

Generative AI is a type of artificial intelligence that uses machine learning models to generate new data like as images or sound. My understanding is that machine learning (ML) is an approach to AI where systems learn from and identify patterns within data, rather than relying on explicit rule-based programming. It acts as a mapping tool, learning the relationship between input and output data, and using this understanding to make predictions. We consider ML "intelligent" because it processes data, identifies patterns, and classifies or generates previously unseen outputs. My understanding of generative AI for image creation is that it predicts pixel relationships, such as hue and saturation by analyzing patterns. Interactive machine learning allows human input into the loop, by letting users train the models, view classifications, and manipulate outcomes. For me, this interactivity is where creativity emerges. Prompt-based image generation alone feels less creative, the results are limited to what already exists in the dataset the AI was trained on.

One artist I find inspiring is Cindy Sherman, who is well known for her career as an artist who explores identity through self-portrait photography. Recently Sherman started posting her experimentations with generative AI on instagram, which she says are not for exhibition. She used AI tools to manipulate her selfies, creating versions of herself like she usually would through costumes and editing. She described this process as a "double manipulation," where she first altered her image and then let the AI further transform it in unexpected ways.

