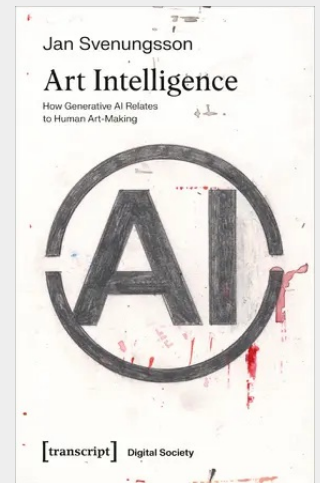


Art Intelligence

How Generative AI Relates to Human Art-Making

Artists always react to the times in which they live. They may celebrate them or criticize them, often trying to change them. But this is the first time in history that technology controlled by private companies is offering to replace the work of writers, musicians, illustrators and visual artists. What impact will generative AI have on how we create art and how we understand what art is for? How will it affect the role of the artist in the future and the conditions under which artists will work? Jan Svenungsson tackles these questions, investigating what AI might do for art, and what it might change, circling the core issue of what it is in human art-making that cannot be replaced.

1. Why did you choose this topic? Visual artists (and musicians and other creators) sometimes use software to help them make their work. Generative AI now offers to create it for them. In my book, I explore what this will mean for us artists. I take a broad view, from thinking about artists' ability to make a living in the future, to considering wider, philosophical perspectives and how our understanding of art will change as a result. I have been working associatively, putting dots together to see what picture will emerge. 2. What new perspectives does your book offer? I was surprised to realize how key initiatives in the development of modern art have combined with the hyper-commodification of contemporary art to create a situation where AI may not face any resistance. Ultimately, I'm looking for what we artists offer that cannot be replaced. Inevitably, this leads to the question of what art is and what its purpose is in today's society. The text is interspersed here and there with small details from drawings that offer a deliberate level of visual friction. 3. What makes your topic relevant for current research debates? As a practicing artist, I use writing as a tool for both analysis and creation. My goal was to make the book short, intense, and eminently readable for anyone interested in art, whether they are professional or from the general public. Like an installation, it offers a personal and complex view of an evolving and confusing subject. I hope that in its web of voices and connections, a gestalt will emerge that will help the reader navigate and interpret this new reality. 4. Choose one person you would like to discuss your book with! Given the way I have used quotes, I feel that I am already in dialog with a number of interesting people. They just don't know it yet. One of them is Jaron Lanier. Unlike other technologists responsible for our current situation, he is also a musician. I would like to talk to him about the value of drawing and painting. 5. Your book summary in one sentence: What is it about human-made art that AI will not be able to replicate?



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