



# GAME NARRATIVE

## SUMMIT

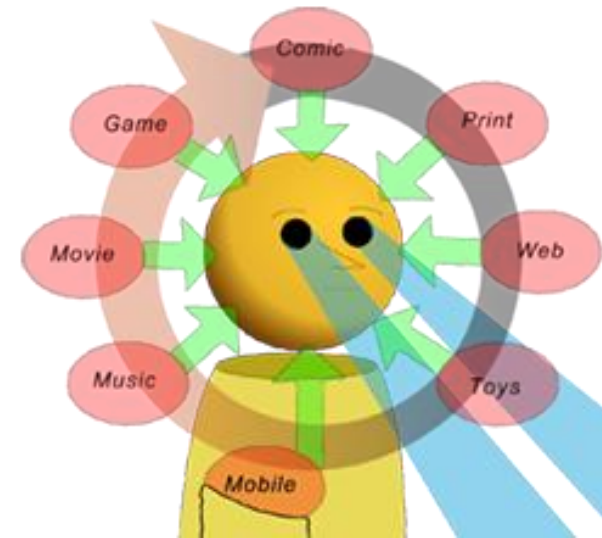
### Creators of Transmedia Stories

*Panel Session*

**GDC**  
Online

Game Developers Conference® Online **October 5-8, 2010** | **Austin, TX**

Creators of Transmedia Stories  
**WELCOME!**



# 10/6 A TRANSMEDIA AFTERNOON

## ⌚ 3:00pm

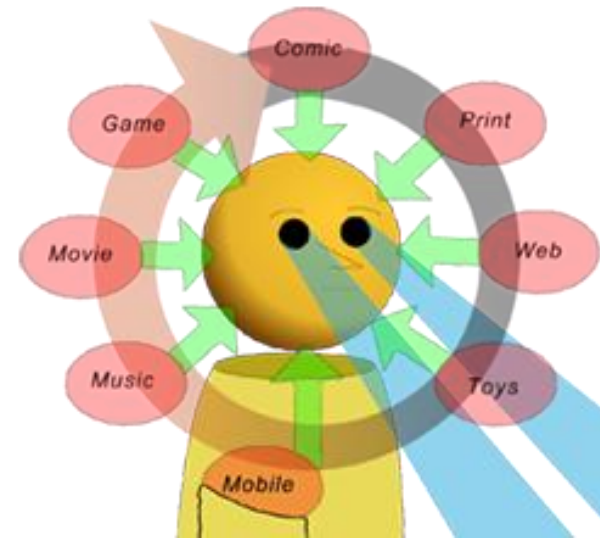
- ⌚ *Creators of Transmedia Stories* – Panel
- ⌚ *WGAW Game Writers Caucus Presents Games to Transmedia* – Panel

## ⌚ 4:30pm

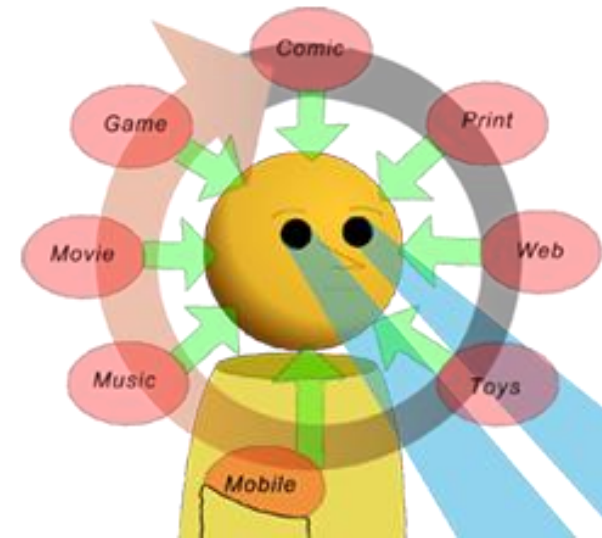
- ⌚ *Transmedia: The Vanguard of Fiction* – Lecture

## ⌚ 5:30pm

- ⌚ Game Narrative Summit Mixer



# Creators of Transmedia Stories **ABOUT THIS PANEL...**

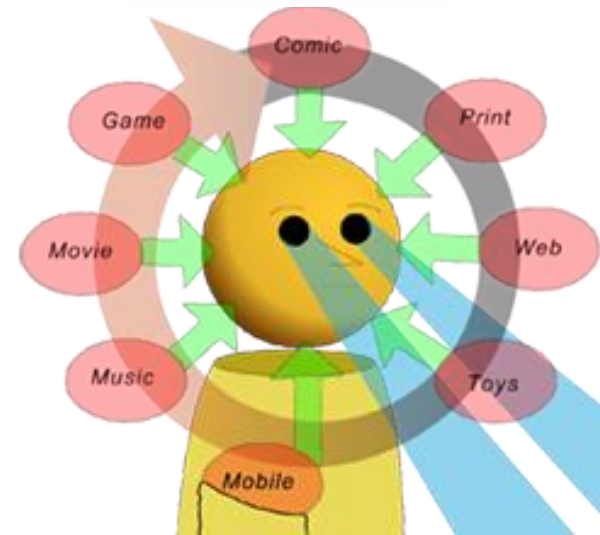




# ABOUT THIS PANEL...

- ⦿ Inspired by **Creators of Transmedia Stories™**, an interview series on *The Narrative Design Exploratorium*, that sets out to explore what visionaries in the field are now creating, and what they believe tomorrow will bring.

