

**085c5030-0**

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# Chapter 1

## 085c5030-0

### 1.1 MysticView

MysticView

RTG datatype picture viewer - dark green release

introduction	copyright/license
features	disclaimer
insufficiencies	donations
requirements	
general usage	submissions
configuration	author
commandline examples	developers
DirOpus configuration	acknowledgements
list management	getting datatypes
known problems	history

### 1.2 introduction

introduction

MysticView is a RTG datatype picture viewer.  
it was mainly designed for

- usability
- display quality
- configurability
- flexibility and system integration

MysticView is a real Amiga viewer. it is not limited to graphics card displays, but also runs very well on HAM and any other native Amiga screens.

MysticView makes an end to all these annoying options like PATCHTHIS and DISABLETHAT. MysticView is an RTG viewer. simply watch pictures without a fuss.

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see also  
features  
insufficiencies

## 1.3 features

features

- independent from display hardware:  
displays every picture on any screen mode, resolution and color depth, including hicolor, truecolor and HAM.
- scaling and aspects:  
automatically scales images to the window's dimensions, with respect to the aspect ratios of both the screen and the picture.
- display quality:  
features highly elaborated color quantization and rendering. automatically uses dithering when needed. note: dithered HAM8 easily outperforms the display quality of hicolor.
- user friendly:  
has a nice button bar, features intelligent selection of screenmodes, displaymodes, window sizes and -positions, won't annoy you with changing screens and windows.
- integrated:  
MysticView is a commodity, and it's fully integrated to your workbench. simply drag'n'drop pictures, directories, configurations and lists to its window or appicon, or launch configurations and lists with a double-click.
- list management:  
MysticView has got a few, but yet powerful functions to manage picture lists.
- asynchronous and modular:  
uses massive internal multitasking for loading, rendering, scanning, interaction, etc. get the full benefit from the best 68k and PPC datatypes around.
- picture caching:  
uses intelligent picture preloading and caching. watch entire slideshows from memory.
- highly configurable:  
has got innumerable configuration details to suit your personal taste.

see also  
insufficiencies

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## 1.4 insufficiencies

insufficiencies

- MysticView is fully dependent from datatypes.  
there are no custom loaders implemented.
- MysticView demands a lot of memory and cpu power.  
it is best suited for well-equipped systems.
- MysticView does not feature progressive loading.
- MysticView is not intended to act as an image converter,  
effect processor, and alike. it just displays pictures.
- MysticView is not localized.
- MysticView has got no ARexx port.

see also

requirements  
known problems  
getting datatypes

## 1.5 requirements

requirements

minimum:

- 68020
- os3.0 (v39)
- datatypes.library v39

minimum recommended:

- 68040/25
- 16mb fast memory
- datatypes.library v43

supported:

- os3.1 (v40)
- higher processors
- cybergraphics, picasso96
- newicon.library v40

see also

getting datatypes

## 1.6 keyboard usage

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keyboard usage

most keyboard shortcuts are documented in MysticView's menus.

additional keyboard controls:

- ESCAPE  
close window and leave. by default, MysticView is quit.  
alternatively use the tooltype HIDEONESCAPE for  
MysticView to go to hidden state.
- TAB  
zip/unzip MysticView's window. the 'normal' state  
is defined throughout the WINSIZEMODE setting  
( 'Small Window', 'Large Window', etc.) in the  
Settings/Window menu. the 'zipped' state is always  
equivalent to 'Visible Screensize'  
(WINSIZEMODE=VISIBLE).
- SPACE  
additional keyboard function for advancing in a list.  
if a SLIDESHOW was running, it will be turned off.  
if a slideshow was not running, it will be enabled,  
plus MysticView immediately advances to the next  
picture (without waiting for the SLIDEDELAY timeout).
- 7  
additional keyboard equivalent for "Open Pictures...",  
available on the numeric keypad.
- 9  
additional keyboard shortcut for toggling the SLIDESHOW  
mode, available on the numeric keypad.
- 0  
additional keyboard shortcut for toggling the infotext  
(see PICINFO), available on the numeric keypad.
- cursor keys (equivalent to 4, 2, 6, 8)  
move the picture cursor (see SHOWCURSOR setting).

qualifiers for moving the picture cursor:

no qualifier:	step rate is 1%
SHIFT:	step rate is 10%
CONTROL:	step rate is 100%

see also

menu reference  
configuration

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## 1.7 configuration

configuration

most of the following keywords are available throughout tooltypes, shell arguments, and in preset files. there are a few exceptions, which will be listed first:

commandline-only arguments:

FILENAME	files, paths, patterns, volumes...
DEFAULT	use hardcoded defaults
LISTFILE	initial picturelist file
PRESETFILE	initial startup configuration
APPEND	append pictures to a running instance

general arguments:

ANIMPIC	custom animation picture
APPENDICONS	append pictures via drag'n'drop
ASYNCSCANNING	show pictures while scanning
AUTOCLEAR	clear picturelist after last picture
AUTOCROP	automatically remove blank borders
AUTODISPLAYMODE	let MysticView guess the displaymode
AUTOHIDE	hide after last picture
AUTOQUIT	quit after last picture
AUTOSTOP	stop slideshow after last picture
BACKDROP	borderless backdrop window
BGCOLOR	window's background color
BUFFERPERCENT	amount of memory for picture caching
BUTTONPIC	custom button picture
CREATETHUMBNAILS	auto newicon creation feature
CONFIRM	suppress "are you sure" requesters
CX_POPKEY	hotkey command sequence
CX_PRIORITY	hotkey command priority
CX_POPUP	open in iconified state?
DEFAULTTOOL	default tool for thumbnail icons
DEPTH	custom screen depth
DISPLAYMODE	pixel aspects, scaling and more
DITHERING	enable dithering
DITHERMODE	Floyd-Steinberg or EDD
FILTERPICTURES	only pictures in filerequesters
FONTSPEC	custom font specifier
HAM	open HAM screen
HIDEONCLOSE	closebutton hides MysticView
HIDEONESCAPE	escape key hides MysticView
ICONIFY	iconify mode
IMBACTION	left mouse button behavior
LOOP	loop the picturelist
MARKCOLOR	configurable highlighting color
MODEID	screen mode id
PICFORMAT	format string for PICINFO
PICINFO	display info textline
PRECISION	for screen-pen allocation

PREVIEWMODE	realtime update when scaling/scrolling
PUBSCREEN	public screen to open upon
RECURSE	scan subdirectories
REFRESHMODE	preferably smart
REJECTPATTERN	automatically exclude files
RENDERQUALITY	faster rendering or higher accuracy?
REQUESTFILE	open filerequester at startup
RESETDISPLAY	reset display settings between pictures
REVERSE	reverse a list's sort direction
ROTATESTEP	in degrees
SCREENASPECTX/Y	correct biased screen aspects
SCROPENMODE	public, custom, or default screen
SCRWIDTH, SCRHEIGHT	let MysticView choose your screenmode
SHOWARROWS	tiny arrows on not fully visible pictures
SHOWBUTTONS	show GUI buttons
SHOWCURSOR	imaginary image cursor
SHOWPIP	PiP display feature
SIMPLESCANNING	quick scanning, no filetype detection
SLIDEDELAY	delay between pictures
SLIDESHOW	advance to the next picture automatically
SMOOTHDISPLAY	interpolate zoom and movements
SORTMODE	none, alpha, date
STARTPIC	for those who HATE MysticView's logo
STATICPALETTE	static palette, quicker and dirtier
TEXTCOLOR	configurable text color
THUMBCOLORS	number of colors for thumbnails
THUMBSIZE	size of newicon thumbnails
WINLEFT, WINTOP	determine fixed window position
WINOPENMODE	window location mode
WINSIZEMODE	window size mode
WINWIDTH, WINHEIGHT	determine fixed window size
ZOOMSTEP	relative step rate to zoom in/out

in addition to these, there are some 'global' settings, which are automatically saved in ENV/ENVARC:MysticView/Paths. these settings are more easily altered throughout MysticView's menus, but you may also modify these ENV settings directly.

AUTOSAVESETTINGS	automatically save ALL settings at exit
STARTPATH	current directory for pictures
PRESETPATH	path to preset files
LISTPATH	path to list files
COPYPATH	'standard' path for copy/move
PRESET0...9	predefined f-key configurations
DESTPATH0...9	predefined paths for copy/move

note: all keywords are case-insensitive.

see also  
 menu reference  
 examples  
 DirOpus config

## 1.8 history

history

\* 1.05

- mysticview is freeware; updated texts and requesters accordingly.

1.04

- slightly improved efficiency of the scanner
- added %n placeholder in the PICFORMAT string for the picture's file format, as returned by the datatype.
- updated and fixed documentation

1.03

- new setting: SIMPLESCANNING. when activated, MysticView will add any scanned files to the filelist. no filetype detection takes place. later, when a file turns out to be not loadable as a picture, it will be silently removed from the list. this scanning mode is significantly faster than the default. note: this feature is still considered "beta" and only available via tooltypes.
- supplied os3.5-icons in the "goodies" drawer.

1.02

- CTRL-F-key now immediately switches to a preset, without opening a filerequester first.

1.01

- when in fullscreen mode and with HIDEONCLOSE enabled, MysticView quitted when the invisible button in the screen's upper left was clicked. fixed.
- added "Append Drag'n'Drop" option. when enabled, icons/drawers dragged onto MysticView's window will be added to the current list. tooltype is APPENDICONS.
- slightly improved the example preset files.

\* 1.00

- version number bumped

0.99h

- v1.00 feature freeze.
  - menus are being restructured.
  - fixed a bug in the buffer size calculations which caused the background loader to run amok sometimes.
  - mysticview and all its libraries are now using v39 exec memory pools again.
  - improved the install script and supplied some configs.
  - neuralnet.library wasn't installed with earlier versions. fixed.
  - documentation updated and improved
  - an auto filerequester was opened even with filenames passed in the commandline. fixed.
-

- added PICFORMAT setting. it allows to specify a format string for the picture info display. currently defined are %p - pathname, %f - filename, %w - width, %h - height, %d - depth. default "%f - %w\$\times\$h\$\times\$d".
- fixed APPEND option.
- MysticView and all libraries have been recompiled with higher optimization levels
- added a lot of DirectoryOpus configuration hints and examples
- when a loaded presetfile contained a new SORTMODE, MysticView did not immediately resort the list. fixed.
- added a slightly updated version of MystiCube to the distribution
- increased neural network training threshold

#### 0.99g

- fixed a bug in guigfx.library which caused MysticView to crash at exit, when the standard C= picture and ILBM datatypes were used for loading HAM pictures. thanks to Hexaae for the bug reports and debugging assistance.
  - the background loader has been rewritten from the scratch. the new loader is faster, and memory management is more efficient.
  - preloading (and caching) of multiple pictures is now supported. provided you have enough memory, MysticView can keep entire slideshows buffered in memory. Mysticview now reacts much better to skipping back and forwards in a picture list.  
this redesign also fixes a major bug (enforcer hits and crashes, when pictures were deleted from the list) and some minor problems.
  - added menu item "Scan Asynchronously" (corresponding tooltype is ASYNCSCANNING). the behavior of the background scanner is no longer dependent from the sortmode.
  - MysticView's multitasking is much nicer towards other applications now. all time-consuming jobs are running at the same priority. the default is 0 (if started from the workbench), or the same as of the shell process that launched MysticView. the PRIORITY setting has been removed. MysticView now works very comfortable at high system load.
  - added GUI buttons for open, previous, next, slideshow, looping, etc. tooltype: SHOWBUTTONS. enabled by default. you may also use a set of your own buttons via the BUTTONPIC tooltype. a tiny animation of MysticView's logo has been included, too. the respective tooltype is ANIMPIC.
  - MysticView now offers to change the filename for already existing pictures that are to be copied or moved.
  - copying, moving and deleting do no longer work asynchronously. MysticView now waits for these operations to complete.
  - added sort criteria filesize, filedate, combined path+filename, and a reverse-sort option.
  - the picture-info textline contains more useful information, and it updates while scanning and loading.
  - added self-starting feature, as known from many text
-

