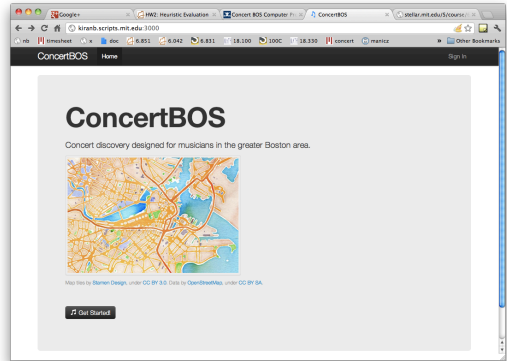


HW2: Heuristic Evaluation for ConcertBOS

Computer: Mac OS X 10.6.8

Browser: Chrome 18

http://kiranb.scripts.mit.edu:3000/

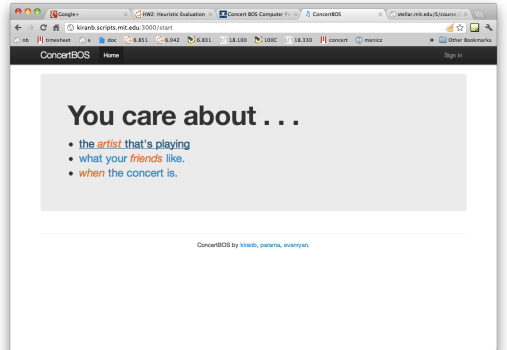


1. Efficiency. If I were a frequent user, I'd like it if the front page had something immediately usable, such as a list of upcoming concerts. Or, for learnability, a quick guide on how this website is better than others. Right now most of the space is taken by a large, static image. **Cosmetic.**

2. Learnability. As it is, it looks like the map should be interactive or clickable, but it isn't. The main focus of this page is the "Get started" button, but it's much smaller than and below the map. Move it up/make it bigger? **Cosmetic.**

3. Learnability. There is perhaps more text about/links to map credit and creative commons things on this front page than there are links to actual things in your website. Also, they look like they afford clicking more than the actual links, because they are bright blue. I'd at least recolor them, and hopefully get rid of them. **Cosmetic.**

http://kiranb.scripts.mit.edu:3000/start



4. Efficiency. Like the homepage, this page is only seen by new (not signed in) users, and they serve the similar purpose of informing the user of the intent of the website, so it seems like they can be combined easily. **Cosmetic.**

5. Matching the real world. I most likely care about more than one of these things; what if this were a checklist? **Cosmetic.**

6. Efficiency/visibility. **Good:** I liked the emphasis on the main word.

Navigation bar

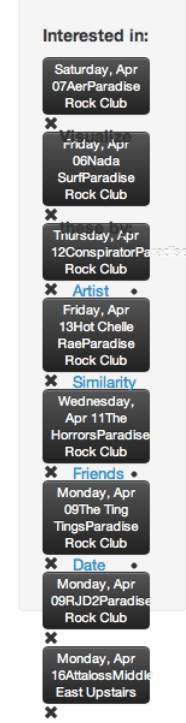


7. Visibility. The grayed-out links are pretty hard to see, and all of these links are accessible from the "visualize these by" sidebar, so you could use the website without noticing these are here. **Cosmetic.**

8. Consistency. **Good:** ConcertBOS links back to home page. Design is simple and consistent with buttons.

9. Learnability/safety. Home, ConcertBOS, and Sign Out seem to have exactly the same effect. It's very unexpected that clicking Home makes the other links on the nav bar disappear, signs you out, and throws away your progress with no way to get it back. Feels like Home doesn't need to be there (since it's redundant with ConcertBOS), and should not make the other nav links disappear or erase your progress. At least give a warning. **Major.**

Sidebar



10. Bugs. The saved events are overlapping and getting interleaved with the words and links on the sidebar. The events have their dates running into the name of the band running into the name of the venue. The white text is sometimes running off of the edge of the shapes onto the white background. The events can overrun the gray bounding box of the sidebar. Selection under "No Restrictions" is reset when navigating to a new page. **Major.**

