

Barbican Immersive

Exhibition overview

Al: More than Human tells the rapidly developing story of Al, from its extraordinary ancient roots in Japanese Shintoism and Ada Lovelace and Charles Babbage's early experiments in computing, to Al's major developmental leaps from the 1940s to the present day to show how an age-old dream of creating intelligence has already become today's reality. Incorporating a broad range of digital media and immersive art installations Ai: More than Human gives visitors the chance to interact directly with exhibits to experience Al's capabilities first-hand.

The exhibition was Guest Curated by Suzanne Livingston and Maholo Uchida, who were supported by a group of specialist advisors including Ramon Amaro (Goldsmiths University), Paola Antonelli (MoMA), Hiroshi Ishiguro (Intelligent Robotics Laboratory, Osaka), Kenric McDowell (Google Research), Prof Murray Shanahan (Imperial College, University of London) and Anders Sandberg (Future of Humanity Institute, Oxford University).

The co-production partner was Forum Groningen.



The exhibition presents commissions and projects by, artists, researchers and scientists including:

Memo Akten, Joy Buolamwini, Certain Measures (Andrew Witt & Tobias Nolte), Es Devlin, Justine Emard, Alexandra Daisy Ginsberg, Stefan Hurtig & Detlef Weitz, Mario Klingemann, Kode 9, Lawrence Lek, Daito Manabe & Yukiyasu Kamitani, Massive Attack & Mick Grierson, Lauren McCarthy, Yoichi Ochiai, Neri Oxman, Qosmo, Anna Ridler, Chris Salter in collaboration with Sofian Audry, Takashi Ikegami, Alexandre Saunier and Thomas Spier, Sam Twidale and Marija Avramovic, Yuri Suzuki, and Universal **Everything.**

AI: More than Human also includes some of the most prominent and cutting-edge research projects, from:

DeepMind, Jigsaw, Massachusetts **Institute of Technology Computer Science Artificial Intelligence** Laboratory (MIT CSAIL), IBM, Sony Computer Science Laboratories, Google Arts and Culture, Google PAIR, Affectiva, Lichtman Lab at Harvard, Eyewire, Wake Forest Institute for Regenerative Medicine, Wyss Institute and Emulate Inc.



The narrative is explored through four sections and a series of commissions and installations

- The Dream of Al
- Mind Machines
- Data Worlds
- Endless Evolution



The Dream of Al



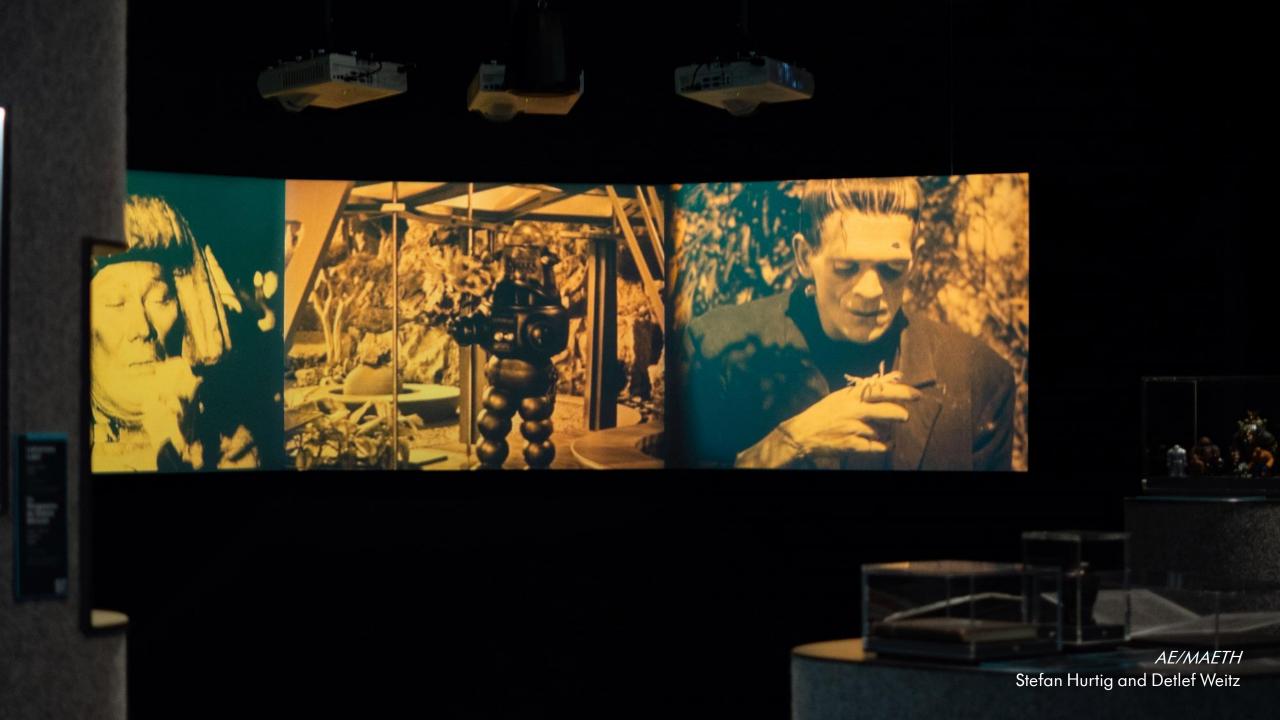
People have always been intrigued by the artificial creation of living beings, whether through magic, science, religion or illusion.

