CLAIMS

1. A virtual reality ride system, comprising:

a first virtual reality device comprising:

a first display configured to present virtual reality image content to a first rider;

an audio sensor configured to capture audio data associated with the first rider;

an image sensor configured to capture image data associated with the first rider; and

at least one processor , the at least one processor configured to:

receive the audio data, the image data, or both;

generate a virtual avatar corresponding to the first rider, wherein the virtual avatar comprises a set of facial features;

animate the set of facial features based on the audio data, the image data, or both; and

transmit the virtual avatar and the animated set of facial features to a second virtual reality device; and

the second virtual reality device comprising a second display configured to present the virtual avatar and the animated set of facial features to a second rider.

2. The virtual reality ride system of claim 1, wherein the at least one processor is configured to:

generate a facial gesture based on the image data as part of the animated set of facial features.

3. The virtual reality ride system of claim 1, wherein the at least one processor is configured to:

determine a sequence of visemes based on the audio data; and

animate the set of facial features based on the visemes.

4. The virtual reality ride system of claim 1, comprising a ride vehicle sensor configured to capture vehicle sensor data indicative of movement characteristics of a ride vehicle.

5. The virtual reality ride system of claim 4, wherein the at least one processor is configured to:

receive the vehicle sensor data;

determine a predicted movement profile associated with the ride vehicle; and

alter the virtual avatar based on the predicted movement profile.

6. The virtual reality ride system of claim 5, wherein altering the virtual avatar based on the predicted movement profile comprises altering the set of facial features based on the predicted movement profile.

7. The virtual reality ride system of claim 1, comprising a rider sensor configured to capture sensor data indicative of a set of movement characteristics associated with the second rider.

8. The virtual reality ride system of claim 7, wherein the set of movement characteristics comprises an orientation of the second rider, a position of the second rider, a speed of the second rider, an acceleration of the second rider, or any combination thereof.

9. The virtual reality ride system of claim 7, wherein the at least one processor is configured to:

receive the sensor data; and

update the virtual avatar based on the sensor data.

10. The virtual reality ride system of claim 9, wherein the at least one processor is configured to:

alter a pose of the virtual avatar based on the sensor data;

alter the set of facial features based on the sensor data; and

transmit the virtual avatar and the altered set of facial features to the second virtual reality device, wherein the second display is configured to present the virtual avatar and the altered set of facial features to the second rider.

11. The virtual reality ride system of claim 9, wherein the at least one processor is configured to alter a pose of the virtual avatar based on the sensor data.

12. The virtual reality ride system of claim 11, wherein the at least one processor is configured to transmit the virtual avatar after being altered into the pose to the second virtual reality device, wherein the second display is configured to present the virtual avatar in the pose.

13. The virtual reality ride system of claim 9, wherein the at least one processor is configured to alter the set of facial features based on the sensor data.

14. The virtual reality ride system of claim 13, wherein the at least one processor is configured to transmit the altered set of facial features to the second virtual reality device, wherein the second display is configured to present the altered set of facial features to the second rider.

15. A virtual reality device, comprising:

an audio sensor configured to capture audio data indicative of speech of a user;

an image sensor configured to capture image data indicative of facial characteristics of the user; and

at least one processor communicatively coupled to the audio sensor, and the image sensor, wherein the at least one processor is configured to:

determine a set of facial characteristics based on the image data;

determine a set of facial movements associated with the set of facial characteristics based on the audio data; and

transmit the set of facial characteristics and the set of facial movements to a second virtual reality device, the second virtual reality device configured to display virtual reality image content based on the set of facial characteristics and the set of facial movements.

16. The virtual reality device of claim 15, comprising:

a display configured to display virtual reality image content to the user; wherein the at least one processor is configured to:

receive, from the second virtual reality device, second audio data, second image data, or both;

generate a model of a second user based on the second image data;

animate the model based on the second audio data; and

instruct the display to present the virtual reality image content including the animated model.

17. The virtual reality device of claim 16, comprising an audio playback device configured to playback the second audio data.

18. The virtual reality device of claim 16, wherein the at least one processor is configured to:

receive user sensor data associated with the second user; and

animate the model based on the user sensor data.

19. The virtual reality device of claim 16, wherein the at least one processor is configured to:

receive vehicle sensor data associated with a ride vehicle; and

animate the model based on the vehicle sensor data.

20. The virtual reality device of claim 16, wherein the at least one processor is configured to:

determine text data associated with the second audio data;

determine a set of visemes associated with the text data; and

animate the model based on the set of visemes.

21. The virtual reality device of claim 16, wherein the second audio data corresponds to speech of the second user.

22. The virtual reality device of claim 21, wherein the at least one processor is configured to alter a set of facial features of the model based on the speech.

23. A method, comprising:

receiving audio data, image data, or both;

generating a virtual avatar based on the image data, wherein the virtual avatar comprises a set of facial features;

determining a set of facial characteristics associated with the image data;

comparing the set of facial characteristics with a set of facial gesture profiles, each facial gesture profile of the set of facial gesture profiles comprising a corresponding set of stored facial characteristics;

selecting, based on the comparison, a facial gesture profile of the set of facial gesture profiles;

animating the set of facial features based on the selected facial gesture profile, the audio data, or both; and

presenting virtual reality image content comprising the virtual avatar and the animated set of facial features.

24. The method of claim 23, comprising:

receiving a set of vehicle sensor data indicative of a movement profile associated with a vehicle; and

animating the virtual avatar based on the movement profile.