- editors. if another MysticView is running, the commandline option APPEND passes specified pictures/paths/patterns to that instance. if no other MysticView is found, a new instance will be started.
- shareware-nagging has been removed.
  - added menu item "Add Pictures..." to the current filelist.
  - added menu item "Add from List..." to the current filelist.
  - static-palette rendering gives better results (guigfx.library v15.2)
  - filerequester simplified: the default filename is now set to "#?", so committing "Okay" without selecting any files will include the entire directory's contents.
  - Added "First" function for skipping back to the first picture in a list. Skipping back stops a slideshow.
  - fixed a long-standing bug in mysticview.library that caused pictures to be rendered incompletely in slideshows.
  - the SLIDEDELAY tooltype setting is now measured in 1:10th of seconds, no longer in seconds.
  - added PIP feature. (in this context it has nothing to do with graphics card hardware). it's experimental - do not use it, it doesn't work very well together with opaque window sizing, thanks to these #?%&! layer cliprects.
  - the neural network which tries to predict the user's desired displaymode has changed. it has got more brains now, and it differentiates more picture parameters, but it also requires more training. the network is now also recalled during window-resizing, thus MysticView may immediately switch the displaymode. this makes the AI feature a bit more transparent to the user, but also a bit more nasty. simply let the menu item 'Options/Learn' disabled if you think it's too confusing. recommended reading: configuration/AUTODISPLAYMODE
  - MysticView's commandline arguments are now sorted alphabetically. this might interfere with any particularly useful order, but at least you've got the chance to find something.
  - MysticView will never trash its window borders again, and this ugly window-border-refresh-maintenance-signalling-task is no longer needed and has been removed.
  - added SHOWARROW option. when enabled, MysticView draws small arrows at a picture's borders when it is not fully visible. enabled by default.
  - usability via keyboard has been improved. the space bar is now used for 'one-hand' control of slideshows, which is 'handy' for wanking over porn slides, for example. most important functions are now available on the numeric keypad.
  - changed qualifiers for scrolling via keyboard. CTRL scrolls by 100%, SHIFT by 10%, no qualifier scrolls by 1% per stroke.
  - "Reset Display Settings" now reacts instantly, not only when a new picture is getting displayed
  - MysticView now instantly reacts to changes of the sort mode and sorts the picture list while scanning/loading/viewing.
  - the option KEEPIMAGE (i.e. keep the current image while
-

- another one is being loaded) is obsolete and has been removed.
- MysticView now correctly displays loading errors, and automatically retries loading after flushing the cache when the reason for failure was a lack of memory.
  - new default background color.
  - HAM artifacts have been reduced to an absolute minimum (mysticview.library v4).
  - added menu item "Remove". as the name suggests, this function simply removes a picture from a list (without deleting or moving)
  - added menu item "Save List as..." for saving the current list of pictures as a listfile.
  - lists are identified by a tooltype in their respective icon: "MYSTICVIEW\_LISTFILE=YES". you can drag'n'drop listfiles to MysticView's window or appicon now.
  - workbench-integration has been improved even further: you can start MysticView by double-clicking preset and listfile icons, and even both at the same time. (e.g. select a listfile, hold the shift key, and doubleclick a presetfile - or the other way round.) you may also drag'n'drop listfile and preset icons on MysticView's window (or appicon) at the same time, or mix preset icons with pictures/directories/volumes.
  - the displaymodes "keep aspect max", "onapixel" and "fit to window" are no longer available in the menus. the remaining items have been renamed to "scale with aspect" and "display 1:1 pixel" (the last one corresponds to the IGNOREASPECT mode).
  - the option HIDEWITHPICTURE has been removed. MysticView no longer flushes the current (and buffered) pictures from memory when it gets iconified. scanning and preloading now silently continue in the background.
  - added an optional picture filter in filerequesters (tooltype: FILTERPICTURES). requested by hexaae.
  - requesting the previous picture stops a slideshow.
  - added DEFAULTTOOL setting
  - the REJECTPATTERN argument is now also used in filerequesters, not only applied to the picture scanner.
  - added tooltyoe items for a view's text and highlighting colors (TEXTCOLOR, MARKCOLOR)
  - added display refresh smoothing (SMOOTHDISPLAY). it will interpolate modifications on the display (only zooming and scrolling. rotating is not supported).
  - added tooltypes HIDEONCLOSE and HIDEONESCAPE.
  - the memory consumption for opaque-refreshing of truecolor pictures on non-truecolor screens has been reduced to only 25%, but its short-time peak memory consumption is even worse than before.
  - the picture cursor no longer trashes the window borders when a picture is rotated, nor does it overwrite the infotext. the picture cursor is no longer overwritten by the rendered picture - it's visible all the time now.
  - the cursor was placed incorrectly when the picture was rotated and zoomed. fixed.
  - some rare visual artifacts have been removed, such as background areas using a deallocated pen
-

- with STARTPIC=none, MysticView did not always update its display correctly. fixed.
- the former option PRELOAD is obsolete and has been removed. the loader is configured with the new setting BUFFERPERCENT.

\* 0.99f

- newicon thumbnail creation did not work properly. fixed.
- Thumbnail AutoUpdate now recognizes changes of the pictures themselves, as well as changes of the thumbnail parameters.
- removed redundant modes from the screenmode requester.
- some minor bugfixes.

0.99e

- the neural network for AUTODISPLAYMODE has been overworked.
- the AUTOSAVESETTINGS setting is no longer saved in the icon, it is now part of the global configuration
- MysticView did not read its settings from an icon when it was started as an icon's default tool. fixed.
- added AUTOCROP setting

0.99d

- added AUTODISPLAYMODE and a new menu entry "learn and predict". if activated, MysticView uses a small neural network to learn the user's desired displaymode for different kinds of pictures. "learn and predict" does not care about the rarely used displaymodes IGNOREASPECT and FIT. it will only learn from and try to predict KEEPASPECT, KEEPASPECT2, and ONEPIXEL.
- added a new icon by M. Grothmann.

0.99c

- fixed display mode settings in the menus. mutual exclude was broken since 0.99b.
- added menu item "rename picture". Renaming in this context means moving a picture to any place in the filing system. the difference towards "move picture" is that the picture is kept in the current picture list. requested by G. Hones.

0.99b

- the commandline arguments were broken as of v0.99. fixed.
  - "reset display settings" is now considered when the display mode is changed. requested by infinity.
  - re-enabled the escape key for quitting. requested by P. Habermehl and J. Urbanek
  - added PRIORITY setting (normal, nice, low). the priority is only considered when mysticview starts.
  - the options menu has been completely restructured. some settings have been removed from the menu, they are only accessible throughout tooltypes now: Hide mode, simple/smart refresh, keep image when hidden
  - removed every second frame of the supplied animation from the archive. it appeared somehow obscene to me to include half a megabyte of animation data for silly demonstration purposes only.
  - by default the system's screen font is used for the picture info text.
  - added FONTSPEC tooltype for the picture info text.
-

syntax: size[,name]. example: FONTSPEC=8,topaz

- revised the documentation. many details did not reflect recent changes.
- with LMBACTION=NEXT, only mouseclicks that exactly hit the picture will actually advance the picture list.
- slightly modified the supplied example presets.

\* 0.99a

- pictures moved to another directory are now removed from the list.
- the package contained outdated versions of some libraries, and the installer did not update them correctly. fixed.
- the icons in the v0.99 archive still contained the old tooltype settings. fixed.

0.99

- added configurable left mousebutton action ('drag' or 'next')
- a default preset path is no longer defined.
- fixed a bug in the presetfile generation.
- fixed the startup. MysticView's icon settings were read and interpreted twice.

0.98j

- renamed NOLOOP to LOOP, NORECURSE to RECURSE, RENDERMEM to RENDERQUALITY.
- all former boolean-type settings are now keyword settings. the keywords are "YES" and "NO".
- removed the DEFICON tooltype.
- SCROPENMODE "NONE" has been renamed to "DEFAULT".
- restuctured the menus.
- configurable paths and presets are now stored in env:/envarc: and saved automatically. this greatly enhances comfort and usability.
- file management requesters are no longer opened on the default pubscreen, but rather on MysticView's screen.
- Mysticview now uses the Workbench's SA\_Pens when opening a new screen
- added slideshow/no delay option.
- added RESETDISPLAY setting. if enabled, the zoom/position/rotation settings are reset between pictures.
- the installer no longer overwrites an already existing icon.
- MysticView is no longer iconified when the close button is clicked or Escape is pressed. Iconify has to be invoked seperately.
- changed some default settings.
- added auto thumbnailing.
- removed shareware limitation for thumbnail functions.
- MysticView now creates icons for its preset files.
- MysticView can now be started by doubleclicking a preset icon.
- preset files can be dragged to MysticView's window.

0.98i

- fixed mouse movement problem that somtimes ocured when MysticView's screen was left or re-activated. thanks to persistant nagging from Joker. this was a MysticView bug and NOT caused by MCP.
  - fixed asl file requester enforcer hit
  - the same picture is no longer preloaded in the background when only one picture is in the queue.
-

- included some more semaphore protections to the background picture handler
- fixed a rejectpattern bug/enforcer hit when no rejectpattern was specified
- added menu item "Negative"
- added some busy pointers
- changed some hardcoded defaults and default settings in the distribution.
- iconify mode default is now hardcoded to NO.
- a picture is no longer reloaded when "keep image when hidden" is selected, slideshow mode is active, only one picture is in the queue, and MysticView gets uniconified. the same applies if the screen/windowmode is changed ("keep image when hidden" is not considered in this case)

## 0.98h

- you can now completely disable mysticview's logo by setting STARTPIC=none. mysticview now starts when a startpic wasn't found.
- fixed a tiny memory leak in the settings that could occur with some options.
- added THUMBSIZE and THUMBCOLORS.
- improved subtask stability
- added REJECTPATTERN
- the startpic file requester could produce an enforcer hit. fixed.

## \* 0.98g

- fixed slideshow bug: when only one picture was selected and slideshow plus loop mode was activated, the picture was reloaded over and over again. reported by Joker.
- minor aspect problems fixed.
- the image aspect is now displayed in the information textline.

## 0.98f

- added JPEG saving. (no options yet. default saving quality used).
- fixed commandline options. reported by Kilyman.

## 0.98e

- added autodither.
- fixed timing problems in slideshow mode.

## 0.98d

- MysticView now requires mysticview.library.

## 0.98c

- MysticView has been slightly sped-up on truecolor displays.
  - added ZOOMSTEP.
  - limited newicon thumbnails to a size of 80x80 pixels and 64 colors. this will speed up the icon display on your Workbench. (this is still no final solution, though.)
  - added configurable slots for preset files. they can be accessed throughout CTRL F1 ... F10 and configured by selecting them from the menu. requested by H. Richter.
  - the same scheme now applies to the configurable destination paths for copying/moving. keyboard executes, menu selection
-

configures.