This interest has expressed itself differently across civilisations, from the religious traditions of Shintoism and Judaism to the science of Arabic alchemy, ideas of the Gothic and early developments in mathematics.

By giving life to non-living things, people have explored their place in the world — sometimes feeling powerful, and sometimes feeling fearful of a world they can't control.

This belief inspired attempts to create human-like figures with special abilities and to develop systems of intelligence that extend the mind. These two dimensions have driven the project of artificial intelligence to where it is today.















Mind Machines



The ancient desire to recreate the workings of the brain through technology gained momentum in the 19th and 20th centuries.

The early belief was that rational thought could be systematised and turned into formulaic rules. In the 1940s, this classic approach was transformed by the desire to not just decode the brain but mimic its workings.

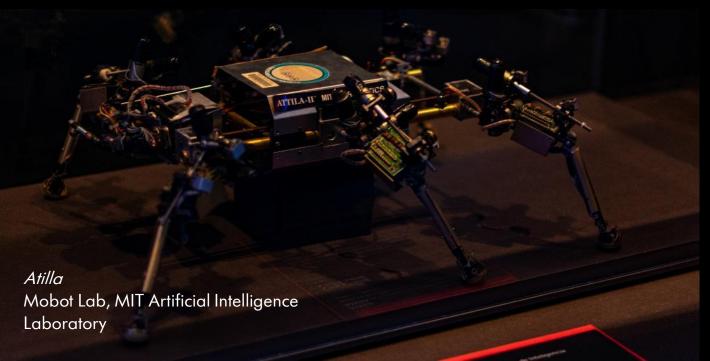
By copying the behaviour of the brain's own neurons, it was possible to develop the first 'neural network'. Neural networks are computer programmes which self-improve over time. During the data explosion of the 2000s, they evolved to become the machine learning and deep learning that we know today.

Technology that is able to teach itself can endlessly surprise us with its apparent creativity and its ability to see, hear and move.











