

IMO

A peripatetic trip through the internet

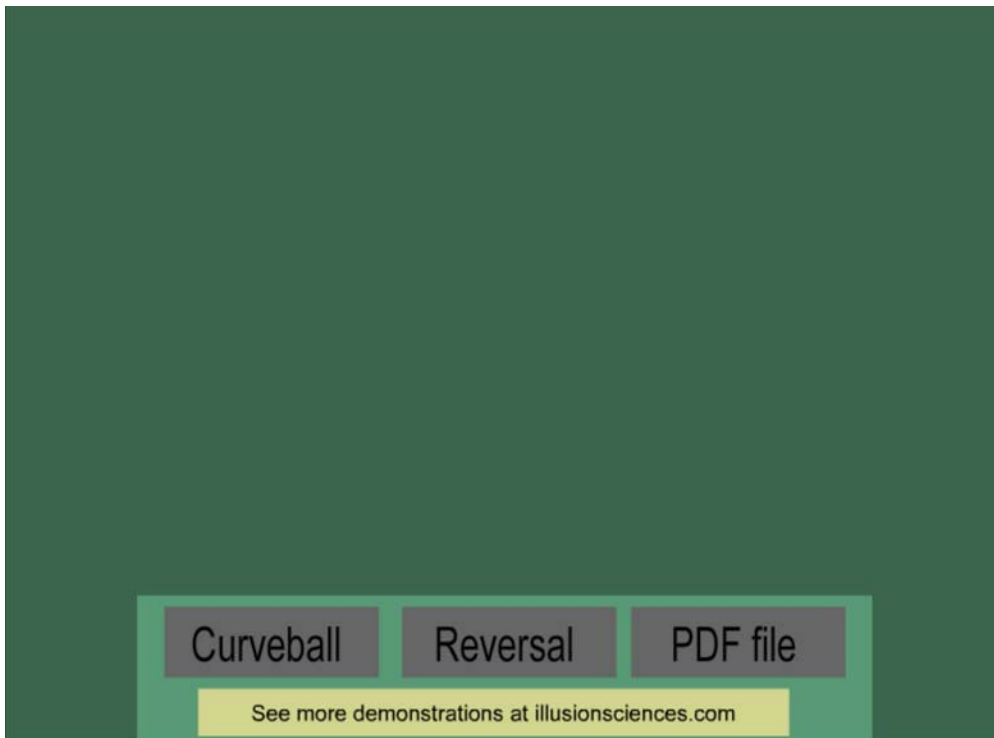
Illusion, Michael. Tricks are what whores do for money.

posted by Stal on 2009.05.19, under Stal

A couple winners from the Best Visual Illusion of the Year Contest

[The Break of the Curveball](#) (requires flash):

In baseball, a curveball creates a physical effect and a perceptual puzzle. The physical effect (the curve) arises because the ball's rotation leads to a deflection in the ball's path. The perceptual puzzle arises because the deflection is actually gradual but is often perceived as an abrupt change in direction (the break). Our illusions suggest that the perceived "break" may be caused by the transition from the central visual system to the peripheral visual system. Like a curveball, the spinning disks in the illusions appear to abruptly change direction when an observer switches from foveal to peripheral viewing.



[The Illusion of Sex:](#)

In the Illusion of Sex, two faces are perceived as male and female.

However, both faces are actually versions of the same androgynous face. One face was created by increasing the contrast of the androgynous face, while the other face was created by decreasing the contrast. The face with more contrast is perceived as female, while the face with less contrast is perceived as male. The Illusion of Sex demonstrates that contrast is an important cue for perceiving the sex of a face, with greater contrast appearing feminine, and lesser contrast appearing masculine.



{ no comment } : | { Tags: baseball, gender, illusions, neuroscience, sports, tricks }

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