTERVIEWS

It was important for me to figure out what people even would want to know about synesthesia – was it something people even cared about? Did the research aspect matter? Should I even be telling my story about this unique experience?

So I interviewed people and surveyed them about these questions and more, including questions about a potential coloring app. Through this I gained a lot of knowledge about what to include, what isn't as important, and what visuals are appealing to people.

I even was able to meet with someone that has a form of synesthesia called personality → colors, and grapheme → colors. With this interview I got to compare my experience with hers and learn about how it has impacted her life. There's a small section dedicated to this interaction in the site.

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Flute etudes practice notes for 15 Petites Etudes Melodiques, Op. 33 Book No. 1 by E. Köhler

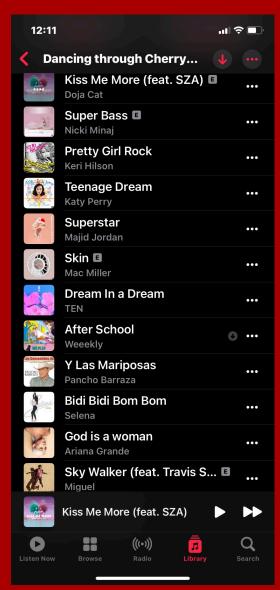
| HURT FROM MERCURY |
|--|
| fre lost my love, I'm sad This found someone who's better than me |
| Takes you to every party just to dance |
| and dance again I can snap my hands and youre sell not back again |
| |
| I set in my room thinkin of wanna be |
| I just set down every party and natched you laugh and laugh again while of |
| While my just and Map my hand cause |
| |

Lyrics for *Hurt From Mercury* by Foster the People, colorized

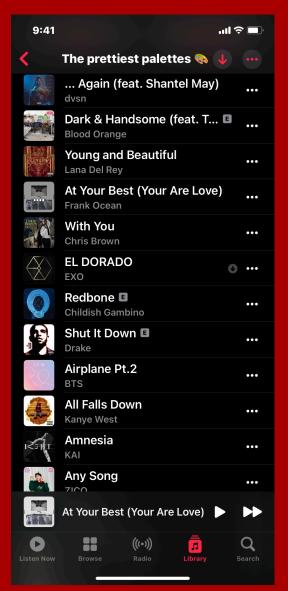
PERSONAL RESEARCH

Along with scientific research, user research and others' experiences, another big part of my project was telling my personal story. I had to basically research myself, and uncover where my synesthesia has impacted my life the most.

Since synesthesia is something that I've grown used to having, I didn't realize how much I used this phenomenon in my daily life. I had to look through my phone, sketchbooks, journals etc. and really do a deepdive on myself and my room to see all the places it impacted my life. I found a lot obviously... and have used them in (or to inspire) parts of my site.



Screenshot of one of my color organized playlists on my phone – Dancing through Cherry Blossoms; songs that are primarily pink



Screenshot of one of my color organized playlists on my phone – The Prettiest Palettes; songs that have the most beautiful colors

Visual Identity

A LOOK INTO...

Moodboard & Attributes Colors Typography Imagery

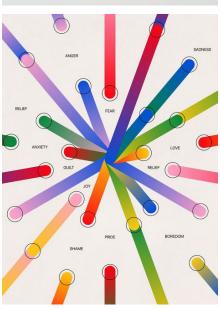
MOODBOARD & ATTRIBUTES













blaster²







INSPIRATION BEHIND VISUAL STYLE

Because all of my forms of synesthesia trigger various color responses, it was almost a no brainer that my visual style was going to be at the very least, colorful. Even though colors experienced through synesthesia aren't bright and colorful all the time, I wanted something eye-catching. Since one of the goals of my project is to bring attention to this rare phenomenon, I need a way to get people's attention and this was a sure way of doing so. It also made it playful and lively, two attributes I wanted to have due to the interactive elements of this project.

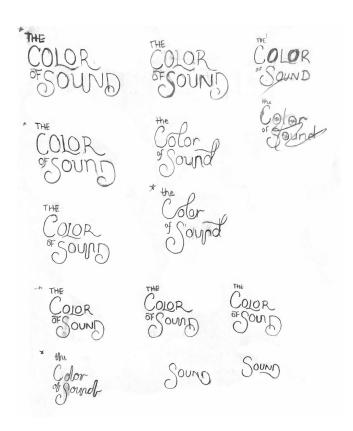
VISUAL ATTRIBUTES

- Bold
- Lively
- Colorful
- Playful (but not childish)
- Clean
- Dynamic

SITE LOGO

IDEA BEHIND NAME

From the get-go, I wanted the name to reference sound/music and color. I had to find something that wasn't already used in the articles and that was smooth on the tongue. Inspired by "The Sound of Music" I decided to play on that and came up with "The Color of Sound". This paired nicely with what I had in mind because at the basis of what Chromesthetes experience, it is the color of a sound. So it worked out!



