Christian Swinehart

DATA VISUALIZATION + DESIGN + DEVELOPMENT

SKILLS

LANGUAGES
JavaScript/TypeScript, Rust, Python, Bash, Make, C, Objective-C, Perl, C++, Java, Scheme, Logo

FRONT-END
React, Lodash, Chroma, Mapbox, PostCSS, Vite, jQuery, Handlebars

SERVER-SIDE
Docker, Caddy, Nginx, Apache, Postgres, Prisma, CouchDB, Express, Astro, Eleventy, Tornado, Flask

COLLABORATION
Figma, Git, Mercurial, Linode, GitHub Actions, Travis

APPLICATIONS
Illustrator, InDesign, After Effects, Photoshop, FontLab, Excel, Max/MSP

GRAPHICS ENVIRONMENTS
Canvas, SVG, Quartz, D3, P5, WGPU, Three.js, Zdog, PlotDevice

DATA ANALYSIS
NumPy, Pandas, SQL, Plot, Vega, Seaborn, BeautifulSoup, MATLAB, *Numerical Recipes in C*

EDUCATION

RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL OF DESIGN
M.F.A. in graphic design

BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY
Ph.D. in computational neuroscience

DICKINSON COLLEGE
B.S. in cognitive science

LINKS

PORTFOLIO
samizdat.co

CODE REPOSITORY
github.com/samizdatco

CONTACT
christian@samizdat.co

EXPERIENCE

OFFICE OF UNSPECIFIED SERVICES | Founder & Principal (2013–)
A design, data visualization, and software development consultancy. Clients include Yale School of Management, The New York Times, Citibank, Allied Works, System, Boxcar Press, Mitch Epstein, Ennead, and Diller Scofidio + Renfro.

COLUMBIA, PRATT, M/I/C/A, PARSONS, & R.I.S.D. | Adjunct Professor (2015–)
Designed and taught 22 courses, primarily in *data visualization*, but also including electives in creative coding, databases, front-end development, and graphic design. Taught students affiliated with computer science, journalism, communications design, information design, and data science programs at the graduate and undergraduate level.

OUR WORLD IN DATA | Sr. Visualization Engineer & Dataviz Lead (2023–2024)
Created bespoke *visualizations* in collaboration with OWID's researchers and led the design and development of *Grapher*: the chart-rendering engine that powers the site's interactive visualizations. Oversaw a *redesign* of *Grapher*'s UX, designed and built a revamped details-on-demand system for chart tooltips, and *prototyped* a data-interpolating time-scrubber for bubble chart animations.

BLOOMBERG VISUAL DATA | Visualization Developer (2011–2013)
Designed and developed interactive data visualization products covering politics, society, the environment, and the global economy. Contributed to award winning products including the *Bloomberg Billionaires Index*, the *State by State* analytics tool, and the *Industry Market Leaders* dashboard.

PENTAGRAM | Interaction Designer & Lead Developer (2007–2010)
User experience and development on Lisa Strausfeld's National Design Award winning team. Clients included Gallup, Lincoln Center, OLPC, Litl, Maya Lin, and the Museum of Arts and Design. Also developed interactive sites and experiences for Abbott Miller and designed interfaces for Michael Bierut and Paula Scher.

SELECTED WORKS

ONE BOOK, MANY READINGS (2022, 2010) ‹*samizdat.co/cyoa*›
A visual analysis of the *Choose Your Own Adventure* books of my youth. The project examines the structure of choices in the books and visualizes how it changed over the course of the series.

INFINITE DIGEST (2021) ‹*samizdat.co/projects/infinite-digest*›
A collection of visualizations examining the chronological nonlinearities within David Foster Wallace's novel *Infinite Jest*. Its length, enormous cast of characters, and flashback-heavy plotting are a case study in *fabula and sjužet* diverging.

SKIA CANVAS (2020) ‹*skia-canvas.org*›
A javascript library for Node.js that enables the creation of bitmap and vector files outside of the browser. It provides a drawing model identical to the HTML canvas element via an emulation I wrote in *Rust* for speed and memory-safety.

BLOOMBERG BILLIONAIRES INDEX (2014) ‹*bloom.samizdat.co*›
An interactive visualization of the wealth of the world's 500 richest people developed with the Visual Data team at Bloomberg. Won the 2013 *Information is Beautiful Awards* grand prize and featured in *The Best American Infographics 2014*.