



PHOTO SERIES: ART AND CONSCIOUSNESS

EXPLORED THROUGH AI

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INTRO

- Purpose: To compare the artistic depiction of consciousness between artists and generative AI and gain a further understanding and perspective of AI through the results.
- Method: Visual comparison and analysis between human artists and Microsoft Image Creator.





COMPARISON #1: JACKSON POLLOCK



JACKSON POLLOCK





IMAGE CREATOR (AI)

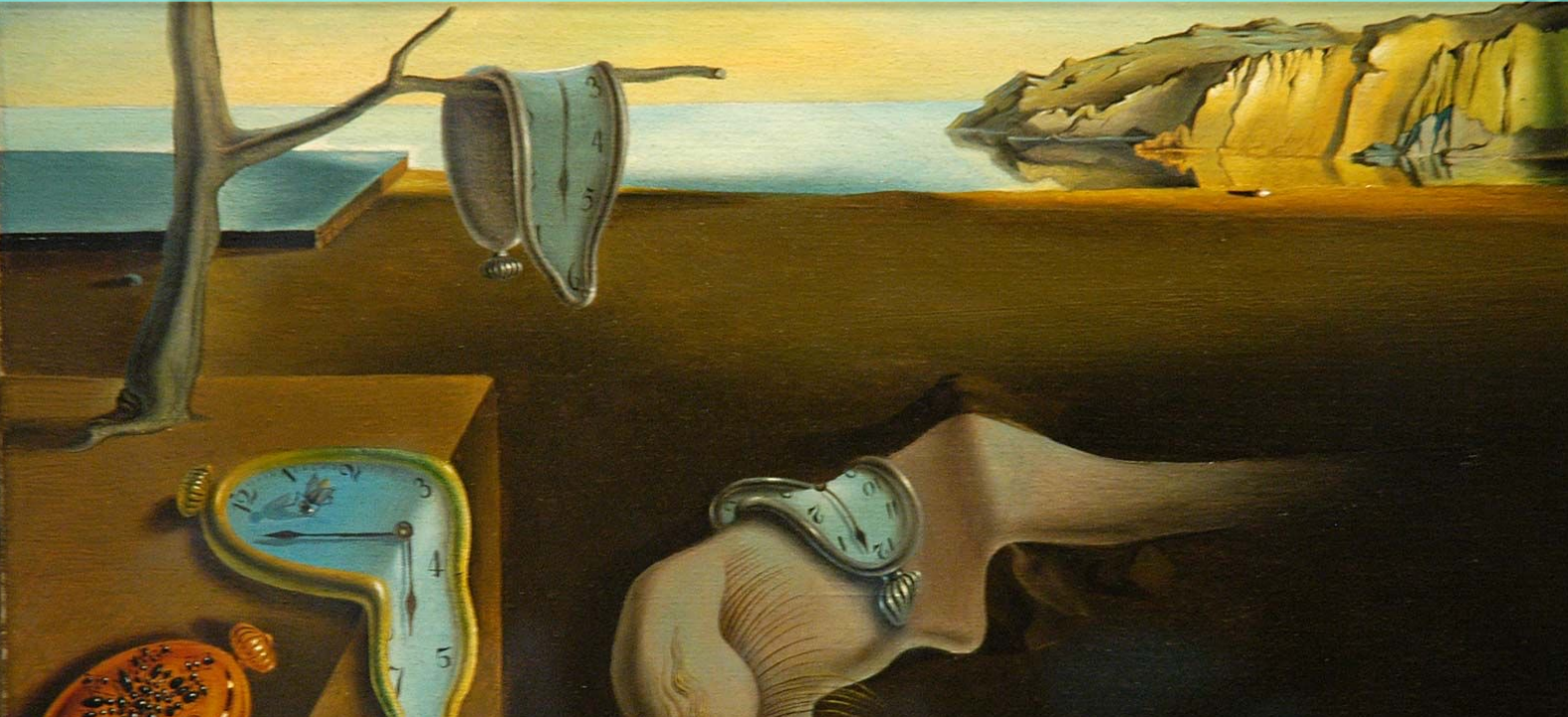
*“Explore consciousness in
abstract expressionist
painting form”*



