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<div align="center">Art and AI</div>

When it comes to generating images, artificial intelligence has made some major advancements in recent years. There are now many programs that allow people to input prompts and receive some impressive pictures. Being able to create detailed digital paintings with the press of a button might seem like a great thing to a lot of people, but to artists it's very concerning. Many artists are worried about what AI means for the future of their careers, and the future of the art world as a whole. This AI art has the potential to be a big threat to human artists by taking attention and job opportunities away from them, as well as damaging the creativity of the art community.

For humans, creating art takes time and effort. A piece could take days, even months to create, and most artists spend their lifetimes learning and improving to further perfect their work. This time and care that artists give to their work is part of what gives art value. Art generated by artificial intelligence lacks this amount of effort. With AI, images can be generated in just a few minutes or less. This might seem like a good thing. Being able to create works of art in such a short time sounds much more convenient than spending so much time on it. In reality however, this is a detriment to human artists.

The first major issue is that, with the ability to create new images so quickly, comes the opportunity to mass produce new art at an incredibly fast rate. The art world is already incredibly competitive. It is already incredibly difficult for artists to draw attention to their work. Many

artists simply have to rely on luck in order to find success. Mass produced AI art would drastically decrease the odds of these artist's work ever being seen. Taking attention and job opportunities away from those who truly deserve it.

Another issue with AI generated art is with its lack of creativity. A quality piece of artwork is one that is creative and experiments with new ideas. Art created by artificial intelligence cannot do these things. AI art is inherently uncreative, due to the fact that it can only be based on preexisting images. Ahmed Elgammal explains, "To create AI art, artists write algorithms not to follow a set of rules, but to "learn" a specific aesthetic by analyzing thousands of images. The algorithm then tries to generate new images in adherence to the aesthetics it has learned" (Elgammal). This means that it is impossible for an AI to come up with anything new.. You would think that this would prevent AI art from drawing any sort of attention to itself, but this is not the case. At the Colorado State Fair, Jason M. Allen submitted an AI generated piece to an art contest for digital art and digitally manipulated photography. This AI generated image would end up winning the competition. AI generated paintings have also already been sold for hundreds of thousands of dollars. This is proof that artificial intelligence has stolen valuable attention away from human artists.

There are also potential issues with the source of images these AI programs are learning from. Artificial intelligence programs learn by taking and analyzing millions of pictures from the internet,which means that " artists who upload their works to the internet may be unwittingly helping to train their algorithmic competitors" (Roose). Having a distinct and recognisable style is another important aspect of being successful in the art industry. Artists work incredibly hard to make their work unique and noticeable. Having artificial intelligence learn from these artists

takes away those unique aspects, making it much harder for those same artists to maintain their audiences.

The third major issue with AI art is what it will do to certain careers within the art industry. Since AI art can be made so quickly, employers may choose to turn to it instead of human artists. Sean Thomas supports this idea by stating, "Basically, don't send your kids to art college. Because Dall-e 2 is possibly going to destroy many of the commercial art jobs in the world, i.e. the jobs of illustrators, cartoonists, graphic designers and the makers of book covers." (Art Attack) Those who make a living off of art are at serious risk of losing their jobs if artificial intelligence starts to become more widely used. Artists may no longer be able to enter a career that they are passionate about and enjoy because AI will have replaced them.

There are, however, some arguments in favor of artificial intelligence in the art industry. Some claim that it can be used, not as a replacement for human artists, but a tool for them to use. Instead of taking over the entire process of creating art, it can help streamline parts of it. A painter and creator of the AI program AARON, Harold Cohen argues, "When the computer is used in such a way that feedback occurs only through the intervention of the operator in a manual process of review and modification then the computer is essentially no different from any other tool an artist might use, no matter how complex the operations it performs" (qtd. in Burton 35). With this view in mind, it is true that artificial intelligence does have the potential to be a useful tool to artists. However this is not how these programs are being used. Instead of being used to enhance an artist's work, most are simply using it to create entire images, not adding anything to it at all. We can't control what is done with these programs, so this use of them will likely continue.

As of right now, it's actually hard to say what the true future of AI and the art industry is. Most AI image generators are in their early stages of development, and are far from perfect. But, they will continue to be improved and have new versions released, so it's really only a matter of time before this potential future becomes reality. Unfortunately, there's not much we can do about the advancement of AI, but we can give support to the human artists that may be affected by it.

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