- slideshows didn't always stop immediately. fixed.
- implemented SHOWCURSOR.
- the REQUESTFILE option is now considered after a slideshow stopped. requested by P. Habermehl.
- implemented SHOWCURSOR.
- finally fixed the publicscreen/customscreen problem. the setting SCROPENMODE=CUSTOM/PUBLIC/NONE replaces the former tooltype CUSTOMSCREEN.
- added CX\_PRIORITY, CX\_POPKEY and CX\_POPUP.
- MysticView is now a commodity. ESC to hide, Amiga-Q to quit.  
note: 'hide' keeps the current image - and you keep that in mind when you iconify MysticView with a 2880x1440x24 image :)
- the screen is no longer closed and reopened for the change of window settings.
- fixed a memory allocation bug with the PUBSCREEN setting.
- many minor changes
- added AUTOHIDE.
- the picture aspect is now handled for thumbnails.
- added pubscreen select and default/public/custom menu items.
- added appicon
- added rotation. (preliminary. SHOWCURSOR and grid refresh doesn't work corretly with the image being rotated)
- fixed install script for 030/FPU version. Reported by B. Murray.
- deleted pictures are now removed from the list and MysticView advances to the next picture. requested by P. Dahlberg.
- added ROTATESTEP
- added DEFAULTICON
- added CONFIRM. requested by P. Dahlberg.
- added HIDEWITHPICTURE.
- added ICONIFYMODE.

#### 0.98b

- fixed PUBSCREEN setting. pubscreens have got precedence over CUSTOMSCREEN now. reported by P. Habermehl and M. Kilimann.
- fixed MysticView's new icon to use only required colors. reported by M. Kilimann.
- looping and AUTOQUIT are now applied in general, not only in slideshow mode. requested by P. Habermehl.

#### \* 0.98a

- forgot to implement NORECURSE tooltype setting. fixed.
- added NOLOOP and AUTOQUIT settings. requested by P. Habermehl.
- new default background color
- implemented SORTMODE none/random/alpha
- added limitations for unregistered users. :)

#### 0.97h

- added setting DITHERMODE. implemented EDD dithering.
- renamed DITHER to DITHERING.
- pictures that could not be loaded no longer interrupt slideshows, and a proper error message will be displayed.
- added Delete Picture.
- copy/move/delete now applies to the pictures' icons, too.
- added STARTPIC setting.
- restructured menus.

- added Flip Horizontally and Flip Vertically.
- MysticView now creates a new icon for its settings, if necessary.
- implemented loading and saving of presets, added PRESETPATH and PRESETFILE settings
- fixed DEFAULT option. now the defaults are overridden by arguments specified in the command line.

## 0.97g

- the preload task's priority has been reset to -1.
- added newicon thumbnail feature. (preliminary, for experimental purposes only)

## \* 0.97f

- added preloading.
- added invisible close and screenback gadgets. this works only when both the settings WINSIZEMODE=FULL and BACKDROP are specified. requested by Joker.
- MysticView no longer forgets the current filename when the configuration is changed, and slideshows will be continued.
- added some more keyboard shortcuts
- dropped german documentation, created a guide file and an install script

## 0.97e

- added picture information and PICINFO setting
- implemented a new picture-management class consisting of several subtasks.
- slideshow now works as expected. (preload is not yet re-implemented, though)
- fixed many menu-related problems and improved menu layout
- added copy to..., move to... for 10 configurable slots each.
- all path/filenames are now handled dynamically
- with the REQUESTFILE option enabled, a requester no longer pops up when images were specified at startup.
- improved memory management
- when initialization fails, a requester is shown for retry, cancel, or retry using defaults.
- added LISTFILE commandline option. it allows to specify a list file from where to fetch pictures.
- added Open List File... menu and LISTPATH config.
- the window border is now refreshed correctly (after approx. 1/5 second. guess what, a subtask is used here. opaque window sizing would suffer too much from refreshing the window border all the time :)
- finally! MysticView should close down gently now if the required versions of guigfx or render.library could not be opened (#&\$@%!?)
- new icon tooltypes are created dynamically. no need to upgrade MysticView's icon anymore.

## 0.97d

- the configuration is now saved to MysticView's icon.
  - menu items didn't toggle correctly (forgot MENU TOGGLE. what the heck, why does this work with MagicMenu ;)
  - added more CTRL\_C exit breakpoints
  - the main task priority is now reset correctly.
-

- improved handling
- major menu layout rework
- added AUTOSAVESETTINGS
- added PREVIEWMODE
- added grid refresh
- fixed lots of minor quirks and problems

## 0.97c

- slightly improved screenmode selection logic: default screen size is now the workbench's visual dimensions, no longer its absolute size.
- re-implemented screensaspect tooltypes (thanks to ZZA :)
- added slideshow mode
- MysticViw now reads its configuration from the icon, even when started from shell. commandline arguments simply override the settings from the icon's tooltypes.
- added mouse scrolling - it's now possible to drag the picture around in MysticView's window.
- added a lot of menu items
- improved HAM refresh logic
- the screen's title bar is no longer obscured in WINOPENMODE=VISIBLE and without BACKDROP mode.
- added MODEID, SCRWIDTH, SCRHEIGHT
- added screenmode requester

## 0.97b

- MysticView crashed without cybergraphics. Fixed.

## 0.97a

- The display part has been rewritten. Now a daemon-like view-class handles the display as a background task. the new display logic is faster.
- implemented zooming and scrolling in all displaymodes (except for DISPLAYMODE=FIT).
- implemented DISPLAYMODE KEEPASPECT2 and IGNOREASPECT. DISPLAYMODE=ONEPIXEL has got a slightly different meaning now.
- implemented asynchronous, recursive directory scanning.
- multiselect und patternmatching is now supported via drag&drop, filerequester, commandline and wbstart.
- added some keyboard shortcuts.
- Next and Previous Picture is now implemented.
- BORDERLESS has been renamed to BACKDROP.
- WINSIZEMODE=NORMAL renamed to WINSIZEMODE=DEFAULT, WINOPENMODE=NORMAL renamed to WINOPENMODE=DEFAULT
- PREVIEW und OPAQUESIZING are combined to a new single option: OPAQUE.
- added new options QUICKPALETTE and DITHER.
- TRANSPARENCY, REFRESHDELAY and AUTODITHER have been removed.
- added some menu configurations.

## 0.96n

- MysticView now uses DoPictureMethod()/PICMTHD\_MAPDRAWHANDLE for quick drawing in preview mode and for opaque sizing.
- added tooltype WINSIZEMODE=SMALL, renamed WINSIZEMODE=66PERCENT to WINSIZEMODE=LARGE.

## 0.96m

- fixed a minor pubscreen problem.
-

## 0.96l

- a logo task is no longer launched when a startup picture is specified.
- minor internal changes

## 0.96k

- since v0.96j, MysticView uses guigfx.library v3 features, but it still opened guigfx.library v1. fixed.
- minor problems corrected.
- when a startup picture is specified, the logo task is launched with a lower priority than the load task.
- added STARTPATH tooltype.

## 0.96j

- added RENDERMEM option
- fixed ASL filerequester problems.

## 0.96i

- added cursor and mouse scrolling in DISPLAYMODE=ONEPIXEL.
- window is now WFLG\_ACTIVATE.
- improved refresh mechanism.
- added KEEPIMAGE.

## 0.96h

- added a nicer rendered logo and dropped alpha-channel processing for the logo in TRANSPARENCY mode.
- KEEPPASPECT now works in TRANSPARENCY mode on screens with aspects different from 1:1.
- TRANSPARENCY is slightly faster.
- removed NOBACKFILL hook in TRANSPARENCY mode.
- added BGCOLOR option.

## 0.96f

- drastically reduced memory consumption.

## 0.96e

- implemented tooltypes SCREENASPECTX and SCREENASPECTY for correction of distorted screen aspects (e.g. Cybergraphics 640x256, or custom screen modes boosted with MonEd etc)
- since the autodither value cannot be computed for rendering to HAM screen modes, HAM dithering is always enabled with AUTODITHER != 0 and disabled with AUTODITHER=0.
- (finally?) solved all subtask administration problems.
- fixed commandline and wbar parsing and supplied a proper template.
- MysticView now quits with the ESC key.
- added REQUESTFILE for MysticView to open a filerequester on startup.
- The filerequester now opens asynchronously.
- included Mac's newicon.

## 0.96d

- Fixed a minor problem with MysticView running multiple times on HAM public screens.
  - Fixed Division-by-zero problem in MysticView's drawtask
-

(hopefully)

- improved subtask data-share mechanism
- tooltype options are no longer case sensitive.

0.96c

- Added tooltype option HAM for MysticView to open a HAM screen in combination with CUSTOMSCREEN.

0.96b

- re-implemented transparency mode
- implemented About requester
- improved TRANSPARENCY mode: the background is no longer snapped when a REFRESHWINDOW message arrives

0.96a

- MysticView has been completely restructured in preparation for further enhancements

0.95g

- added DirOpus configuration example.
- MysticView has got a menu and a filerequester for loading.
- if CUSTOMSCREEN is specified, the new screen is actually a pubscreen.
- implemented PRECISION tooltype.
- 0.95f was eating its own signals - after 16 refresh signal arrivals, no more subtasks could be created. Fixed.

0.95f

- added filename argument and FILENAME tooltype.
- fixed WINOPENMODE

0.95e

- MysticView did not work without Cybergraphics. Fixed. Thanks to Plex and New Mode who reported this bug.

0.95d

- minor problems fixed.

0.95c

- improved speed.
- implemented CUSTOMSCREEN and DEPTH for MysticView to open on a custom sreen. These features are preliminary, though.

0.95

- implemented more reliable shared-data access for MysticView's subtasks.
- drawtask priority reset to 0.
- removed a lot of bugs from the subtask admin code.
- MysticView does no longer lose memory.

0.94

- implemented DISPLAYMODE KEEPASPECT
  - supplied a NOBACKFILL hook for the window.
  - unallocated pens and undefined areas are no longer visible.
  - the redraw task now runs with a priority of -1.
  - slightly improved opaque-sizing. the rastered bitmap is
-

precalculated right after loading, when OPAQUESIZING=TRUE  
and TRANSPARENCY=0

- fixed WINTOP and WINLEFT.

0.93

- added asynchronous drawing - leading to much better window handling
- MysticView runs with a priority of 1, its subtasks with a priority of 0
- added tooltpe options

0.92

- implemented DISPMODE\_ONEPIXEL.
- heavily trained for stableness.

0.91

- memory management improved

0.9

- completely rewritten from the scratch, now using guigfx.library. features asynchronous loading, a transparent window, dithering, more elaborated window sizing and opening techniques, different display modes, and much more.

----- cut -----

0.76

- layout improved.
- implemented ADAPTIVEBORDER

0.75

- added lots of tooltpe options
- fixed many minor problems
- greatly improved some image refresh problems.

\* 0.68

- first public release
- minor changes
- there was a heavy bug in v16.1 and v16.2 of render.library. I guess that MysticView crashed right at startup if you did NOT use the 68060 version. Sorry. I bumped the required library version to v17 where this bug has been fixed.

0.67

- major rework and clean-up

0.66

- The color allocation strategy has been improved.

0.65

- I couldn't quickly get rid of some heavy bugs I've introduced with v0.64. So I decided to continue work with v0.62 and render.library v12.0. Asynchronous loading is no longer implemented. This version seems to work pretty stable.

0.64

- asynchronous loading implemented.

0.63

- About is asynchronous now.
- improved color allocation strategy.
- MysticView crashed on 2-color-displays. Fixed.

0.62

- better allocation strategy for critical colors on displays with few sharable pens.
- Filerequester implemented.
  - A percentual render progress display and several messages are displayed in the window's title bar.
  - The picture's width is now layouted pixelwise, no longer in multiples of 16 pixels.
- Various enhancements and bugfixes

0.60

- Faster display.
- Several bugs fixed.
- Fixed display problems (window borders and flicker...).
- Pooled memory management implemented.
- Window is SIMPLE\_REFRESH now.
- Requires less memory.
- Nicer logo.
- Menu implemented for "About" requester and "Quit". Other menu functions are not yet implemented.

