Real-time Auditorium Modeling and Visual Effects for Live Performances

Andrew Chalmers andrew.chalmers@vuw.ac.nz Victoria University of Wellington Wellington, New Zealand Faisal Zaman Victoria University of Wellington Wellington, New Zealand Anna Stangnes Victoria University of Wellington Wellington, New Zealand Simon Finnie Victoria University of Wellington Wellington, New Zealand

Hong Son Nguyen Korea University Seoul, South Korea JungHyun Han Korea University Seoul, South Korea Taehyun Rhee taehyun.rhee@vuw.ac.nz Victoria University of Wellington Wellington, New Zealand

CCS CONCEPTS

Computing methodologies → Mixed / augmented reality.

KEYWORDS

live visual effects, real-time performance, mixed reality, televerse

ACM Reference Format:

Andrew Chalmers, Faisal Zaman, Anna Stangnes, Simon Finnie, Hong Son Nguyen, JungHyun Han, and Taehyun Rhee. 2023. Real-time Auditorium Modeling and Visual Effects for Live Performances. In SIGGRAPH Asia 2023 Real-Time Live! (SA Real-Time Live! '23), December 12-15, 2023. ACM, New York, NY, USA, 1 page. https://doi.org/10.1145/3610539.3630250

ABSTRACT

A live visual effects platform for stage performances faces key challenges, including 1) reconstructing a 3D digital twin [Chen et al. 2022] of a large auditorium, 2) real-time rendering and composition of 3D visual assets into the 3D digital twin while ensuring coherent lighting [Rhee et al. 2017] and blending with the real stage [Young et al. 2022], and 3) enabling mutual interaction between real and virtual objects to provide a synchronized mixed reality performance [Rhee et al. 2022, 2023]. Our demo showcases a novel platform for live visual effects. Our key contributions are:

- (1) Real-time stage capturing and modeling: we demonstrate real-time capturing of the auditorium utilizing panoramic LiDAR sensors, synchronizing the stream with 360° RGB videos, and visualizing live panoramic RGBD videos. To create a 3D digital twin over a larger area, we set up multiple RGBD cameras in different parts of the auditorium.
- (2) Real-time VFX with live RGBD videos: We showcase real-time blending of 3D virtual objects into the live panoramic videos, and demonstrate real-time occlusion and collision



Figure 1: Our interface and mixed reality performance.

handling with the live feed (live 360 RGBD videos). We introduce creative interactive effects through our framework.

(3) We showcase a mixed reality performance while engaging with the live in-person audience. This includes demonstrating interaction between real performers and virtual assets, and navigation using a 3D virtual actor in the real auditorium, while also allowing the audience to interact and engage with the virtual content with VFX.

We demonstrate real-time stage performances with live visual effects that enable mixed reality interactions between virtual and real elements. This, in turn, facilitates augmented live performances for in-person audiences through mixed reality experiences (Figure 1).

REFERENCES

Rongsen Chen, Fang-Lue Zhang, Simon Finnie, Andrew Chalmers, and Taehyun Rhee. 2022. Casual 6-DoF: free-viewpoint panorama using a handheld 360 camera. *IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics* (2022).

Taehyun Rhee, Andrew Chalmers, Weng Khuan Hoh, Richard Roberts, Warren Butcher, Simon Finnie, and Rose Barrett. 2022. Teleport to the Augmented Real-World with Live Interactive Effects (IFX). In SIGGRAPH Asia 2022 Real-Time Live! (SA '22). ACM, Article 5, 1 pages.

Taehyun Rhee, Andrew Chalmers, Faisal Zaman, Anna Stangnes, and Vic Roberts. 2023. Real-time Stage Modelling and Visual Effects for Live Performances. In ACM SIGGRAPH 2023 Real-Time Live! 1–2.

Taehyun Rhee, Lohit Petikam, Benjamin Allen, and Andrew Chalmers. 2017. Mr360: Mixed reality rendering for 360 panoramic videos. IEEE transactions on visualization and computer graphics (2017).

Jacob Young, Stephen Thompson, Holly Downer, Benjamin Allen, Nadia Pantidi, Lukas Stoecklein, and Taehyun Rhee. 2022. TeleFest: Augmented Virtual Teleportation for Live Concerts. ACM International Conference on Interactive Media Experiences (2022)

Permission to make digital or hard copies of part or all of this work for personal or classroom use is granted without fee provided that copies are not made or distributed for profit or commercial advantage and that copies bear this notice and the full citation on the first page. Copyrights for third-party components of this work must be honored. For all other uses, contact the owner/author(s).

SA Real-Time Live! '23, December 12-15, 2023, Sydney, NSW, Australia

© 2023 Copyright held by the owner/author(s).

ACM ISBN 979-8-4007-0310-2/23/12. https://doi.org/10.1145/3610539.3630250