

DETRITUS & ART / A personal point of view on Environment and Art

by Rainer Stegmann

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is becoming an increasingly important part of our lives, and we do not know where it is already implemented or where it will go. Of course, we use it too in our scientific lives, and we have to take care not to get lazy in searching for the appropriate literature, lose part of our creativity, and become increasingly dependent.

Apropos creativity: I wanted to know how creative AI is in the area of Waste to Art. I asked my AI counterpart to create some artwork with this content. The results are mixed. When I used ChatGPT Brutus, the results were poor. Asking for a Waste to Art (WtoA) painting in the style of Rembrandt AI, just added some bottles and other items to an existing painting. AI also added used plastic bottles. Making AI aware of it –AI (how else can I call it?) (her?) him?) admitted its mistake. When I proposed other famous artists to AI, the results were similar, poor.

Then I used Dreamina AI Video Magic (dreamina.com), and the results were much better. Looking at the sculpture, Sayaka Ganz's style was not badly imitated, but, upon closer inspection, one can see it is far from substituting for the artist. Using the famous painting The Scream, created by Edvard Munch, as a basis for WtoA AI, made a mess out of it. For me, it looks more like a persiflage than a serious discussion of the given task. It actually looks funny to me. AI uses a similar style again, adding bottles and trash. The collage AI created from paper, textile, and plastic



Painting in style of Edvard Munch (1863-1944).

turned out, in my opinion, quite reasonable, except for the piece of plastic added more by chance, with no connection to the collage.



Sculpture made from plastic items in style of Sayaka Ganz (<https://sayakaganz.com>)



Collage using paper, textile and plastic.



What do we learn from this experiment? First of all, I am a complete layman, happy to use the basic functions. An expert can find better-suited programs. Reports indicate that AI can create paintings in the style of other painters, hardly distinguishable from originals. However, the examples presented here already show the potential of AI, and that frightens me.

AI will dramatically change our lives and the world. This development has just started, and considering the billions of dollars already invested and those that will be invested in this area.

Of course, AI has many positive aspects and will make our lives easier and more comfortable, and make dull work redundant, but at what expense? It is our task to keep such expenses low.

Maybe in the future, AI will take over this DETRITUS Art Page; hopefully, we will increase our creativity so that it will take a while.

*In the next Issue I
will come back to
reality and I want to
open your eyes for
the beauty of trash
supported by a kind
of poem.*

"GARBAGE STORY"
Rainer Stegmann & Cristina v.d.
Westhuyzen

„Every item in this garbage bin has
a story to tell: plastic, paper and
tin. The remains of a busy day in a
city.
Water bottles, a fuzzy drink, an ice
cream cup smudged in melted
chocolate, an invitation to an
evening of music and wine, a
scrunched up ticket. Was it for a
museum?
The trail of leisurely time spent
strolling around in the warm sun.
The air is vibrant with sound. The
piazza is buzzing with many
people, colourful and confused like
the jumbled display in the bin.
Happy memories will be taken but
this will remain.“

