“If you don’t take money, they can’t tell you what do you, kid.”

- Bill Cunningham, NYT Photographer
The Anti-Drone Burqa
Designed in collaboration with Johanna Bloomfield
http://ahprojects.com/projects/stealth-wear
CV Dazzle: Camouflage from Face Detection
2010 Master’s Thesis Research / NYU
http://ahprojects.com/projects/cv-dazzle
CV Dazzle: Collaboration with DIS Magazine
2010
"From all appearances, deception has always been critical to daily survival—for human and non-human creatures alike—and, judging by its current ubiquity, there is no end in immediate sight"

- Roy Behrens, Camoupedia
Face to Anti-Face

Next year the Janus program, an initiative run by the director of national intelligence, will begin to collect photographs of people’s faces from social media websites and public video feeds. Machines will then use powerful algorithms to pair those photos with existing biometric profiles.

The Janus program isn’t alone: Facial-recognition technology is quickly becoming a mainstay of commercial and government surveillance systems. While it can provide benefits in automation and security, it is also a threat to privacy. Sophisticated algorithms can already extract information about your gender, age and even mood from a single image, and then link those physical attributes to commercial or government databases.

This powerful surveillance technology is cheap, ubiquitous and unregulated.

My project, CV Dazzle, explores how fashion can be used as camouflage from face-detection technology, the first step in automated face recognition. The name is derived from a type of World War I naval camouflage called Dazzle, which used cubist-inspired designs to break apart the visual continuity of a battleship and conceal its orientation and size. Likewise, CV Dazzle uses avant-garde hairstyling and makeup designs to break apart the continuity of a face. Since facial-recognition algorithms rely on the identification and spatial relationship of key facial features, like symmetry and tonal contours, one can block detection by creating an “anti-face.”

Camouflaged Fashion

This design combines unconventional hairstyling and makeup to create an anti-face, an attempt to block facial recognition software.

CREATE ASYMMETRY

Facial-recognition algorithms expect symmetry between the left and right sides of the face. By developing an asymmetrical look, you may decrease your probability of being detected.

USE TONAL INVERSE

Some algorithms will analyze gradations in skin tone and texture. This process helps locate the facial region, but it relies on assumptions about what typical facial features look like. To confuse this process, use hair or makeup that contrasts with your skin tone and apply makeup in unusual tones and directions: light colors on dark skin, dark colors on light skin.

CONCEAL THE NOSE BRIDGE

Some algorithms rely on the nose bridge area as a key facial marker. Use hairstyling or fashion accessories to conceal the area above the nose and between the eyes.

Adam Harvey is a Brooklyn-based artist whose work addresses the impact of surveillance technologies.
iPhone: Tracking Device
More trackful than devices used to track prisoners
The government’s opponents said three recent actions had been intended to incite the more radical protesters and sow doubt in the minds of moderates: the passing of laws last week circumscribing the right of public assembly, the blocking of a protest march past the Parliament building on Sunday and the sending of cellphone messages on Tuesday to people standing in the vicinity of the fighting that said, “Dear subscriber, you are registered as a participant in a mass disturbance.”

Russia’s foreign minister, Sergey V. Lavrov, blamed politicians from the European Union and the United States for encouraging the fighting over the past three days. The situation in the city, he warned, was “getting out of control.”

“It seems someone is interested in this chaos,” Mr. Lavrov said Tuesday at a news conference in Moscow.

He noted that American diplomats had said in December at a meeting of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe that the Ukrainian government should heed the opinion of the population and seek greater integration with Europe or risk instability. “What was this,
OFF Pocket: Privacy Accessory for Mobile Phones
privacygiftshop.com
Privacy Gift Shop
Launch at New Museum Store (pop up store)

privacygiftshop.com

Vienna
FACELESS Exhibition