Can Computers Create Art?

An essay by Aaron Hertzmann
Summarized by
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An overview

 "Could a piece of computer software ever be widely credited as the author of an artwork?"

Has this happened in the past or present?

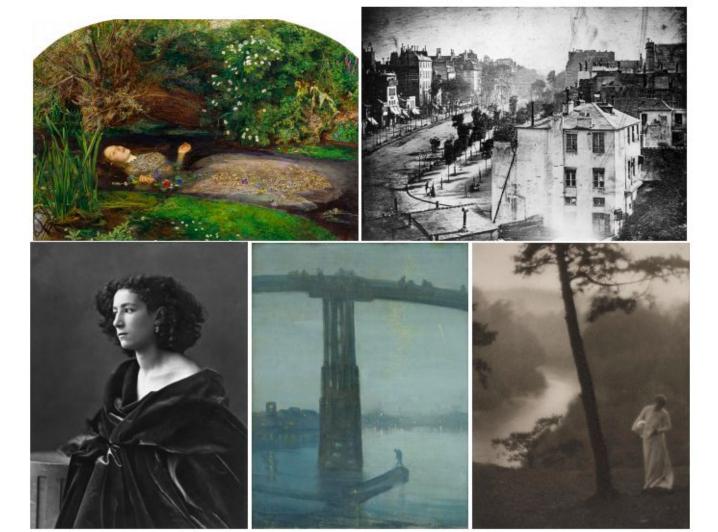
Will this happen in the future?

A brief history of art and tech

Film has always been a back-and-forth with technology improvements

 Procedural art has been around for a long time and the tools used have advanced a lot.

Tools have never been viewed as being the artist.

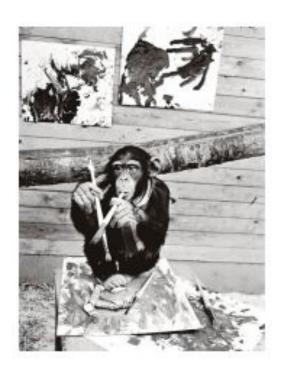


What is art?

- Quality of the work
- Intent
- Social activity
- Growth of artist

Nature and animal-made "art"





Al today

• Significant advancement in computational artistic image synthesis in recent years. But should not be mistaken for an Al artist.

Modern AI essentially fits curves to datapoints

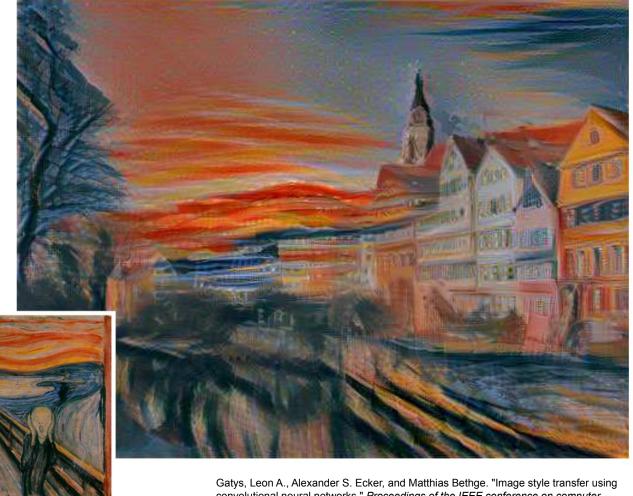
Current AI methods are tools in the hands of artists



Gatys, Leon A., Alexander S. Ecker, and Matthias Bethge. "Image style transfer using convolutional neural networks." *Proceedings of the IEEE conference on computer vision and pattern recognition*. 2016.



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Will AI ever be considered an artist?

Can AI create art?

• Needs to be perceived as a social agent

 History indicates that AI will more likely be a new tool for artists



Image from the Deep Dream Generator gallery.