0.53

- faster window refresh.
- Requires less memory

0.52

- now takes care of aspect ratios.
  - This applies to both the image and the screen mode.
- nicer logo

0.51

- MysticView lost memory. Fixed.
- Sped-up window refresh after resizing.
- uses PRECISION\_IMAGE instead of PRECISION\_EXACT.

0.50

- initial version

## 1.9 AUTOSAVESETTINGS

AUTOSAVESETTINGS

type: boolean keyword (YES or NO)

menu equivalent: Settings/Auto Save Settings

automatically save settings at exit. this setting

---

is only considered for the 'general' settings.  
the 'global' settings are saved anyway.

default: NO

see also  
configuration

## 1.10 BACKDROP

BACKDROP

type: boolean keyword (YES or NO)  
menu equivalent: Settings/Window/Backdrop

open MysticView on a backdrop borderless window.

default: NO

## 1.11 BGCOLOR

BGCOLOR

type: string representing a hexadecimal number  
menu equivalent: none

the background's RGB value.

default: a pale, dark green

see also  
TEXTCOLOR  
MARKCOLOR

## 1.12 DEFAULT

DEFAULT

type: switch  
menu equivalent: Settings/Reset to Defaults

specify this option for MysticView to use its internal  
default settings. no settings will be read from the icon.

this switch is only available when MysticView is started  
from the command-line.

---

## 1.13 DEPTH

DEPTH

type: numeric  
menu equivalent: none

preferred depth for custom screens.  
valid: 1-8, 15, 16, 24, maybe 32.

default: the Workbench's depth.

see also  
SCROPENMODE

## 1.14 DESTPATH

DESTPATH0 ... DESTPATH9

type: string  
menu equivalent: Project/Copy Picture to/...  
menu equivalent: Project/Move Picture to/...

10 configurable destination paths for quick copying/moving.

these items are only available in the global configuration.

defaults: undefined

see also  
configuration

## 1.15 DISPLAYMODE

DISPLAYMODE

type: keyword  
menu equivalent: Options/Scale with Aspect  
menu equivalent: Options/Display 1:1 Pixel

image size and aspect handling mode

KEEPASPECT

keep the aspect ratios of both the screen and the image.  
this mode guarantees that the image is always fully visible.  
this mode corresponds to Options/Scale with Aspect.

KEEPASPECT2

keep the aspect ratios of both the screen and the image.

---

this mode guarantees that either the full width or full height of the image is completely visible.  
there is no menu equivalent for this mode.

#### ONEPIXEL

do not care about the image aspect, and display all pixels that appear in the image. the screen's aspect ratio will be considered.  
there is no menu equivalent for this mode.

#### IGNOREASPECT

ignore all aspect ratios. represent each pixel in the image by one pixel on the screen.  
this mode corresponds to Options/Display 1:1 Pixel.

#### FIT

do not care about aspects and zoom at all. the image will always fit exactly to the window's dimensions.  
there is no menu equivalent for this mode.

default: KEEPASPECT

see also

AUTODISPLAYMODE

## 1.16 DITHER

### DITHERING

type: keyword

menu equivalent: Settings/Rendering/Auto Dither

menu equivalent: Settings/Rendering/Always Dither

dither activation mode.

#### OFF

never use dithering

#### ON

dither images on screens with 256 colors (or less), and on HAM screens.

#### AUTO

automatically activate dithering when the image would lose too much quality.

default: AUTO

see also

DITHERMODE

guigfx.library ENV variables

---

## 1.17 HAM

HAM

type: boolean keyword (YES or NO)

menu equivalent: none

use this tooltype in combination with SCROPENMODE=CUSTOM for MysticView to open a HAM screen. don't forget to specify an appropriate DEPTH setting as well.

default: NO

see also

SCROPENMODE

DEPTH

## 1.18 LISTFILE

LISTFILE

type: string

menu equivalent: Project/Open List File...

specify the filename for a listfile. this listfile may contain any number of pictures, paths and patterns.

this argument is only available when MysticView is started from the commandline.

see also

LISTPATH

## 1.19 LISTPATH

LISTPATH

type: string

menu equivalent: none

current default path for LISTFILE. it is considered when no path is specified for the LISTFILE argument, and in the list filerequesters.

this argument is part of the 'global' configuration, and will be saved automatically.

see also

LISTFILE

configuration

---

## 1.20 MODEID

MODEID

type: string representing a hexadecimal number  
menu equivalent: none

desired screenmode ID for custom screens.

note: there should be rarely any need for you to set this cryptic argument manually. MysticView's automatic screenmode selector is usually smart enough to find the best matching screenmode with the arguments SCROPENMODE, DEPTH, HAM, SCREENWIDTH, SCREENHEIGHT.

default: undefined

see also

SCROPENMODE  
DEPTH  
HAM  
SCREENWIDTH, SCREENHEIGHT

## 1.21 RECURSE

RECURSE

type: boolean keyword (YES or NO)  
menu equivalent: none

when enabled, MysticView scans directories recursively.

default: YES

## 1.22 PRECISION

PRECISION

type: keyword  
menu equivalent: none

color allocation precision for non-truecolor screens.  
note: low precisions suffice in most cases.

GUI

lowest precision - extremely nice towards other applications.

ICON

low precision - very nice towards other applications.

IMAGE

---

standard precision for images.

EXACT

highest precision. this mode is very unfriendly towards other applications! only use it on a separate screen.

default: IMAGE

## 1.23 PREVIEWMODE

PREVIEWMODE

type: keyword

menu equivalent: Settings/Rendering/Grid Preview

menu equivalent: Settings/Rendering/Opaque Refresh

type of realtime window refresh. this applies to changes and updates of the display while zooming, moving the cursor, rotating, resizing the window, and with REFRESHMODE=SIMPLE.

NONE

no realtime update takes place. the image will be rendered in highest quality.

GRID

a 10x10 grid is drawn instead of the picture, then the picture is rendered into this grid with highest quality.

OPAQUE

this option enables MysticView's opaque window update with the full window contents. after a quick and dirty preview has been displayed, the image is rendered into the display in highest quality (if necessary).

the last option increases memory consumption dramatically and should be enabled only on systems with a fast CPU.

default: NONE

see also:

SMOOTHDISPLAY

REFRESHMODE

## 1.24 PUBSCREEN

PUBSCREEN

type: string

menu equivalent: Settings/Screen/...

with this keyword you can open MysticView on a public screen in your system.

default: default public screen

see also

SCROPENMODE

## 1.25 STATICPALETTE

STATICPALETTE

type: boolean keyword (YES or NO)

menu equivalent: Settings/Rendering/Static Palette

this option will cause MysticView to use a static palette instead of a dynamic one (being calculated for each picture).

this option is meaningless on hicolor- and truecolor displays.

static palette versus dynamic palettes:

a static palette

- gives bad results without dithering.
- produces more stable quality with dithering.
- will trigger MysticView's automatic dithering in most cases.
- causes less flickering when you advance from one picture to another, because there is no need to clear the display.
- is not necessarily faster than a dynamic one. this depends on the picture.

default: YES

see also:

DITHERING

## 1.26 REFRESHMODE

REFRESHMODE

type: keyword

menu equivalent: none

window refresh mode.

SIMPLE

the window contents will have to be redrawn by MysticView when parts of it are getting exposed. this mode saves some

---

memory.

SMART

the window contents are maintained by the operating system, resulting in a quicker window refresh - at the cost of a higher memory usage.

this feature is rarely used. I recommend to use SMART all the time.

default: SMART

see also

PREVIEWMODE

## 1.27 RENDERQUALITY

RENDERQUALITY

type: keyword

menu equivalent: none

this flag indicates low or high quality (and memory consumption) when truecolor data is rendered to 8 bit (or less), or to HAM modes.

LOW

lower memory consumption and faster.

HIGH

higher memory consumption and better quality, at the cost of speed.

default: LOW

I recommend to leave this setting at its default. MysticView does an excellent job in compensating the loss of quality with dithering.

see also

DITHERING

## 1.28 REQUESTFILE

REQUESTFILE

type: boolean keyword (YES or NO)

menu equivalent: Options/Auto File Requester

open a file requester at startup, and after the last picture in a list. the latter case is ignored when MysticView is in LOOP mode.

---

see also  
LOOP

## 1.29 SCREENASPECTX SCREENASPECTY

SCREENASPECTX, SCREENASPECTY

type: numeric  
menu equivalent: none

override the screen's aspect ratio. use this feature if your screenmode does not provide proper aspect ratios, e.g. CybergraphX 640 $\times$ 256 or screen modes boosted with MonEd etc.

default: the screen's aspects

see also  
SCROPENMODE

## 1.30 SCREENWIDTH SCREENHEIGHT

SCRWIDTH, SCRHEIGHT

type: numeric  
menu equivalent: none

desired width and height for a custom screen (in pixels). only considered with SCROPENMODE=CUSTOM.

default: none

see also  
SCROPENMODE

## 1.31 SLIDEDELAY

SLIDEDELAY

type: numeric  
menu equivalent: Settings/Slideshow Delay/...

number of 1/10 seconds until the next picture is displayed in slideshow mode.

note: the interpretation of this setting has changed since 0.xx versions, from seconds to tenth of seconds.

default: 50

---

see also  
SLIDESHOW

## 1.32 SLIDESHOW

SLIDESHOW

type: boolean keyword (YES or NO)  
menu equivalent: Options/Slideshow  
button equivalent: 5th button from the left

activate slideshow mode.

default: NO

see also  
SLIDEDELAY  
AUTOSTOP

## 1.33 STARTPATH

STARTPATH

type: string  
menu equivalent: none

specifies the start path for MysticView's file requester.

this setting is only available in the 'global' configuration.

default: not defined

see also  
configuration

## 1.34 WINLEFT WINTOP

WINLEFT, WINTOP

type: numeric  
menu equivalent: indirect (Settings/Window/Snap Window)

upper left position for the window on the screen. these coordinates are only considered when WINOPENMODE=DEFAULT.

default: system's default window position

see also  
WINOPENMODE

---

## 1.35 WINOPENMODE

WINOPENMODE

type: keyword

menu equivalent: Settings/Window/Centered...

specify window positioning mode.

DEFAULT

open the window at its default location, or as defined throughout WINLEFT and WINTOP.

CENTER

open the window in the middle of the visible part of the screen. oversized (autoscrolling) screens are handled.

MOUSE

open the window centered under the mouse pointer.

default: CENTER

see also

WINLEFT, WINTOP

WINSIZEMODE

## 1.36 WINSIZEMODE

WINSIZEMODE

type: keyword

menu equivalent: Settings/Window/Small...

specify window size mode.

DEFAULT

open the window with default dimensions, or as defined throughout WINWIDTH and WINHEIGHT.

FULL

open the window with the screen's full size.

VISIBLE

open the window with the screen's visible size.  
this mode handles oversized screens, and in addition to that, it does not cover the screen's title bar.