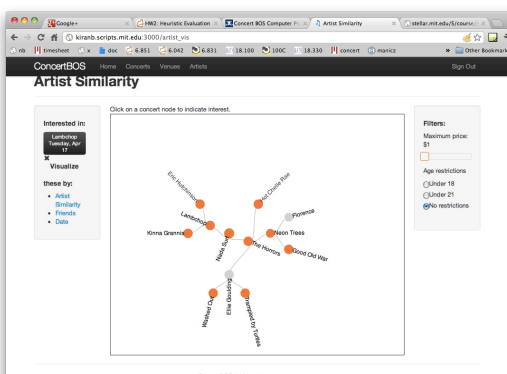
11. Consistency with other applications. It's unusual that the 'x's are beneath the boxes they're associated with; feels like they should be in the upper right corner of the boxes. **Minor.**

12. Visibility/Consistency. "Friends" isn't usually a property concerts have. Maybe rename this "Friend Interests," like the title of the page? **Cosmetic.**

13. Visibility/Consistency with the start screen. On the start screen you chose one thing to filter concerts on, but in this bar you can switch between them. That gives a very strong signal that you're actually filtering on all three at once; e.g. when I've picked my artist and go down to date, it will filter out the other artists. I don't know if this is your intent and you just haven't implemented this yet, but if the program doesn't actually work that way it's strange that it's so easy to switch between these. Perhaps if they were titles of tabs that you could switch between, it would make it clearer that searches within them are disjoint. **Minor.**

14. Safety. Close button and link to concert info are adjacent. **Minor.**

http://kiranb.scripts.mit.edu:3000/artist\_vis



15. Learnability. It's very unclear at first what the 3 color scheme means. The only possible legend is the colors on the slider, but then a) it seems unlikely, because one singer may have multiple prices depending on where they're singing, b) if you're matching a gradient there should be a continuum of colors, rather than just orange yellow, and gray (maybe there are yellow-orange colors and I just can't tell?) c) price is a quantitative thing; rather than with colors I'd want it indicated with numbers (if I want to compare numbers, I have to click through each concert). Worse, when you move the slider, orange dots may become yellow or vice versa, which makes it seem like moving the slider is somehow changing the costs of the concerts. (Bug: the picture to the left happened after the slider was moved too quickly. The graph should be all gray when price = \$1, but the nodes are orange.) **Major.**

16. Learnability. It's unclear what the lines between singers mean. Going by the title of the page, it should indicate similar artists, but can't tell if that's actually true. **Cosmetic.**

17. Consistency. Clicking on a person gives you a link to a specific concert. Shouldn't it link to that person's biography, or a list of that person's concerts, rather than just one? **Cosmetic.**

18. Visibility. Highlighting red against orange is hard to see; I didn't even notice it was happening. **Cosmetic.**

19. Visibility. Despite being gray, sometimes the gray nodes are highlightable (e.g. most of them, if I choose "Under 18"), and some of them are not (e.g. "Ellie

Goulding") and there is no feedback as to why. Also, multiple things can make a node gray. I'd like to see why something is grayed out when I, say, hover over it. **Minor**.

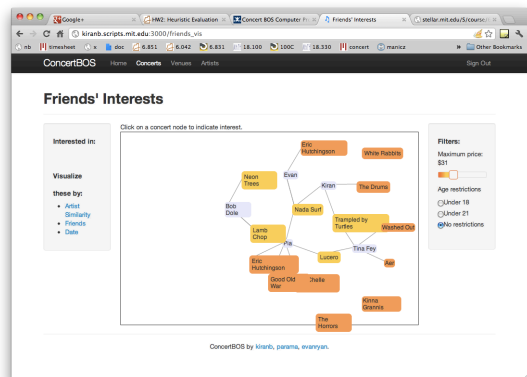
20. Consistency/Safety. When you highlight a node by clicking on it, feels like clicking it again should unhighlight that node/remove it from your interests. **Cosmetic**.

21. Consistency with real world. Usually restrictions are of the form "You must be over 21" rather than "Under 21", so maybe instead of restrictions, "concerts that allow..." **Cosmetic**.

22. Visibility. How is this going to scale, when you have a large number of singers? **Minor**.

23. Bugs. Changing the age restrictions gets rid of the highlighting on the nodes. Deleting the concert from your "interested in" column does not. Clicking a node for a band that doesn't have a concert coming up soon highlights the node, but doesn't add anything to your "Interested in" column. **Minor**.

[http://kiranb.scripts.mit.edu:3000/friends\\_vis](http://kiranb.scripts.mit.edu:3000/friends_vis)



24. Consistency. Mouse interaction with this graph is very different from the previous one, though the contents are similar. Previously, clicking a singer put their next concert in your "interested in" area. Now it does nothing, unless you drag the singer (which wasn't a function before). The instructions still say "click on a concert node to indicate interest," and all the other filters give you a way of storing concerts, so it seems like it should behave similarly. **Minor**.

