

Celebrating quality art + tools, released for free by their creators.

FREEWARE CREATOR MAGAZINE

JULY 2024

Raindog Live - Raindog

Online Collections - Musée du Louvre

The Anarchist Library - The Anarchist Library

Mindustry - Anuken

The Internet's Own Boy - Brian Knappenberger

ActivityPub - World Wide Web Consortium (W3C)

State of the Arc Podcast - Resonant Arc

AUDIO



data

_creator: Raindog

recorded: Early 2000s

released: 2024

_type: Video Recording
_genre: "emotional.rock"
_license: Proprietary

One recording of the obscure early-2000s "emotional.rock" band captures the spirit of the era

You may have noticed that I've been writing previous issues of the magazine in the third person in an attempt to

Raindog Live

Raindog

make it sound more professional. With this issue I've decided to switch to first person, so you know you are reading recommendations based on my own subjective experience.

This 54-minute recording of one of Raindog's performances, edited in true early-2000s cuts, is a perfect example of the above. I happened to catch it as a new upload onto MakerTube, and the music and visuals immediately struck a deep chord.

It has been hard to find much on the now-disbanded German band, but according to one linked quote: "We used to call this emotional.rock and it still seems a good fit some 20 years later."

Links:

[Raindog Live Video]
[Purchase Albums]





_data

_gallery: Musée du Louvre

_type: Photos of various

art works

mediums: Over 19 different

types

_license: Custom

Over 500,000 photos of the Louvre's collections are available to view and download for free

Chances are you've grown up hearing about how prestigious the Louvre and its art are, but if you wanted to experience it, you would have to

Online Collections

Musée du Louvre

wait until you can afford a trip to Paris.

Thankfully, in a growing trend of museums and galleries supporting Open Access, you can now engage with a huge collection of their art from your browser.

Many would argue it is still worth travelling to the Louvre to truly experience the pieces, yet it is initiatives

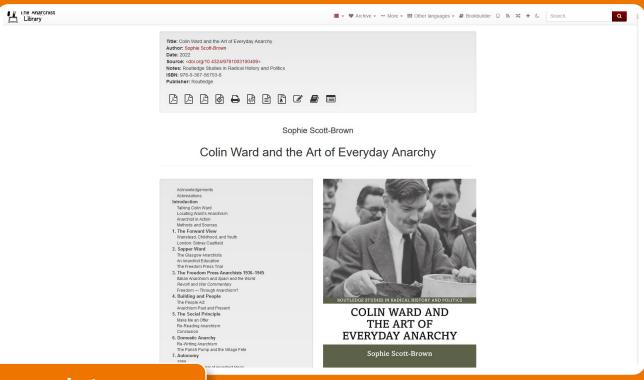
like this which I believe showcase the possibilities we first saw in the internet.

While technically it wasn't the original creators who have "released their art for free", most works are now in Public Domain, and the Louvre's decision should be celebrated all the same.

Links:

[Online Collections]

WRITING



data

_creators: The Anarchist

Library

_back-end: AmuseWiki type: Open Access Text

Platform

_license: Mixed

Think Archive.org, but specifically for texts written for the various streams of Anarchist Philosophy

First pop-myth to get out of the way: Anarchism doesn't mean all hell breaking loose.
It is a collection of

The Anarchist Library

The Anarchist Library

political philosophies which posit that permanent authorities are unhealthy for a thriving people. For example, where nation-states believe that a police force is necessary to keep the peace, anarchists generally believe that police are established with good intention, but inevitably end up causing worse harm than if people took the responsibility for

themselves to work through complex social situations themselves.

While I am personally wrestling with the validity of these ideas, I do believe in times of disillusionment with institutions, the careful consideration of alternative philosophies is healthy.

Links:

[Website]



data

_creator: Anuken released: 2019

_genre: Tower Defense
_license: GPL-3.0
_platform: Linux, Mac,

_platform: Linux, Mac, Windows, Android (beta)

Quickly addictive Tower Defence game for those who love building systems

I have never really gotten into the Tower Defence genre, but the 20 minutes I planned to take a look at Mindustry quickly turned into an a hour and a half.

Mindustry

Anuken

It's closest relative seems to be Factorio, though in this case your "character" is a cool little spaceship that you fly around and shoot from. The main benefit being that you can seamlessly patrol your ever-expanding network of ore harvesters, conveyor belts, and defence turrets without worrying about obstacles. Each level takes place on different connected zones

on the same planet for a sense of larger world.

The game itself has been released under the GPL-3.0 license, meaning that you are free to extend and expand it into your own open-source project. With this solid concept, it already has over 12,000 members in its Discord Community.

