



KEEP RUNNING

A Series of AI Horse Paintings

<http://cyphymedia.com/aiart/keeprunning>

Jun. 2020

Feb. 2021

by

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Keep Running: AI Art and Qatari Heritage

Emerging Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology can empower a computing machine to learn information from massive images, and then react with suitable answers or decisions like human. Lately, people around the world are exploring how AI could understand or even create artworks. This is a collection of human and machine co-generated horse paintings using an AI technology - GANs. These AI horse paintings are jointly produced by Dr. James She and the GAN technology during the lockdown and Covid-19 pandemic period in Qatar. Rather than a common subject matter in art history, horse is the heritage symbol in Qatar and the Middle East region culturally and historically, representing strength, endurance and persistence. These are also the spirits that keep us running during the difficult times in life, such as the global pandemic suspension.

Many recent AI artworks are either generated in photo-realistic style, or abstract style with distorted faces and fragmented figures, or a combination of surrealistic objects. What technically and artistically unique in our work is the result of a series of AI paintings that shows distinguishable features and forms of horses, while still creating aesthetic and even sentimental values in each horse portrait. Although the machine keeps running the same repeated GAN process, we proved that the AI technology can unite human creativity to produce unique and aesthetic paintings - even if they are produced digitally in large numbers that was never possible before. Through our AI artworks, we wish to pay a salute to the pioneers like Eadweard Muybridge and Andy Warhol, who first popularized the use of machines with camera and silk-screen printing technologies in mass art-making. Their influences keep future artists running to explore the new possibility of art and creativity using technology.

Keep Running: AI, Art and Qatari Heritage (Short Version)

Keep Running: AI, Art and Qatar Heritage

The horse is a heritage symbol in Qatar and across the region culturally and historically, representing strength, endurance and persistence. This collection of human and machine co-generated horse paintings is produced using the Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology—GANs, showing distinguishable features and forms of horses, while still creating aesthetic and sentimental values. Emerging AI technology can empower a computing machine to learn information from massive images, and then react with suitable decisions like a human.

This series was produced by Dr. James She, using the GAN technology. Dr. She is Associate Professor at Hamad bin Khalifa University (HBKU), and created this body of work over the past year and during his residency at the Fire Station, as part of a collaboration with HBKU.

استمر في الجري: الذكاء الاصطناعي والفن والتراث القطري

الخيول رمز تراثي في قطر والمنطقة ثقافياً وتاريخياً، ويمثل القوة والتحمل والمثابرة. تم إنتاج هذه المجموعة من لوحات الخيول التي تم إنشاؤها بواسطة الإنسان والآلة باستخدام تقنية الذكاء الاصطناعي—GANs، والتي تظهر مفارقات وأشكالاً مميزة للخيول، بينما لا تزال تخلق قيمةً جماليةً وعاطفية. يمكن لتقنية الذكاء الاصطناعي الناشئة تمكين آلة الكمبيوتر من استخراج المعلومات من الصور الضخمة، ثم التفاعل مع القرارات المناسبة مثل الإنسان.

تم إنتاج هذه السلسلة بواسطة الدكتور جيمس شي، باستخدام تقنية (GAN). د. شي هو أستاذ مساعد في جامعة حمد بن خليفة، وأنتج مجموعة الأعمال هذه خلال العام الماضي أثناء إقامته في مطافئ، كجزء من التعاون مع جامعة حمد بن خليفة.

KEEP RUNNING 1A

- The Horse in Generation and Motion 2020

80cm x 60cm

GAN Algorithm, Digital Display



KEEP RUNNING 1A

- The Horse in Generation and Motion

2020

80cm x 60cm

GAN Algorithm, Digital Display



Similar to “The Horse in Motion” by Eadweard Muybridge that captured the temporal moment of a horse in motion to visualize how a horse could possibly run with all the legs in the air, this AI artwork captured a series of aesthetic changes on the generation of an AI horse figure along with a storytelling motion possibly intended by the AI technology. Starting from the top left to the right bottom, we witness how an artistic and complete horse figure is eventually generated after the horse ran through a set of in-between moments of painting generation with different abstract and desert-like backgrounds. These in-between paintings of the horse figure with storytelling-like motions are indeed produced from the same repeated AI-generation process, which could never be discovered if one only cared for the last AI generated result .



90cm X 60cm
GANs Algorithm, Digital Canvas

KEEP RUNNING 1B

KEEP RUNNING 1B

- The Horse Portraits in Generation 2020

90cm x 60cm

GAN Algorithm, Digital Display



Similar to one of the Andy Warhol's most known works - "Marilyn Diptych", we produce a similar repetition of horse portraits with the help from AI, and each image of horse portraits are unique and different on its own. From the left to the right of each horse portrait, one can see how a stylish and artistic horse portrait is evolved and eventually generated after the repeated machine process. From the top to the bottom, ones could be further amused by how the same repeated machine process could indeed produce different but unique paintings of horse portraits. If the artistic value of an artwork depends on its uniqueness, historically similar to photography and silk-screen printing, the mass-production of AI-assisted artworks will not diminish the value of an art piece.

KEEP RUNNING 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D



60cm X 60cm each
GANs Algorithm, Digital Canvas

KEEP RUNNING 2A
Untitled
2020

60cm x 60cm
GAN Algorithm, Digital Display

KEEP RUNNING 2C
Untitled
2020

60cm x 60cm
GAN Algorithm, Digital Display



KEEP RUNNING 2B
Untitled
2020

6cm x 60cm
GAN Algorithm, Digital Display

KEEP RUNNING 2D
Untitled
2020

60cm x 60cm
GAN Algorithm, Digital Display



KEEP RUNNING AH9
M@rwan
2021

.....
60cm X 60cm
GANs Algorithm,
Digital Canvas



KEEP RUNNING AH10
AI Shaqab
2021

.....
60cm X 60cm
GANs Algorithm,
Digital Canvas

KEEP RUNNING AH9

M@rwan

2021

60cm X 60cm
GANs Algorithm,
Digital Canvas



Marwan Al Shaqab has been a jewel in the crown of Al Shaqab since his first show in Doha, when he confidently entered the arena and emerged victorious. Soon thereafter, he left his homeland to conquer the world and continues to be an ideal representation of Al Shaqab and the Arabian horses of Qatar. His sons and daughters of Marwan have already established him as the most influential stallion of his generation. Similarly, his legend, M@rwan, will keep running in the new world of metaverse.

AI Shaqab is the 1st breed of Arabic horse that originated from the results of an emerging artificial intelligence (AI) technology bred by Dr. James She, who got inspired by the history and mission of an equestrian center in Qatar - Al Shaqab.

KEEP RUNNING AH10
AI Shaqab
2021

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60cm X 60cm
GANs Algorithm,
Digital Canvas



KEEP RUNNING

An AI Artwork Series

<http://cyphymedia.com/aiart/keeprunning/>

JUN 2020 and Feb 2021

by

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