During the 1970s and 1980s, Robert Tinney illustrated some of the most amazing computer artwork for BYTE magazine.

BRYAN LUNDUKE
SEP 12, 2021

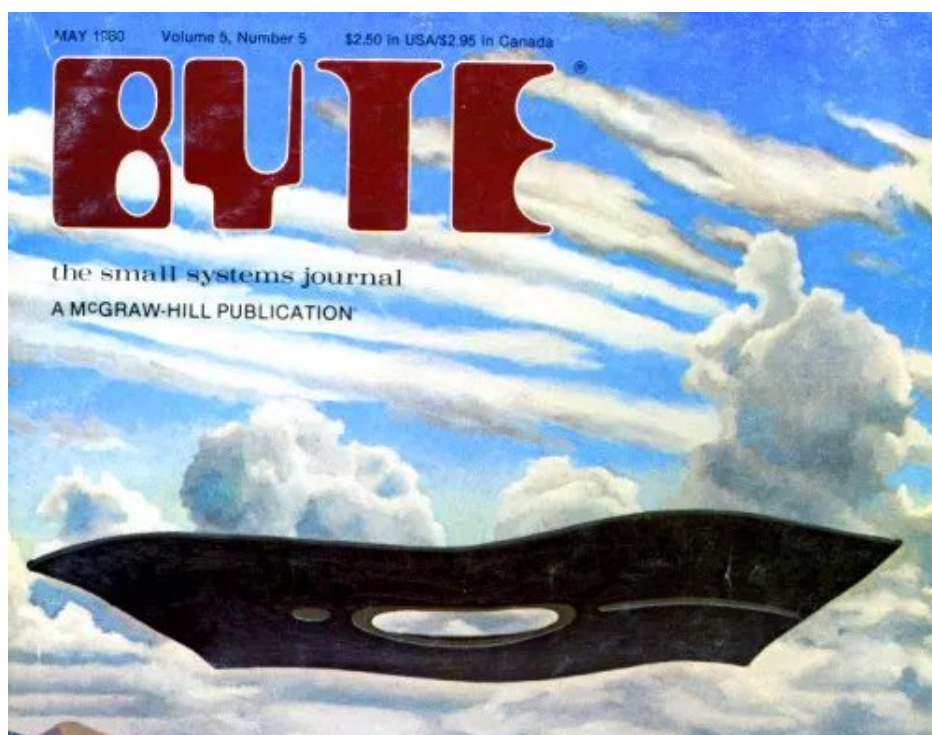♡ 15   💬   Share

They just don't make computer magazines like they used to. The computer mags of the 1970s, 80s, and 90s had style. Attitude. There was something truly special about them.
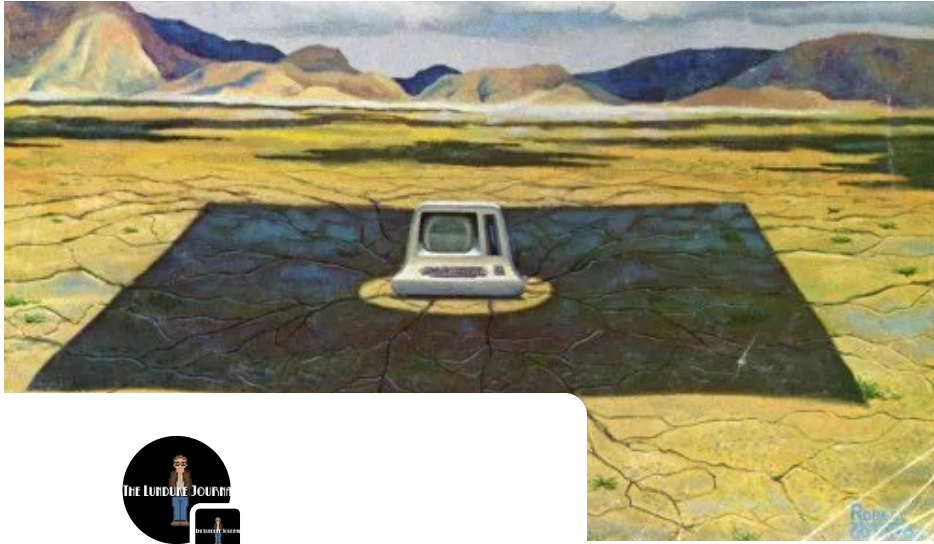
Quite possibly the greatest among them, being BYTE (technically it was just "Byte", but they always drew it as uppercase on the cover). Starting in 1975, that beautiful publication — which focused on "micro computers" — ran all the way until 1998.

