

Stories of/by/for the Fields of Play

Drew Davidson



A Little About Me



- Producer
- Administrator
- Publisher
- Academic



STORIES OF/BY/FOR THE FIELDS OF PLAY

- Started in 2024
- Exploratory Qualitative Study on the International Fields of Play
- In-Depth Interviews, Questionnaire, Community Participation
- Exploration of the Broad and Diverse Ideas around Play
- Threads, Themes, Patterns, Commonalities, Differences
- Education, Industry, Professional, Foundations, Government Groups

Support



- Connected Learning Alliance
- Games for Change
- Global Game Jam
- International Game Developer Association
- Higher Education Video Game Alliance
- IndieCade
- Pittsburgh Remake Learning Initiative
- Pittsburgh Technology Council

Questionnaire



- 116 Respondents
- 16 Questions Around
 - Where You Work & How Long
 - Your Role & Responsibilities
 - Your Area & Field
 - Your Strategies & Tools
 - Your Connections & Interests

Interviews



- 176 (!) Interviews
 - Around 30 minutes or so
 - Open-Ended & Conversational
 - General Questions
 - Introduce Yourself
 - Story of Life, Work & Interests
 - What's Exciting

Process



- Zoom - Record & Transcribe Interviews
- GForm - Questionnaire
- ATLAS.ti - Analysis

Analysis



- Quotes
- Codes
- Memos
- Reflections

Coding



Interviews



Questionnaire



Progress



- Threads of Themes
- Creative Problem-Solving
- Collaborative Journey with Participants
- Generosity & Expertise
- Ideas & Perspectives

Openness



- Overall Methodology
- Didn't Share a Definition of Play
- Foster More Discussion
- Potential Surprises
- Perspectives & Stories Shared

Meander



- Following Where It Goes
 - Podcast
 - Quantitative Analysis
 - Opt-In Participation with Both
- Yes, and...

