

GUTTR

Build report: comic survey lab platform. October 2026.

GUTTR is named after the space between comic panels where readers build meaning (closure). It turns surveys into comics, linked to the Comic Survey Lab (Bauhaus-Universität Weimar) and created by Shriya Singh.

1. Brand system

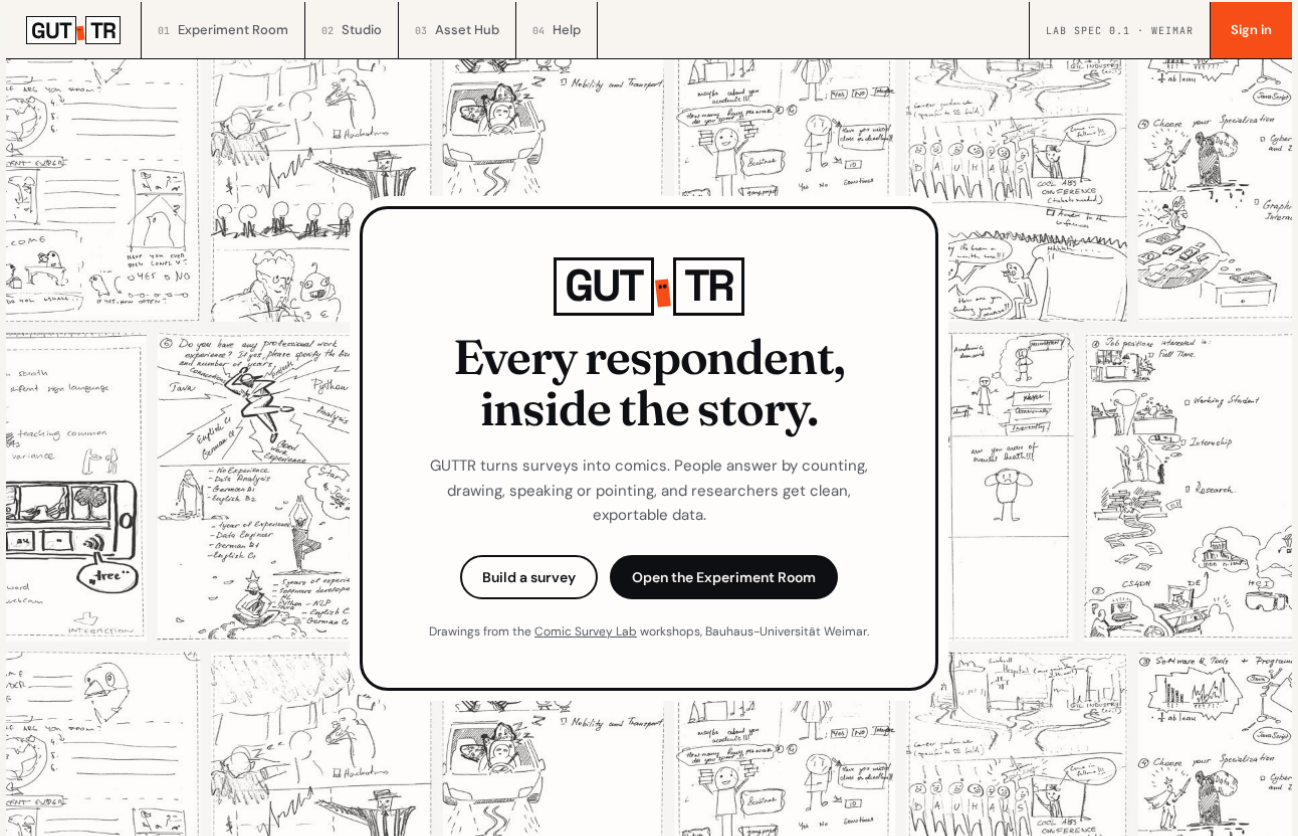
- Colours: warm bone #F6F5F0, carbon ink #111213, paper white, vermilion #FF4D26, cobalt secondary.
- Type: Space Grotesk headings, DM Sans body, JetBrains Mono metadata, Fraunces accents.
- 1px ink rules, hard offset shadows, square corners.
- Logo: 'GUT' and 'TR' in two ink panels with a tilted orange block in the gutter. Favicon: orange character.

2. Technology

- TanStack Start v1 (React 19, Vite 7), edge-ready server rendering.
- Tailwind CSS v4 design tokens, print stylesheet for paper surveys.
- Lovable Cloud: email/password and Google/Microsoft sign-in, profiles table (practice is display-only).
- Survey answers are stored on the respondent's device for now; share links encode the survey in the URL.

