

# The Death of Art: How will it be Reborn?

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## Methods

- Engaging in issues of Philosophical & Theological discourse and reflections on the nature of free will
- Applying methods in art & art history in order to examine creative expression.
- Developing a Foundational understanding in the technology behind the advancements in Artificial Intelligence & Generative Art

## The Problem of Free Will

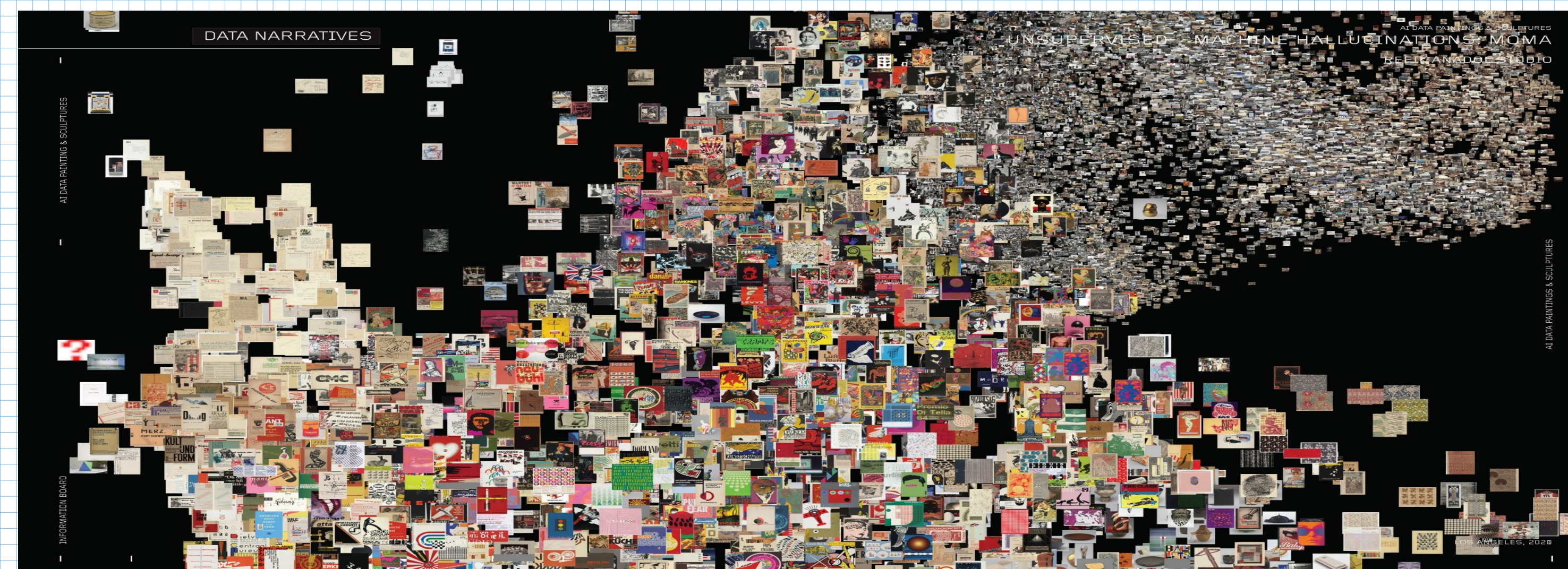
Our perception of choice and the fallibility of the human condition have always been a mystery to us. Theologians and Philosophers from St. Augustine to Aquinas and Kant have grappled with this question for centuries. In this argument many have pointed to our creative qualities and ability to create art as a justification for free will. However, as technology progress, specifically with Artificial Intelligence, much of 'works of art' can now be matched and even exceeded in some cases by AI technologies. Whether humans have true originality as creators is an important question now as we continue to grapple with free will and how it relates to art on a larger scale.

## Guiding Question

*To what extent does Generative Art, more specifically A.I. Generative Art, enhance or diminish Artistic Autonomy in relation to Free Will?*

## Artificial Intelligence & Generative Art

- Generative Art describes using systematic process in order to aid the artistic process. This has progressed to using technology and computers in order to facilitate this
- As Generative Art has advanced, this has led to AI Generative Art which is where the computer is trained via an algorithm on a data set to then go forth and develop its own systematic processes
  - AI Generative Art has outsourced more of the human input in the artistic process leading to new possibilities in art and more efficient realizations of our creative imagination
  - This has and will lead to potential positive and negative implications regarding the artistic process, the human/technology relationship, and the world of art as we know it



## Findings & Future Implications

- Undoubtedly, AI will dramatically shift the way that we view and create art
- That being said, AI simply serves as another tool in the artistic process, though it may be powerful, it is still simply a tool at the demise of human discretion
- Artistic Autonomy is an inalienable right as human beings. Our autonomy as artists does not lie in the tools available to us, but in our experience of the world. If you put us in a cave we will paint, and if we can train our computer to 'paint' we will explore a new world of possibilities
- Although just as a more efficient tool can enhance the artistic experience, it can also commodify it.
- At the end of the day, AI does not mean the death of art, if anything it can mean new possibilities, however, it does give us the ability to kill art
  - How will we meaningfully interact with these new advances in art technology?



## Origins & Future of Artistic Autonomy

Our inclination towards creative expression can be traced back to pre-historic times with cave paintings. Since then, society and our creative tools may have advanced, but we still find ways to become artists. Across time, the origin of this artistic spirit has been grappled with, as many cited God(s) as the source. Now as technology progresses, the dynamic is no longer between god and the individual, but rather the computer and the individual. With technology at our fingertips, we have the potential to outsource much of the creative process to technology, leaving us with the question Who is the true artist?