NOTES

- Jackson Pollock's art often revolves around his exploration of the unconscious mind, particularly within the Abstract Expressionist movement. To provide a fair comparison, I tasked the AI with exploring unconsciousness in the style of abstract expressionism.
- **Color & Composition:** The AI-generated paintings show a predominant use of blue, orange, and yellow hues, with human figures often taking center stage in the compositions.
- **Result:** Most of the images generated through the prompt were similar.

COMPARISON #2: SALVADOR DALI



SALVADOR DALI



IMAGE CREATOR (AI)

"EXPLORE THE CONSCIOUS IN SURREALIST PAINTING FORM"



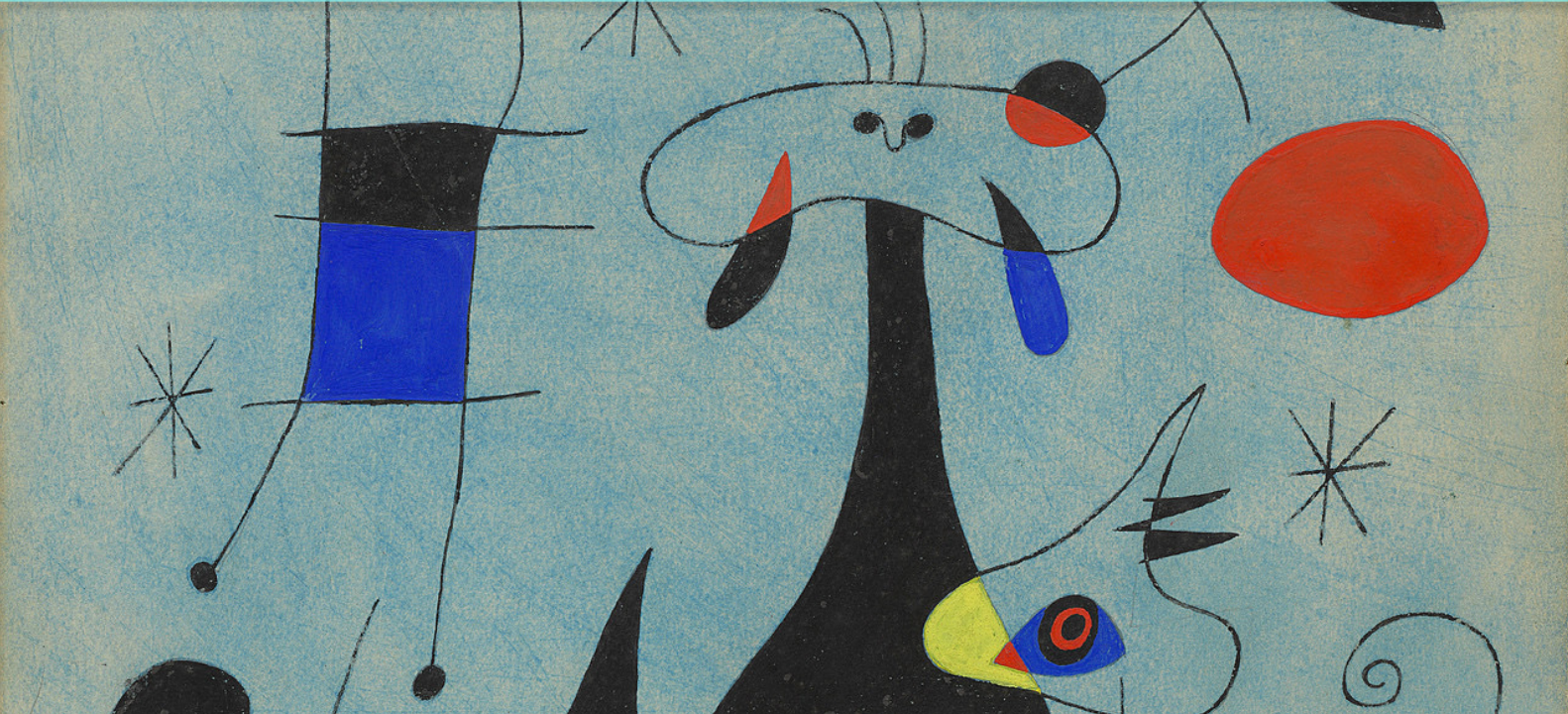
IMAGE CREATOR (AI) PT.2

NOTES

- I chose Salvador Dali because he was a well-known Surrealist painter who often dwelled in the realm of subconscious imagery. Surrealism emerged as an avant-garde art movement in 1920s Europe, emphasizing artistic expression through delving into the unconscious mind. It was heavily influenced by Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic theories.
- **Results:** The results from the same prompt show a considerable variety, particularly when compared to abstract expressionism. A recurring motif across many images is a man dressed in a suit, often accompanied by a clock—an element likely influenced by Dali's iconic painting.

The background is a dark blue gradient. In the corners, there are white line-art illustrations of circuit boards or neural networks, with lines connecting to small circles.

COMPARISON #3: JOAN MIRÓ



JOAN MIRÓ



IMAGE CREATOR (AI)

*"EXPLORE THE CONSCIOUS IN
ABSTRACT EXPRESSIONIST
AND SURREALIST STYLE
FORM"*



NOTES

- Another famous Surrealist painter, Joan Miró, played a significant role in the Surrealist movement. He aimed to depict the subconscious mind's workings through dreamlike and fantastical imagery. His art frequently portrayed a realm of peculiar, distorted figures, ethereal objects, and vibrant hues, combining abstract and surrealist art.
