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What to see: Artists & Robots at the Grand Palais

English translation of the complete available article text, prepared with local machine translation and checked against the source. The original PDF remains the reference.

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From 5 April to 9 July, Le Grand Palais invites you to experiment with thirty installations created using robots. Visit.

The journey is short but it plunges us into immersive and protiform works. At the Grand Palais, the exhibition Artists & Robots combines paintings, sculptures, music, cinema, generative works, robotic programs and fantastic humanoids.

Here, the only certainty is that nothing is immutable. And since everything changes, the works presented always seem in motion, fugitives. Citations rhythmize the journey and come to remind us of it.

Nothing, not even us, is given to us otherwise when in a sort of half-day, in a dark place where the roughness of the unfinished, where nothing has neither fullness of presence, nor obvious patuity, nor total fulfillment, nor full existence.

- Étienne Souriau

The exhibition is divided into three sequences – "The machine to be created", "The programmed work", "The robot emancipates" – and invites us to ask ourselves: Who is the robot or the artist the real creator? Can the machine create without man? Does it have an imaginary?

Focus on the works that have marked us.

1. The creation machine

CYSP 1 (1956) - Nicolas Schöffer's first cybernetic sculpture in the history of art. Connected to sensors, the "electronic brain" of sculpture allows him to react to variations in sound, luminous intensity and color.

Courtesy Franck James Marlot – Collection Eleonore Schöffer / © Photo Aldo Paredes for the Rmn-Grand Palais, 2018
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Leonel Moura - Robot Art, 2017.A swarm of robot painters draws on gigantic canvases.

© Leonel Moura / photo Rmn-GP - Thomas Granovsky

Patrick Tresset - Human Study #2 (La Grande Vanité au crow et au foxe, 2004-2017) Inspired by the vanities painted in the 17th century, the installation features a mechanical arm that paints them tirelessly.

© Photo Aldo Paredes pour la Rmn-Grand Palais, 2018

2. The programmed work

Raquel Kogan - Reflexão #2, 2005-2016.Interactive, the work plunges us into darkness and reaches its full power when you are in its center. The projected image changes according to the number of visitors in space.

© Photo Aldo Paredes pour la Rmn-Grand Palais, 2018

Jacopo Baboni Schilingi - Argo, 2018.Generative and interactive musical composition, Argo is programmed by algorithms and occurs in real time.The installation reacts to the breathing of Jacopo Baboni Schilingi, who has been carrying a breathing sensor since June 2017, 24 hours a day and 7 days a week.

© Jacopo Baboni Schilingi

Miguel Chevalier - Extra-Natural, 2018.A general and interactive virtual garden confronts the public with a re-invented digital nature composed of imaginary flowers.

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Joan Fontcuberta - Orogenesis : Derain, 2004

Conceptual artist using photography, Joan Fontcuberta creates parallel worlds by blurring the parameters of 3D landscape simulation software and introducing images of landscapes of Cézanne, Derain, Turner, Gainsborough and Dalí. At the key, virtual landscapes built from all parts.

© Adagp, Paris 2018

Michael Hansmeyer - Astana Columns, 2017Trained in architecture and programming, Michael Hansmeyer writes algorithms capable of designing on a computer forms composed of millions of facets that could not be drawn by hand.

© Photo Aldo Paredes pour la Rmn-Grand Palais, 2018

3. The robot emancipates

ORLAN and ORLANOIDE, electronic and verbal striptease, 2017.She has already used sculpture, video, photo, surgery and biotechnology... she now uses artificial intelligence, collective intelligence and text generators to deliver a hybrid body-sculpture to her effigy.

© Photo Aldo Paredes pour la Rmn-Grand Palais, 2018

Takashi Murakami, Untitled, 2016.Murakami Arhat Robot is an extension of the painting The 500 Arhats, made by the artist after the tsunami that struck Japan in March 2011 - an event that profoundly influenced his work.

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Artists & Robots at the Grand Palais - April 5 to July 9, 2018