Remixing reality with narrative media

Written by Fran Ilich

It is no coincidence that in spite of the fact that the special effects and computer-generated images in The Matrix might appear wholly unreal to us, there are details (and not just a few) that talk of our times and reality. Not unusually, millions of people identify with the film's metaphors.

Although The Matrix comes to us from Hollywood, it stimulates us to re-question everything that our senses tell us (we would not be wrong in describing the film as Plato's Myth of the Cave, with a remix by DJ Spooky or Alec Empire), and simultaneously to read the meanings of our perceptions more calmly, to reason, to use our reason, we could say, to read the code within the "cyber lingo". This evidently leads us to talk of media literacy/digital literacy. In other words, to talk of our capacity to read and write in the different "media". As we are aware, reading and writing the code is not easy and it is certainly not one single activity.

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