(Balloon)

“A balloon is a flexible bag **normally** filled with a gas...”

from: wikipedia.com

Originally they were made of of dried animal bladders...

from: wikipedia.com

...but now they are made of other materials as

Rubber

Latex

Nylon

from: wikipedia.com

They have been used in
a lot of different fields as

Medicine

Art

Exploration

Meteorology

Espionage

Transportation

Communication

and ...

... doing funny stuff !

gettyimages

In my research I'm focusing especially on the **funny** usage of baloons along with some other inputs from the previously mentioned applications .

In my eyes it is the richest field to explore to get hints about designing a digital empowered baloon as it contains the strongest examples of human expressions and interactions.

So let’s take a look at what people ganerally **like** to do with balloons

to see them

to make them fly

to draw on them

to wear them

to produce sounds with them

to inflate them

to touch them

to punch/throw them

to sculpt them

analizing these simple behaviours
I built a map of possible physical **interactions**

Sight

See
Draw
Wear
Fly

Tact

Inflate
Touch
Sculpt
Punch/Throw

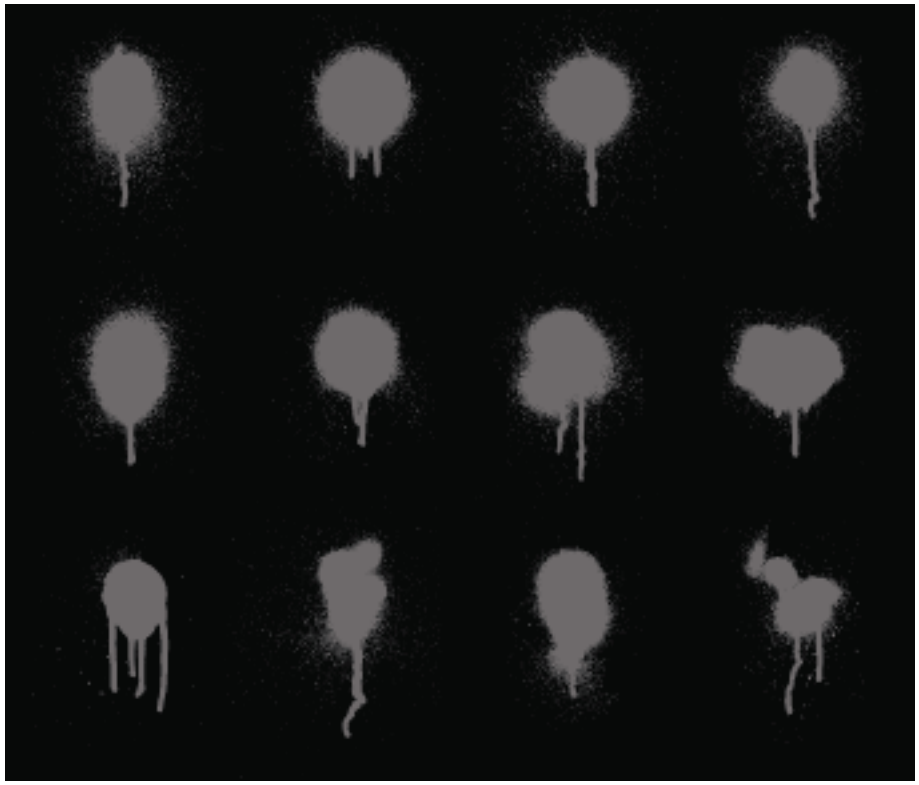
Hearing

Boom!
Modulation
Scratch

but balloons are more than mere
funny objects ...

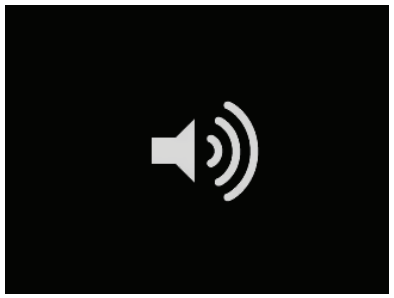
I was surprised to find
how many **metaphorical connection** it
has with unexpected areas of human
experience.