BEHIND THE WORDMARK

For the logo, I really wanted the wordmark to be rhythmic, lively, playful and inviting. I went through various fonts, especially the ones I didn't end up using for my typography to find one that did the job. *Glimmer of Light* was the closest font to what I was looking for, but even that font didn't do completely what I wanted. So, I ended up sketching out different ways I could alter the font and came up with these.

THE COLOR OF SOUND

Standard white version + how it appears on site

THE COLOR OF SOUND

Black version

THE COROR OF COUNTY

- Lively and dynamic through the wavy flourishes of the "L", "S", and "D" and through the ligature of the "HE.
- Bold through the use of all caps
- Playful through the interaction between the "L" and "O"s, "L" and "U", and the "of" above the "S"

APP LOGO

IDEA BEHIND NAME

- Italian, meaning "coloring" and derives from the Latin word of colorare meaning "to color"
- an elaborate melody with runs, trills, wide leaps, or similar virtuoso-like material, or a passage of such music
- these elements of coloraturas are similar to the common ways synesthetes visualize the colors they see
- the meaning of the word (along with it simply saying "color" in it) adds the artistic element to it

OTHER IDEAS

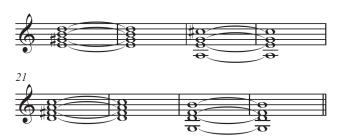
- Tones
- Paintissmo
- Hue
- Colored Music
- Colorful Sounds





Movement

Trills

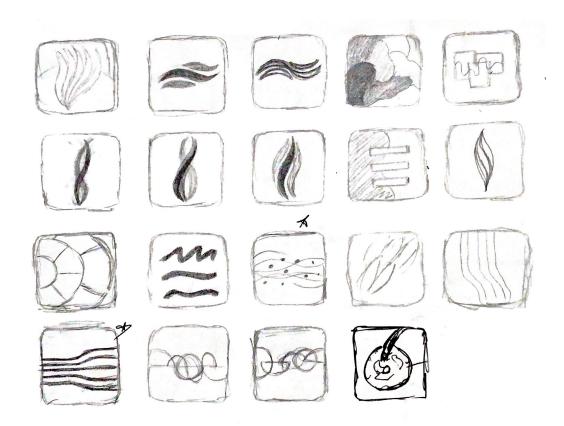






Passage of Music

Circles and Clusters



LOGO IDEA & SKETCHES

- Purpose is to use during downtime, while resting, chilling etc.
- Combine a musical element with color
- Show a gradient for displaying multiple colors as a subtle nod to chromesthesia





QUARTER REST

- Music symbol symbolizing a beat (in 4/4 time) of silence
- Represents using the app in your free time/ downtime/when resting and chilling
- Represents the musical aspect of the app



COLORATURA

PENCIL

- Common material used in drawing/art
- Represents using the creative and artistic aspect of the app



Standard white version



Black version



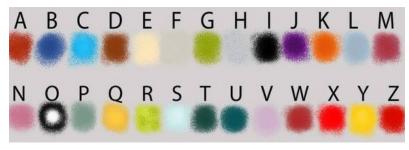
COLORS

COLOR SCHEME

As mentioned in the "Moodboard & Attributes" section, my synesthesia is impacted by colors. Since every color can be triggered at any given sound, the colorful color pallette was a given. But, because there isn't really a rhyme or reason as to what colors get triggered when, I needed to set a standard look for each color.



Synesthesia Poster Project Lisa Bridgeman on Behance

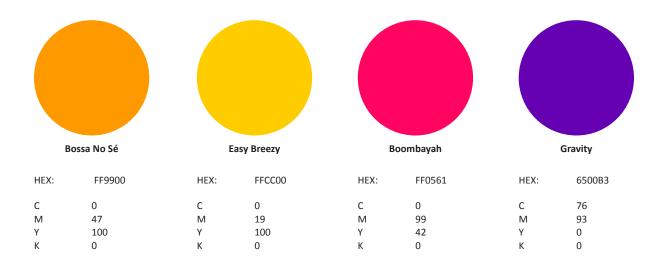


Synesthesia Alphabet Sarah Bartell

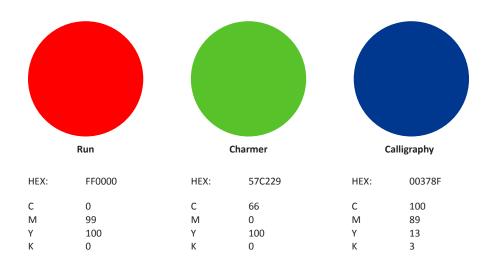


*Chromesthesia*Karen Rile on Flickr

PRIMARY



SECONDARY



FINAL COLORS

The primary colors were inspired by the psychological associations paired with orange, and purple, which are used to represent creativity. Yellow and pink were added to create a color balance and contrast.