Thematic Oral History



- Threads
- Topics
- Patterns
- Ideas

Perspectives

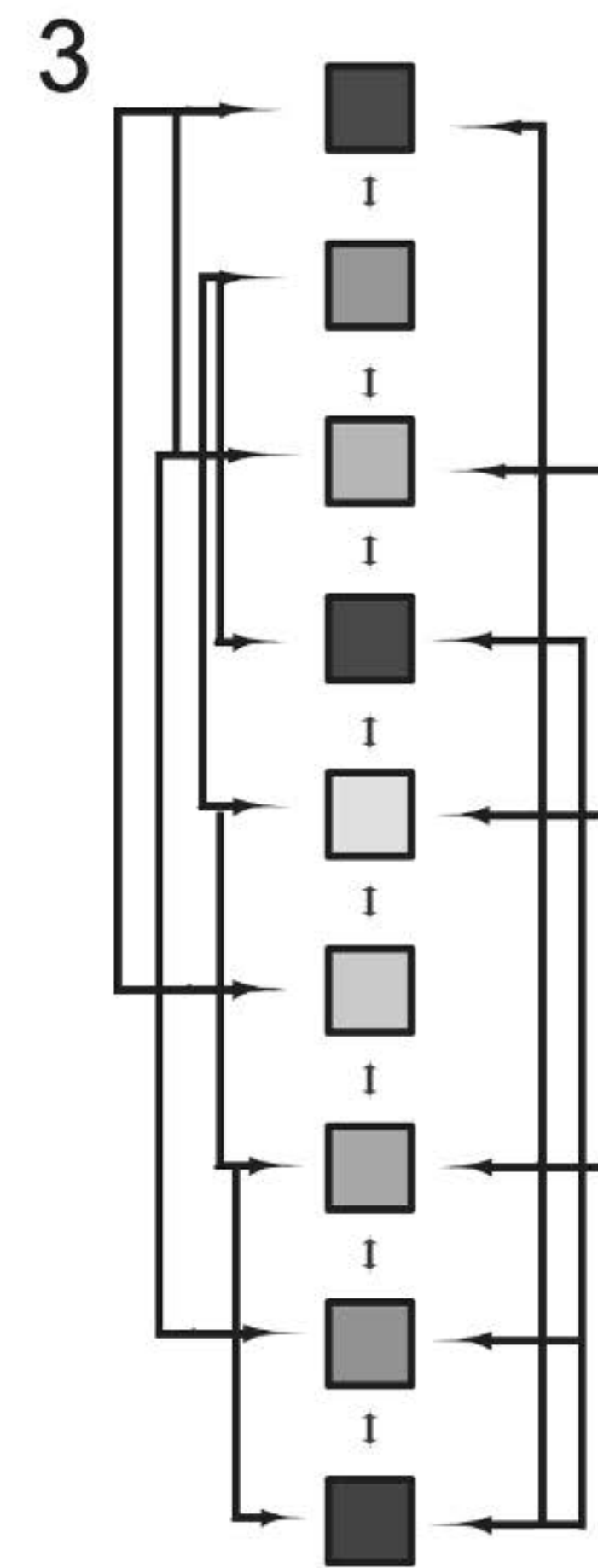
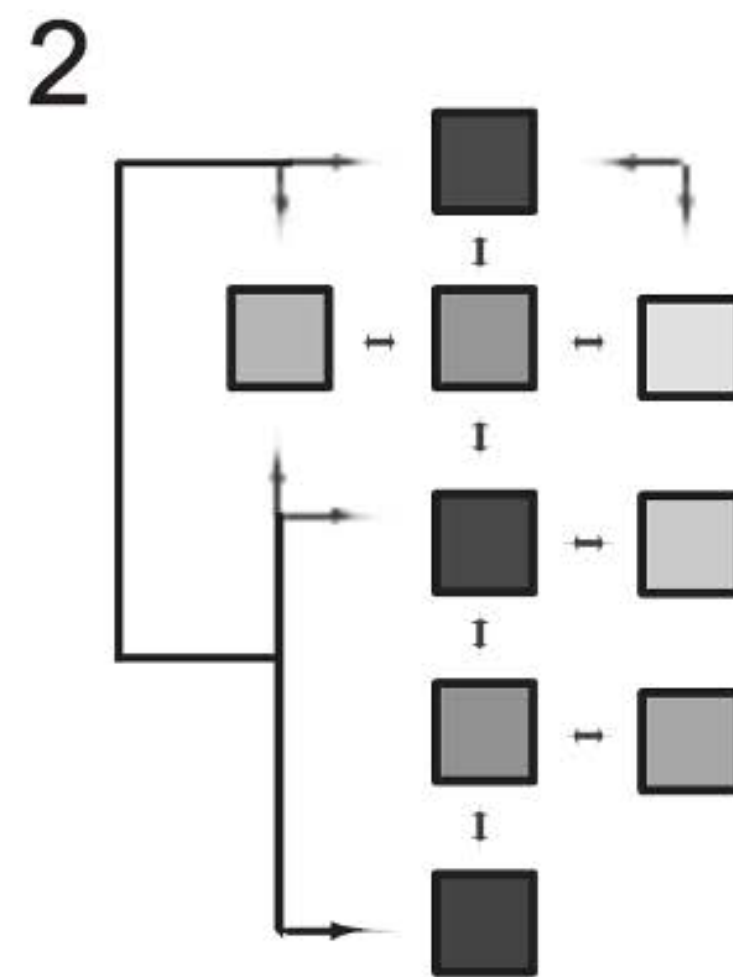
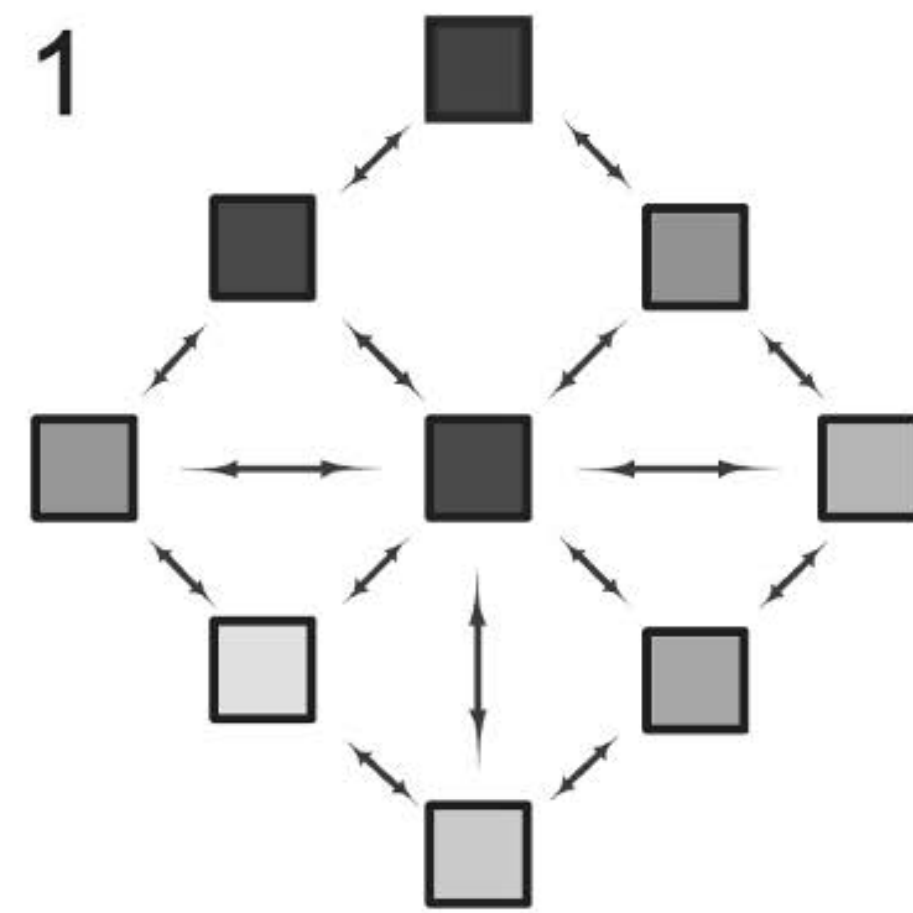


