

Response to Nick Briz *Thoughts on Glitch Art 2.0*

I was initially not very excited to divulge into Nick Briz informative work in regards to Glitch Art. I had a teacher that acted like Glitch art was the sun and the moon and I always had thought it was sort of just a cheap way to “create art.” While there is something beautiful in the spontaneity of the program manipulation it also always just felt like “generated art.” As an artist, I enjoy seeing the generative process but I really find respect for works when I know the process. Glitch art also was something I used to always do as a kid, just to see what would happen so sometimes it seems more explorative than Art that could be discussed through higher level discussions because it does not have a meaning.

I liked how Briz tells us we need to reclaim our identities and analyze what's happening between us and the machines that are generating this work. I appreciate his “question authority mode,” where we rethink how we use technology. It's easy for us to approach things didactically, as we always have, in a familiar manner.

I think sometimes technology makes it so easy for “the every man” to identify as an artist. Anyone can run something through an app and say its a work of art. I appreciate that Briz makes us consider how accessible some documents are versus others and how that could demonstrate the worldview of the creators of the programs or file distributors. Accessibility of technologies is a privilege we take for granted that other countries do not have access too. Briz offers a political awareness that many forget being in their community “bubbles.” Briz writes the article like an anarchist, in lowercase and with curious misspellings like “politix.”

Considering what Briz says now there is almost a spirituality that can be found within glitch art where we really consider what an image now means and then willingly choosing to transform the data within it. There is sometimes a magical unpredictability that comes with glitch art and databending that cannot be mass produced unlike the images themselves. Briz also references how glitch art encompasses “an unexpected moment in a system that calls attention to that system.” The viewer is startled and made aware of the image in front of them by the abnormalities that surround it.