

For the first reading assignment I read the articles: "A Human's Job" by Tyson Frederick. My intent will be to approach this topic from the angle of an interest of mine — the idea of an "Internet of Things" (IoT), and the very popular term "Smart Home." Frederick's main purpose is to define his vision of how humans are intended to be artists. In fact, he switches his pronoun from "humans" to "artists" suggesting all humans are artists in their own way. The author continues with saying that an artists "creation is produced from conceptual thought and abstract thought." I find this to be an interesting parallel to the relatively new concept of IoT, which is intended to be a sort of extension of humanity — a network existing in the background (and in some ways the foreground... on our wrists, in our kitchen, etc.) for the benefit of our lives (and maybe just because some implementations of this technology is just simply "cool"). When Frederick notes that "artists can project and produce something that isn't directly tangible" my mind wanders to the expansive invisible network that connects our devices together. What if this network was visible?

In some ways, my take away is that humans, as a collective, can promote their artistic expression in more than one way. Perhaps an intricate network of connected devices, gather data on our lives and suggesting the promise of betterment, is just one expression of human ingenuity. Perhaps the technology industry should consider the help of traditional "artists" to help realize their connected utopia in a more creative, approachable, and useful way. I come away from this reading wondering if connecting

every device we own to the internet leads to a better life or not? I wonder if the concept of IoT is even true to the human/artists goal of being truthful, free and curious?