3. Home page

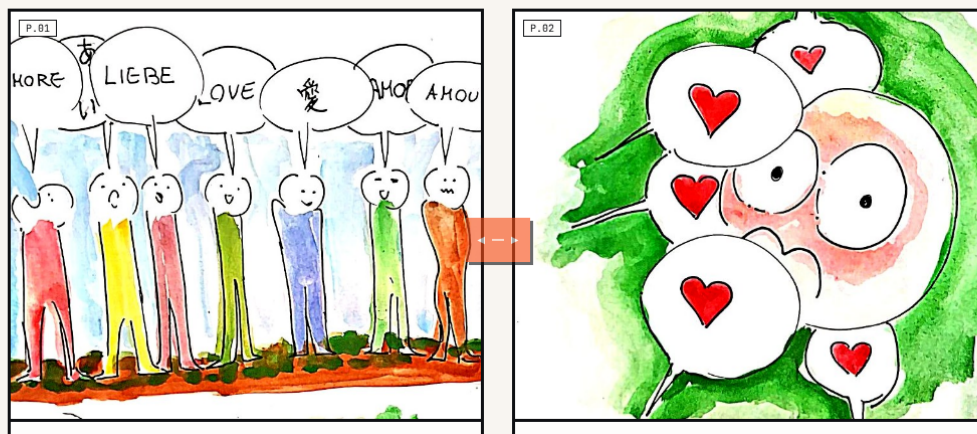
- Workshop wall hero built from the comicified survey PDFs, centred card with logo.
- Fig. 1 Closure: two coloured panels (Julia + Evalina, 'Amore, Liebe, Love...'), stretching orange gutter handle, slider, live width and closure %.
- Living taxonomy: 8 answer types with hover animations.



HOME / HERO

Meaning happens in the gutter. So do the best answers.

Drag the gap between two panels drawn in a GUTTR workshop. The wider it gets, the more the reader has to imagine. Respondents tally, draw, speak and point inside the story, while researchers keep rigorous, exportable data.



HOME / FIG. 1 CLOSURE

Open the Experiment Room →

Build a survey

THE INSTRUMENT

Three rooms, one survey.

- 01 Experiment Room

Bring a paper scan or workshop drawing. Clean the ink, mark panels and hotspots, link a way to respond, test it live.

ENTER →
- 02 Studio

Sequence panels, pick from 200+ assets, and choose how each question is answered.

ENTER →

HOME / THREE ROOMS

LIVING TAXONOMY · 8 SO FAR

A wider spectrum of answering.

This is not a closed list. These are the ways of answering we run today; new sensory, playful and tactile methods are prototyped in the lab and added as they prove themselves.

 LIVE Tally Count the way people did on paper: four strokes, one strike.	 LIVE Draw A pencil inside the panel. Answers that can't be typed.
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HOME / ANSWER TYPES

4. Answer types

- Tally (fifth stroke crosses four), Draw (pencil + stamps), Voice, Point (sun scene), Weather (rain, flame, petals), Scale (dwarf face), Origami (paper boat), Music box (crank + original waltz, muted by default).
- Status labels: Live, Prototype, In the lab.

5. Experiment Room

- 5 steps: Source, Enhance (contrast/inking), Mark zones, Link answers, Test.
- JSON export of the experiment.

GUT

TR

01 Experiment Room

02 Studio

03 AssetHub

04 Help

LAB SPEC 0.1 · WEIMAR

Sign in

GUTTR / EXPERIMENT ROOM

01 · EXPERIMENT ROOM

From paper to living panel.

THIS SESSION ONLYExport JSON

01 Source

02 Enhance

03 Mark

04 Link

05 Test

+

Drop a scan, photo or export

Paper workshop drawings, phone photos, or PNG / JPG / WebP / SVG exported from Illustrator, Figma, Procreate, Photoshop, Clip Studio or Krita.

OR START FROM THE STOCK LIBRARY



A moment to yourself



A good conversation



Room to grow



Little paper adventures



A familiar friend



The long way home

GUT

TR

A research instrument for comic surveys.

PLATFORM

Experiment Room

CONTRIBUTE

Contribute a kit

RESEARCH

Comic Survey Lab, Weimar

RESOURCES

Help & docs

EXPERIMENT ROOM

6. Studio

- Canvas view (asset library, panel, inspector) and Document view (Notion-style blocks).
- Quick-add bar for modalities, undo history.
- Responses tab: bars, averages, drawing thumbnails.
- Share & export: link, print/PDF, .guttr.json, CSV.

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GUTTR

01 Experiment Room

02 Studio

03 AssetHub

04 Help

LAB SPEC 0.1 · WEIMAR

Sign in

GUTTR / STUDIO

SURVEY STUDIO · THIS SESSION

Everyday moments

◀

▶ Preview

Run a response

Canvas

Document

Responses (0)

Share & export

Q Search drawings

All

Scenes

Characters

Expressions

Reactions

Bubbles

Gestures

Nature

Objects

Weather

286 ITEMS · CLICK TO PLACE

ADD A QUESTION

Choice

Draw

Voice

Scale

Tally

T Write

Point

P.01

HOW DO THEY ANSWER?