Links:

[Download Page]
[GitHub Source]

VIDEO



data

_director: Brian
Knappenberger
_released: 2015
_type: Documentary
_subject: Aaron Swartz
_license: CC-NC-SA 4.0

A celebration of one of the internet's brightest lights, and a mourning of his untimely death

Ironically, Reddit is currently in the news for making highly problematic deals with Google, but you'll have to trust me when I say that the

The Internet's Own Boy

Brian Knappenberger

platform, co-created by Aaron Swartz, was once a cornerstone of the free and public internet. Before Reddit, Swartz was involved in many other projects geared towards the public commons, including Creative Commons, and RSS Feed technologies.

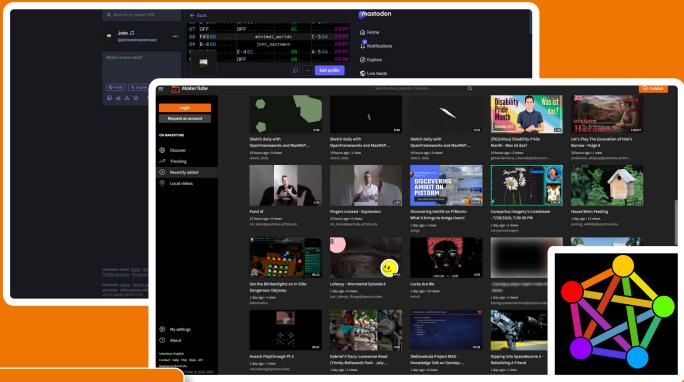
This is why there was no question that his untimely suicide during a hounding trial for

illegally downloading databases of research papers was worthy of a documentary.

Including interviews with Tim Berners-Lee, Lawrence Lessig, and many other internet titans, it is clear that Swartz' efforts have touched the hearts of many.

Links:

[Freely Available Film]



data

_creator: W3C _released: 2018

_type: Open Web Standard

and Protocl

_license: Open Standard _e.g.: Mastodon, MakerTube

W3C's answer to the socially-networked web

Many scoff at the term
"Fediverse", likely out
of justified bitterness
for other recent
"something-verse" hype.
But this tech is actually
worthy of your attention
as it was designed to

ActivityPub

World Wide Web Consortium (W3C)

benefit the free and open web, not the capital-obsessed walled-garden web that the other big names are stumbling towards.

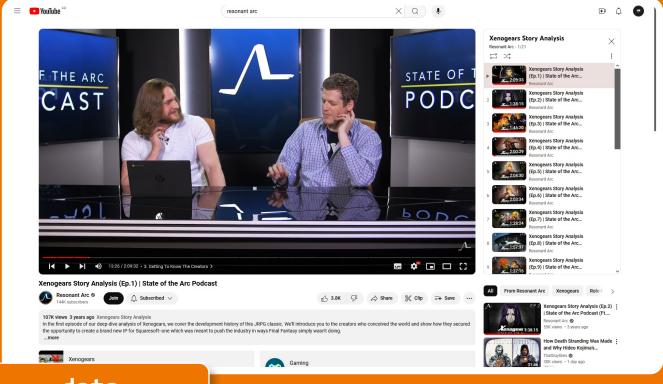
If you've used Mastodon (Twitter alternative), PixelFed (Instagram alt), or MakerTube (YouTube alt), you've used Fediverse services built on the ActivityPub protocol and open standard.

The core drive of the standard is to build an ecosystem of websites which can all share content with each other, much like how different email services can communicate.

If you start to lose faith in an ActivityPub site, it is optimised for you to migrate to an alternative you trust. Links:

[Specification Page]

BONUS



data

_creator: Resonant Arc _released: 2021 -_type: Video Podcast _license: Proprietary _themes: storytelling, video games, philosophy

Deep psychoanalytic, philosophical, personal reflections on great video game stories

YouTube seems to be the one recommendation algorithm that still occasionally directs me genuine value I haven't heard of before, and

State of the Arc Podcast

Resonant Arc

Resonant Arc is a key example of this.

I came across their 21episode series analysing
the spiritual, symbols,
and storytelling for PS1
JRPG Xenogears, and found
it open my eyes to some
very interesting ideas
which challenge the
serious blindspots of
Modernity.

Video games are the vehicle which allows

lifelong-friends Mike
Brown and Casen Sperry to
engage these discussions
around Jungian
Archetypes, religion,
spirituality, Nietzschean
theories, and much more.

I highly (and deeply) recommend their show.

Links:

[YouTube Channel]
[Patreon]
[SoundCloud]

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