**Read More @**  
**[narrativedesign.org](http://narrativedesign.org)**



# ABOUT THIS PANEL...

## ⊕ PANELISTS

**Danny Bilson** – *THQ Core Games*

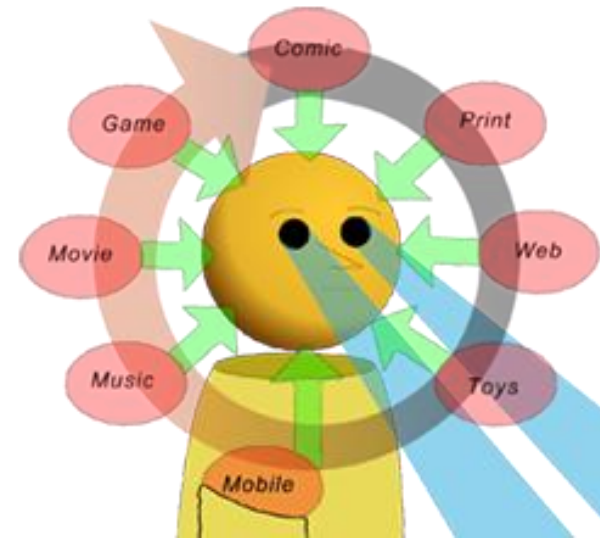
**Steve Danuser** – *38 Studios*

**James Waugh** – *Blizzard Entertainment*

**John Johnson** – *Smoking Gun Interactive*

## ⊕ MODERATOR

**Stephen Dinehart** - *NarrWare*

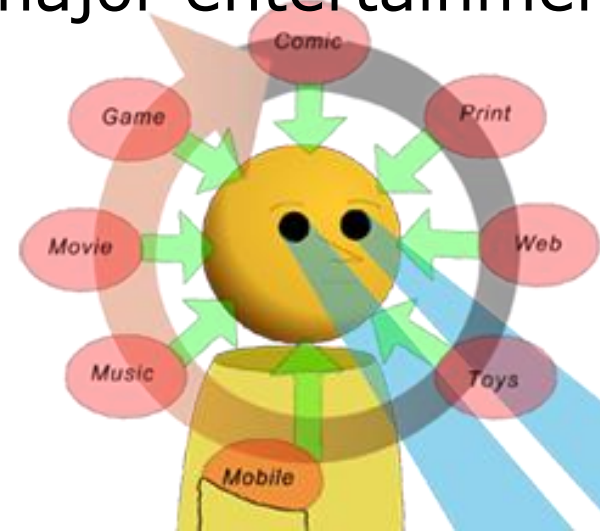


# Danny Bilson

<http://www.thq.com/>



- ⌚ EVP THQ-Core Games
- ⌚ Oversees production and marketing across THQ's core gaming product portfolio
- ⌚ Driving the transmedia strategy at THQ-Core
- ⌚ More than 20 years of writing, directing and creative development experience in all major entertainment media



# RED FACTION®

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## ORIGINS™





# RED FACTION

## ARMAGEDDON

GOBENEATH.COM  
MARCH 2011

**MAY CONTAIN CONTENT  
INAPPROPRIATE FOR CHILDREN**

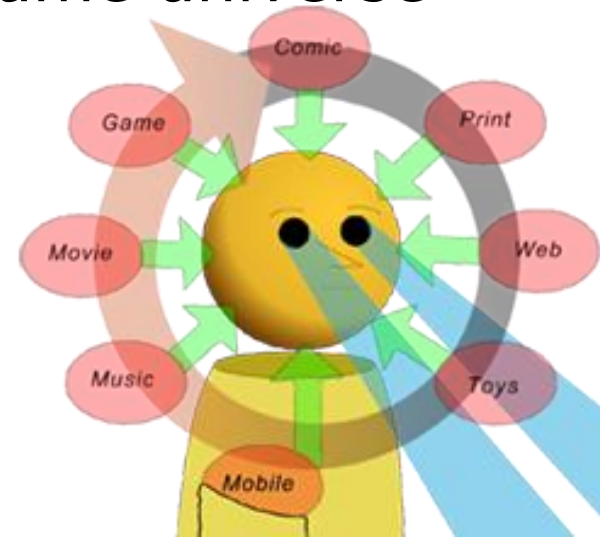
Visit [www.esrb.org](http://www.esrb.org)  
for rating information

# Steve Danuser

<http://38studios.com/>



- ⌚ Creative Director @ 38 Studios
- ⌚ Focuses on game design, IP development, storytelling, and community interaction
- ⌚ Driving transmedia strategy and vision on “Copernicus” and “Kingdoms of Amalur: Reckoning ” an MMOG & RPG based in the same universe















