# ALPHOSZO
## A PROPOSAL FOR A NEW DEFINITION

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Left to right: Binary photography, oil painting on canvas, Alphoszo (photo + filters + 30% hand painting, all binary).

## PUBLISHING INFORMATION

## COPYRIGHT NOTICE

## ABSTRACT

I propose a new definition to reflect the contemporary development within digital painting as artistry, knowledge, methods, mediums and technologies converge – *Alphoszo*.

For the future of Art history documentation and contemporary painting techniques.

## CR CATEGORIES

I.3.3 [Computer Graphics]—Picture/Image Generation

## KEYWORDS

Gestalt
Visual representation
Convergent media
Painting
Painterly rendering
Painterly photography
Faux painting
Quasi painting
Abstract images
Alphoszo

## INTRODUCTION

With the contemporary development in the Arts such as printing of binary art there has arisen a need for a new term and definition which separate paintings created by humans using new techniques from AI painting and auto-painting such as that in Painter and traditional painting such as that of the analogue Realist painters.

Alphoszo combines binary, hand painted skills with 2D binary algorithms like filters and apps

such as Hipstamatic, Glaze etc. on top of photography or 3D renders to create painterly effects.

I propose a new term to differentiate these convergent medium paintings from hand made paintings in analogue mediums such as watercolor or oil paintings of like those of the contemporary Realist school. And even to differentiate Alphoszo paintings from digital paintings such as pure 100% hand made Photoshop paintings. And from AI generated images like those presented at by Nvivida at GTC 2016.

## DEFINITION

My proposal is *Alphoszo* which combines:
*Al*gorithms from "the words 'algorithm' and 'algorism' coming from the name al-Khwārizmī. Al-Khwārizmī (Persian, c. 780-850) was a Persian mathematician, astronomer, geographer, and scholar." (wiki)

*Phos* – from Greek 'light'.
Representing that we as artists are painting with light on a computer screen (to separate it from screen print, canvas painting etc).
"Example: photography - drawing with light. The word "photography" was created from the Greek roots (phōtos), genitive of (phōs), "light"

and (graphé) "representation by means of lines" or "drawing", together meaning "drawing with light". (wiki)

*Zografízo* – From Greek 'depict, paint, picture, portray, draw'.
Zo implies and represents our creative act as humans. To recognize our human touch from the development of AI art and pure photo and filter pictures, placing this art form between analogue painting and photography.

## HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Historically the development of new mediums and techniques have been defined. *Photography, lithography, etching* etc. Even medium specific - *watercolor painting, oil painting* etc. *Convergent media* emerged in the academic context which includes interactivity, motion and computer graphics. Commercially *multi media* was coined in the late 1900's but did not stick and is today associated with CD-Roms. And so with new developments new methods and terms are born.

Terms such as *Faux* or *Quasi painting* has surfaced but do not lend credibility to this new Art form, to carry value neither artistically nor commercially, already in those new implying that
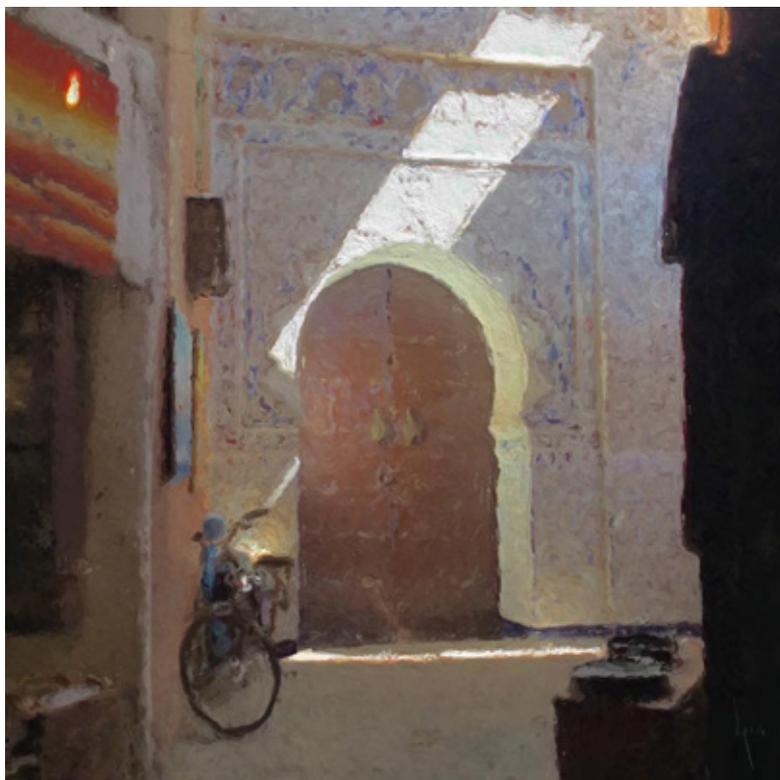


*Mirror of Destiny* by Leo Sandberg. Plein air Alphoszo.

they are fake, or lesser than an original. These names could be demeaning to the artistic and technical knowledge that goes into creating them just another piece. Which is not constructive for the future possibilites of this form of Art. You, the Artist, still make your choices, even with new technology at hand. Yes, everyone might be able to create Alphoszo art just like anyone can paint with oils or write. But that does not mean they will contribute great Art or important writing.