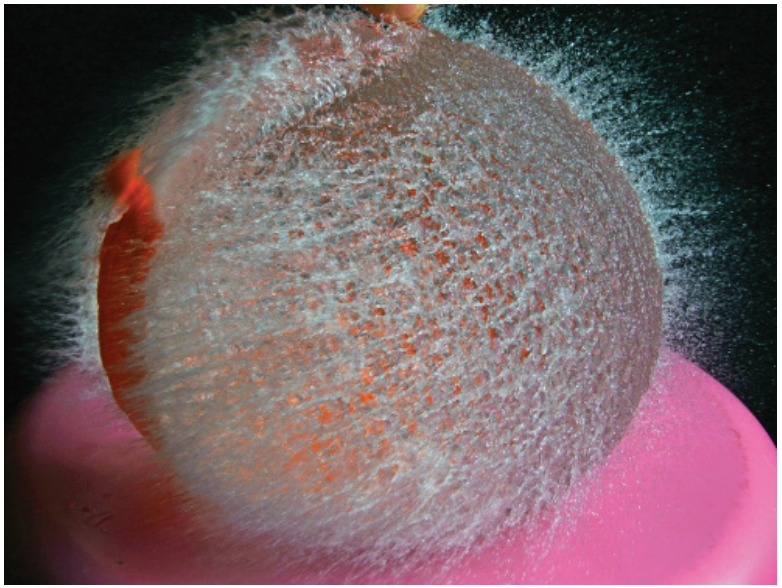
Spray



which leads to...

... Network - Broadcast

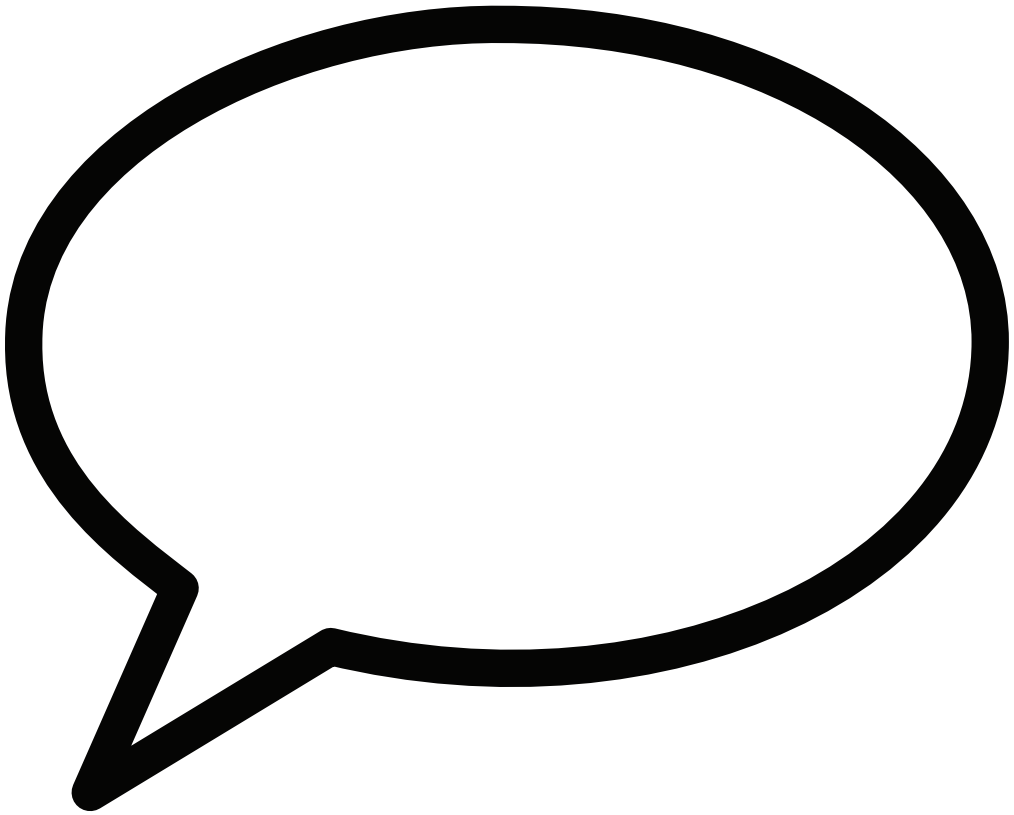




Light bulb

Skin

Comics



Bag

Microphone

Drums

From the mixing of common physical
interaction with **metaphorical** connection
I created some **value-fictions designs**