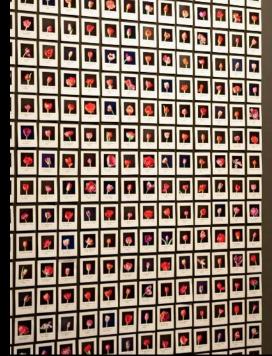


Jeopardy! vs. IBM Watson IBM

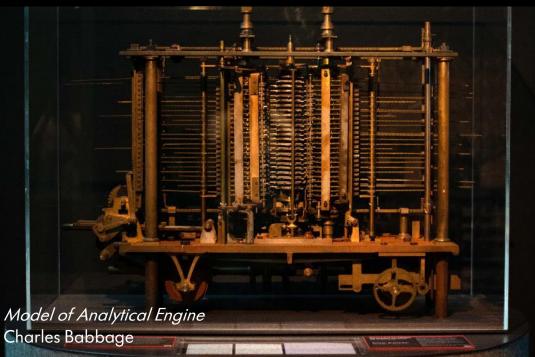


DeepDream: The Artificial Pareidolia Alexander Mordvintsev











Data Worlds



Today, Al is used all around us, all the time, shaping our lives in public and private space, through the media we consume and the products we buy.

While we might be aware of some of Al's manifestations, others are out of sight, entwined in global systems so complex that they are impossible to fully understand.

Data Worlds brings the reality of Al up close, by surfacing its hidden workings and opening up a future that is often exciting and sometimes disturbing.

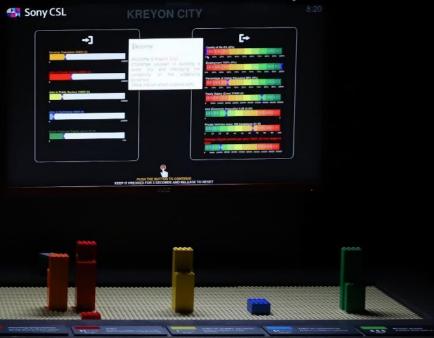
This increasing proximity of AI raises ethical questions. Will our prejudices be amplified by the technologies we create? Who will be accountable for mistakes? How will AI affect privacy, freedom and truth?













Endless Evolution



As Al permeates our lives, it merges with other scientific disciplines and begins to change our idea of the 'natural'.

While AI emulates the behaviour of the brain, the related research area of artificial life (A-Life) works with a much wider set of natural processes, including human and animal biology, and environmental science.

This gives us the potential to improve our bodies, eradicate illnesses, produce new food groups and even extend life. It is possible to imagine both new futures for our species and the creation of new species.

In this scenario, organic life is an expanding process — our form is not fixed at birth. As new body parts, new living environments and new beings are created, it is clear that our world is in endless evolution.