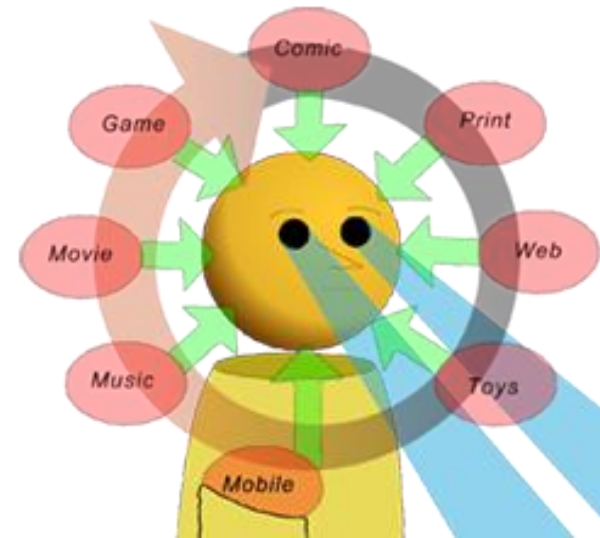
KINGDOMS OF AMALUR  
**RECKONING**

# John Johnson

<http://smokingguninc.com/>

**SMOKING GUN™**  
I N T E R A C T I V E

- ⌚ Creative Director @ Smoking Gun Interactive
- ⌚ Driving vision on “Exoriare”, a transmedia strategy game experience
- ⌚ Previously producer on the award winning “Company of Heroes” franchise





## GRAPHIC NOVEL ORDERING

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This site contains language that may not be suitable for minors. User discretion is advised.

The contents of this website include flickering images, and may cause seizures in persons suffering from photosensitive epilepsy. Please use caution.

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MALTA, 1995

HURRY UP,  
SAMSON. WE'RE NOT  
*SIGHTSEEING*.

LOOK AT THE  
*DETAILING* ON THIS THING,  
LIEUTENANT. AND THE WAY IT  
SEEMS TO EMANATE *LIGHT*...  
IT'S GOT TO BE *OTTOMAN*  
*EMPIRE* -- AT LEAST.



AND THAT'S  
WHY AN *OLD LADY* IS  
SELLING IT OFF A CART?  
SOME *SPECIALIST*  
YOU ARE, SAMSON.  
LET'S MOVE.



YOU REALLY  
THINK THERE'S

PRETTY SLIM,  
SERGEANT. THEY'VE BEEN  
BURIED UNDER THERE *AGAIN*



INTERRUPTING  
SOMETHING...

TOO DISTRACTED...

PEOPLE NEED TO *KNOW*.

WHAT? WHAT'S  
GOING ON?

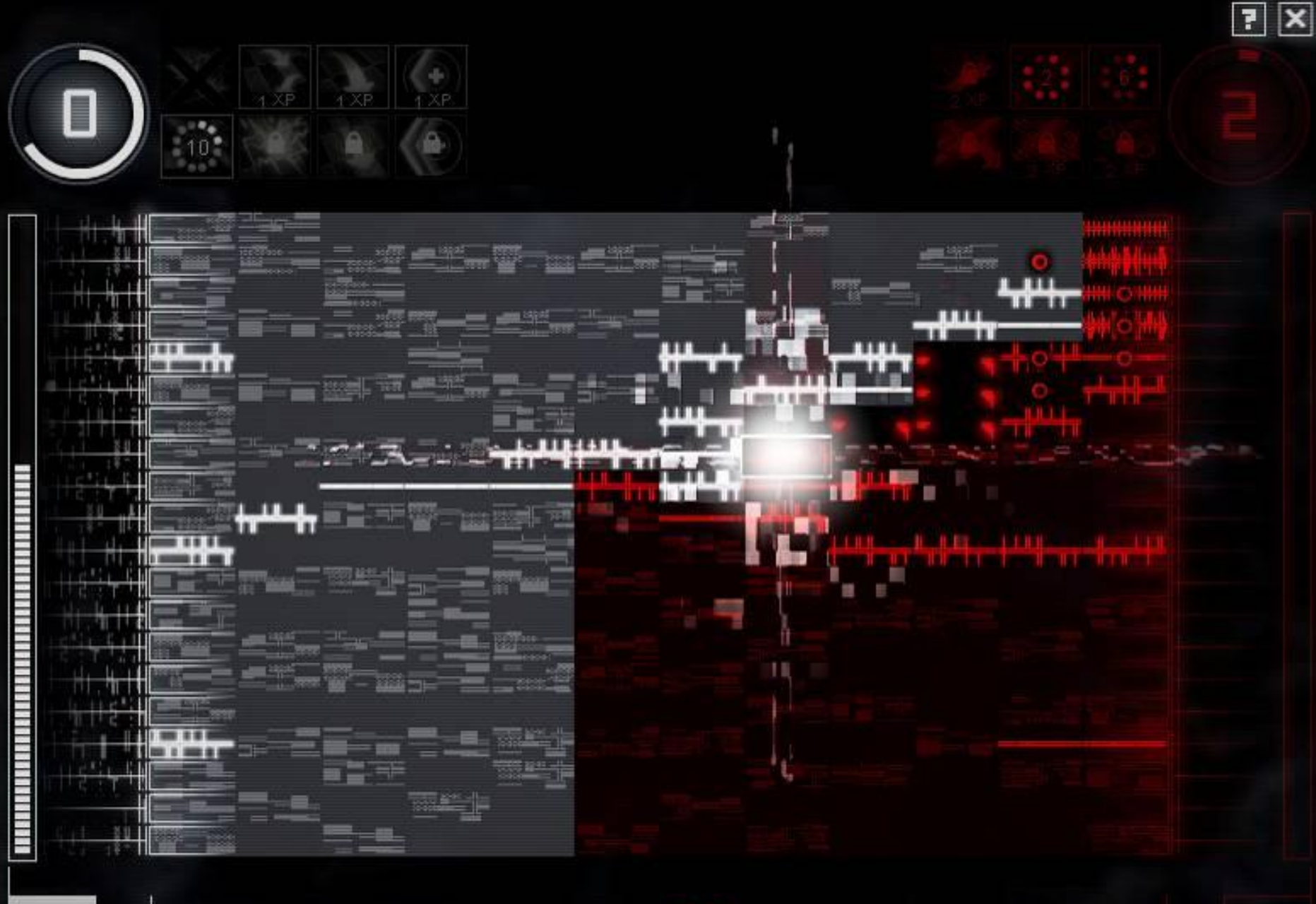
THINGS ARE *HAPPENING*.  
NASA'S ALREADY IN COMPLETE  
LOCKDOWN. PEOPLE ARE  
FINDING MORE THINGS THAN  
THEY CAN *HIDE*.