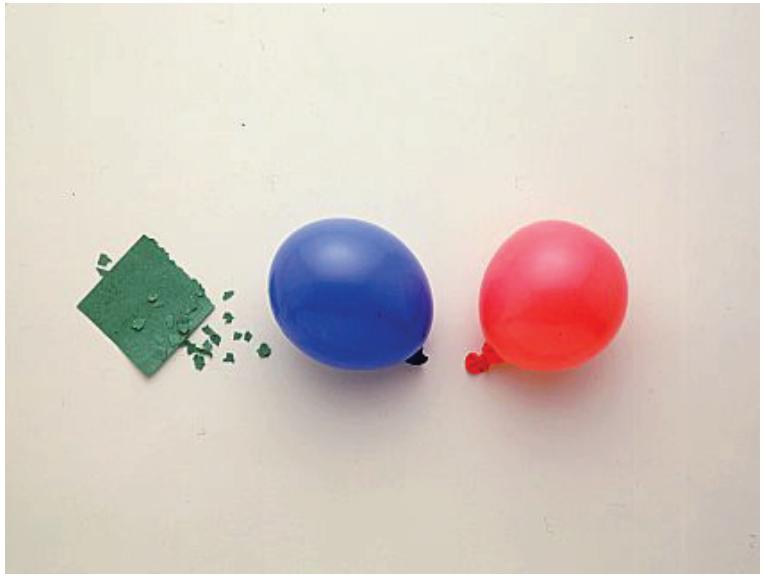
Remote touch

Interface for remote tactile communication.

Interaction:
Touch

Metaphor:
Skin

Flying Pixel

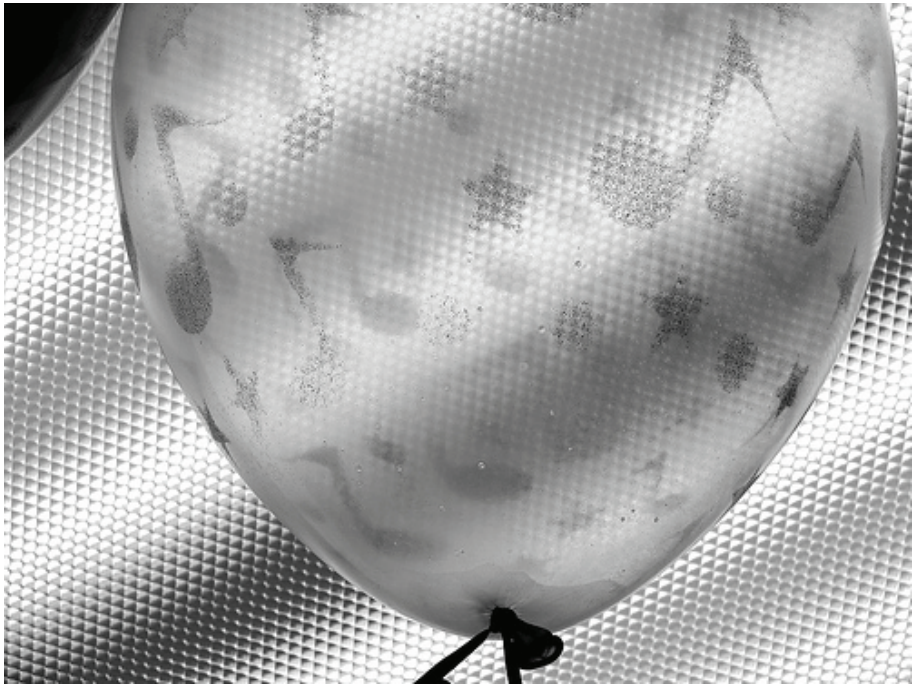


Physical pixel to build
floating visualization systems.