The content was astounding. If you were a computer nerd, you knew BYTE. You loved BYTE. You devoured every single article

But, as I look back on BYTE magazine, it is the **cover artwork** that stands out to me.

Especially those by the amazing Robert Tinney.
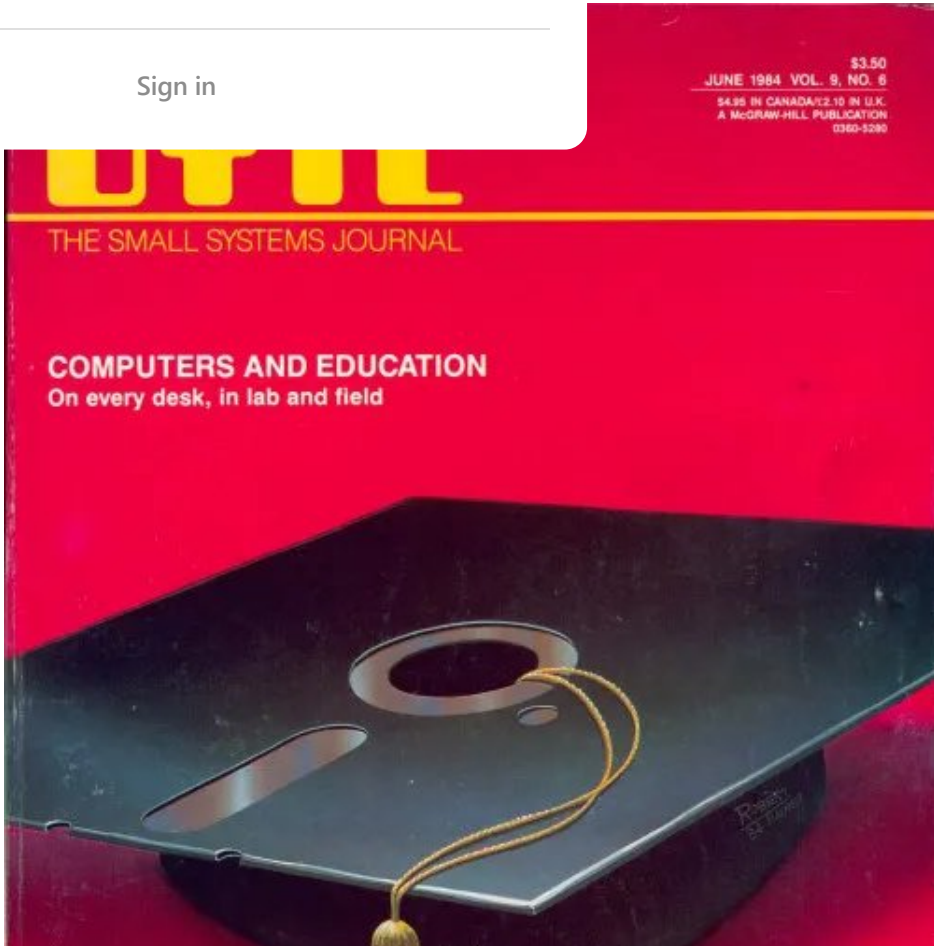
...for computers.

