

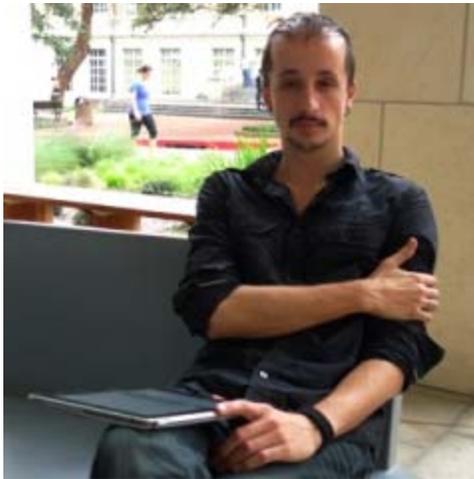
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UT Austin | Portugal

DIGITAL BITS

INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATORY FOR EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES, CoLab



Digital Media PhD Student Shows at SXSW

Doctoral students are always busy, but one Portuguese PhD student is particularly busy this month. João Beira, who is pursuing dual PhDs from UT and U.Porto will show his work several times this month. At UT, Beira is pursuing an interdisciplinary PhD with research that involves reactive cinema.

Beira is showing his work at events related to the South by Southwest family of festivals. On March 9, he will be remixing extant video and live footage at The DMT RMXLaunch Event. This event invited video artists to reimagine the documentary DMT: The Spirit Molecule. Beira will also show work on the 15th and 16th for events for the SXSW Music Festival.

Later this month, Beira's work will be seen on campus. Collaborating with dance professor Yacov Sharir, he contributed video art to the dance production Catalyst which will be presented at the B. Iden Payne Theatre March 23, 24, and 25. His work combines live video and animation with dancers on stage. Looking forward, Beira will have work at an art show in New York City and at the ACM CHI conference in Austin.

Researchers Present at Connected Viewing Summit

As TV content moves from the traditional TV set to devices like iPads, mobile phones, and computers, scholars are working to understand how the platform changes affect viewing habits. Last month, RTF professor Sharon Strover and members of her research team traveled to Santa Barbara, CA, to present at the Connected Viewing Initiative research summit. The summit, coordinated by the University of California-Santa Barbara's Carsey-Wolf Center's Media Industries Project, brought together several researchers to examine the ways in which media industries are integrating digital technologies and network communications into traditional entertainment media.

The FCT-funded "ImTV Project" seeks a greater understanding of the relationship between socio-economic status and competency with various new media devices, and is working towards development of a language to describe media "embeddedness" as part of connectivity between humans, devices and networks. For more information on the Connected Viewing Initiative and its collaborators, visit [the initiative's website](#).

UT Professor to Teach Scoring Class

When you think of movies and video games, the images on screen are probably the first thing to come to mind. But the sound of these media are just as important in how they tell stories and engage users. To



provide music students skills experience composing for the screen, UT professor Bruce Pennycook will be teaching a class on “Film and Media Scoring” at the University of Porto this spring.

Pennycook will travel to Porto in March to conduct an intensive week of classes. Comprised of morning and afternoon sessions, the class first introduces students to concepts related to scoring and then students engage with the material with hands-on projects in the afternoon. Students will use software such as Apple Logic to develop their ideas for a final project that they will record in June.

Exploratory Visitors Meet UT Faculty, Staff

Several doctoral students journeyed to the UT campus last month on exploratory visits. These students met with faculty and staff to see how UT’s resources might advance their research. Hugo Castanho and Ana Nunes Jorge from the New University of Lisbon and Sandra Coelho, Paulo Fontes, Fernando Governo, and Diana Marques of the University of Porto paid a visit to UT.



The students met individually with faculty from a variety of programs including the Departments of Radio-TV-Film, Advertising and Public Relations, Communication Studies, Theater and Dance, Art and Art History, and Mechanical Engineering, as well as the Schools of Journalism and Information. In addition, staff from the Visual Art Center and Texas Advanced Computing Center also advised students on practical issues related to projects. Several students were enthusiastic about the welcome they received from the program and Austin public.



Digital Media Program Welcomes ZON Winner

Pedro Resende arrived in Austin this month to begin his internship with Fuel Film Co. Resende won the top honors in the short film category in the 2010 ZON Awards for his film “Maybe,” which was shot in Austin. This is Resende’s second trip to Austin for an internship. In 2010, he interned at 501 Post, a post-production house. He says he is looking forward to collaborating with Austin filmmakers on projects in addition to learning at his new internship.

The Digital Media Leadership program is still seeking internship placements for Portuguese students. There is particular demand for hosts who can provide experiences in audio production, interaction design, and electronic games. If you know of a firm that can host an intern in these areas, please contact research assistant Chris McConnell at mcchris@utexas.edu.

UT-Austin | Portugal Digital Media Program

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