

1. According to the journalist, how was the portrait created? Answer the question in your own words. (80 words, ± 10%)

The portrait was created by an artificially intelligent machine. Its creators (Obvious) want to get rid of human intervention in the creative process, so they use two programmes : a generator that browses thousands of existing portraits from past centuries and then creates a new one based on them, and a discriminator which corrects mistakes. In the end, the portrait is printed and signed with the math formula once the discriminator believes that the portrait could have been created by a human.

82 words

2. What impact do you think artificial intelligence (AI) is likely to have on art and culture (painting, sculpture, music, cinema, literature, etc.)? (180 words, ± 10%)

The case described in the article is not an isolated instance of AI being used to create art and this leads to wonder the extent to which it might impact art and culture.

First, AI will enable artists to explore new possibilities, to enhance and improve their creations. In films, for example, it is already under way, with the trailer for the sci-fi movie "Morgan" that was entirely created thanks to algorithms. Image generators like Midjourney already allow any user to create an image in a matter of seconds, and an AI artwork won an art competition in 2022.

Hence, AI could become a threat to artists. Hollywood screenwriters went on strike in 2023 to protest the increasing competition of AI in their job. Indeed, the value of AI art and artists' wages need to be reconsidered.

However, as far as pure creation is concerned, AI's impact seems quite limited. Indeed, AI has no imagination. It can only use previously created art in order to design a new piece, which raises the issue of copyright.

AI is pushing us to redefine creativity and art and its progress seems difficult to stop, so artists will have to adapt.

(198 words)

Theme

L'hypothèse extraterrestre ne fait décidément pas l'unanimité. Oumuamua, un *bolide en forme de cigare repéré en 2017 pendant sa traversée du système solaire, pourrait avoir été envoyé par des extraterrestres, ont suggéré deux chercheurs d'Harvard dans un article savant. Ils ont été vivement critiqués par la communauté scientifique.

The alien / extraterrestrial hypothesis has definitely / really not convinced everyone / is truly not unanimous. Oumuamua, a cigar-shaped fireball spotted in 2017 as it crossed the solar system, could have been sent by aliens / extraterrestrials have suggested two Harvard researchers in a scholarly paper. They were roundly criticised by the scientific community.

Oumuamua a été repéré à l'automne 2017 par le télescope Pan-STARRS1 à Hawaï, d'où son nom, qui signifie « messenger » en hawaïen. Il mesure environ 400m de longueur et 40m de largeur, et a été traqué par plusieurs télescopes, en sa qualité de premier objet détecté venant d'un autre système stellaire. Après avoir été qualifié d'astéroïde, une équipe de l'Agence spatiale européenne a estimé en juin qu'il s'agissait plus probablement d'une comète.

Oumuamua was spotted in autumn 2017 by the Pan-STARRS1 telescope in Hawaii, hence its name, which means “messenger” in Hawaiian. It is approximately 400-meter long and 40-meter wide, and it has been tracked by several telescopes, being the first detected object coming from another star system. It was first described as asteroid / After being described..., before a team from the European Space Agency decided in June that it was more likely to be a comet.

Un « scénario exotique », selon les propres mots des auteurs du nouvel article, serait que « Oumuamua pourrait être une sonde totalement opérationnelle envoyée volontairement près de la Terre par une civilisation extraterrestre ». L'idée a rapidement enflammé Twitter et la communauté scientifique.

An “exotic scenario”, according to the authors of the new article, would be that “Oumuamua could be a fully operational probe sent on purpose / volutarily sent near / close to Earth by an alien civilisation”. The idea quickly went viral on Twitter and among the scientific community.

D'après *20 Minutes Tech*, 8 novembre 2018

* Aide à la traduction :
bolide = *fireball*