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CSC252

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This is a brief follow up of a class discussion on Computers and the Arts.

Computers and the Arts: Follow-up

Computers and the Internet have provided a new medium for the arts. Sites like <http://www.digitalblasphemy.com/> are available online that have huge galleries of computer generated paintings. The medium also allows for smaller and lesser known artists to generate a following. Like a friend of mine who uses the Microsoft Network's gallery to display his work (<http://communities.msn.com/CowzpressionismIdealsforourTime>).

The ability for many different art forms to come together is apparent as well. Such as the ability to bring computer graphics together with music and drama, in the new Lord of the Rings series.

Also as Dave pointed out the Internet is also a place for artists to come together and compose music together. This not only takes the form of midi's, but also complete works. These works then are remixed and combined to make even more interesting pieces.

The Internet is also a great marketplace for all forms of art. Old paintings are auctioned off on e-bay, digital works are available with a small membership fee, and photos from the remotest parts of the world can be viewed online and then large prints can be purchased. It is certainly a marketplace that is not going to dry up anytime soon and will continue to expand as people find that the Internet offers them artwork that is more appealing to them than can be found in brick and mortar stores or music clubs.

Other issues that we could have spent a while discussing include things like copyright and distribution. A lot of things like Napster are subject to heavy debate as to their legality and contribution to the arts. I am listening to a CD right now by a smaller band, that I would not have bought if I did not download the song first on Napster. I like to try before I buy, but unfortunately that is illegal in many cases.

I look forward to seeing what computers can do for the arts. There are a lot of creative people out there and that will only continue. Their contributions so far have been really neat and I have enjoyed them, I hope this continues.