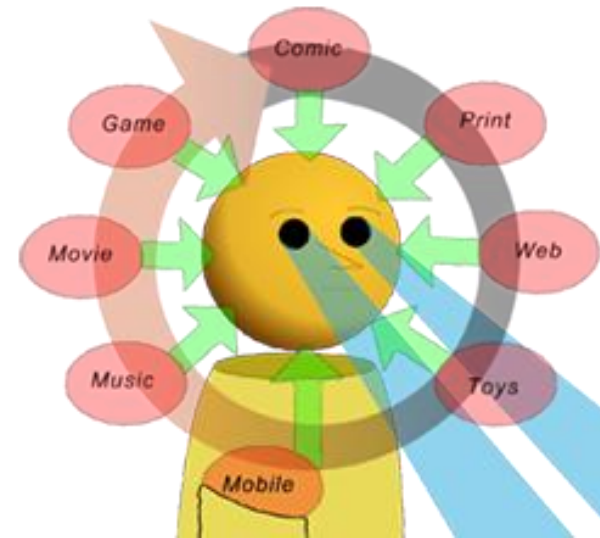


# James Waugh

<http://blizzard.com>



- ⌚ Senior Story Developer @ Blizzard
- ⌚ Driving transmedia storytelling as a mode of development for Blizzard's rich story worlds
- ⌚ Has written for various major entertainment media









# STARCRRAFT

© 2007 BLIZZARD ENT

**BLIZZARD**  
ENTERTAINMENT





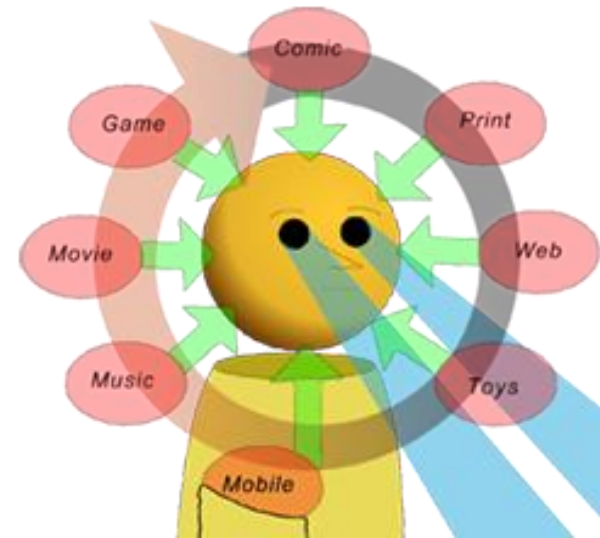


# Stephen Dinehart

<http://narrware.com>

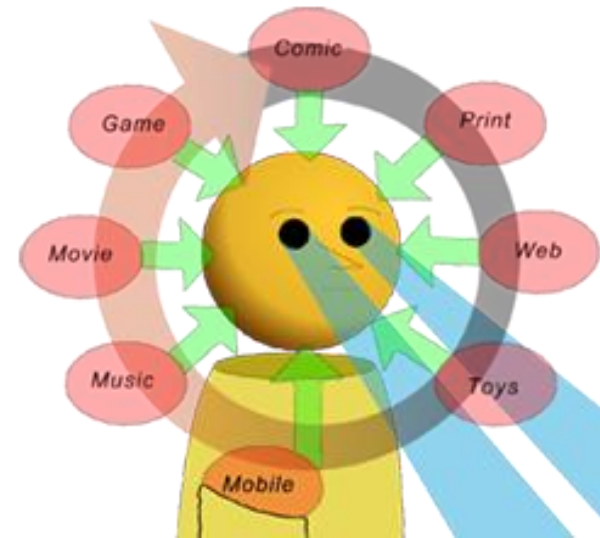
**NARRWARE**  
A TRANSMEDIA STORY STUDIO