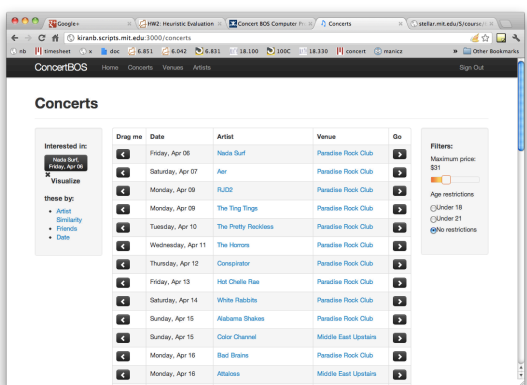
25. Consistency. You are using the same yellow/orange/gray scheme as in the other graph, but now gray seems to mean something very different. **Cosmetic**.

26. Consistency. Feels like when you drag something, it should stay where you put it, but it springs back to where everything else is. Why does everything crowd on the right? **Cosmetic**.

27. Visibility. How will this scale when you have a lot of singers/friends? Seems like you won't want to show the singers with no fans amongst your friends, filter by friends, or filter by singers you've said you're interested in. **Cosmetic**.

28. Bugs. Names can overlap. Names can be dragged/drift out of the boxed area. A name (Eric) appears twice. Most of these bugs are visible in the screenshot. "No restrictions" form is not changeable on this page (unclear what that would mean anyway). **Minor**.

<http://kiranb.scripts.mit.edu:3000/concerts>



29. Consistency. Kind of strange that when you click "Date," the title is "Concerts." **Cosmetic**.

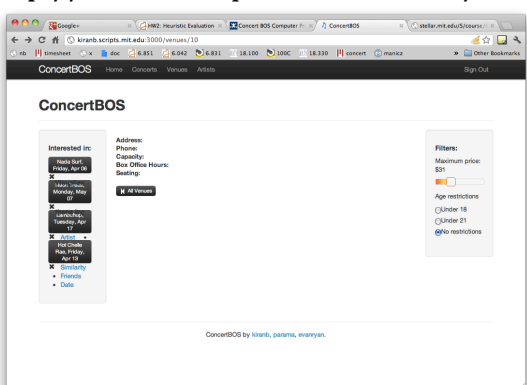
30. Visibility/Efficiency. List format is pretty unintuitive for dates; maybe if these were shown at the right spacings on a calendar? Then you could easily spacially filter by time interval and day of the week. I'd like to see the hour here as well. **Cosmetic**.

31. Efficiency. **Good**: drag function.

32. Visibility. When you drag something to the sidebar that is already there, it seems like the drag doesn't work. It's probably failing because you don't want to save duplicate concerts, but it should indicate that. **Cosmetic**.

33. Visibility. Unclear what "Go" means. **Cosmetic**.

<http://kiranb.scripts.mit.edu:3000/venues>



34. Visibility/Efficiency. **Good**: I like how everything is here and glanceable. If there end up being a lot of them though, search might be nice.

35. Consistency. Why does clicking sign in link immediately to the venues page? **Cosmetic**.

36. Visibility. Are Middle East Upstairs and Middle East Downstairs part of the same room (a room with a balcony area) or different rooms? This might make me misinterpret the size of the concert. Might help to have photos here. **Cosmetic**.

37. Bug. The last item in the table doesn't exist. It links to the screenshot page on the left, which contains no data and some concerts in "Interested in" that I didn't add. **Minor**.

<http://kiranb.scripts.mit.edu:3000/artists>

38. Visibility. It might be nice to see more than just a list on this page, such as images. **Cosmetic**.

<http://kiranb.scripts.mit.edu:3000/artists/1>  
(individual artist pages)

39. Learnability. **Good**: I like these pages quite a lot. Simple and easy to figure out.

40. Consistency. I think you're planning to make the "Tracks" and "Similar artists" clickable at some point (to play samples/go to another artist's page), in which case it's good that when you mouse over them they change color, since that's what buttons often do. Right now though, it seems like they should be buttons but aren't doing anything. **Minor**.

41. Visibility. Could show a bit more about why similar artists are similar, or how they're different (what criteria did you use to decide this?). Maybe even just genre or something to help me decide whether to click through before I listen to all their track samples. **Cosmetic**.

42. Consistency. For the last three types of pages: the filters on the right side don't really make sense; why are they there? **Minor**.