...e this since. I'm collecting a few of my ...and 1980s computer magazine art was

...reading a [2006 interview with Tinney](#)

$3.50
JUNE 1984 VOL. 9, NO. 6

$4.95 IN CANADA/£2.10 IN U.K.
A McGRAW-HILL PUBLICATION
0360-5280

THE SMALL SYSTEMS JOURNAL

COMPUTERS AND EDUCATION
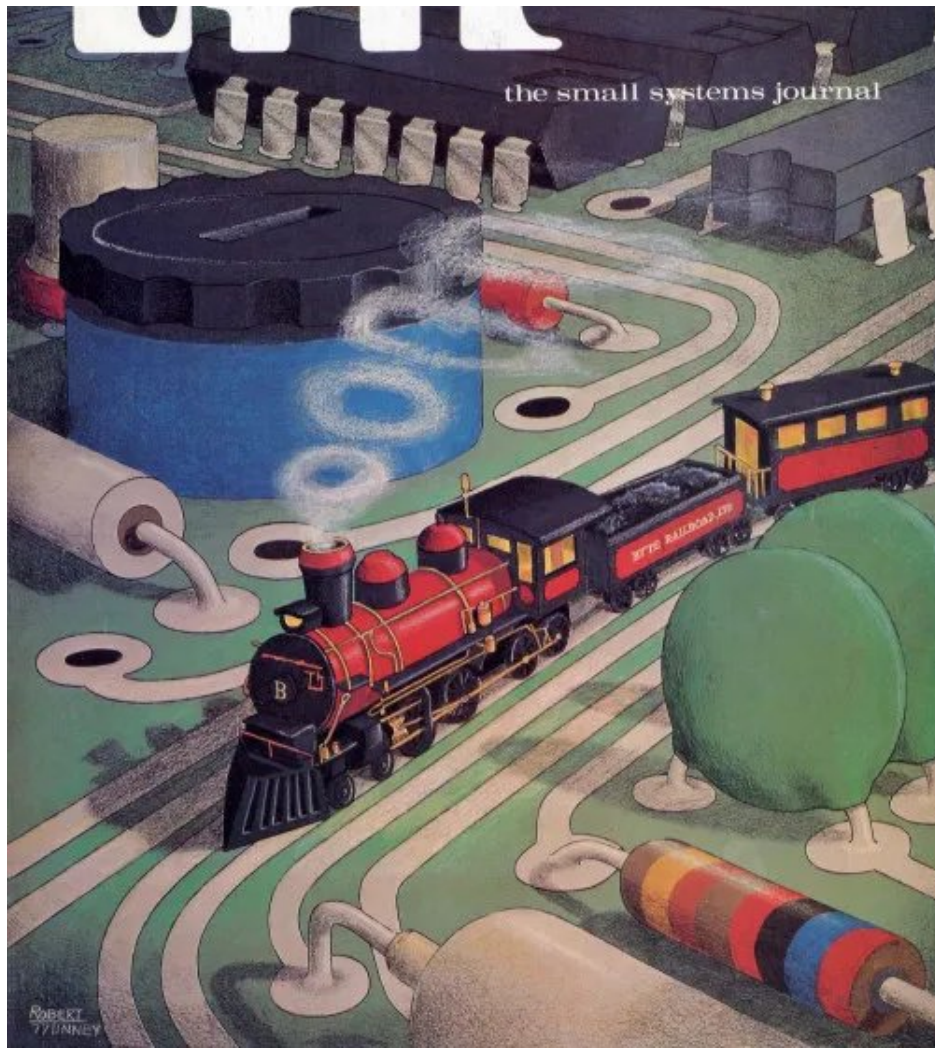On every desk, in lab and field

When I graduated high school, I really wanted to make my own cap based on this cover artwork. But I couldn't make it look right.

This one might be my favorite. I love everything about this cover.

This makes me want to build a model train set... that is a circuit board.

The Altair! The atmosphere! There's just so much here!

FEBRUARY 1982   Vol. 7, No. 2
$2.95 In USA/$3.50 In Canada
A McGraw-Hill Publication

WINTER COMPUTING

Tinney is like the Norman Rockwell of computer magazines. Truly stellar work.

♡ 15

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