The secondary colors were made to paire with the primary colors and establish a standard that would help finish the rest of the colorful palette.

LINEAR



GRADIENT MESH



GRADIENTS

Linear gradients go from dark to semi-light/ standard color grade. The gradient mesh allows for more darker shades and lighter tones to be used. Gradients add an extra dimension/depth and help create a texture/dynamic background.

TYPOGRAPHY

TYPOGRAPHY INSPO

For my typography I really wanted the headings and quotes to be playful and fun. Because this story site is meant to be fun, I wanted the headings to be attention grabbing too. I needed the fonts to be rhythmic or dynamic as well, which is why I went more towards a slightly script font.

Why is the Letter 'A' Red?

Why is the Letter 'R' Red?

FINAL TYPOGRAPHY

PAULINE REGULAR

Handgloves 12345

PAULINE SCRIPT REGULAR

Handgloves 12345

PAULINE DIDONE VARIABLE THIN

Handgloves 12345

ARBORIA BOOK

Handgloves 12345

HEADING 1 Pauline Bold 64 pt

Coloring

HEADING 2 Pauline Regular 36 pt Coloring

QUOTE 1
Pauline Script Regular
48 pt / 110

Coloring

TYPOGRAPHY SYSTEM

QUOTE 2 Pauline Script Regular 36 pt / 110 Coloring

BODY 1 Arboria Book 24 pt

Coloring

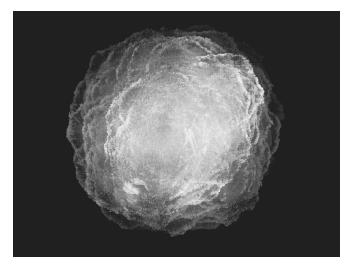
BODY 2 Arboria Book 18 pt

Coloring

*CAPTION*Arboria Book
14 pt

Coloring

IMAGERY



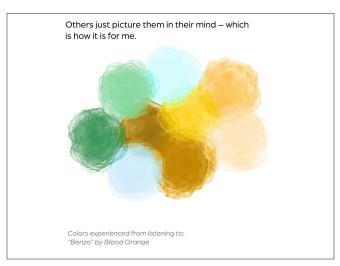
Fresco brush from Procreate



Still from intro sequence for *The Color of Sound* site



Still from "Street Lights" visualizer for The Color of Sound site



Portion from the chapter, Why is Science the Green Folder

SOUND VISUALIZER STYLE

Because sound triggers a color, the way these colors form in my mind are circular in shape but have a slightly feathered edge. I went through various brushes on the app, Procreate, and the Fresco brush was the closest to matching what I see in my head. So for all the visualizing of the colors I see, the Fresco brush is used to be as accurate as possible to what I see.









PHOTOGRAPHY

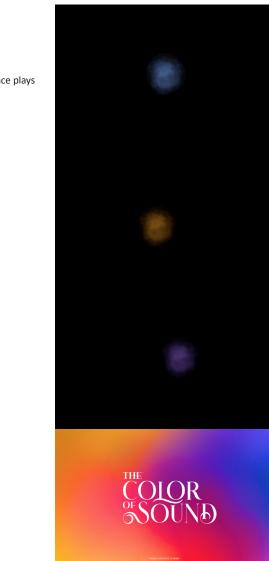
Due to the color scheme, the photography can be almost anything with color as long as it is bold. For best imagery, a focal object with a bold and/or contrasting background is ideal.

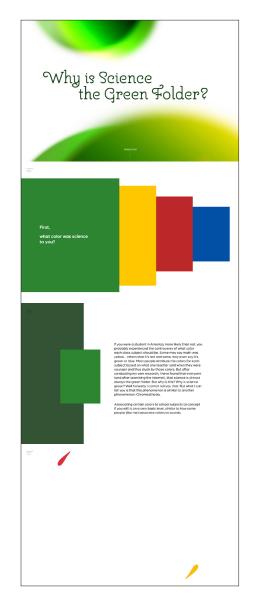
Final Deliverables

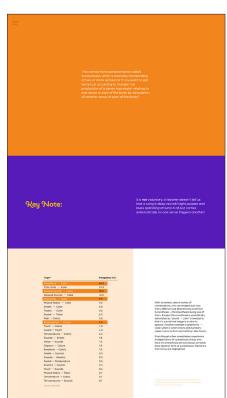
FINAL...