Synthetic Apiary
Neri Oxman and The Mediated Matter Group

Perspective of Digital Nature Yoichi Ochiai

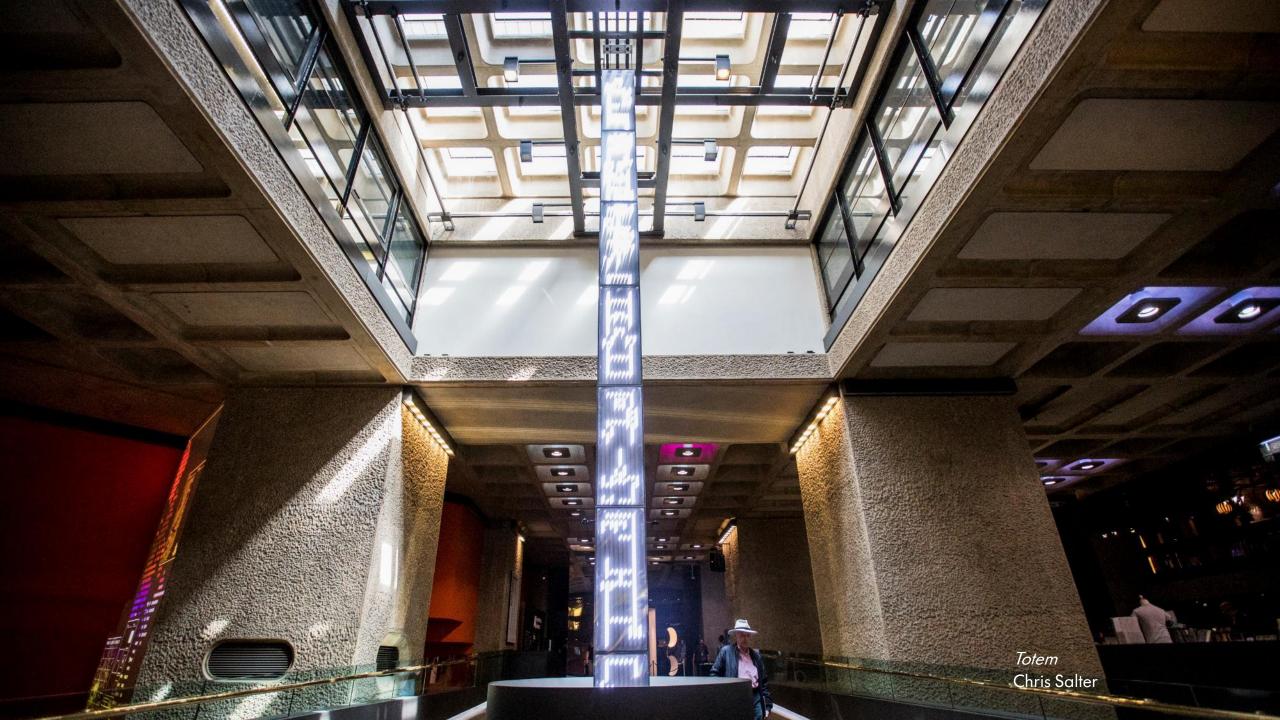


Mezzanine vs. MAGNet Mick Grierson and Rob Del Naja Europa Mission MIT, NASA, Schmidt Oceanographic Institute and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution



Selected Commissions and Installations









Barbican Immersive is a world-leading creator of exhibitions and experiences that aim to reframe visitors' understanding of familiar subjects and explore some of the most challenging and inspirational topics in the world today.

With a focus on contemporary culture, emerging technology and digital creativity. Barbican Immersive create holistic environments in which contemporary art, immersive experiences, historical artefacts, design, music and videogaming can provide the platform for a creative exploration of essential narratives.

Presented by Barbican Immersive

BIE has been to **54** venues across **27** countries and still growing Worldwide **Over 6,407,216 visitors** have visited a BIE exhibition



BI touring exhibition locations





Visitor figures Past Exhibitions

Game On

13 venues11 countries2,366,839 visitors

Watch Me Move

11 venues

9 countries

685,469 visitors

Digital Revolution

7 venues6 countries

616,801 visitors

Into the Unknown

4 venues

4 countries

166,712 visitors

Designing 007

9 venues

10 countries

511,317 visitors



- Tetsuya Mizuguchi
- Chris Milk
- Es Devlin
- teamLab
- Marshmallow Laser Feast
- Rhizomatiks
- Will.i.am
- Conrad Shawcross
- Hideo Kojima

- Larissa Sansour
- Trevor Paglen
- Isaac Julien
- Massive Attack
- Neri Oxman
- Joy Buolamwini
- Takeshi Murakami
- Jenova Chen

A selection of previous artists and collaborators



1 teamLab

What a Loving, and Beautiful World

Al: More than Human, Barbican Centre 16 May - 26 August 2019

2 Takashi Murakami

Big Box Pko2

Mangasia, Palazzo delle Esposizioni 7 Oct 2017 - 20 Jan 2018

3 Chris Milk

Treachery of Sanctuary

Digital Revolution, WF Central 16 Jan - 20 May 2019

4 Enhance and Rhizomatiks

Rezonance

Virtual Realms, ArtScience Museum 12 Jun 2021 - 9 Jan 2022

A selection of previous artists and collaborators







- Kunsthal Rotterdam, Netherlands
- BRANDTS, Denmark
- Guangdong Science Center, China
- Forum Groningen, Netherlands
- Centro Cultural Banco do Brasil, Brazil
- Melbourne Museums, Australia
- Detroit Institute of Arts, USA
- La Vilette, France
- Multimedia Art Museum, Russia
- Fundacion Canal, Spain

A selection of previous **Venue Partners**







Forum Groningen

Netherlands

Western Australia Museum

Australia

Miraikan Japan

A selection of previous sponsors and media partners













Bloomberg















NewScientist



