

Remediation Reflection

The piece that I originally remixed was Woody Allen's movie, Midnight in Paris. It was originally remixed from a movie to a genealogy, then it was remediated into a new medium, a written work. The written genealogy contained an overview of the movie and pointed out and explained all the literary and historical references made in the film. The remediated video depicted a fictional talk show, including some, but not all of the historical references made in the movie.

In the video talk show, the host talks to the main character in "real life," Gil, about his experiences meeting famous late writers and artists during his trip to Paris with his fiancé, and why those experiences were so interesting that Woody Allen decided to make a movie depicting them. By doing a video interview, Gil was introduced in a more personal way than he was in the remix text, which added a stronger comedic element to the story. This also allowed for Gil's adventures to be told more from his point of view rather than a writer's edited, revised, and polished point of view. However, due to the social, informal atmosphere of the talk show video, the references from Midnight in Paris were not nearly as detailed as they were in the remix text.

Being that the video talk show was not as detailed as the text, I needed to pick only the most important aspects of the text to include in the video. In the talk show, I chose to discuss Gil's experiences with Ernest Hemingway first because he had more "face time" in the remix than any other historical character alluded to in the movie and he contributed largely to the storyline. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald were the first famous writers that Gil met in both the remix and the genealogy. They contributed to the

genealogy in that they brought Gil onto the party scene and helped provide a real feel of what life in Paris was like in the 1920s, which was a big theme of the genealogy. I had Gil talk about Gertrude Stein in the interview because in my remix she was referred to as a mentor of sorts to Gil in his pursuit of finishing writing his novel. The last two recognizable people that were discussed in the talk show were Henri Matisse and Pablo Picasso, but they were included because their names are very recognizable, not because they had a huge role in my genealogy. I did not include the references to Mark Twain, Salvador Dali, or the Peugeot because they were not overly important to the genealogy.

The video medium is comprised of many different modes, one of the most prevalent ones being visual images. Instead of reading a text and trying to formulate pictures in your head, the video makes images readily accessible to the viewer, requiring less effort and possibly a better understanding of the story. Another focal mode in the video medium is language. The interview contained language that was both informative and comical. The sound of the language contributed to the comedic effect. The talk show host used a very quizzical tone, which made it sound like he did not believe any of Gil's stories about him meeting famous writers and artists. The host continuously made fun of Gil, and made sarcastic retorts that made Gil feel ridiculous, but made the interview funny. The sarcasm is a mode of a late night/funny talk show. Laughs were created in a way that just was not possible in the textual interpretation.

The broad genre that this video falls under is talk show. The more intricate, specific genre of this video is comedic, sarcastic late night talk show. When thinking of late night talk shows, people think of desks, comfy chairs, and coffee mugs, and expect to laugh, all of which are considered conventions of late night talk shows. The host usually

sits at the desk and asks the guest, who is generally sitting in a chair next to the host's desk, questions about whatever the guest is promoting or involved in. The questions are usually infused with jokes and the guests try their best to come back with witty responses, which are known to be "standards" of late night talk shows. Being that late night talk shows are, well, late at night, coffee mugs are usually visible on set because the caffeine will help keep the participants awake and alert at such a late hour.

In this particular talk show, two chairs were facing each other, with a table in between. The host ridiculed Gil, constantly calling into question the validity of his stories, made fun of the way he dressed and the accessories he wore (sunglasses indoors), and at points even called into question his ability to get woman. A coffee mug was also used in this talk show, but instead of there being two mugs, there was only one for the host. Gil drank from the host's coffee, not for the caffeine, but for comedic effect, prompting the host to make even more fun of Gil.

The host had a very dry sense of humor and an incredibly sarcastic tone, which contributed to painting Gil in a different light than he was in the remix. In the remix, Gil was portrayed as a confident guy with a strong drive who went around meeting famous people. In this video medium, as a result of the host's personality, Gil had a difficult time answering questions, which made him look delusional for thinking that he actually met the likes of Hemingway, the Fitzgerald's, Stein, Matisse, and Picasso, in contrast to the genealogy, where the validity of Gil's stories was never questioned.

By remediating my textual genealogy of Midnight in Paris into a video, I was able to show that changing a work from one medium to another, along with the

employment of different modes, genres, standards, etc., can change the meaning and/or overall feel of the work.