LARGE

open a 'large' window - i.e. with 2/3 of the screen's visible dimensions

HALF

open the window with half the screen's visible dimensions

---

SMALL

open a 'small' window - i.e. with 1/3 of the screen's visible dimensions

default: LARGE

see also

WINWIDTH, WINHEIGHT  
WINOPENMODE

## 1.37 WINWIDTH WINHEIGHT

WINWIDTH, WINHEIGHT

type: numeric

menu equivalent: none

window's width and height. this size is only considered when WINSIZEMODE is set to DEFAULT.

default: the system's default window size

see also

WINSIZEMODE

## 1.38 specify pictures via command line

specifying pictures via commandline

specify any number of pictures, drawers and filename patterns. examples:

```
MysticView pix:  
MysticView pix:JPEG/Colors.jpg  
MysticView pix:JPEG/Colors.jpg pix:#?.ham?  
MysticView sys:prefs/patt#?  
MysticView sys:prefs/patt#?/#?.gif  
MysticView pix:~(#?.gif)
```

see also

configuration  
examples

## 1.39 specify pictures via listfile

specifying pictures via listfile

specify a listfile with the LISTFILE argument. a picture list file may contain any number of filenames, paths, and patterns.

---

for instance

```
MysticView LISTFILE work:pets
```

with work:pets a text file looking like this:

```
pix:animals/pets/
pix:cat#?
sys:prefs/patterns/katzen.bmp
pix:misc/doggy1.ham8
pix:misc/doggy2.ham8
work:clipart/kitten(?!%)?.#?
pix:jpeg/#?(cat|dog|bird)#?
archive:
```

you may also start MysticView with a listfile icon,  
or specify one using drag'n'drop.

see also

```
LISTFILE
specify pictures via iconstart
specify pictures via drag'n'drop
```

## 1.40 specify pictures via drag'n'drop

specifying pictures via drag'n'drop

- drag single or groups of pictures, drawers or devices on MysticView's window or appicon.
- drag listfiles on MysticView's window or appicon.
- with the option APPENDICONS enabled, icons are appended to the filelist. otherwise, the filelist will be replaced.

see also

```
APPENDICONS
ICONIFY
specify pictures via iconstart
```

## 1.41 specify pictures via iconstart

specifying pictures via icon start

single picture:

start MysticView by double-clicking a picture. 'MysticView' must be the default tool for the respective icon<sup>1</sup>.

multiple pictures:

- activate any number of pictures, drawers and devices on your Workbench, hold down the shift key and double-click on MysticView.
- or activate the icon of MysticView, then activate pictures, drawers and devices while holding the shift key. double click on the last icon.

listfiles:

- start MysticView by double-clicking a listfile.

presets:

- start a MysticView configuration by double-clicking a preset file's icon.
- you can combine multiple icons for pictures, drawers and volumes or listfiles (see listfiles) with preset icons (see multiple pictures). the first preset file found in your selection determines a new configuration for MysticView to start up and display the selected pictures with.

note: MysticView can automatically create newicon thumbnails with MysticView being the default tool.

see also

preset files  
DEFAULTTOOL  
CREATETHUMBNAILS

## 1.42 specify pictures via file requester

specifying pictures via filerequester

select "Open Pictures..." from the project menu and select one or multiple files or drawers. use "Add Pictures..." to append one or multiple pictures to the current list.

select "Open List File..." from the project menu and select a list file, or use "Add List File..." for appending a list to the current list.

see also

listfile start  
commandline start  
FILENAME

## 1.43 disclaimer

disclaimer

---

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## 1.44 submissions

submissions

submit bug reports, ideas, concepts, suggestions, and feedback of any kind. don't hesitate to drop me some lines, especially when you've got some ideas for improvements, or you encounter bugs or you think that MysticView lacks a feature.

see also  
author  
donations  
known problems  
history

## 1.45 shareware

donations

MysticView is now freeware. if you like it and use it frequently, please send a donation to the author.

a donation could be one of your favourite music CDs, or a bank-note in your funny local currency.

whatever it may be, send something that you think may be worth it, and only if you like.

see also  
author

## 1.46 author

author

bifat / TEK neoscientists

tim s. mueller

---

bifat@neoscientists.org

if you want to send a donation, send me an email first for getting my current mail address.

TEK neoscientists homepage and support site for MysticView, mysticview.library, guigfx.library, render.library, and other tools and libraries:

www.neoscientists.org

## 1.47 copyright

copyright and license

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see also  
disclaimer

## 1.48 acknowledgements

acknowledgements

Frank 'Copper' Pagels - personal friend, author of ArtPRO, initiator and main betatester of render.library.

Markus Hillenbrand - author of Gallery, main betatester of guigfx.library in its early stages.

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Stefan Sommerfeld - author of Scalos. thanks for intensive testing and implementation of guigfx.library and

---

render.library, and for a lot of suggestions!

Gunther Nikl for a large number of great v43 datatypes.

greetings (not necessarily related to this project)...

Hexaae, Buggs, DaMicha (thanks for the newicon), Eagleeye, Mudu, all members of Oxyron, Azure, ZZA, Joker, Mac (thanks for the first newicon), and the TEK posse!

## 1.49 known problems

known problems

datatype related:

- if you are using the Picasso96 picture.datatype, you must upgrade to at least v43.26. otherwise, MysticView will crash very badly when loading truecolor pictures.
- the AK... datatypes (author: Andreas Kleinert) appear to work fine, but they MUST be configured to deliver proper results. in addition to that, they return false aspect ratios in the default configuration. you need to add a configuration item in env/envarc:datatypes/ak...prefs using a text editor. add the following line:

```
NOASPECT
```

- if you encounter crashes of MysticView's loading task (or other problems that might be related to datatypes), then please try another datatype for the respective file format first. thank you very much.

miscellaneous:

- if you are running out of memory too often and MysticView needs to reload pictures after flushing the cache, please reduce the size of the picture cache. recommended reading: BUFFERPERCENT option.
  - the PiP option is considered experimental. do not use it in a scalable window. this feature requires a 'cliprect' to be installed in a window, and this may lead to refreshing problems.
  - MysticView isn't very well designed for access to slow media. devices can be accessed by a large number of tasks - mainly for scanning, loading, and background loading (besides copying, moving and deleting). disable the 'Scan Asynchronously' option (ASYNCSCANNING) when you access slow media. when enabled, different tasks of MysticView are scanning and loading in parallel.
-

- the way MysticView scrolls a picture (using the arrow keys) might appear strange at first sight. the scroll position does not depend on a pixel step rate, but rather on an imaginary cursor. thus, scrolling does not move the picture, instead it moves the cursor on the picture, and the visible area follows the cursor. use the 'Show Cursor' option (SHOWCURSOR) to make it visible.
- if you encounter unpleasant behavior concerning the display, consult the textfile prefs/env-variables in the MysticView distribution.
- on my system, MysticView works fine with VMM - a virtual memory manager by Martin Apel :-)

see also  
insufficiencies  
getting datatypes  
ASYNCSCANNING  
BUFFERPERCENT  
SHOWPIP  
SHOWCURSOR

## 1.50 DITHERMODE

DITHERMODE

type: keyword  
menu equivalent: none

set dithermode. available are

EDD  
use EDD dithering (slightly faster)

FS  
use Floyd-Steinberg dithering (slightly better)

default: EDD

note: I recommend to use the default. EDD is not a simple 'ordered' derivate, but comes very close to Floyd-Steinberg dithering, at higher performance.

see also:  
DITHERING

## 1.51 STARTPIC

STARTPIC

---

type: string  
menu equivalent: none

this setting is for those who do not like to be stared at by MysticView's ugly logo. specify a path/filename to a valid picture to be used as MysticView's startup picture.

you may also specify the reserved keyword 'none' if you can live without a logo at all.

default: internal startup picture will be used

## 1.52 PRESETPATH

PRESETPATH

type: string  
menu equivalent: none

current path to MysticView's presets. this path is automatically saved to MysticView's global settings.

it's used as the path for preset filerequesters, and for the PRESETFILE argument, when no path is specified.

default: undefined

see also  
PRESETFILE  
preset files  
configuration

## 1.53 PRESETFILE

PRESETFILE

type: string  
menu equivalent: Settings/Load Preset...

settings file. this keyword is only available in the command line.

default: settings are read from MysticView's icon

see also  
PRESETPATH  
preset files

## 1.54 LOOP

---

LOOP

type: boolean keyword (YES or NO)  
menu equivalent: Options/Loop  
button equivalent: 6th button from the left

this option turns on looping for a series of pictures.

when enabled, this setting overrides several options, such as AUTOQUIT, AUTOHIDE, AUTOSTOP, AUTOCLEAR.

default: NO

see also  
SLIDESHOW  
AUTOQUIT  
AUTOHIDE  
AUTOSTOP  
AUTOCLEAR

## 1.55 AUTOQUIT

AUTOQUIT

type: boolean keyword (YES or NO)  
menu equivalent: Settings/After Last Picture/Quit

with this option specified, MysticView quits when the last picture of a list has been displayed.

this options has precedence over (i.e. overrides) AUTOSTOP, AUTOCLEAR, and AUTOHIDE.

default: NO

see also  
AUTOHIDE  
AUTOSTOP  
AUTOCLEAR

## 1.56 SORTMODE

SORTMODE

type: keyword  
menu equivalent: Settings/Sort Pictures by/...

this setting specifies the sort order for a series of pictures.

NONE  
no sorting takes place. the images appear in the sequence

---

they were found on the disk, or in the sequence they were specified as arguments.

RANDOM  
random order.

FILENAME  
alphanumerical order (0-9,a-z), applying to the filename only.

FULLNAME  
alphanumerical order (0-9,a-z), applying to the combined path and filename.

DATE  
file date order, old-to-new.

SIZE  
filesize order, small-to-large.

default: NONE

see also  
RECURSE  
REVERSE  
ASYNCSCANNING

## 1.57 ZOOMSTEP

ZOOMSTEP

type: string representing a number  
menu equivalent: none

this number defines the desired zoomfactor step.  
valid range: 0.01 ... 2.

default: 0.1

see also  
SMOOTHDISPLAY  
ROTATESTEP

## 1.58 PRESET0...9

PRESET0 ... PRESET9

type: string  
menu equivalent: Settings/Use Preset/...

10 configurable preset files to be quickly accessed with CTRL F1 ... CTRL F10. these items are automatically saved

---

in MysticView's global configuration.

defaults: none

see also  
configuration

## 1.59 SHOWCURSOR

SHOWCURSOR

type: boolean keyword (YES or NO)  
menu equivalent: Options/Show Cursor

this setting will activate a tiny crosshair on the picture, indicating the current cursor position. scrolling will move the cursor, and zooming will go to that destination.

default: NO

see also  
known problems

## 1.60 Examples

examples

1. open a fullscreen borderless display on a 640x480x24 screen and present a random slideshow of the directory pix:gif.

```
MysticView pix:gif scropenmode=custom scrwidth=640
             scrheight=480 depth=24 winsizemode=full
             backdrop=yes sortmode=random slideshow=yes
             slidedelay=50
```

2. open a small window over the mouse pointer, with opaque scaling, open a filerequester, and quit after all files have been viewed.

```
MysticView winsizemode=small winopenmode=mouse
             staticpalette=yes previewmode=opaque
             requestfile=yes loop=no autoquit=yes
```

## 1.61 SCROPENMODE

SCROPENMODE

type: keyword  
menu equivalent: indirect (Settings/Screen/...)

---

determines the way MysticView tries to use or open a screen.

#### DEFAULT

use the default public screen. typically this will be the Workbench. note: use a 'default pubscreen' commodity if you want to make the frontmost pubscreen the default one.

#### PUBLIC

use a public screen specified throughout the PUBSCREEN setting. if the specified public screen cannot be found, MysticView falls back to the default pubscreen.

