

Kaitiakitanga

Introduction to editing





A photograph of a rocky beach. In the foreground, a discarded blue plastic bottle lies on the smooth, grey and brown stones. The background shows more rocks and a dark, shadowed area.

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Small action - big impact

Good morning

An introduction to editing

A black and white portrait of Orson Welles. He is shown from the chest up, looking slightly to the right of the camera with a serious expression. He has dark hair styled back and is wearing a dark suit jacket over a white shirt and a dark tie. A cigar is held in his mouth. His hands are resting on a surface in front of him, with one hand partially visible. The background is dark and out of focus.

Editing

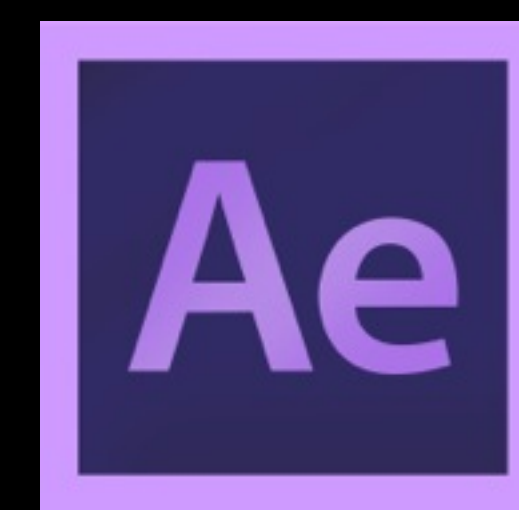
Orson Welles said

“The notion of directing a film is the invention of critics - the whole eloquence of cinema is achieved in the editing room.”

Editing

In basic terms

Editing combines all the raw elements
(audio and video) to bring the narrative to life



Let's recap the process

Develop story



Plan story (Storyboards, wireframes and shot lists)



Shoot video/s



Edit video/s



Build websites



Integrate videos



Review > refine > review > refine...



Fin

Let's recap the process

Rough cut
∨
Refined cut
∨
Final cut



Develop story



Plan story (Storyboards, wireframes and shot lists)



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Review > refine > review > refine...



Fin

In this
presentation...

Using transitions

Five common transitions:

- Cut
- Dissolve
- Fade through black
- Light flash
- Natural wipes

Using audio

- It's a bloody good idea!

We will watch some nice video and pull it to bits

Basic transitions

Cuts

The most basic and common transition.

The key is to cut at the right time and keep movement and story flowing.



Basic transitions

Jump cuts

A **jump cut** is an abrupt transition, typically in a sequential clip that makes the subject appear to jump from one spot to the other, without continuity.

Sometimes seen as a mistake they can be used for effect.

Cutaways: In film and video, a cutaway shot is the interruption of a continuously filmed action by inserting a view of something else.

B roll: is a collection of shots away from the main action that can be cut in to add context etc.



Basic transitions

J and L cuts (and more cutaways)

In a J-cut, the sound of the next scene precedes the picture, and in an L-cut, the picture changes but the audio continues.

Note:

- How the voiceover rolls through
- How the camera moves
- Shallow depth of view controls the eye.
- Nice lighting



Basic transitions

When to cut

Cut on motion:

One way to make the edit between two shots seem invisible is by cutting on a gesture.

The viewer watches the beginning of a motion that begins in one shot and follows it as it crosses the edit and finishes in the next shot. The completion of the gesture masks the edit.

Here is an example of a cut made on the subtle gesture made as the speaker completes his thought and begins a new one.



Basic transitions

When to cut

Cut on words:

When someone is speaking, the sound of a word, especially if it contains a hard consonant, can make an edit feel less obvious.

When the word is one that is relevant to the main point of the speaker's talk, the edit can also highlight that word and make it more memorable.

Let's listen to example of an edit cut on a word.



Basic transitions

Cuts in action

Let's pull this clip apart

Watch for:

- Jump cuts all over the place
- How cutaways to "B roll" have added interest in a long speech and built context to what he's saying
- Cutaways are also great for hiding bad camera work :-)

Also note how type has been cut in to emphasise sections



Basic transitions

Dissolves

Also known as a cross-dissolve, you see it everyday and probably don't even notice it: and that's the point.

Often used as a subtle way of showing a passing of time or in a web context to make a video less jarring (backgrounds, slideshows etc)

Things to watch for:

- How the pace and transitions change with the soundtrack
- Mix of stills and video
- "Ken Burns" effect (Ekkkk!)
- How the movement within the shots flows across cuts



the Arts. Co. NZ

Basic transitions

Fade to/from/through black

Fades to and from black are often used in movie trailers.