- Codings
 - Resonant Groupings
- Interviews
 - Quotes to Themes
- Meanings in Relation
 - Citations & Conversations
 - Commentary & Context

Amalgamation

Polyphony

- Symphony
- Melody
- Harmony
- Cacophony



Next Steps

- Drafting
- Interviewing
- Sharing
- Weaving
- Yes, and...





PLAY STORY PRESS

PLAYSTORYPRESS.ORG

- An Open Community Publishing Consortium
 - Founded in 2024
 - Of/By/For The Field
 - Diamond Open-Access Academic Publishing Initiative
 - Sharing Ideas that have Impact and Significance in Our Society



PLAY STORY PRESS

PLAYSTORYPRESS.ORG

- Stories and Play as They are Applied across Various Fields
- Broad & Diverse
 - Entertainment & Narrative, Media Studies & Social Studies
 - Games & Technology, Health & Enjoyment
 - Education & Learning, Design & Development
 - And More...



PLAY STORY PRESS
PLAYSTORYPRESS.ORG

- Growth of Quality Scholarship in the Field
 - Peer-Reviewed Work
 - General Audience Focus
 - Research & White Papers
 - Theory & Practice

Playful Stories

Ludic Narrans

- Manifesting & Growing
- Tapestry & Collage
- Ebb & Flow, Surf & Turf
- Honoring & We're Awesome
- Be Kind & Who Cares
- Hope & Change



Thanks!

Questions?

