

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(21) Application number: **84300650.3**

(51) Int. Cl.⁴: **A 63 J 19/00**
//A63H3/14

(22) Date of filing: **02.02.84**

(30) Priority: **03.02.83 GB 8302899**
22.07.83 GB 8319844

(43) Date of publication of application:
22.08.84 Bulletin 84/34

(88) Date of deferred publication of search report: **11.09.85**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE CH DE FR GB IT LI LU NL SE

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(54) **Producing an animated image.**

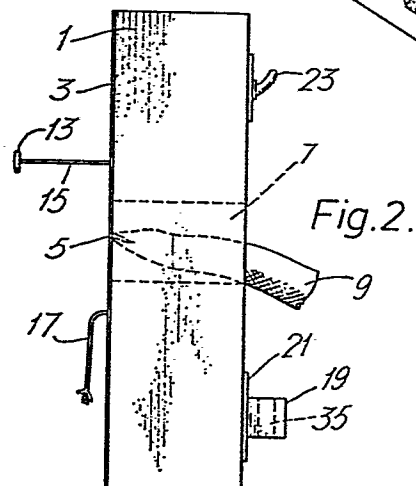
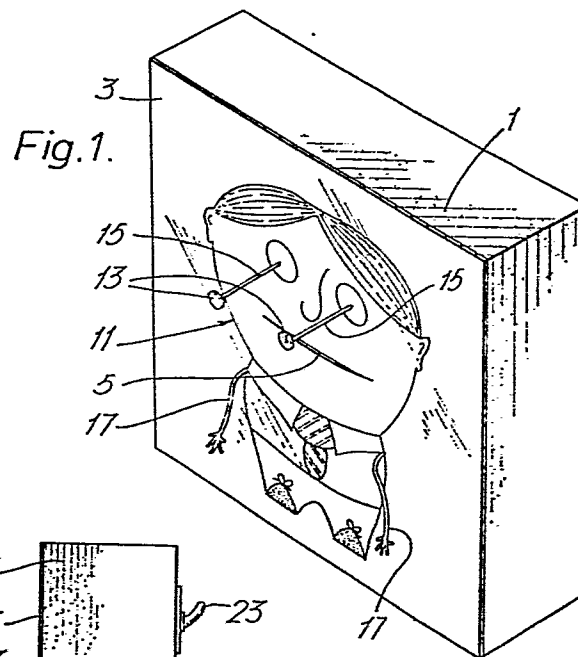
(57) A deformable screen (1), e.g. of foam rubber, bears an image surface (3), e.g. a white plastics sheet bonded to it. A TV camera (71) views the image surface (3). A character (11) may be drawn on the image surface (3). An operator can deform the image surface and so animate the image produced by the camera.

A slit (5) in the image surface (3) is fitted with a mitten (9) extending through a hole (7) in the screen. By manipulation of the mitten (9) in the manner of a glove puppet, the slit (5) can act as a mouth for the drawn character (11).

Apparent eyeball movement can be provided by mounting elements (13) for the pupils spaced in front of the image surface (3) so that sideways movement of the image surface (3) relative to the camera (71) results in apparent movement of the pupils relative to the drawn character (11) as seen from the camera (71).

The screen (1) may be movably mounted in a surround unit (37) which provides an independent light environment for the image surface (3).

The camera (71) may be a black-and-white one, and its output combined with output from a colour camera to give a colour image signal.





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

0116441

Application number

EP 84 30 0650

| DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| Category | Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages | Relevant to claim | CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 3) |
| X | FR-A-1 303 010 (M.GINET) * The whole document * | 1,5-7, 12 | A 63 J 19/00 // A 63 H 3/14 |
| Y | | 2-4 | |
| Y | US-A-3 769 458 (C.R.DRISKELL) * Abstract; figure 1 * ----- | 2-4 | |
| | | | TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 3) |
| | | | A 63 J A 63 H G 03 B H 04 N |
| The present search report has been drawn up for all claims | | | |
| Place of search THE HAGUE | | Date of completion of the search 06-05-1985 | Examiner GERARD B.E. |
| CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS | | | |
| X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document | | T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document | |