

visual

Christophe Vallee

COLLABORATORS

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WRITTEN BY	Christophe Vallee	August 24, 2022	

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Chapter 1

visual

1.1 main

VISUAL 1.13

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Visual is a program to catalog your picture directories. It displays small representants of the pictures, called thumbnails, and can launch an arexx script to make a graphic program generate these small pictures (some ImageFX scripts are provided in this archive), so this program does not generate thumbnails itself.

Why did I write this program:

- * Some program like Visual exist but I wanted a fast-display program. Visual displays the thumbnails very fast since thumbnails are small pictures in Ham8 mode and since the palette is the same for all the thumbnails
- * Some thumbnail programs are demo or limited version (ImageDesk).

Since I hate limited version of programs, or program which pops up requesters all the time, this program is not a limited version.

How does it work ?

General

ARexx Interface

History

This version of visual requires AGA (thumbnails are in ham8 mode). ←

If you use this program and find it useful, send me an email (I like to know if somebody uses my program) at vallee@ensea.fr
(If you expect absolutely an answer, don't send me an email, sometimes I have not the time to reply)

If you use it with another program than ImageFX, and you have done some ARexx script, please email them to me, I'd put them in the archive.

This program may be copied and freely distributed via electronic media such as Mailboxes, Internet and Usenet, as long as the whole archive is distributed completely and this doc is included without any changes.

You're not allowed to add any files to the archive, delete any files to the archive or modify any of the files in the archive.

1.2 how

Visual scans a directory and for each entry (directory or file), if it finds a file with the same name and with the extension '.ICN', it loads the picture and display it.

The '.ICN' file are small IFF pictures in ham8 mode.

If visual doesn't find a '.ICN' file for a file, it displays the the picture 'def_file' which is in a directory that you can specify in the preferences. For directory, it uses 'def_dir', for volume, 'def_volume' and for assign 'def_assign'

In this archive there are some '.ICN' file of some pictures in the directory Examples.

If you double click on a icone it launches a program that you can specify in the preferences (I use V which launch a program according to its type with the WhatIs.library, but you can use MegaView instead, which does the same thing)

MegaView was written by Hans-Jörg Frieden in 1993

WhatIs.library Copyright by Sylvain Rougier and Pierre Carrette

1.3 general

The first menu:

Change	:	to specify a new directory with an ASL requester
Parent	:	to scan the parent directory or the volumes if the directory is the root of a volume
Volume	:	to scan the volume list
Update	:	to re-read the directory
Windows	:	to change the window size
About	:	to get informations
Quit	:	to quit

The Operation menu:

Unselect all	:
Select all	:
Toggle selection	:
Delete	:

The ARexx menu:

Update all entries	:	select all the files that have not a '.ICN' file and launch
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```

    the arexx program script
Update selected entries :
    select the files that have not a '.ICN' file and that are
    already selected and launch the arexx script
Create thumbnails for all entries :
    Select all the files and launch the arexx script
Create thumbnails for selected entries :
    Selected all the files that are already selected and
    launch the arexx script
Execute ARexx script :

```

The preference menu:

```

General : display a general
         requester
         Ecran   : display the ASL screen mode requester
Font     : display the ASL font requester to select the font
         of the name of the thumbnails
Load Prefs: load a preference files
SavePrefs : save the preferences in ENV:Visual.prefs and
         ENVARC:Visual.prefs
SavePrefs As: save the preferences in the files you select

```

During the program, you can use the arrow keys to move.

1.4 prefs

Click on the gadget you want information about...

Hidden Files

```

    Parent Thumbnail
    Icn Dir.
icn
    Palette
palette.visual
    Command
misc/DTAactions %s
    ARexx Dir.
rexx
    ARexx Script
rexx/ImageFX.rexx
    Box Width
84
    Box Height
84
    Thumbnail Width
80
    Thumbnail Height
80
    Auto Layout
@| Horizontal

```

1.5 hidden

Hidden Files:

If not selected, Visual doesn't display file or directory that have the protect bit 'H'

(The '.ICN' file must have the protect bit 'H' too otherwise the file will be display)

1.6 parent

Parent Thumbnail:

If selected, show a thumbnail for the parent directory (if you modify it, rescan the directory to see changes)

1.7 icndir

Icon Dir. :

directory where Visual searches for the defaults thumbnails (def_file, def_dir, def_volume, def_assign)

1.8 palette

Palette:

the name of the palette file to be used

1.9 command

Command:

the filename of the command that will be launched if a file is double-clicked

ex: DTActions %s

(%s must be present and will be replaced by the name of the file)

You can use MegaView or whatever program you want.

MegaView was written by Hans-Jörg Frieden in 1993

1.10 arexxdir

ARexx Dir.:

The directory where the ARexx script are

1.11 arexxscript

ARexx script:

the name of the script to be used to generate thumbnails

1.12 size

Box Width, Box Height:

width of the box which is display around the thumbnails

Thumbnail Width, Thumbnail Height:

width and height of the thumbnails

These numbers are only useful for an ARexx script

1.13 autolayout

1.14 arexx

To generate '.ICN' file, you can do it yourself with any graphic program or with the arexx script.

In an ARexx script, you will have to use commands to control Visual and your graphic program.

You will need to send command to Visual to get the name of the file and to get the preference width , height and palette filename.

Some script are provided in this archive (for ImageFX2.0 ImageFX1.5 ImageFX1.03 and ADPro , the script for ImageFX2.0 are the script I use)

Visual accepts 6 commands.

CHECK

FORMAT

Check

FUNCTION

Return information about the CANCEL gadget.

INPUTS

None.

RESULT

Returns a result of 0 if the CANCEL gadget has not been pressed otherwise a result of 5

GETMAIN

FORMAT

GetMain

FUNCTION

Return information.

INPUTS

None.

RESULT

Returns a string containing information, in the following format:

"filename_of_the_palette" width height

GETSELECTED

FORMAT

GetSelected

FUNCTION

Return the name of the first FILE selected and if this file isn't on the Visual window, put it on the window.

INPUTS

None.

RESULT

Returns a string containing the filename.

MESSAGE

FORMAT

Message Text

FUNCTION

Display a message in the window of Visual.

INPUTS

Text

Text of the message.

RESULT

None.

UNSELECT

FORMAT

UnSelect

FUNCTION

Unselect the first file selected.

INPUTS

None.

RESULT

None.

UPDATE

FORMAT

Update

FUNCTION

Unselect the first file selected and reload its icon.

INPUTS

None.

RESULT

None.

1.15 history

27-may-1996 Visual 1.13

* some minor changes.

19-may-1996 Visual 1.12

* some minor changes.

28-apr-1995 Visual 1.10

New:

- * multi-window (windows are now in simple refresh mode to spare chip-memory)
- * thumbnails are not store absolutely in chip memory
- * delete function
- * news preferences file (the definitive !) in ascii

06-mar-1995 Visual 1.00 First release on Aminet