Interaction:
See
Fly

Metaphor:
Light bulb

Audio Balloon



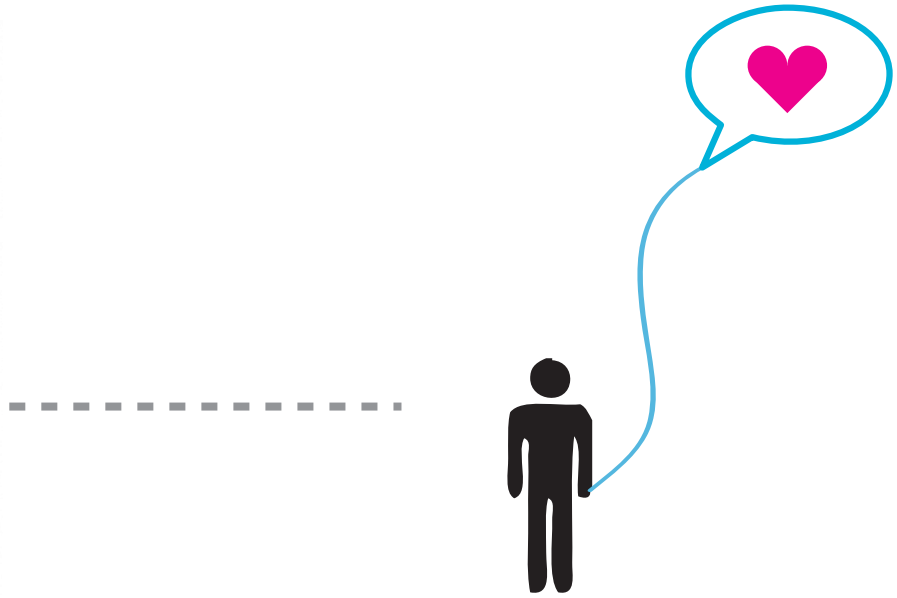
Audio interface. Can be beat as a drum, scratched as a turntable, modulated as a flute.

It can record audio, visualize and broadcast it.

Interaction:
Punch
Modulate, Scratch

Metaphor:
Drums
Bag
Broadcast

Portable Comics Balloon



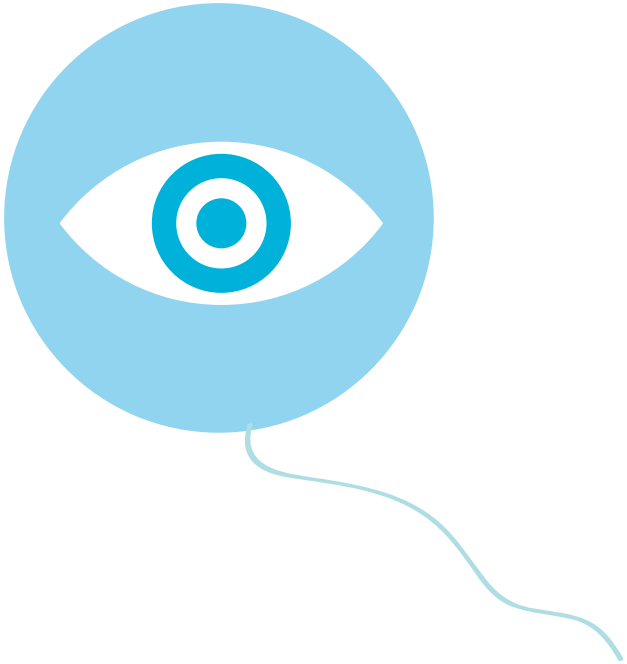
Textual interface to publish
a message in a limited physical area.

The text is written on the surface of
the balloon and can be changed
by the user drawing on it or speaking into it.

Interaction:
Draw
Fly
Inflate

Metaphor:
Comics balloon
Microphone

Data probe



Can capture various data type accross
the environment : photos, video, sounds, network.
The more the data the more it inflates.

When full it returns home.

Interaction:
Fly

Metaphor:
Bag

Casual Carrier

It's the opposite of the probe.
It carries data randomly and release them to anyone interested.

Interaction:
Fly

Metaphor:
Bag

Head in the balloon

It works as a classic video chat, but the balloon is the monitor. It is also provided with speakers, camera, microphone and engines so that the remote user can look around and act as if his head is in the actual environment of the physical user.

Interaction:

-

Metaphor:

-

DreamLamp

This is a lamp on which the user can draw animated sketches, words and group them in dreams.

When the user goes to sleep the lamp turns on and play back stored user's dreams.

Interaction:
See
Touch
Draw, (Dream)

Metaphor:
Light bulb
Bag