

# BIG TREE

## A PROPOSED INTERACTIVE ANIMATRONIC ART INSTALLATION

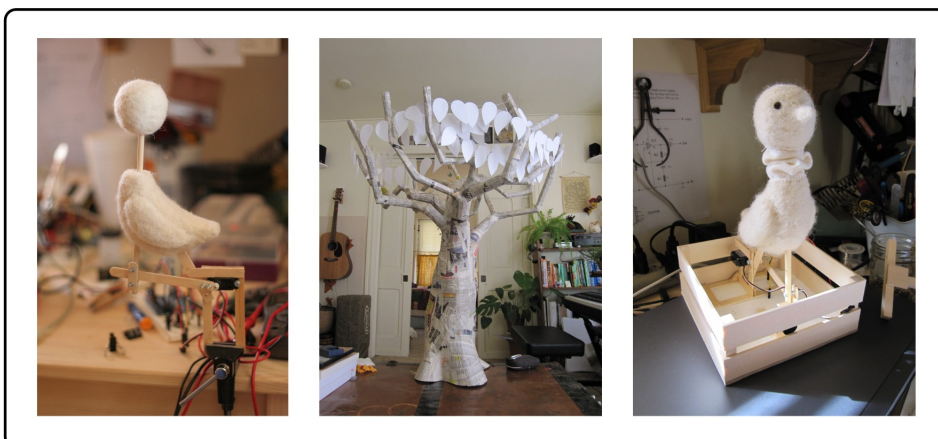
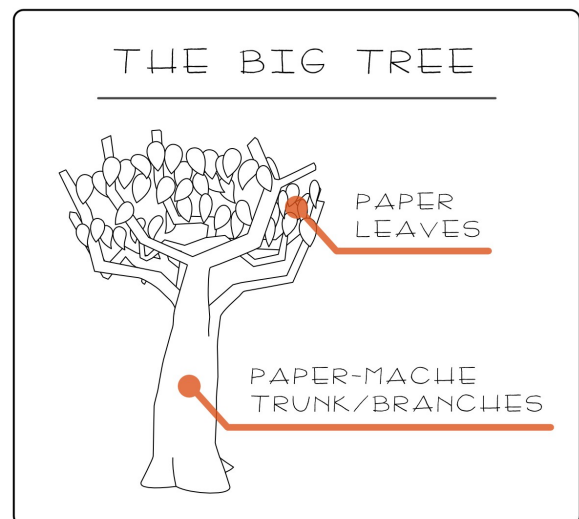
ANDREW FRUEH, 2010

BIG TREE IS A PROPOSED INTERACTIVE ART INSTALLATION THAT IS MADE OF NATURAL MATERIALS BUT GIVEN LIFE BY HIDDEN ELECTRONICS.

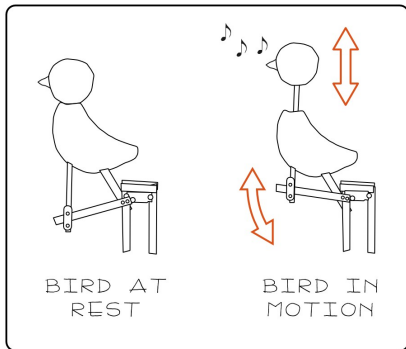
AS THE NAME IMPLIES, THE CENTER PIECE OF THE INSTALLATION IS ACTUALLY A BIG TREE. THE TREE WILL BE MADE OF CARBOARD REINFORCED WITH PAPER-MACHE. THE TOP OF THE TREE WILL HAVE A CANOPY OF PAPER LEAVES WHICH WILL EXTEND OUT TO THE GALLERY WALLS TO CREATE AN OVERHANG AND HELP ENCLOSE THE SPACE.

AROUND THE TREE WILL BE VARIOUS SUB-INSTALLATIONS FOR THE VIEWERS TO STOP AND OBSERVE.

THE GOAL OF BIG TREE IS TO CREATE AN IMERSIVE ENVORONMENT THAT IS MADE OF ORGANIC (AND RE-USED) MATERIALS (PAPER AND FIBER) WHILE BREATHING LIFE INTO THE SCULPTURES THROUGH A HIDDEN LAYER OF ELECTRONICS (NOT SO NATRUAL).



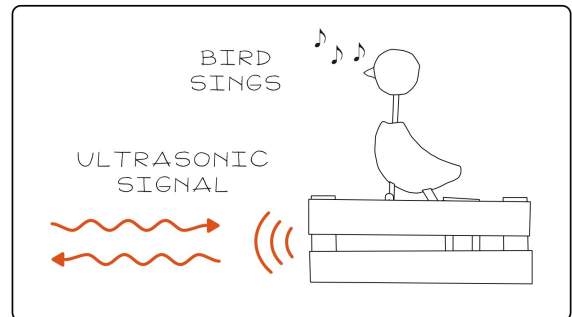
# EXAMPLE SUB-INSTALLATION A SINGING BIRD



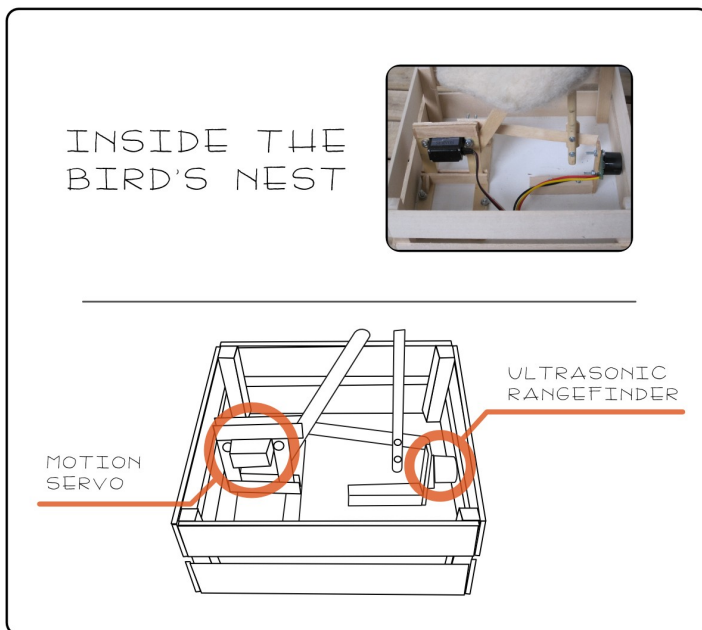
ONE SUCH SUB-INSTALLATION IS THE SINGING BIRD. THIS BIRD SCULPTURE MOVES ITS HEAD UP AND DOWN AS IT SINGS A SONG.

THE BIRD IS MADE OF NEEDLE-FELTED WOOL AND FABRIC. THE NEST, SUPPORTS, AND MECHANICAL LINKAGES ARE MADE OF WOOD.

IT HAS CUSTOM SOFTWARE TO ALLOW IT GENERATE RANDOM MELODIES. THE MOOD OF THE SONG CHANGES RELATIVE TO HOW CLOSE OR HOW FAR THE VIEWER IS FROM THE PIECE..



ON THE ELECTRONIC SIDE WE HAVE A SERVO MOTOR TO DRIVE THE MOTION. AN ULTRASONIC RANGE FINDER TO KNOW THE DISTANCE. AND AN ARDUINO BOARD TO CONTROL IT ALL (NOT SHOWN).



THE SERVO, MECHANICAL LINKAGE AND OTHER ELECTRONICS WILL BE HIDDEN UNDERNEATH THE FILLER FOR THE NEST AND THE RANGE-FINDER PEEKS OUT FROM BETWEEN THE WOOD SLATS.