#### CUSTOM

try to open a custom screen specified throughout the settings MODEID, SCRWIDTH, SCRHEIGHT, DEPTH, and HAM.

default: DEFAULT

see also:

- PUBSCREEN
- MODEID
- SCRWIDTH
- SCRHEIGHT
- DEPTH
- HAM

## 1.62 CX\_PRIORITY

CX\_PRIORITY

type: numeric

menu equivalent: none

MysticView's commodity priority, i.e. the hotkey-handler's priority over other commodities that may have installed the same hotkey by accident.

default: 0

see also

- CX\_POPKEY
- CX\_POPUP

## 1.63 CX\_POPKEY

CX\_POPKEY

type: string

menu equivalent: none

MysticView's commodity hotkey sequence. when MysticView is

---

in hidden state, this key sequence will pop up its window.  
consult your manuals on how to express these key sequences.

default: control m

see also

CX\_PRIORITY

CX\_POPUP

Amiga OS manuals

## 1.64 CX\_POPUP

CX\_POPUP

type: boolean keyword (YES or NO)

menu equivalent: none

YES

open MysticView's window at startup.

NO

start MysticView in hidden state.

default: YES

see also

ICONIFY

CX\_PRIORITY

CX\_POPKEY

## 1.65 AUTOHIDE

AUTOHIDE

type: boolean keyword (YES or NO)

menu equivalent: Settings/After Last Picture/Hide

with this keyword specified, MysticView iconifies  
when the last picture of a list has been displayed.

default: NO

see also

AUTOQUIT

AUTOSTOP

AUOCLEAR

## 1.66 ROTATESTEP

---

ROTATESTEP

type: numeric  
menu equivalent: none

this number defines the desired rotation step  
in degrees.  
valid range: 1 ... 180.

default: 30

see also:  
ZOOMSTEP

## 1.67 CONFIRM

CONFIRM

type: keyword  
menu equivalent: none

specify confirmation level for dangerous operations.  
currently defined:

ALWAYS

always open an 'are you sure' requester for dangerous  
operations.

NEVER

never open an 'are you sure' requester for dangerous  
operations.

default: ALWAYS

## 1.68 ICONIFY

ICONIFY

type: keyword  
menu equivalent: none

set iconify mode.

APPICON

leave out an appicon on the workbench. double-click on that  
appicon (or drop pictures on it) to make MysticView visible.

APPITEM

append an entry to the workbench's tool menu. select this  
item in order to make MysticView visible.

---

INVISIBLE

hide MysticView invisibly. the only ways to make it visible is with Exchange or by pressing the hotkey sequence.

default: APPICON

see also

CX\_POPUP

CX\_POPKEY

## 1.69 getting datatypes

getting datatypes

MysticView depends on picture datatypes being installed to your system. for proper results, your system should be supplied with either of the available v43 picture datatypes. only v43 datatypes allow truecolor pictures to be loaded and displayed in full color resolution.

- if you are using the CybergraphX graphics card emulation, install the PictDT43.lha distribution. it is available on aminet.
- if you are using the Picasso96 graphics card emulation, you've probably installed the supplied v43 picture datatype already. availability: Picasso96.lha (aminet)
- if you are neither using CybergraphX nor Picasso96, use the Picasso96 v43 picture datatype. availability: Picasso96.lha (aminet)

picture datatype subclasses have to support the v43 features as well. for datatype tests, upgrading, and installation notes visit my datatype section at the MysticView homepage.

## 1.70 THUMBSIZE

THUMBSIZE

type: numeric

menu equivalent: none

specify newicon thumbnail size. valid range: 10 ... 93. this size is used for the maximum width or height, with respect to the image's aspect ratios.

default: 50

note: I agree, 93 is a weird number. don't blame me, this is documented in the newicon specifications.

---

see also  
CREATETHUMBNAILS  
THUMBCOLORS

## 1.71 THUMBCOLORS

THUMBCOLORS

type: numeric  
menu equivalent: none

specify number of colors for newicon thumbnails. valid range: 4 ... 256.  
do not specify too many colors if your workbench is not running in high  
or truecolor. don't worry, MysticView does a very good job in reducing  
the number of colors.

default: 50

see also  
CREATETHUMBNAILS  
THUMBSIZE

## 1.72 REJECTPATTERN

REJECTPATTERN

type: string  
menu equivalent: none

a pattern for filenames to be rejected by MysticView.

useful e.g. with #?.info, when you've got an icon datatype  
installed, but don't want any icons to be viewed.

this argument is also used for the reject pattern  
in picture filerequesters.

default: #?.info

see also  
FILTERPICTURES

## 1.73 CREATETHUMBNAILS

CREATETHUMBNAILS

type: boolean keyword (YES or NO)  
menu equivalent: Settings/Create Thumbnails

---

enable automatic newicon thumbnail generation.

whenever MysticView encounters a picture that lacks a newicon thumbnail generated by MysticView, it will create one or update it.

MysticView will not overwrite already existing icons that haven't been created with MysticView before.

MysticView thumbnails are identified throughout tooltype settings which will be created automatically:

```
MYSTICVIEW_THUMBDATE=<human-readable datestamp>  
MYSTICVIEW_THUMBNAIL=<size>,<numcolors>
```

when the picture has been modified (according to the datestamp), or when the thumbnail settings have been changed (according to <size> and <numcolors>), MysticView will update the icon.

in addition to that, MysticView will insert a default tool to the resulting project icon. this is defined throughout the DEFAULTTOOL setting.

note: automatic thumbnail creation requires newicon.library.

see also

```
THUMBSIZE  
THUMBCOLORS  
DEFAULTTOOL
```

## 1.74 DirectoryOpus configuration

DirectoryOpus configuration

MysticView can be very easily integrated into DirectoryOpus. this section shows up different ways and gives some useful hints. note that MysticView was not designed to be integrated into DirectoryOpus exclusively. the same techniques can be applied to other file managers and Workbench replacements as well. if you think that other software should be mentioned here, don't hesitate to supply the author with configurations and manuals.

see

```
general filetype configuration  
using listfiles with DOpus  
using the APPEND option with DOpus  
browse directories with MysticView  
using a special PRESETFILE for DOpus
```

## 1.75 FONTSPEC

---

## FONTSPEC

type: string  
menu equivalent: none

this setting allows you to specify a font for the picture info textline.

syntax: size[,name]

example: FONTSPEC=8,topaz

default: system's screen font

I recommend to use a good-looking small fixed-width font here. not for technical reasons, but for an eye-friendly update of the text while scanning and loading.

see also:  
PICINFO

## 1.76 PICINFO

### PICINFO

type: boolean (YES or NO)  
menu equivalent: Options/Show Picture Info

show a textline with some informations about the picture currently being displayed.

default: NO

see also:  
FONTSPEC  
PICFORMAT

## 1.77 LMBACTION

### LMBACTION

type: keyword  
menu equivalent: Options/Mouse Drag Picture

this option determines how the left mouse button is used when activated over a picture.

#### DRAG

when the picture is not fully visible, it can be dragged around with the mouse.

---

NEXT

MysticView advances to the next picture in the list when the left mouse button is pressed.

note: the mouse pointer has to be placed over a visual part of the picture.

default: DRAG

see also

SHOWARROWS

SHOWPIP

mouse usage

## 1.78 AUTODISPLAYMODE

AUTODISPLAYMODE

type: boolean keyword (YES or NO)

menu equivalent: Options/Learn

this option tells MysticView to predict the display mode that you would likely prefer for the current picture.

most pictures look better with either of the two displaymodes "Scale with Aspect" or "Display 1:1 Pixel", e.g. workbench patterns are more likely to look good in "Display 1:1 Pixel" mode, while photos are usually being watched in "Scale with Aspect" mode.

this problem could be approached algorithmically, but this is boring, and the user's preferences vary.

MysticView uses a neural network to learn from your changes of the displaymode. whenever a new picture is loaded or when the window is resized, the neural network is recalled, and the displaymode may be changed accordingly.

you train the neural network by simply toggling the displaymode. MysticView interpretes it like: "that's the display mode the user likes pictures like this one to be displayed with."

MysticView behaves completely silly the first times, because it is initialized with an 'empty' or unconditioned network the first time. its predictions become more precise by the time. you must teach it by changing the displaymode for different pictures and window layouts.

don't expect too much. the artificial intelligence is limited, of course. MysticView does not react to the picture's contents, but only to formal parameters like

the current aspect ratios of the window and the picture, their absolute sizes, and the picture's depth.

the network is perfectly conditioned when you don't need to adjust the displaymode anymore, or when you don't even recognize that it has been changed.

leave this option disabled if you think it's too much confusing.

default: NO

see also  
DISPLAYMODE

## 1.79 AUTOCROP

AUTOCROP

type: boolean keyword (YES or NO)  
menu equivalent: Options/Autocrop Pictures

this option tells MysticView to automatically crop blank areas from a picture's borders. only newly loaded pictures will be cropped.

default: NO

## 1.80 general usage

general usage

commandline                    see also: examples

mouse  
buttons  
menus  
keyboard

file requester  
iconstart  
listfiles  
drag'n'drop

configuration                full control via tooltypes  
preset files                 alternate configurations

Directory Opus                configure it right

## 1.81 menu reference

menu reference

project menu	files, lists, and program related
picture menu	related to the current picture
options menu	quick access to innumerous options
settings menu	general settings (the nasty menu)

## 1.82 filename

FILENAME

type: one or more strings  
menu equivalent: Project/Open Pictures...

specifies names of picture filenames or volume names  
or directories for scanning.

includes Amiga DOS pattern matching.

this argument is only available in the commandline.

see also  
APPEND  
RECURSE  
AmigaOS DOS manuals

## 1.83 append

APPEND

type: switch  
menu equivalent: none

with this option specified, MysticView will first look for  
another running instance, and if one is found, pass the  
FILENAME arguments to that MysticView. that instance will  
immediately try to catch up with the new arguments and  
start scanning, loading, etc.

the FILENAME arguments won't replace an already existing  
picture list. they will be appended.

if no other MysticView is running, it will be started  
with the given FILENAME arguments.

this argument is only available in the commandline.

see also  
FILENAME

---

## 1.84 animpic

ANIMPIC

type: string  
menu equivalent: none

specify a filename for an external animation picture for MysticView's tiny progress indicator.

the size and depth and format of the animation are free.  
if you want to replace the picture, please note:

- your picture will be interpreted as 20 animation frames of the same size each, placed vertically under each other. when the picture's height is not a multiple of 20 pixels, then there's something wrong with the specified file.

- the frames will be rendered to the center of the leftmost button (see BUTTONPIC argument). make sure that the frames fit to that place.

the consequences of a misaligned animation picture haven't been tested. (probably harmless, though)

see also:  
BUTTONPIC

## 1.85 Developers

developers

if you think that MysticView sucks, why don't you simply grab yourself a compiler and start your own RTG viewer?

MysticView is not more than a configuration and lists manager. more interesting are its viewing capabilities. they're completely modular, highly abstracted, and encapsulated in black boxes. they are grouped in three layers:

1. mysticview.library  
highly abstracted view class layer. it does not deal with pixel formats and screenmodes. you supply pointers to a rastport, a screen, and some attributes.
  2. guigfx.library  
this layer fulfills the RTG promise. it's an interface between render.library, datatypes.library, graphics.library and cybergraphics.library. you may deal with pixel formats inside this layer, but you don't need to.
  3. render.library  
low-level image processing layer, mainly rendering,
-

scaling, colorspace conversions and alike. rather complicated stuff, but much more than a silly collection of conversion functions.

you can choose what layer you want to plug your own applications to. have a look at the developer archives. all these libraries are fully documented and free for you to use.

see also

```
aminet: dev/misc/RenderLib.lha
aminet: dev/misc/GuiGFXLib.lha
aminet: dev/misc/MysticLib.lha
```

## 1.86 BUTTONPIC

BUTTONPIC

```
type: string
menu equivalent: none
```

specify a filename for an external button picture for MysticView's gadgets.

the size and depth and format of the picture are free, as long as you've got a datatype for it. if you want to replace the picture, please note:

- keep the layout (refer to the supplied example picture)
- all buttons must be of the same size.

note: the gadgets are completely faked, and they've got nothing to do with intuition, gadtools, or BOOPSI. simply disable the buttons if you think that this is obscene.

default: internal hardcoded buttons will be used

see also:

```
SHOWBUTTONS
ANIMPIC
```

## 1.87 BUFFERPERCENT

BUFFERPERCENT

```
type: number
menu equivalent: Settings/Picture Cache...
```

specify the size of the picture cache. this is a numeric value, expressed in percent of the currently available memory in your system.