Multiple choice

One choice, many perspectives

Drawing

A response in their own strokes

Voice

Make space for their own voice

Feeling scale

Somewhere between this and that

Counting

Little objects, meaningful numbers

T Written response

Room for a personal reflection

Scene selection

An answer hidden in the picture

Answer required

✓

↑ Earlier

↓ Later

📄

🗑️

STUDIO

7. Asset Hub

- 200 OpenMoji black-line drawings (CC BY-SA 4.0) with source, artist and licence per asset.
- Contribute a kit form downloads a .kit.json manifest (online review not open yet).

Comic kits, credited.

Every drawing here carries its source, artist and licence. Use them in the Studio, or add your own kit for researchers worldwide.

[Contribute a kit +](#)

01

Describe

Name, version and licence for your kit.

02

Upload

SVG or PNG pieces, or a scanned workshop sheet.

03

Review

The lab checks rights and line quality, then publishes with your credit.

All

Expressions

Reactions

Bubbles

Gestures

Nature

Objects

Weather

200 ASSETS · OPENMOJI KIT V15.1 · CC BY-SA 4.0

 Grinning face OpenMoji contributors	 Grinning face with big ... OpenMoji contributors	 Grinning face with smil... OpenMoji contributors	 Beaming face with smi... OpenMoji contributors	 Grinning squinting face OpenMoji contributors	 Grinning face with swe... OpenMoji contributors	 Rolling on the floor lau... OpenMoji contributors	 Face with tears of joy OpenMoji contributors
 Slightly smiling face OpenMoji contributors	 Upside-down face OpenMoji contributors	 Melting face OpenMoji contributors	 Winking face OpenMoji contributors	 Smiling face with smili... OpenMoji contributors	 Smiling face with halo OpenMoji contributors	 Smiling face with hearts OpenMoji contributors	 Smiling face with heart... OpenMoji contributors
 Smiling face with star-struck eyes OpenMoji contributors	 Smiling face with heart OpenMoji contributors	 Smiling face with tongue OpenMoji contributors	 Smiling face with closed eyes OpenMoji contributors	 Smiling face with closed eyes and a tongue OpenMoji contributors	 Smiling face with closed eyes and a tongue OpenMoji contributors	 Smiling face with closed eyes and a tongue OpenMoji contributors	 Smiling face with closed eyes and a tongue OpenMoji contributors

ASSET HUB

8. Help, About, Accounts

How GUTTR works.

Everything you need to turn a question into a comic people want to answer. Start with the [Experiment Room](#) or the [Studio](#).

Quick start

1. Bring a drawing Open the Experiment Room and upload a paper scan, a photo of a workshop sheet, or a PNG/SVG.	2. Clean the ink Raise contrast and darken lines so pencil and paper become crisp comic art. You can undo at any time.
3. Mark panels and hotspots Draw boxes over the parts people should read or tap.	4. Link a way to answer Attach tally, choice, scale, text or point to each mark, then test it live as a respondent.

Studio manual

Sequencing panels Add panels in the strip at the bottom and drag them into reading order.	Assets Pick characters, bubbles and stickers from the library on the left. Each keeps its licence and credit.
Ways to answer Choose a response for each panel in the inspector on the right.	Saving Work stays in this browser tab for now. Download the .guttr.json file to keep it, and import it later.

ABOUT THE LAB

The space between.

In comics, the *gutter* is the blank space between panels. Scott McCloud called what happens there **closure**: the reader connects two moments and builds meaning that neither panel contains.

GUTTR treats every survey answer as an act of closure. Instead of forms, respondents meet a story and answer inside it by counting, drawing, speaking, or pointing.

GUTTR grows out of the Comic Survey Lab at Bauhaus-Universität Weimar and workshops where artists comified real paper surveys. It is designed and led by Shriya Singh.

- Comic Survey Lab ↗
- Shriya Singh ↗

Every answer is an act of closure.

RESEARCHERS BUILD SURVEYS · DESIGNERS CONTRIBUTE COMIC KITS

WELCOME BACK

Sign in

Continue with Google

Continue with Microsoft

OR EMAIL

Email

Password (8+ characters)

Sign in

Create an account

Forgot password?

You can explore the [Experiment Room](#) without an account.

9. Still to do

- Animated panels in the hero background.
- More cut-out workshop characters and scenes for the asset library.
- Experiment Room review pass.
- Online response collection and hosted survey pages.
- Online kit review queue (GitHub-style).
- Add LinkedIn and GitHub links to the footer once provided.