- ⌚ Founder & Director @ NarrWare
- ⌚ Interactive Narrative Design Evangelist
- ⌚ Game Design Department Chair @ Brown College



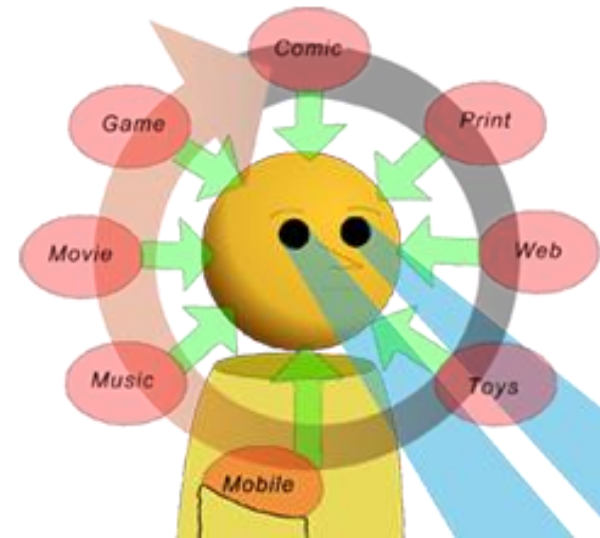
Creators of Transmedia Stories

# OBJECTIVES...



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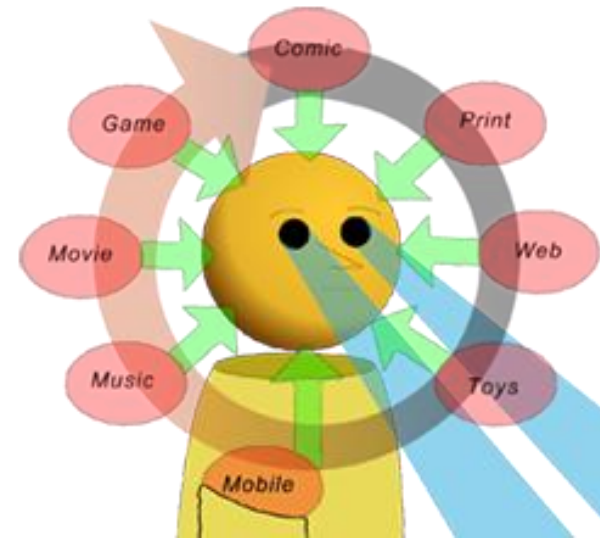
- ⌚ A definition of transmedia storytelling
- ⌚ Its purpose for game makers & players
- ⌚ How it affects AAA game development
- ⌚ Current trends & methods
- ⌚ Near-future vision
- ⌚ Q&A





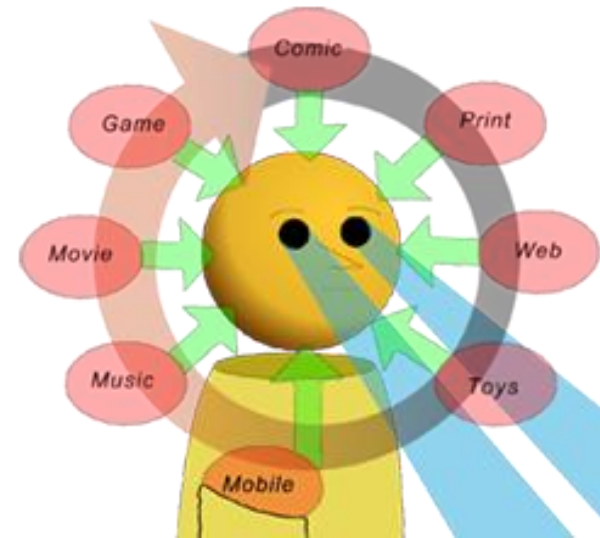
Creators of Transmedia Stories

# DEFINITIONS...



# Transmedia Storytelling is:

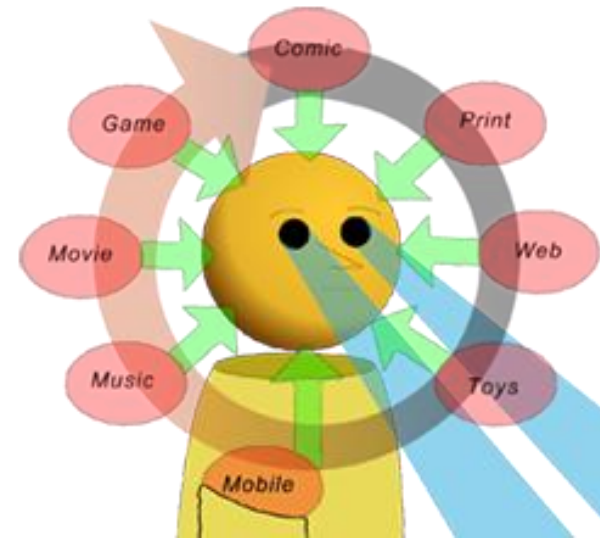
- ⌚ A new paradigm in storytelling that enables the **imagination** via story-driven extensions into a world within which a player seeks to be further **immersed**.