Things to watch for:

- They create suspense right away by fading in and out of black instead of cutting between shots.
- Then, when they want to pick up the pace and show more action, they start using quicker edits.



[Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows : Warner Brothers](#)

Basic transitions

Light Flash

Basically, the light flash transition quickly dissolves the screen to white for a fraction of a second so it resembles a camera flash.

This effect is a little bit more of a novelty compared to the fades and dissolves, but it still has some professional uses.

Things to watch for:

- Implied captured moments
- Sexist cliché stock video
- High cheese factor



Basic transitions

“Natural” wipes

Wipes are dangerously close to cheesy especially used straight out of Premeire etc.

But “hidden” wipes or transitions, if used sparingly can be ... well ok I guess.

Things to watch for:

- Wipe masked by a tree
- Cut as she walks by close to the camera
- Cheese factor 7/10



Adding sound

There is an old saying

Video is 2/3 audio

Often underestimated, it is audio, be it SFX (sound effects) or music, adds the power and atmosphere to a video.

Mute this and the magic dies



Adding sound

Things to watch for:

- We hear the invisible riders.
- Heartbeats.
- Building sound and action.
- Powerful silence
- Classic narrative structure



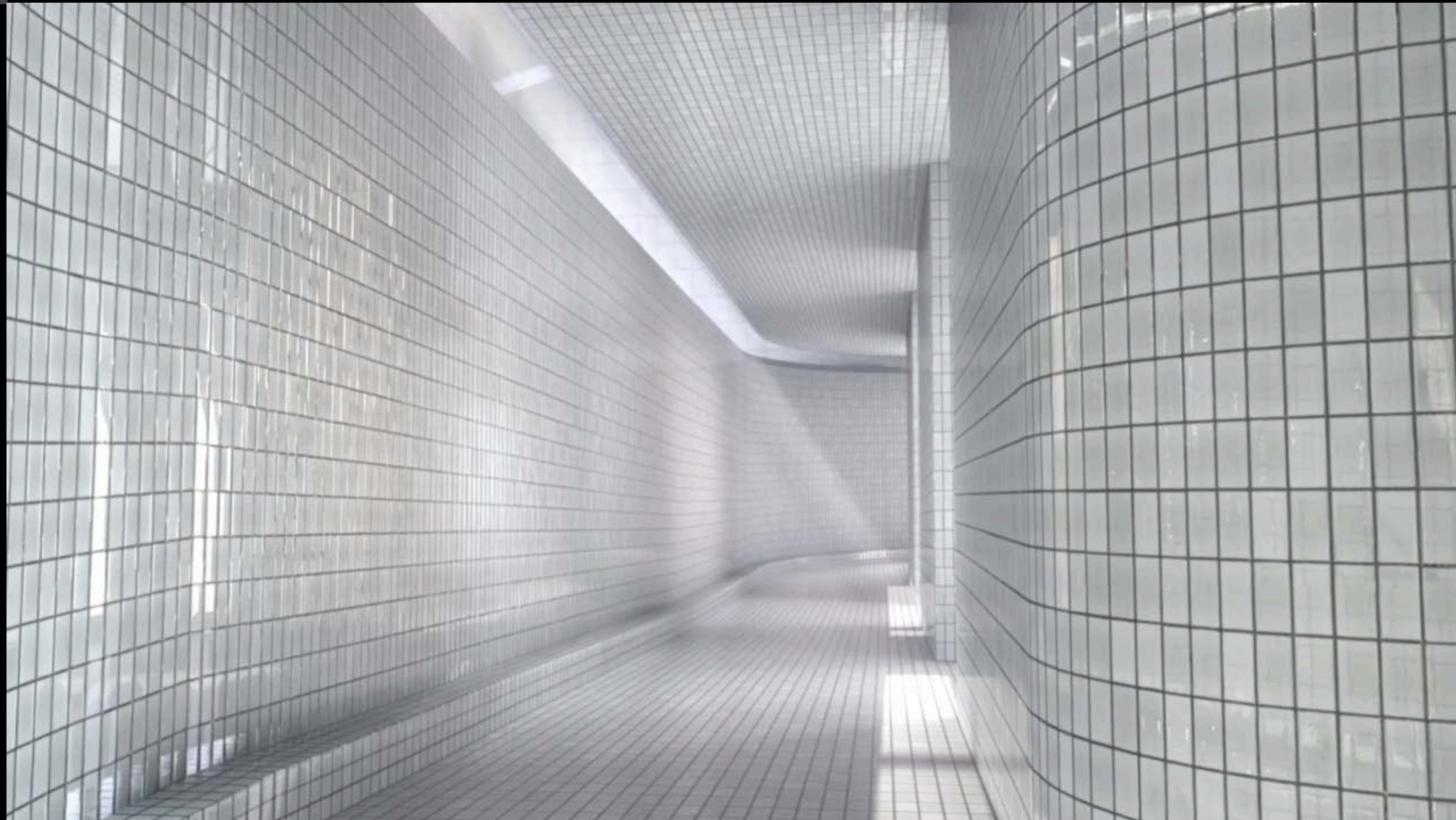
CYCLING CANADA - Hop On

The complete package

Things to watch for:

