

The background is a light cream color with a fine, dotted texture. It is decorated with various hand-drawn elements: several musical notes in teal, orange, and black; large, soft-edged abstract shapes in orange, teal, and yellow; and smaller circular motifs, some with internal patterns like dots or lines. The overall style is whimsical and artistic.

# The ethics of generative posthumous musical works

Liam Baum and Benson Leung

Who died and made you  
Beethoven?





# AI Completes Beethoven's 10th Symphony

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has been used in multiple industries. One such industry is music. AI has been used to generate songs and music from current and dead musicians.

After almost two centuries, Beethoven's Tenth Symphony was "completed" by AI and premiered on October 9th, 2021.


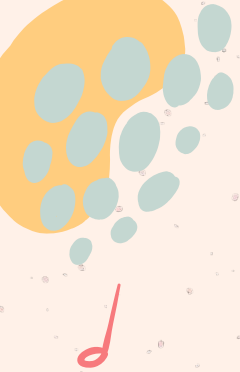
MUSIC NEWS

## Team uses AI to complete Beethoven's unfinished masterpiece



October 2, 2021 · 5:20 PM ET

Heard on [All Things Considered](#)





Artificial intelligence has completed Beethoven's Tenth Symphony—or at least, what that piece of music could have sounded like had he finished it.



The AI was trained on the 10th symphony sketches, Beethoven's complete works, other music that he would have been exposed to and what is known about his composing style.

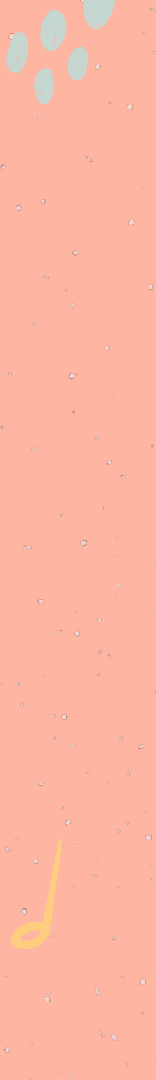


## What the AI had to do:

- Had to harmonize melodic lines
- Expand musical phrases
- Use proper musical form
- Decide which instruments would play which part
- Bridge two sections of a piece together
- Write a suitable musical conclusion/ending

All of this in a way that someone like Beethoven would have done





"What death does to a legacy is that it can increase the legal conflicts, the cultural conflicts, who owns the artist and who gets to define who he is," - Arun Saldanha





**There have been many recent issues with how to handle releasing music from artists who have passed on.**

MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT

What would Prince want? Two years later, his estate is a mess and his legacy unclear



"I don't live in the past. . . I make a statement, then move on to the next." - Prince







Tattoo of  
Anderson.Paak.

Other pop artists like  
Dua Lipa have gone on  
record to say that it is  
in her will to not have  
any posthumous work  
of her released.





# Tupac Hologram

At Coachella, on April 15, 2012, Tupac appeared alongside Snoop Dogg and Dr. Dre. They performed two songs, "Hail Mary" and "2 of Amerikaz Most Wanted".

*"There exists a token of beauty in letting Pac's music speak for itself, and not grafting a false image onto his classic sounds simply because we missed Tupac perform when he was alive and want to see him now."*

*"The hologram made me uncomfortable because Pac's life was special, and that unique flame has been extinguished. Why do we need to watch an imitation of Tupac when we have an incomparable plethora of his own art at our disposal?"*



# Which one was AI?



# IV. Rondo

BEETHOVEN

X THE AI PROJECT






# Pros

- ❖ Can complete unfinished works
  - Schubert Unfinished Symphony(?)
- ❖ Pushed limits of what an AI can do
- ❖ Critically Successful
  - (Most could not tell where Beethoven ends and AI begins)
- ❖ Well within the public domain. No copyright issues
- ❖ Exposing current generation to past music
- ❖ Creative possibilities
  - Hear historical artists in new context




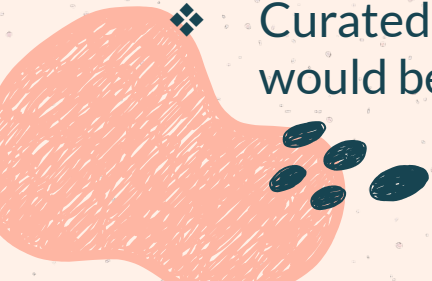



# Cons

- 
- ❖ Privilege - Only those with access to these resources could be able to accomplish this work
  - ❖ Permission - No one can know that Beethoven would have wanted this to happen
  - ❖ Product - This is not being promoted as a model generating music in the style of Beethoven. It is being publicized as his finished “10th Symphony”
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- 



# Cons

- ❖ Technically proficient but lacking in human touch.
  - ❖ Artists evolve, so to train a model on past Beethoven works means you will get something which evokes his past, not where he was going.
  - ❖ This is a representation of what an AI model has identified as being quintessential Beethoven, but ultimately is a black box so we don't know what that is.
  - ❖ Curated output - A human ultimately had to select the final product that would be presented to the world.
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- 





# Uberduck



<https://uberduck.ai/>

Spongebob Singing  
Never Gonna Give You Up

Website that is a text to speech generator. It uses popular real and fiction characters, such as:

- Shrek
- John Legend
- Cookie Monster
- Alexa
- Rick Astley

It claims it is not to be used for commercial purposes and a request can be made to take down someone's voice if there are "legitimate reasons"





# Uberduck does include the option to use the voices of 11 dead rappers



2Pac  
Juice WLRD  
Biggie Smalls  
Eazy E  
Big L  
MF DOOM  
Guru  
Lil Peep  
Nipsey Hustle  
Ol Dirty Bastard  
XXXtentacion



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# Q & A