GA2013 – XVI Generative Art Conference

Celestino Soddu



Topic: Generative Art

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References:

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Artworks: D'APRES FRANCIS BACON

In 1996 I done my generative artwork "D'apres Picasso", by constructing a generative device able to produce endless variations of woman portraits. I made that artwork referring to my interpretation of Picasso portraits as Picasso made his portraits by referring to the African 3D statues and to Velasquez.

For this GA conference I tried to perform my interpretation of the portraits of Francis Bacon. Mainly to his self-portraits.

I chose Francis Bacon because he made his portraits by interpreting the Van Gogh portraits and, one more time, the portraits of Velasquez.

And for another important reason: Francis Bacon was, in the seventies of last century, the only artist that we can call a figurative artist able to propose an incredible and strongly recognizable artworks production. With an incontestable identity.

Being figurative and being strongly recognizable are, in my opinion, the two characters of a generative approach to visual Art that I most appreciate.

My generative artwork "D'apres Francis Bacon" works by evolving my interpretation of the 2D images of these portraits into 3D events. The movement from 2D into 3D is performed as reverse perspective. When the process works on a reverse perspective, it needs a subjective interpretation. But not only. It defines a possible contamination among different 3D events and their reciprocal intersection and interaction, trying to produce results that have the feeling inspired by these portraits.

The aim was to arrive to a sequence of possible variations where each portraits is strongly identifiable as a possible interpretation of Francis Bacon portraits. But this is clear only in a first step. More, each generated portraits could be strongly identifiable as belonging to my artist vision.



Five portraits of "D'apres Francis Bacon" by Celestino Soddu

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Celestino Soddu, "d'apres Francis Bacon", Generative Art 2013