- Scene setting subtle sfx at start
- Echos
- Comedic soundtrack

- Composition of shots
- Depth of field
- Natural wipe near the end



Unusual formats

Things to watch for:

- Using different transitions to control the viewers attention
- Cuts to the soundtrack
- Composition of shots
- Depth of field
- Black and white to help with style and continuity (5 takes each with 6 cameras)



Last one!

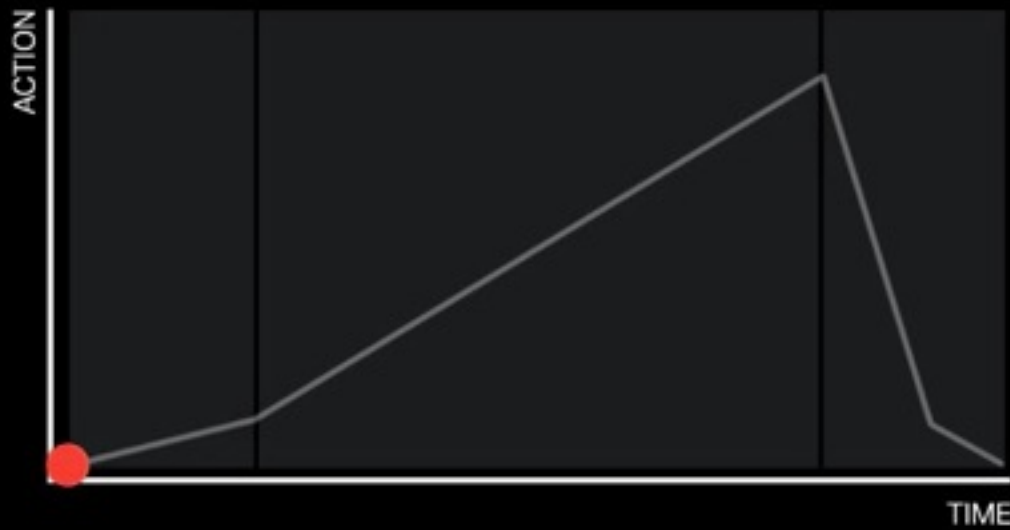
Don't forget your FADP's!

Things like composition,
balance, pace all apply in
film and websites





Break the rules



Remember this?

"Classic narrative" is just one model
It is ok to do something else

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone ~~Star Wars~~

Plot Synopsis

Harry Potter

~~Luke Skywalker~~ is an orphan living with his uncle and aunt on the remote wilderness

~~of Tatooine.~~ ^{Suburbia Harry} ~~Luke~~ is rescued from ~~aliens~~ ^{muggles} by wise, bearded ~~Ben Kenobi~~ ^{Hagrid}, who turns out

to be a ~~Jedi Knight.~~ ^{Wizard Hagrid} ~~Ben~~ reveals to ~~Luke~~ ^{Harry} that ~~Luke's~~ ^{Harry's} father was also a ~~Jedi knight~~ ^{Wizard}, and

was the ~~best pilot~~ ^{Quidditch Player} he had ever seen. ~~Luke~~ ^{Harry} is instructed on how to use the ~~Jedi light~~ ^{Nimbus 2000}

~~sabre~~ as he trains to become a ~~Jedi Knight.~~ ^{Quidditch Player Harry} ~~Luke~~ has many adventures in ~~the galaxy~~ ^{Hogwarts}

and makes new friends such as ~~Hans Solo~~ ^{Ron} and ~~Princess Leia~~ ^{Hermione}. In the course of these adventures he distinguishes himself as a top ~~X-wing pilot~~ ^{Seeker} in the battle of the ~~Death~~ ^{Slytherin vs.}

~~star~~ ^{Gryffindor}, making a direct hit that secures the ~~rebels~~ ^{Gryffindor's} victory against ~~the forces of evil.~~ ^{Slytherin} ~~Luke~~ ^{Harry}

