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Subject: Final Project Write up

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WEBSITE LINK: http://olsein.tk/

Section 1: Project specification

The concept of this website (Subsection 1.1 - Goals) is a Dj/Artist showroom, and landing page which serves many purposes essentially fulfilling an online presence for marketing purpose and connecting with the fans, but most importantly communicating about the upcoming shows and promoting ticket sales. Furthermore, having the website as a digital business card that portrays the artist and sets up a platform where people can directly reach him for business inquiries, collaborations or other. The main audience for this website (Subsection 1.2 - Audience) is broadly the people that listen to electronic music, record labels, A&R managers, and business people from the music industry. Also, the already existing fan base of the artist, that can visit the website to check out the upcoming shows and music releases. This website was created using some CSS/Js (including bootstrap) pre-configurations as I will describe in more details later on, but not any specific template. I have challenged myself to create a modern design keeping it simple without having to use wordpress or joomla. (Subsection 1.2 - Site Organization) I have decided to use a modern design for a landing page. Thus, all my pages are technically called sections in HTML and they all exist in the same index.html file, which has many perks, one of them is efficiency and rapidity since we do not load from the server each time we would like to visit a page, it is purely based on the interaction between the html code and the navigator. Each time the visitor clicks on a page, it takes him to its correspondent section in the website, which feels natural. The pages I have used are: Home - Music - Shows - Contact

As for the artifacts, I have used images on 3 levels, first as background images for each of my pages, second as elements of my javascript image gallery, and third as the website icon referred to as favicon (the small icon next to the website title). I have also used one video from youtube embeded and showcased directly on the homepage, I find it a great way to promote a song, and getting the attention of the user straightaway.

Regarding the web-hosting, I have purchased my own commercial hosting since this class was a good opportunity to work on a real life project, and finally build a decent webpage for my favorite hobby being electronic music. However, the domain name http://olsein.tk was acquired seperately on a different platform http://dot.tk that offers free nice domain names, and then I just had to change the DNS settings to point it towards the hosting I have bought. I will try to talk about it in class for student who are interested, since there is actually a way to launch completely for free a website using this platform and another one that offers limited web hosting, which in some cases is enough.

(Subsection 1.3: Tools) I have used CSS style sheet composed of my own CSS and other free to use pre-configurations, including linking to bootstrap. I have also used Javascript that I have written for my image gallery, but also made use of jquery and foundation libraries that were very helpful. At last, I have used a platform that generates Forms (written in Java) that you can build, customize and then embed on your website, I decided

to use a Javascript based form and not PHP based forms for design reasons, since javascript gives the user room for interaction which can make the whole experience better and less boring.

(Subsection 1.4: Licence) Regarding the license I have chosen to put my website under the Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International License and embed it in the copyright section at the bottom of my website linking to the full licence disclosure. All the material and medias used in my website are from my own creation, even the pictures are either my photographs or designs, and the music is also original.(Subsection 1.5: Browser) My website supports all the major navigators, Chrome, Safari, Firefox, IE (latest versions). For the mobile compatibility, in fact the website does work on mobiles and shows although some bugs were still persistent and can be improved in terms of design tremendously, however I made sure that the contact form, shows table and most important parts remain in good shape when switched to mobile.

Section 2: History

At first my website was going to be about a mobile app that I had developed in the past, but ultimately I got inspired and wanted to do something that I will use even after this class, from which came the idea to build a website for my artistic hobby. The point that helped me the most to make the switch smoothly is that both projects were meant to be landing pages, so the structure was easier to change this way rather than going from a multi pages classic website to a dynamic landing page with multiple sections, I feel that it would've taken significantly more time to adapt that since I would of had to go page per page and adapt the content, then erase the files and change the whole structure of the website. At last, the javascript we have seen in class, helped me a lot in this project since from the moment we learned how to use Js and understood its basic concept, I felt I had more tools for creativity and could build my own image galleries for instance rather than having to go through Wordpress for such things.

Section 3: Website organization

The website organization was very important for this project, since it is a landing page it had to be concise only the most relevant content and communication was kept and highlighted, home accessibility and navigation was a main focus too for which some code was used, and Js foundation library was used in order to keep the top navigation bar always appearing and within reach. For the structural organization part, and naming of subfolders and files, standard naming and structure was used ../img for artifacts and ../assets for CSS and JS. Naming of files was pretty straightforward too, example background images (bg1, bg2). Finally a web-hosting service was used, and the website was upload via FTP to the public_html folder of the acquired hosting.

Section 4: Testing

The testing was performed heavily on google chrome using the developer tools, inspection of code, javascript console and the devices toolbar for mobile compatibility. Also, testing was done on Safari to double check that all the elements were displayed adequately, which was a successful experience. Also, more detailed testing was conducted including testing every link and making sure it worked perfectly and that wasn't limited only to testing outgoing links but also every structural type of linking or source href, like how every image is loaded perfectly from the directory on the server. For that last matter, photoshoped was also used to perfectly frame, and compress the images to maximize time efficiency, and improve the overall design of the website.

Section 5: Lessons learned

The main lessons I have learned from this project with respect to (Subsection 5.1: Web programming) were mainly CSS and Javascript lessons, having to try new things in a fully functional website and overcoming all the bugs of code and design was quite a challenge. For the CSS part the challenge was not only writing a nice design but also implementing the "templated" parts successfully, most of the people think it is simple to use pre-configuration and move faster with the design, but most of the time implementing code like that in your website can be harder and more challenging than writing it all on your own, therefore these decisions have to be weighed one against the other when sketching the website on paper. For the Javascript part, the concepts we have seen in class were very helpful, I used that knowledge to design my image gallery which I wanted it to be simple and to the point. As for the New lessons learned (Subsection 5.2: New Resources) I believe every time you work on a project, and you overcome some challenges and do research to succeed in that area, that in particular frames you and gives you more insight for any future work. Most important resource I have used which contributed to improving my web programming skills is w3schools. Also, working with the pre-configured and references CSS files and understanding how they properly work to be able to implement some of the concepts in the website was also a rich learning experience. To sum up, this project a good way to put into practice some of the web development concepts we have seen, and more but most importantly it was creative and fun to work on.