For over a century we have been driving cars, enabling us to roam our surroundings with little effort. Now with the introduction of automated driving, machines will become our chauffeurs. But how about getting us around a road construction, or finding a friend in a crowded area? Or what if you just want to explore and find new places, will these cars be able to handle such situations and how can you show your intentions?

Currently there is no middle ground between the car taking the wheel or its driver, this is where Scribble comes in: a haptic interface that lets you draw your way through traffic. You draw a path and the car will follow, not letting you drive but pilot the car.

This interaction is not driving nor being chauffeured around, it is something in the middle. Rather than driving, Scribble requires the driver to plan his move ahead in time. If successful, this is a relaxing driver experience, as the user can plan first and then focus on something else after, until further planning is required. Scribble lets you help your car when in need, and wander your surroundings once again.

Development and research on Scribble was done in collaboration with the Mercedes-Benz Design Department.