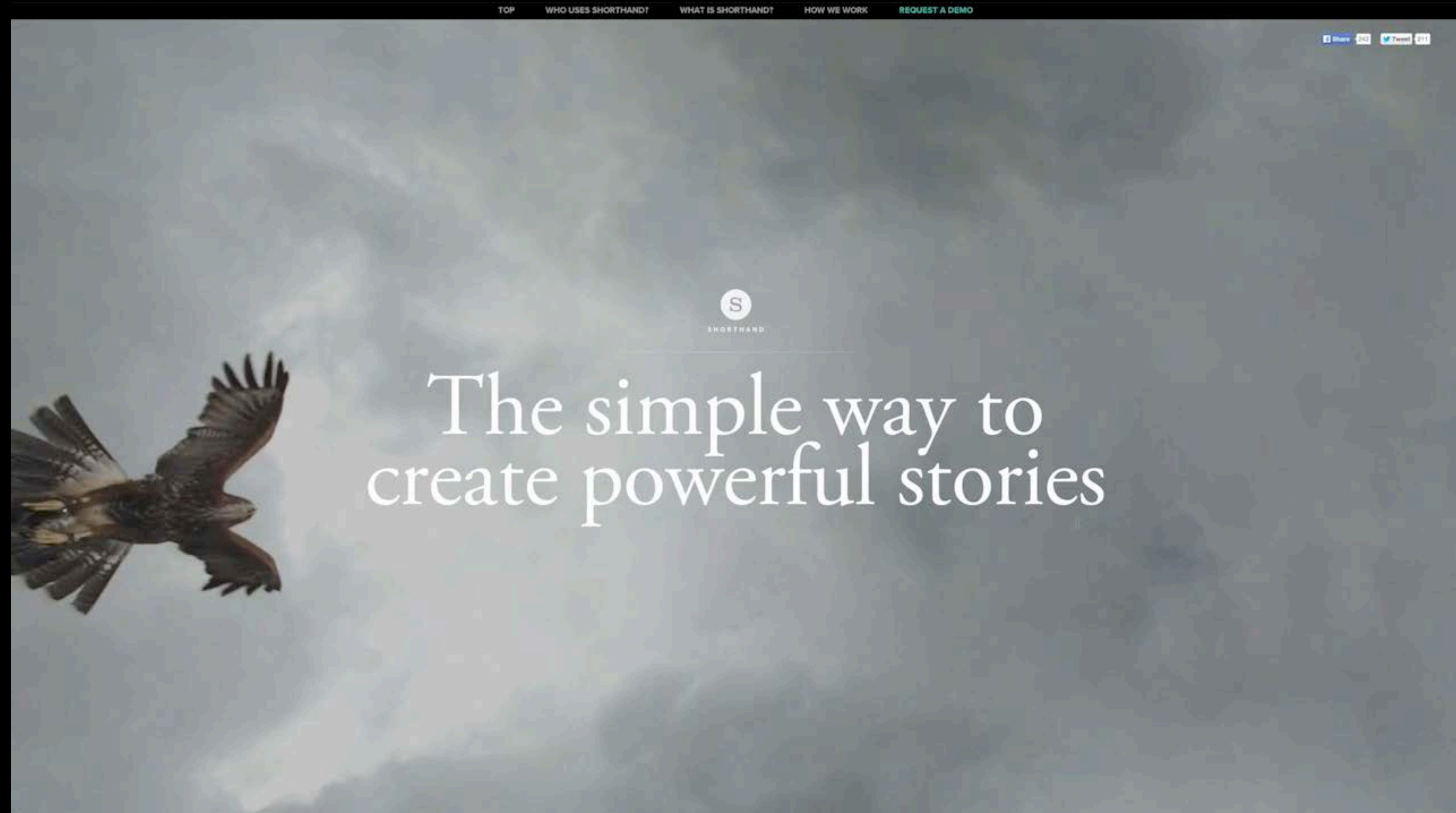
also sees off the threat of ~~Darth Vader~~ ^{Voldemort}, who we all know murdered his ~~uncle~~ ^{Dad} and ~~aunt.~~ ^{Mom}

In the finale, ~~Luke~~ ^{Harry} and his new friends receive ~~medals of valour.~~ ^{House Cup}

Video online

A great essay looking into how video is changing story telling

... or not.




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Small action - big impact



Fin

A photograph of a blue plastic bottle lying on a beach of smooth, grey and brown stones. The bottle is the central focus, lying horizontally. The background is a dense field of smooth, rounded stones in various shades of grey, brown, and tan. The lighting is natural, highlighting the textures of the stones and the plastic.

Kaitiakitanga
Small action - big impact

Now you can go