---

reasonable values range from 1 to 50, maybe even more, if you've got more than 64mb of memory. valid numbers range from 1 to 100. a value of 0 is ignored, since the cache logic cannot be disabled completely.

do not specify too large values! the memory consumption for the picture currently being loaded is not predictable, and if loading fails due to a lack of memory, the cache needs to be flushed completely.

the actual amount of memory is not interpreted as an absolute number. it will be repeatedly recalculated during runtime.

if you start another application that requires a lot of memory (e.g. a second MysticView), MysticView will adapt its buffers to the new environment as soon as a new picture is loaded. this makes the overall behavior of MysticView very defensive, and it still may consume huge amounts of memory for caching. on the other hand, if you suddenly free large amounts of memory, MysticView will silently fill up its buffers with more pictures.

the background loader will always try to preload pictures as long as they fit into the cache. the upper limit for preloading is currently set to 4 pictures. there is no upper limit for the total number of pictures in the cache. you can watch entire slideshows from memory, when the background loader had the opportunity to run over a list once.

a rather complicated algorithm determines what pictures are to be flushed from the cache at a given time. there are many parameters involved, especially the loading-time is to be mentioned here, because loading-time is considered to be something valuable, and the logic is designed to save time.

however the cache can of course not reduce the absolute loading-time. its main intention is to flatten loading-time peaks during slideshows, and to improve responsiveness. you can very often go back in the list without the need to reload. if you've got large amounts of memory, MysticView behaves very comfortable in this respect. and if you are using fast PPC datatypes in combination with the cache, it's like 'surfing' over picture lists :-)

## 1.88 ASYNCSCANNING

ASYNCSCANNING

type: boolean keyword (YES or NO)  
menu equivalent: Options/Scan Asynchronously

this option tells MysticView to scan asynchronously, and to

---

immediately start loading the first file that has been identified as a picture.

picture recognition via datatypes is slow, and with this option you can start watching a slideshow while scanning is still running.

the consequences may be confusing, when pictures are inserted to the list in a different order than they finally appear in the list.

for example, if you start watching a slideshow in random order, and when the picture list is still growing, the current picture may wander inside the list while scanning, because pictures may need to be inserted BEFORE the current picture.

you can compare this to the behavior of asynchronously updating filerequesters. the currently selected entry may wander downwards in the list. but picture lists behave a bit more nasty.

default: NO

see also  
SORTMODE  
SIMPLESCANNING

## 1.89 AUTOCLEAR

AUTOCLEAR

type: boolean keyword (YES or NO)  
menu equivalent: Settings/After Last Picture/Clear List

this option tells MysticView to automatically clear the current picture list after the last picture.

this option is ignored when MysticView is in LOOP mode.

the AUTOCLEAR feature might be useful when you are remote-controlling MysticView with the APPEND option.

see also  
LOOP  
APPEND  
AUTOSTOP

## 1.90 AUTOSTOP

AUTOSTOP

type: boolean keyword (YES or NO)

---

menu equivalent: Settings/After Last Picture/Stop Slideshow

this option tells MysticView to automatically disable slideshow mode after the last picture in a list.

this option is ignored when MysticView is in LOOP mode.

see also

LOOP

AUTOCLEAR

## 1.91 DEFAULTTOOL

DEFAULTTOOL

type: string

menu equivalent: none

specify a default tool for project icons created with MysticView's thumbnail feature.

default: 'mysticview'

see also

CREATETHUMBNAILS

## 1.92 FILTERPICTURES

FILTERPICTURES

type: boolean keyword (YES or NO)

menu equivalent: Options/Show Pictures Only

this option tells MysticView to filter entries in `filerequesters`, i.e. to remove all entries that are not identified as pictures. recognition is done via datatypes and might be slow.

default: NO

see also

REJECTPATTERN

## 1.93 HIDEONCLOSE

HIDEONCLOSE

type: boolean keyword (YES or NO)

menu equivalent: none

---

when enabled, MysticView hides when the close button is clicked.

default: NO (MysticView quits)

see also

HIDEONESCAPE

## 1.94 HIDEONESCAPE

HIDEONESCAPE

type: boolean keyword (YES or NO)

menu equivalent: none

when enabled, MysticView hides when the escape key is pressed.

default: NO (MysticView quits)

see also

HIDEONCLOSE

## 1.95 MARKCOLOR

MARKCOLOR

type: string, representing a hexadecimal number

menu equivalent: none

specify a hexadecimal RGB value (0xRRGGBB) for highlighting display elements, such as grid lines, arrows, cursor.

default: bright green

see also

TEXTCOLOR

BGCOLOR

## 1.96 TEXTCOLOR

TEXTCOLOR

type: string, representing a hexadecimal number

menu equivalent: none

specify a hexadecimal RGB value (0xRRGGBB) for the picture-info textline.

---

default: white

see also

MARKCOLOR

BGCOLOR

## 1.97 RESETDISPLAY

RESETDISPLAY

type: boolean keyword (YES or NO)

menu equivalent: Options/Reset Display

when enabled, automatically reset the attributes zoom, cursor position, and rotation between pictures.

default: YES

## 1.98 REVERSE

REVERSE

type: boolean keyword (YES or NO)

menu equivalent: Settings/Sort Pictures by/Reverse Order

when enabled, reverse the picture list's sort direction. the combination 'reversed random' makes few sense, admittedly.

default: NO

see also

SORTMODE

## 1.99 SHOWARROWS

SHOWARROWS

type: boolean keyword (YES or NO)

menu equivalent: Options/Show Arrows

when enabled, draw arrows at the picture's borders, when it is not fully visible in the respective direction.

default: YES

see also

MARKCOLOR

---

## 1.100 SHOWBUTTONS

SHOWBUTTONS

type: boolean keyword (YES or NO)  
menu equivalent: Options/Show Buttons

when enabled, display a bar of control buttons at the window's upper border.

default: YES

see also  
button usage  
BUTTONPIC

## 1.101 SHOWPIP

SHOWPIP

type: boolean keyword (YES or NO)  
menu equivalent: Options/Show PIP

when enabled, show a small PiP (picture-in-picture) frame in the window's upper left, and draw a border around the currently visible area.

very nice, but not fully working. this feature is experimental, do not enable it on scalable windows.

default: NO

see also  
MARKCOLOR

## 1.102 SMOOTHDISPLAY

SMOOTHDISPLAY

type: boolean keyword (YES or NO)  
menu equivalent: none

when enabled, interpolate the display parameters (position and zoom factor. rotation is not considered).

this feature smoothens modifications on the display, such as resetting the position or the zoom factor.

this feature is GREAT FUN in combination with PREVIEWMODE=OPAQUE on fast displays, such as ZorroIII graphics cards, 8bit displays, and with a fast processor.

---

when you've got no 68060, you may also use it in combination with PREVIEWMODE=GRID, but a fast display hardware is still recommended.

default: NO

see also  
PREVIEWMODE

## 1.103 COPYPATH

COPYPATH

type: string  
menu equivalent: Project/Copy Picture to/...

'standard' destination path for copying and moving. this setting is automatically saved in MysticView's global configuration.

default: undefined

see also  
configuration

## 1.104 mouse usage

mouse usage

- a picture that is not fully visible can be dragged around with the mouse, when the menu item 'Options/Mouse Drag Picture' is enabled.
- clicking the left mouse button advances to the next picture when 'Options/Mouse Drag Picture' is disabled.

there are two hidden gadgets, when MysticView runs in fullscreen borderless mode (WINSIZEMODE=FULL and BACKDROP=YES): the window's upper-left is a close gadget, the upper-right acts as a depth-gadget.

see also  
LMBACTION  
menu reference

## 1.105 button usage

button usage

the buttons are (from left to right)

---

- 1 open pictures  
this button also acts as a progress indicator for scanning and loading.
- 2 first picture  
go to the first picture in the list, and disable SLIDESHOW mode.
- 3 previous picture  
go back one picture in the list, and disable SLIDESHOW mode.
- 4 next picture  
advance to the next picture in the list.
- 5 SLIDESHOW
- 6 LOOP
- 7 displaymode  
toggle displaymode between "Scale with Aspect" (indicated by a double-arrow) and "Display 1:1 Pixel". refer to DISPLAYMODE for further details.
- 8 reset  
reset display settings zoom, cursor position and rotation.

buttons can be toggled with the 'B' key and with the menu item 'Options/Show Buttons'.

see also  
 menu reference  
 keyboard usage  
 configuration  
 BUTTONPIC  
 ANIMPIC

## 1.106 project menu

project menu

Project

-----	
Clear List	clear the current picture list, and flush the current picture.
-----	
Open Pictures...	open pictures (and create a new list).
Open List File...	open a list with a listfile's entries.
-----	
Add Pictures...	add pictures to the current list.
Add List File...	add a listfile to the current list.
-----	
Save List as...	save the current list to a listfile.

-----	
Copy Picture to...	copy the current picture to a path. see also: DESTPATH.
Move Picture to...	move current picture to a path. the picture is not removed from the list.
-----	
Delete Picture	delete the current file, and remove the picture from the list.
-----	
About...	program and key licensee information
-----	
Hide	iconify. see also: ICONIFY, AUTOHIDE, HIDEONESCAPE, HIDEONCLOSE.
Quit	quit.

see also  
menu reference

## 1.107 picture menu

picture menu

Picture

-----	
Next	next picture in the list.
Previous	previous picture in the list.
First	first picture in the list.
-----	
Remove	remove current picture from the list.
-----	
Move	move picture cursor. see also: SHOWCURSOR.
Zoom	zoom in/out. see also: ZOOMSTEP.
Rotate	rotate picture. see also: ROTATESTEP.
Reset All	reset position, zoom, and rotation.
-----	
Flip Horizontally	flip picture along the x-axis <sup>1</sup> .
Flip Vertically	flip picture along the y-axis <sup>1</sup> .
Negative	invert colors <sup>1</sup> .