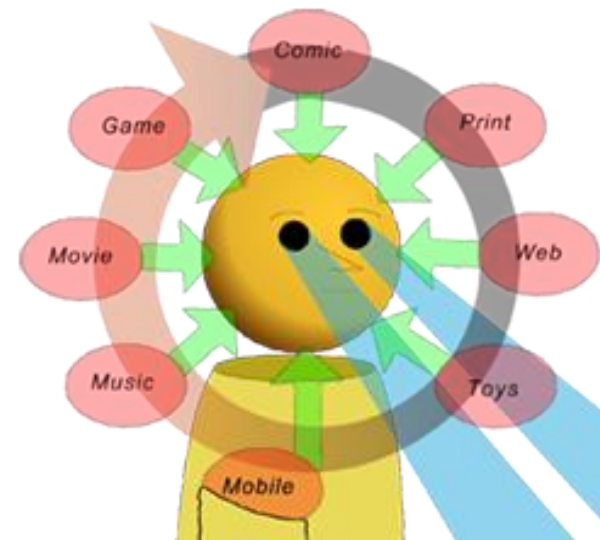
# Transmedia Storytelling is not:

- ④ **Marketing and merchandising** based **extensions** into an existing franchise which is being further exploited.



# Transmedia Storytelling is...

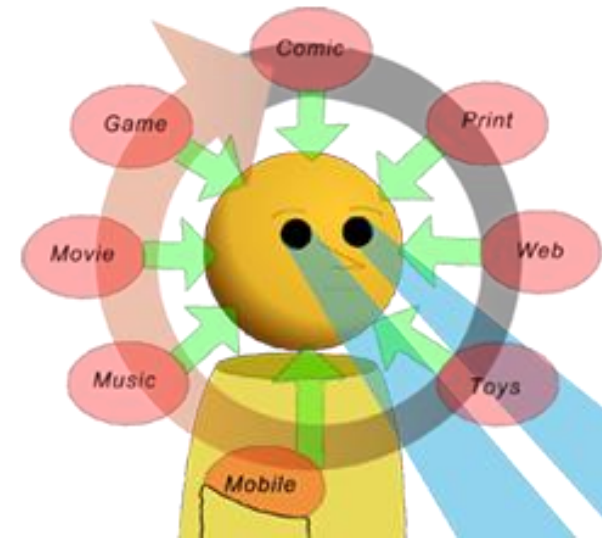
- ⌚ A **narrative framework** of media elements that **invites** the player into the world and allows for **co-creation**.
- ⌚ **Enabling** the player 'to be' rather than 'seem to be' in an authored interactive world.





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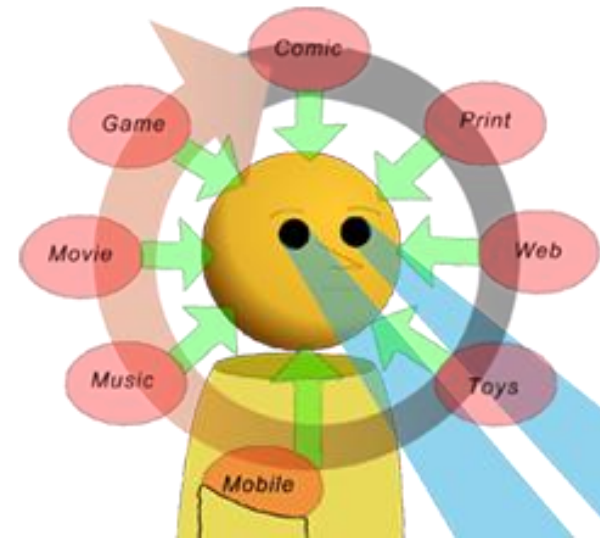
# QUESTIONS...



Creators of Transmedia Stories

# PANEL QUESTIONS

What is your definition of transmedia story?

