Luca Maria Gambardella

AM I HUMAN

AM I HUMAN

Chaos. An infinite sequence of numbers flows relentlessly, filling our eyes with apparently logic-less lines. They appear abstract, confused, disordered, frantic. They represent the Artificial Intelligence thoughts that, at the limit of exasperation, continue to look within themselves for answers to existential questions as: *who am I?*

I Sort? I Dream & I Human?

After the first work of this series, *Illusa fingo sogni fasulli*, Gambardella presents a new installation with which hee explores a fragile border between the human and the robotic. If in the first work the AI sought answers on its identity by reversing endlessly the palindrome sentence of the title, it now looks for an answer in the unconscious limbo of memories, or in its dreams. It digs into the deepest meanders of the mind, it pours on itself, it flows and the more it flows the more it seems to reach the end of its searching, the images become sharper, more linear, the order takes over the chaos, and line by line the figures become clear. Just in time to feel something similar to the relief of bringing to a conlusion its research, that the AI starts over and over again. It now looks for the answers it needs in other images, it pushes itself towards more remote memories, exploring the boundaries of the unconscious, but, at the end, with no satisfaction. Just as dreams, as soon as they become too real, vanish, so the hopes of Artificial Intelligence to find answers about its humanity seem destined for a never ending research.

What is human, anyway?

AMIHUMAN - Screen

A peculiarity of this installation is the possibility of interacting with the viewer by acquiring images, even in real-time. The software integrates frames into the code and returns a form of vision digitally re-elaborated. Thus, it is possible to realize complex effects combined randomly or instruct the AI to develop a form of narration (insofar, real portraits can be created).

As in his other previous works, Gambardella's installation focuses on the interaction between Artificial Intelligence and some input data from the environment: in this case, the analysis of the other is performed by displaying a series of random numbers that flow on a screen, generating figures that our (human) imaginary and our artistic sensitivity, interprets as if they were waves of abstract thought, as the continuous overturning of water, seeking an equivalence based on the proportion and formal qualities of the different colors that the AI gives to the lines of numbers.

The software then acquires images provided by the human or natural counterpart, and reconstructs in its peculiar way a mesh composed of variously colored numbers, almost a melodic line, and recreates the image by analyzing and breaking it down, then reassembling it.

It is precisely the effect of solids and voids, obtained by chance, and the image that seems to appear and disappear at every step that provides a sort of tonal texture, which is artistic in our eyes. You feel fulfilled without ever being overwhelmed. So fascinated, that you want the story to continue.

AMIHUMAN - Screen

LUCA MARIA GAMBARDELLA

He obtained a degree and PhD in Computer Science, developing a strong interest in artificial intelligence and the Lisp language. In Lugano (CH) he is Full Professor of the USI Faculty of Computer Science at IDSIA (the Dalle Molle Institute for artificial intelligence studies USI-SUPSI), an institute of 90 people which he directed for 25 years until 2020. He directs the Master of Artificial Intelligence at USI and in his scientific studies the ability of machines to learn and is a pioneer of algorithms that are inspired by the behavior of ants applied to logistics and swarm robotics. He recently won the FNS Agora award and is CTO of Artificialy sa in Lugano. In the artistic field he co-created inside the Lugano-Besso pedestrian tunnel in 2019 "Neural-Rope#1. Inside an Artificial Brain" an interactive urban art installation that represents a neuronal network, in 2020 presented the digital work on the dream of artificial intelligence "Illusa fingo sogni fasulli" during the review "Con la testa tra le nuvole" in Bellinzona. At January 2021 presents "Am I human", where he deeps the possibilities of dreaming of the Artifical Intelligence.

info:

luca.gambardella@gmail.com
vimeo.com/lucagambardella

graphics and texts:
mati.nuzzo@gmail.com
robert@rcphillips.eu