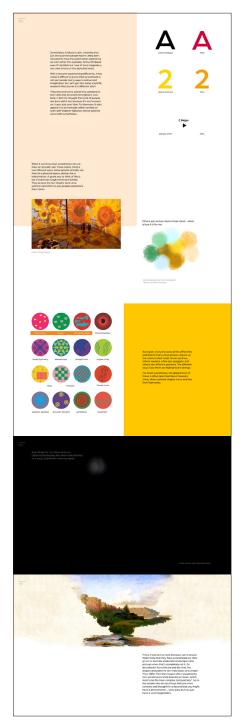
Story Site Song Visualizer Posters App Icon App

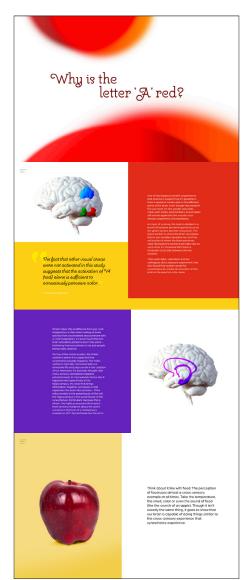
STORY SITE































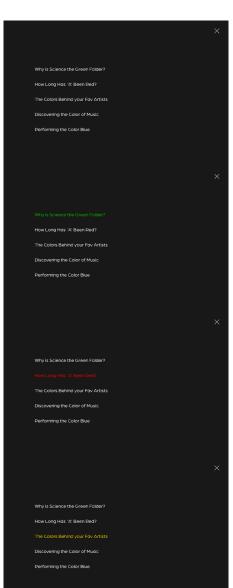


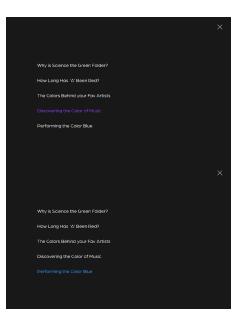








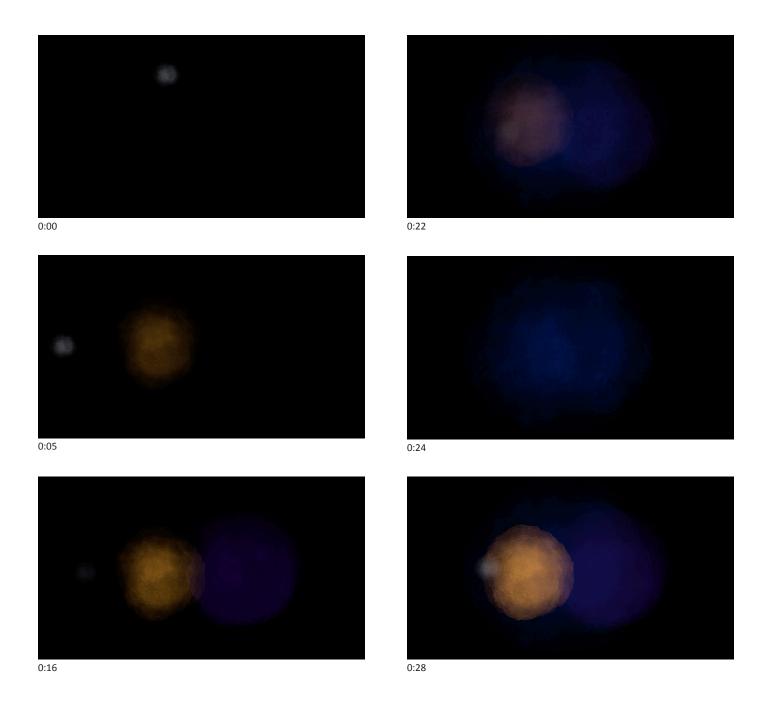




SONG VISUALIZER

These are stills from the song visualizer and is a total of 31 seconds.

The song visualizer features the song "Street Lights" by Kanye West.



POSTERS

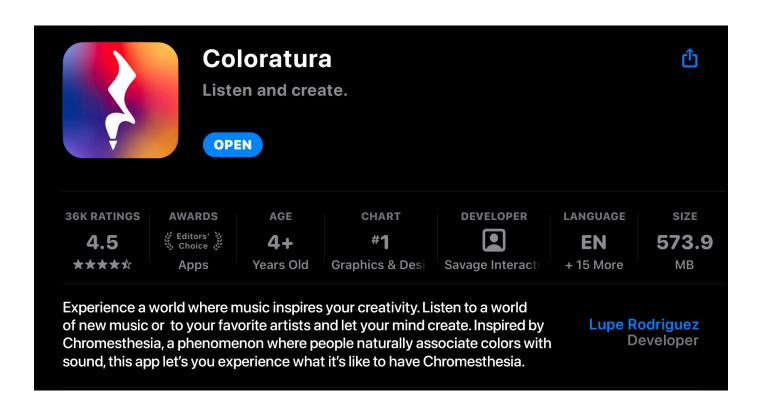






APP ICON





A P P





