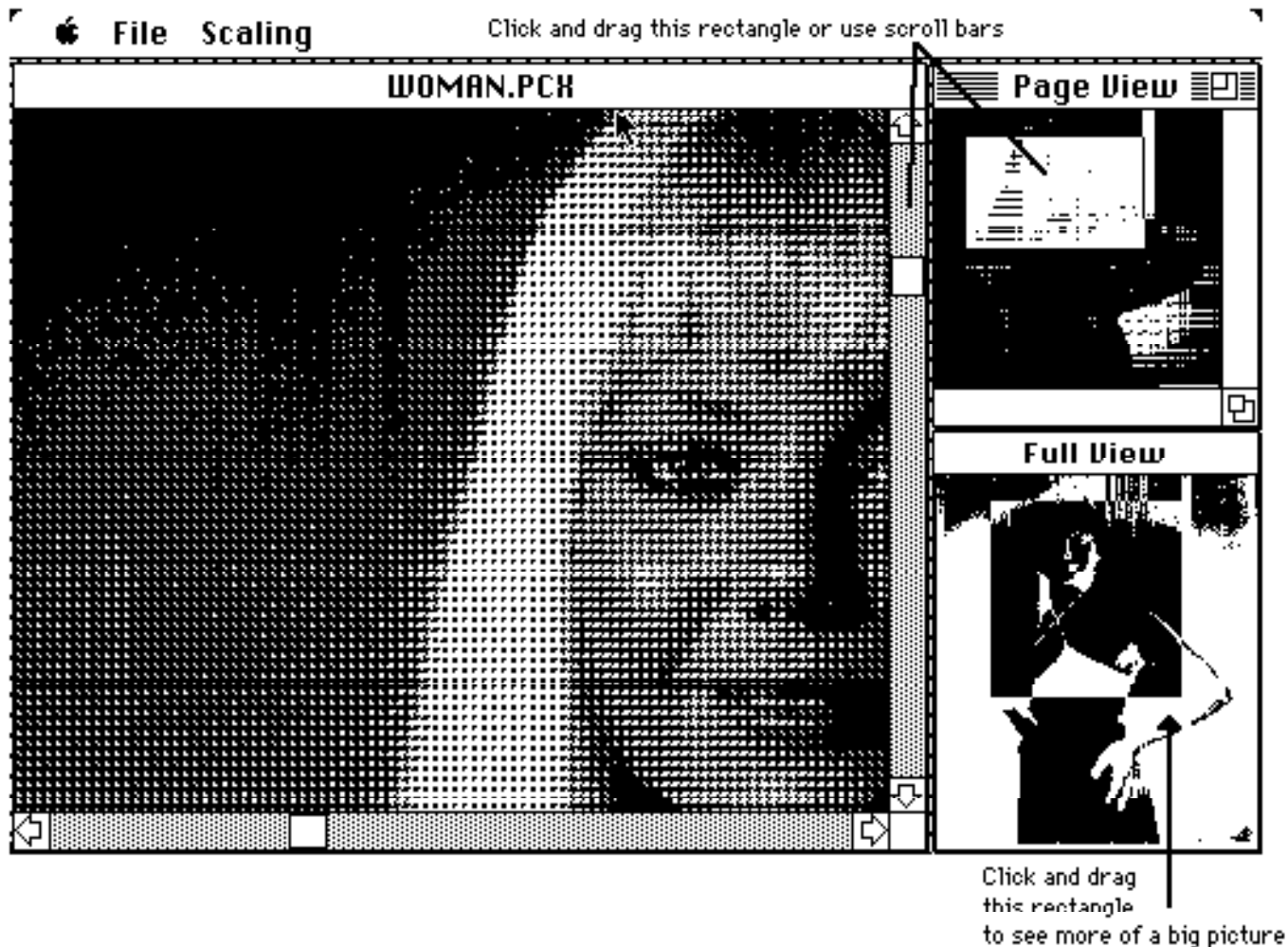**Introduction**

Love your Mac and its great graphics ? Tired of being locked out of MS-DOS graphic files, while THEY have nifty utilities to view OUR Mac stuff ?

Have I got a deal for you !

PCXtc ("PC Ecstasy") is a translator/viewer for files created in the PCX format. PCX was defined by Zsoft for their popular PC Paintbrush program, and is used by other MS-DOS graphic programs and scanners as well. PCXtc shareware version .8 is a <u>viewer only</u>. It can open Macpaint or PCX files and let you scroll them around the screen. A fuller version 1.0 has the "Save Macpaint", and also the Print, Delete File, and Transfer functions fully implemented. See below on how to get your copy of Version 1.0. Versions .8 and 1.0 can handle monochrome (one bit per pixel) PCX files only. If I get enough positive response to PCXtc, I will add color capability in a future upgrade. I didn't think that a Macpaint -> PCX conversion was necessary because plenty of MS-DOS utilities already allow Macpaint viewing. However, if the Mac market demands Macpaint -> PCX capability I will provide it.

Using PCXtc

PCXtc is simple to use. Open a Macpaint file and two windows are presented, one with the file's name in the title bar and the Page View window. You can scroll around the picture with either the traditional scroll bars in the main window or click and drag the inverted (negative image) rectangle in the Page View window. The Scale menu is disabled for Macpaint files. Open a PCX format file and a progress indicator will appear to show how the expansion process is going. Expansion takes between 15 - 40 seconds, depending on file size and contents. When the translation's finished, you will see one main and one Page View window, as before. If you're looking at a PCX file, the Scale menu is enabled. Pulling down and selecting Normal scaling presents a third window, Full View, which displays the entire picture in miniature. At the same time the scaling is changed in the main window from a squashed, distorted form to true scaling. The inverted rectangle in the Full View window approximates the size of the Macpaint file you'd get if you saved it as Macpaint. Some PCX pictures are fairly close to Macpaint dimensions, others are much bigger. Clicking and dragging on the inverted rectangle in Full View will select different parts of the picture for viewing and saving.

WOMAN.PCX

Page View

Full View

Click and drag
this rectangle
to see more of a big picture

*NEW*NEW* Version 1.6

If version .8 fits your needs, use and copy it freely. It won't blow up or pout with a "your shareware trial period is over" message. If you want to translate PCX files and save them as Macpaint format files, or would like the ability to print it directly, send for **Version 1.6.**

Improvements over v1.0:

• Faster file translation, 4x-6x quicker.

• Better behaved, more accurate windows with close box.

• "Brightness" for brightening images before printing.

I'm asking $10.00, a Self-Addressed, Stamped Envelope, and a disk, or $12.00 if you can't spare the disk and SASE.

Mail your request to:

John Papiewski

PO Box 7444

Elgin, IL 60121-7444

Ask for PCXtc version 1.6, and please be sure I get your **RETURN ADDRESS**.

Background

The biggest problem in dealing with the PCX format is the possibility that the pictures can be bigger than Macpaint allows. PCXtc handles this with two Scaling options: Squeeze to Fit and Normal. Squeeze to Fit takes the PCX file, regardless of size, and scales it to fit the Macpaint standard. This usually results in some distortion of features, but you can get the WHOLE THING in a Macpaint file

if you want it. Selecting the Normal Scaling mode gives you an 8x10 movable window on the picture. If the picture is BIG you can scroll around and still see the whole thing without distortion. With version 1.6 the picture you save in Macpaint format is determined by the current position of the Full View scrolling rectangle. Anything else is left out.