

## AGENDA! WEBSITES



# Title sequences galore

Ian Albinson's and Alex Ulloa's blog, [artofthetitle.com](http://artofthetitle.com), is a treasure trove of film and TV show title sequences...

Now we all watch films on DVD or on our computers, we can easily skip between chapters of a given movie and choose to engage with a certain scene again and again at the touch of a button or the slide of a progress bar. It is this relatively new way of consuming, storing and engaging with film that saw Ian Albinson start to collect his favourite film title

sequences. Now Albinson and collaborator Alex Ulloa share this passion, their knowledge and thoughts on a host of title sequences on their site, [artofthetitle.com](http://artofthetitle.com).

Essentially, the site functions as a blog, with Albinson and Ulloa regularly posting up information about a Film or TV title sequence they think is worthy of note.

"The site initially began with just myself in July 2007 as a Tumblr blog but soon outgrew the format and was relaunched in December with its own domain," explains Albinson of the site's origins. "Alex and I then started working together in April 2008 and that's when the site found its voice, with thoughtfully written analysis on a much wider range of title sequences and opening scenes to both film and television."

So is the content on the site a reflection of Albinson's DVD collection? "It originally began with me that way," he admits, "but has since exploded in size and concept. We now

ABOVE: Jamie Caliri's opening titles for *United States of Tara*, a TV show starring Toni Collette

tackle anything of interest or importance running the full gamut from obscure, like John Huston's *Under the Volcano*, to the latest Hollywood films like *Ironman*."

"We want to be to the history and future of the form of title sequencing what the opening sequence to Jean-Luc Godard's *Le Mépris* is to cinema; an exploration of what is universally felt, but with some fresh discourse," adds Ulloa. ■

[artofthetitle.com/](http://artofthetitle.com/)

## Missin Letters

Mark Thomson, one half of Studio-Thomson, has been taking photos of sorry-looking signage missing a letter or more for the best part of ten years. Now he is posting a photo a day up on his new Missin Letters blog.

"The first example of a missing letter I noticed must have been Centre Point in London when the 'o' failed to light up one night, which made it read

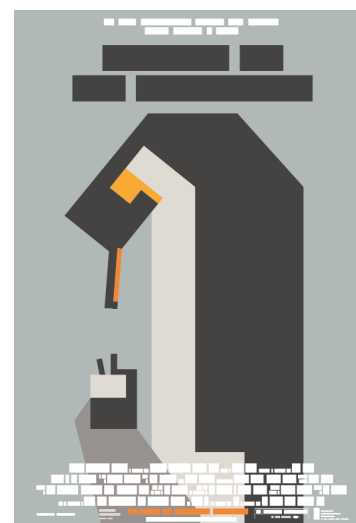
'Centre Pint'," he tells us.

"It's such a random occurrence when a particular letter falls off and it's always interesting to see how it affects the word that it leaves behind," he says. "I often wonder why does one letter fall off before the others, and where do all the missing letters go?"

[missinletters.blogspot.com/](http://missinletters.blogspot.com/)



WATNEY MARKET  
hopping centre



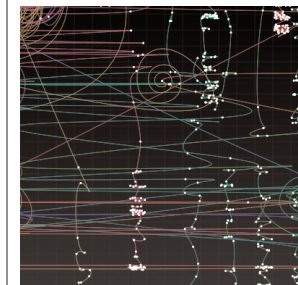
Film *The Blanks* film poster site

"I was looking at Saul Bass' *Vertigo* poster one day and wondered if it would still work just as blocks of colour, without the centre detail," says John Taylor of the birth of his *Film The Blanks* project. "After that I started wondering if that principle could be applied to other film posters. I started to experiment and recorded the results

in a blog." Since he first started posting his experiments, interest in the imagery he was producing grew and visitors to his site began guessing what classic poster each work took its cue from. Now Taylor encourages the guessing by offering prints as prizes.

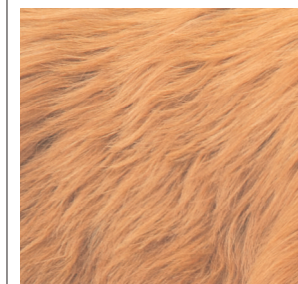
[filmtheblanks.com/](http://filmtheblanks.com/)

## Links



### Joining Twitter's dots

Karsten Schmidt and Sascha Pohflepp collaborated on this "JavaScript visualization to reveal cross-connections between conversations on Twitter". In a nutshell, it's a tool that literally joins the dots between mentions (in Twitter) of whatever word or phrase you want to look up. We looked up Creative Review – the above image is a detail of the result. [socialcollider.net](http://socialcollider.net)



### Textures image library

This site hosts a vast library of photographed textures (concrete, fabrics, food, ornamental masonry, grass, animal fur, different papers, metals, wood, windows, roof tiles – the list goes on) which you can download and use to create realistic textures for use in your CG environment creation work. Yes, the imagery is all rights free and ready to use. No, you can't download all the images and sell them yourself. [cgtextures.com](http://cgtextures.com)

### Monoface

We're a bit late on the uptake but we only recently spotted this Xmas/new year web toy created by Minneapolis-based creative agency, Mono. Mix and mis-match eyes, ears, mouths and noses of various studio members to create startling and somewhat-amusing faces.

[mono-1.com/monoface](http://mono-1.com/monoface)