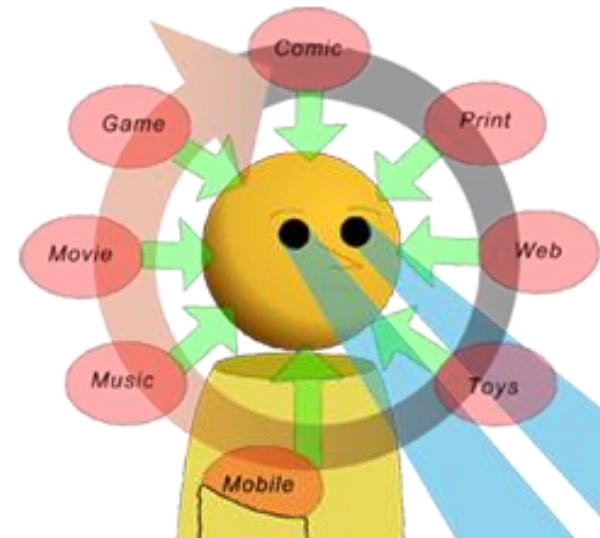




Creators of Transmedia Stories

# PANEL QUESTIONS

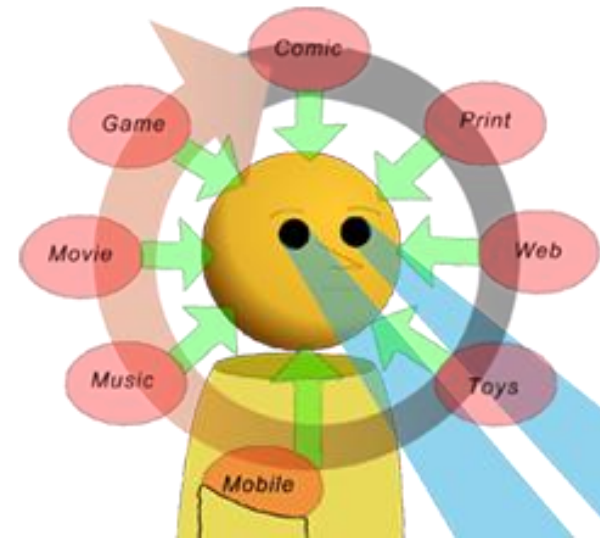
What does this new paradigm of storytelling mean for video games?



Creators of Transmedia Stories

# PANEL QUESTIONS

What draws you to push this adoption of this new paradigm?

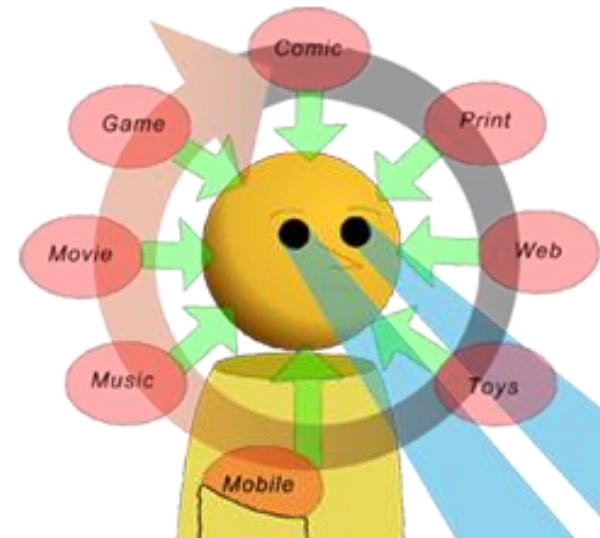




Creators of Transmedia Stories

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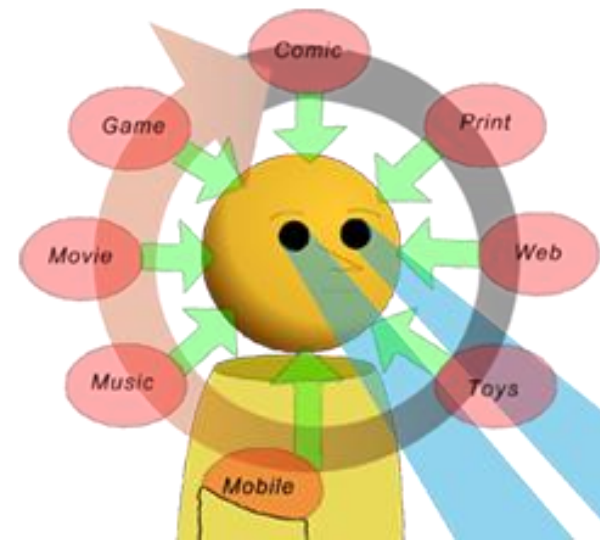
How is it being embraced on a studio level?



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# PANEL QUESTIONS

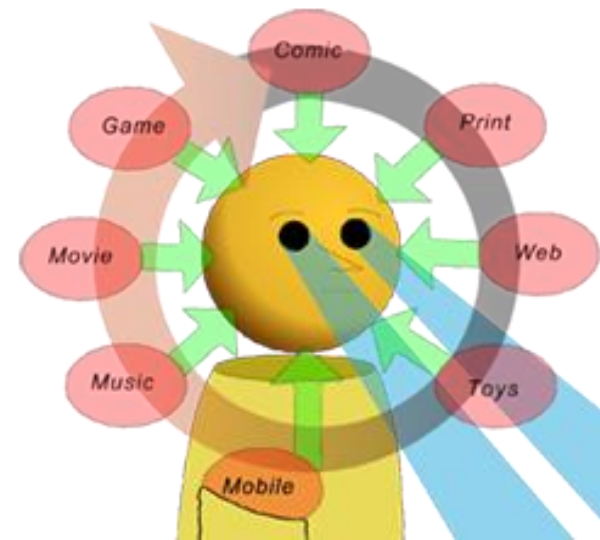
How is it affecting the way you make a game?