<sup>1</sup> these functions affect pictures in the cache. when they are redisplayed, they will be still modified. when they have to be reloaded, they appear in the original form.

see also  
menu reference

## 1.108 options menu

options menu

Options

```

-----
Slideshow          see: SLIDESHOW
Loop              see: LOOP
-----
Scale with Aspect see: DISPLAYMODE
Display 1:1 Pixel see: DISPLAYMODE
Learn            see: AUTODISPLAYMODE
-----
Show Buttons      see: SHOWBUTTONS
Show Picture Info see: PICINFO
Show Arrows       see: SHOWARROWS
Show PIP          see: SHOWPIP
Show Cursor       see: SHOWCURSOR
-----
Mouse Drag Picture see: LMBACTION
Reset Display     see: RESETDISPLAY
Auto File Requester see: REQUESTFILE
Show Pictures Only see: FILTERPICTURES
Autocrop Pictures see: AUTOCROP
Scan Asynchronously see: ASYNCSCANNING
Create Thumbnails see: CREATETHUMBNAI
Append Drag'n'Drop see: APPENDICONS

```

see also  
menu reference

## 1.109 settings menu

settings menu

Settings

```

-----
Screen...         see: SCROPENMODE, PUBSCREEN, MODEID
Window...        see: WINSIZEMODE, WINOPENMODE, BACKDROP.
                  'Snap' will set WINSIZEMODE and WINOPENMODE
                  to DEFAULT, and insert the current window
                  parameters into the settings WINWIDTH,
                  WINHEIGHT, WINLEFT, and WINTOP.
-----
Slideshow Delay... see: SLIDEDELAY
Sort Pictures by... see: SORTMODE
After Last Picture... see: AUTOQUIT, AUTOHIDE, AUTOSTOP, AUTOCLEAR
Picture Cache...  see: BUFFERPERCENT
Rendering...      see: STATICPALETTE, PREVIEWMODE, DITHERING.
-----
Load Preset...   load alternate configuration file.
Save as Preset... save current configuration in a preset file.
Use Preset...    10 slots for quick access to different
                  preset files. see also: PRESET
-----
Reset to Defaults use MysticView's hardcoded defaults.
Last Saved       reload settings from the icon.
Restore          reset to the initial configuration. this means
                  the icon settings, being overridden by
                  preset files and commandline arguments.

```

```

-----
Auto Save Settings      see: AUTOSAVESETTINGS
Save Settings          save the current configuration in the
                       icon's tooltypes.

```

```

see also
  configuration
  preset files
  menu reference

```

## 1.110 picformat

PICFORMAT

```

type: string
menu equivalent: none

```

format string for the picture information text.

placeholders,  
currently defined:

```

%p - pathname
%f - filename
%w - width
%h - height
%d - depth (always 8 or 24)
%n - picture format as returned by the datatype.
    note: there is no format string available
        in SIMPLESCANNING mode.

```

```

default: %f - %w$\times$%h$\times$%d

```

```

see also
  PICINFO
  SIMPLESCANNING

```

## 1.111 classic opus configuration

DirectoryOpus configuration using LISTFILE

the configuration of picture series turns out to be a little bit more tricky, because DirOpus cannot pass an unlimited number of files to a single command line, and we do not want to start MysticView multiple times for a large number of pictures.

in my personal Opus configuration, I use the 'User1' filetype action to 'show' something. if you use a similar concept, enter the appropriate 'User' section in the 'Picture' filetype configuration, and enter the following lines:

```
AmigaDOS      list >>t:piclist{Q1} {F} LFORMAT "%P%N"
AmigaDOS      mysticview listfile=t:piclist{Q1}
AmigaDOS      delete t:piclist{Q1}
```

Flags: run asynchronously

this will concatenate the selected entries to a MysticView LISTFILE, and finally call MysticView with the listfile instead of the pictures themselves.

see also

- general DOpus configuration
- general filetype configuration
- DOpus configuration using the APPEND option
- Browse directories with MysticView
- using a special PRESETFILE with DOpus

## 1.112 opus configuration with the APPEND option

DirectoryOpus configuration using the APPEND option

the new APPEND option of MysticView allows you to pass arguments without a fuss and with very few consideration.

```
AmigaDOS MysticView APPEND {F}
```

flags:

- run asynchronously

this will append selected entries to an already running instance of MysticView, and if MysticView was not running, start it first.

thanks to DirectoryOpus' ability to split the selected entries into multiple commandlines, this simple configuration will pass all selected pictures to MysticView, without starting it multiple times.

see also

- general DOpus configuration
- general filetype configuration
- classic DOpus configuration using listfiles
- browse directories with MysticView
- using a special PRESETFILE with DOpus

## 1.113 DOpus config to browse directories with MysticView

configure DOpus to browse directories with MysticView

this is really a hot one, especially when you're using DirectoryOpus as a Workbench replacement.

you can tell DirOpus to invoke MysticView with the RMB popup-menu, and pass it the selected directory.

1. create a new filetype.
2. enter the filetype definition section.
3. name the filetype "directory" and add the matching argument "Directory".
4. go back to the filetype editor.
5. add an entry to this filetype's icon menu. name it "Browse with MysticView".
6. enter the command

```
AmigaDOS MysticView APPEND {F}
```

```
flags: run asynchronously
```

ready to go. now you can select a directory, hold the right mouse button, and then select "Browse with MysticView" in the popup menu. MysticView will then start up and show the directory's contents (provided that there are pictures in it).

see also

- general DOpus configuration
- general filetype configuration
- classic DOpus configuration using LISTFILE
- DOpus configuration using the APPEND option
- using a special PRESETFILE for DOpus

## 1.114 special MysticView PRESETFILE for DirOpus

using a special PRESETFILE with Directory Opus

we're not finished yet. MysticView's integration into Directory Opus can be improved even further.

create a special 'DirOpus' presetfile for MysticView, and include it with the PRESETFILE argument in the Opus commandline.

specify these settings in the MysticView presetfile:

```
WINOPENMODE=CENTER
WINSIZEMODE=HALF
AUTOQUIT=YES
```

this will cause MysticView to pop up over the mouse pointer with a small window, show all the directories' contents, and then automatically quit.

- general DOpus configuration

general filetype configuration  
 classic DOpus configuration using LISTFILE  
 DOpus configuration using the APPEND option  
 Browse directories with MysticView

## 1.115 general DirOpus filetype configuration

general DirOpus filetype configuration

there are different approaches to integrate MysticView to DirectoryOpus. but first of all, create a general filetype for pictures. a common mistake is to create a separate filetype entry for each file format. this is very redundant, since DirOpus supports filetype recognition via datatypes.

1. 'add' a filetype.
2. enter the 'edit class' window.
3. name the class 'Picture', and give it a higher priority than your other picture format filetypes.
4. Add the match criteria 'Match DT Group' ... 'Picture'.

go back to the 'Picture' filetype configuration. for the 'doubleclick' action, I simply use

```
AmigaDOS      mysticview {f}
```

Flags: run asynchronously

this is all you need, provided that MysticView is located in the default search path (sys:utilities/ normally is).

for the advanced configuration, refer to the following sections. they will cover different ways of calling MysticView with an unlimited number of pictures, and how to create an advanced MysticView configuration for DOpus.

see also

general DOpus configuration  
 using listfiles with DOpus  
 using the APPEND option with DOpus  
 browse directories with MysticView  
 using a special PRESETFILE for DOpus

## 1.116 advanced usage

advanced topics

many details of MysticView are not so obvious, when you just have a look at its window and menus.

some advanced topics are discussed in this section.

philosophy	I never planned to write a viewer
list management	it's a fully-featured picture manager
realtime behavior	

see also  
 configuration  
 general usage

## 1.117 MysticView philosophy

philosophy

1 MysticView was programmed 'bottom-up', not 'top-down'.

most GUI applications are designed 'top-down', i.e. there are first the windows, and the GUI elements are then filled with functionality one after the other.

MysticView was half-finished long before there was a main window, and long before I decided to write a viewer. the RTG and realtime capabilities come from its libraries, and MysticView was in first place a test-environment for render.library and guigfx.library - it's still that.

I was always upset about the fact that most Amiga viewers are too much bound to the Amiga hardware. that was the initial idea for MysticView, once there have been the libraries anyway. I was an early owner of a graphics card of the 'cybergraphics generation', and I always wanted to abstract viewing from hardware. now there are some viewers available for the Amiga that are ONLY running on truecolor cybergraphics, which isn't any better than opening a PAL LORES screen when the ILBM header contains that mode ID.

MysticView was never designed for a special group of users, I've always tried to solve problems as common as possible, but I did not care of hardware limitations that I had not to suffer from... that's one of the reasons why MysticView is such a memory-hog, besides from abstraction from screenmodes and pixel formats.

2 there are better viewers than MysticView.

when you are willing to accept specialized solutions for particular hardware. I think that Visage is still the best viewer for slower hardware and less memory, and especially for directly viewing images on designated screen modes. PIP viewers do better on the PicassoIV graphics card, and there are many other combinations of software and hardware that can easily outperform

MysticView.

3 datatypes do not suck.

datatypes are great. let authors solve problems for the whole community by writing good datatypes!

and finally, PPC was a great benefit for MysticView, although I don't even have a PPC card. if there is some thankful job that can be done with PPC hardware, then it's decoding - especially images and animations.

I never would have created a viewer if I had to implement loaders.

see also

known problems  
insufficiencies  
getting datatypes

## 1.118 picture management

picture management

MysticView is a fully-featured picture-manager, including thumbnails and list-management.

the thumbnails have been outsourced and delegated to the Workbench throughout newicon.library. the current Workbench is admittedly not very efficient in displaying these thumbnails, but it works. it's limited, but reliable. you can sort the pictures by different criteria, browse lists, double-click an icon and MysticView pops up with that image.

when you're using a Workbench replacement such as Scalos or Directory Opus, then managing picture lists with MysticView's icons is by far not the least efficient way. last not least, the icon approach does not introduce a new concept that is not widely accepted. it's quite sufficient if you can live with the limitations.

the other point is that MysticView finally supports all the functionality that is required for list management.

- lists can be sorted by 6 different sort criteria:  
scan order, filename, combined path+filename, random, date, size, plus reverse order.
  - pictures and lists can be concatenated to a list by various ways: Add Pictures..., Add List File..., APPEND option.
  - lists can be saved.
-

- entries can be removed from a list (Picture Menu/Remove).
- pictures can be copied, moved, and deleted.

the list-format of MysticView couldn't be more simple and straight-forward: it's a plain ASCII textfile of filenames.

I consider this implementation of a 'picture manager' rudimentary, not very comfortable, but yet complete.

see also

- CREATETHUMBNAILS
- APPEND
- LISTFILE
- SORTMODE
- menu reference

## 1.119 preset files

preset files

preset files are another way for MysticView to save its configuration. they are called 'preset files' because they are handled the same way as alternate configurations of the Workbench preference programs.

when you save the configuration by selecting 'Settings/Save Settings', then the configuration items will be saved into MysticView's icon tooltypes.

when you snapshot the current configuration as a preset file via 'Settings/Save as Preset...', then the current configuration items will be saved as a plain ASCII text file, and a project icon will be added, with MysticView being the default tool. thus MysticView can be started with a preset configuration by simply double-clicking such an icon.

the configuration items used in preset files are identical to the respective tooltype items.

a special mechanism is included to partially override the default configuration with a preset file: the main configuration is first read from the icon, and then all items that appear in a preset file are used to override their respective defaults.

this makes it very easy to create 'brands' of your default configuration: simply remove all configuration items from preset files that are of no particular interest. only these will be used to override the defaults, the other items remain unaffected.

see also

---

PRESETFILE  
PRESETPATH  
menu reference  
examples supplied with the distribution

## 1.120 SIMPLESCANNING

SIMPLESCANNING

type: boolean keyword (YES or NO)  
menu equivalent: none

when enabled, MysticView's scanner will scan directories more quickly, and add all files found without checking them for loadability.

later, when files turn out to be not loadable as pictures, they will be silently removed from the picture list, without further notice.

whether this mode is useful depends on the disk speed, and on your typical way of accessing directories. i found it extremely useful for samba network devices, because loading is quite fast, but accessing directories and checking for datatype loadability is slow.

default: NO

see also  
ASYNCSCANNING

## 1.121 APPENDICONS

APPENDICONS

type: boolean keyword (YES or NO)  
menu equivalent: Options/Append Drag'n'Drop

when enabled, MysticView appends pictures to the filelist, when they are drag'n'dropped on the main window.

when disabled, drag'n'drop will replace the current filelist with newly encountered pictures.

default: NO

---