- **Results:** The results remained consistently similar despite multiple iterations of the same prompt. Interestingly, according to the AI's interpretation, all the generated images bore a closer resemblance to the style of "abstract expressionist art" rather than surrealism.



I THEN EXPLORED HOW AI
DEPICTS VARIOUS ART
MOVEMENTS.



IMAGE CREATOR (AI)

"DRAW ME SURREALIST ART"



IMAGE CREATOR (AI)

*“Draw me abstract
expressionist art”*



NOTES

- Initially, I was puzzled by the inclusion of goldfish imagery, suits and hats, and random animals in the AI-generated surrealist art. However, upon further examination, I soon recognized the origins of these images. A quick Google search of "surrealist art" revealed works such as Michael Cheval's "Lullaby of Uncle Magritte" and René Magritte's "The Son of Man," from which the AI likely drew inspiration. Additionally, the presence of clocks can be attributed to Salvador Dali's famous work, while other components of these images bore similarities to various surrealist artworks found online.
- Exploring abstract expressionist art through AI generation made it apparent that the results heavily mirrored the style of Jackson Pollock's work. Despite numerous famous abstract paintings and artists, successive generations of the prompt consistently exhibited characteristics reminiscent of Pollock's distinctive artistic approach.

GENERAL FINAL NOTES

- Despite some interesting paintings generated by Image Creator, there is a notable trend towards generalization and a lack of variety in the prompts. Overall, images lacked personality.
- When depicting consciousness through art, the AI tends to emphasize the presence of a human subject in the images. In contrast, artists often transcend this requirement, delving directly into the realm of art itself to convey their interpretations of the subconscious without necessarily relying on human elements in their paintings.
- It would've been impressive if the AI was able to generate varying art and styles from the same prompt each time, such as the style in Joan Miro. However, it got repetitive real fast.
- When exploring consciousness, AI frequently resorts to imagery of the human head and eyes, displaying a tendency to adhere to preconceived notions and definitions of consciousness.