## Creators of Transmedia Stories

# PANEL QUESTIONS

What are the building blocks for a transmedia story world?

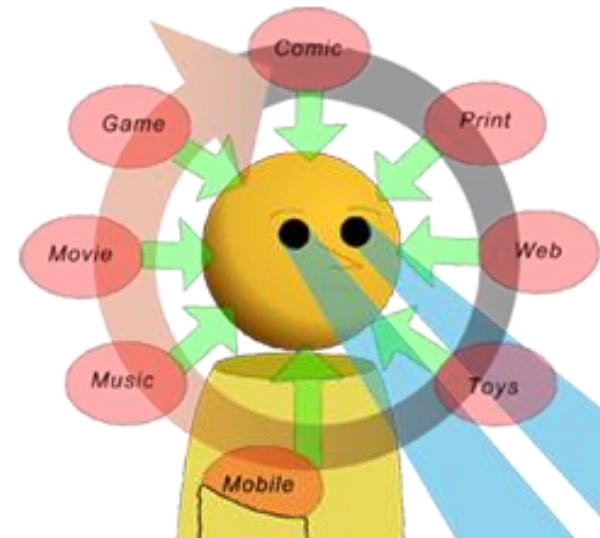




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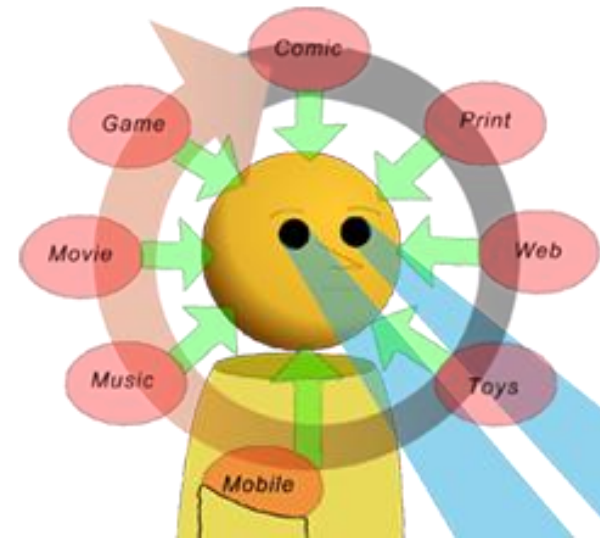
Does authorship have a place in this new paradigm?



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# PANEL QUESTIONS

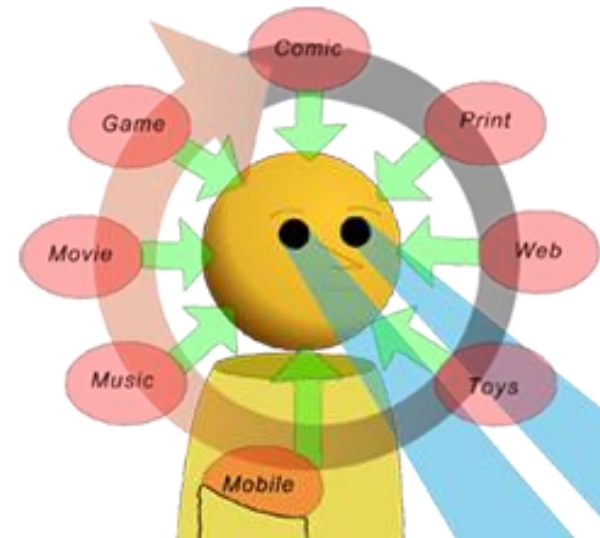
How do players drive the story?



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# PANEL QUESTIONS

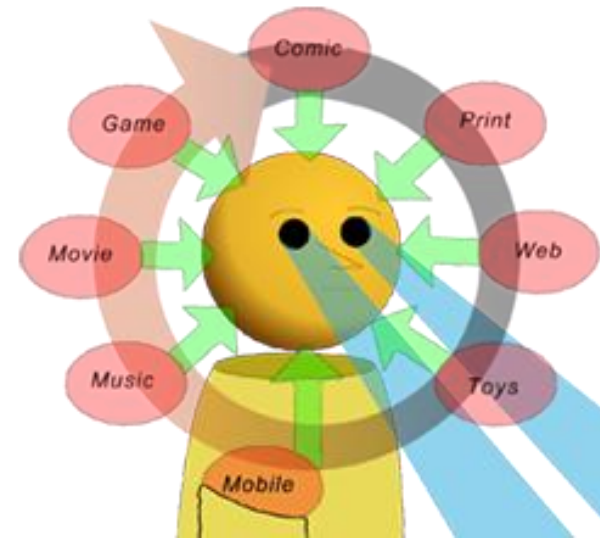
What do you see for the future of transmedia storytelling?





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# OPEN Q&A





# GAME NARRATIVE

## SUMMIT

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*Thanks and Enjoy!*

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