## CONTEXT
One could for example execute an *alla prima plein air alphoszo* and sell it in an art gallery as an *Alphoszo giclée print*.

One could also note in an museum in the future that a piece is an Alphoszo giclée, in an art historical context. Or an Alphoszo just presented on-screen or in an online museum archive.

This is a only a few porposed usages for this new medium definition.

## RELATED WORK
Early work for stylized computer graphics, as opposed to realistic computer graphics, came from experiments at Walt Disney company and then Pixar animation studios, follow by research at companes like Valve (see references).

## CONCLUSIONS
We are only 30 years into binary painting. And photography only 100 years plus in context to oil painting and drawing. What will the future bring? Is Alphoszo here to stay?

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS
André Wognum, Gabriel Winnberg and Per Elof Ricklund for the discussion and definition of the word Alphoszo. Robh Ruppel for the experiments, contribution and inspiration of his Alphoszo paintings. Walt Disney and Pixar researchers, programmers and artists for blazing the way.

## NOTE
By definition an Alphoszo painting requires at least 30% the artist's hand and needs to look more like a painting than a 3D render or a photograph to be considered an Alphoszo. This can be open for debate depending on the viewers context and experience in painting / photography.

## REFERENCES
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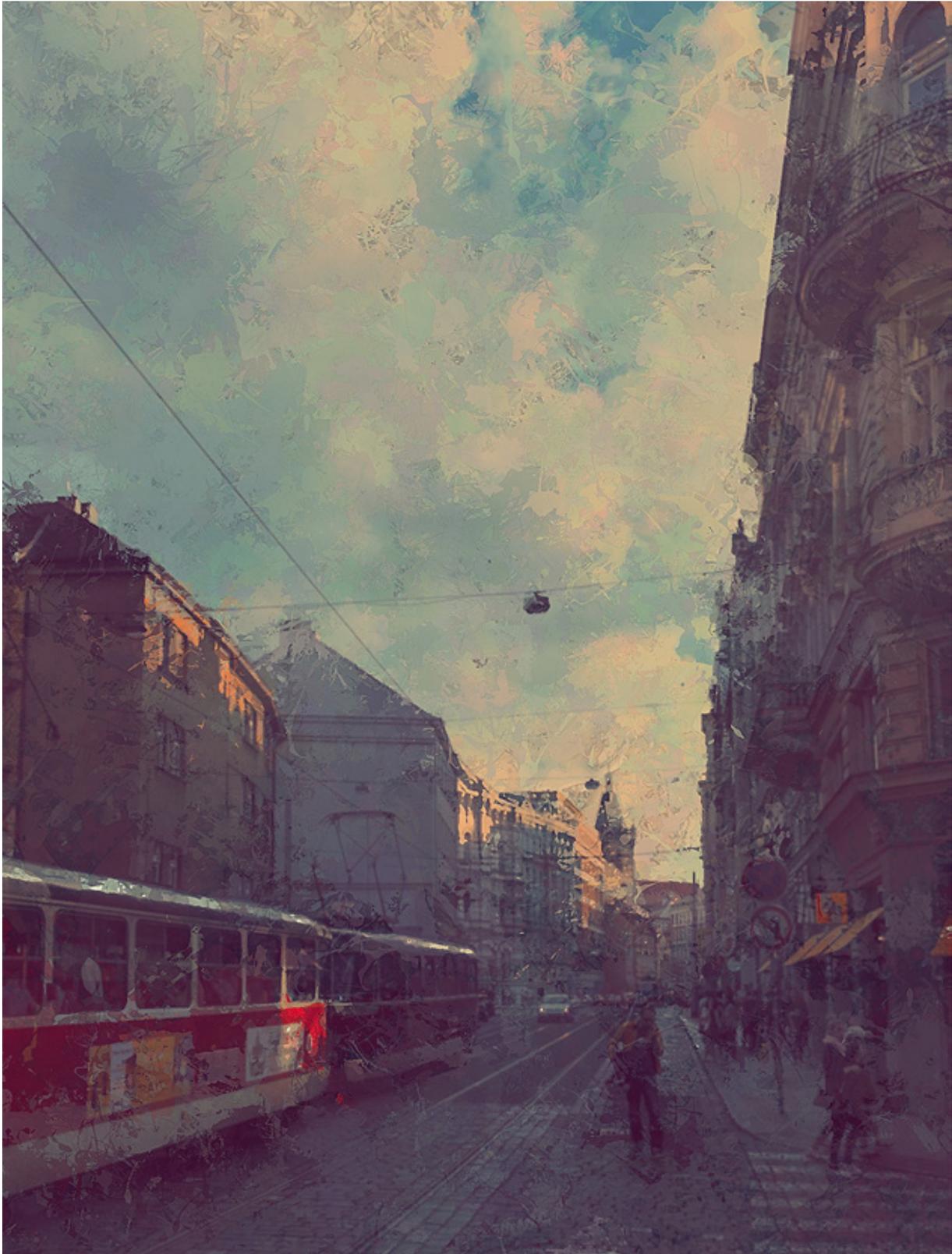
*Prague* by Robh Ruppel. Alphoszo.

*Prague* by Robh Ruppel. Alphoszo.
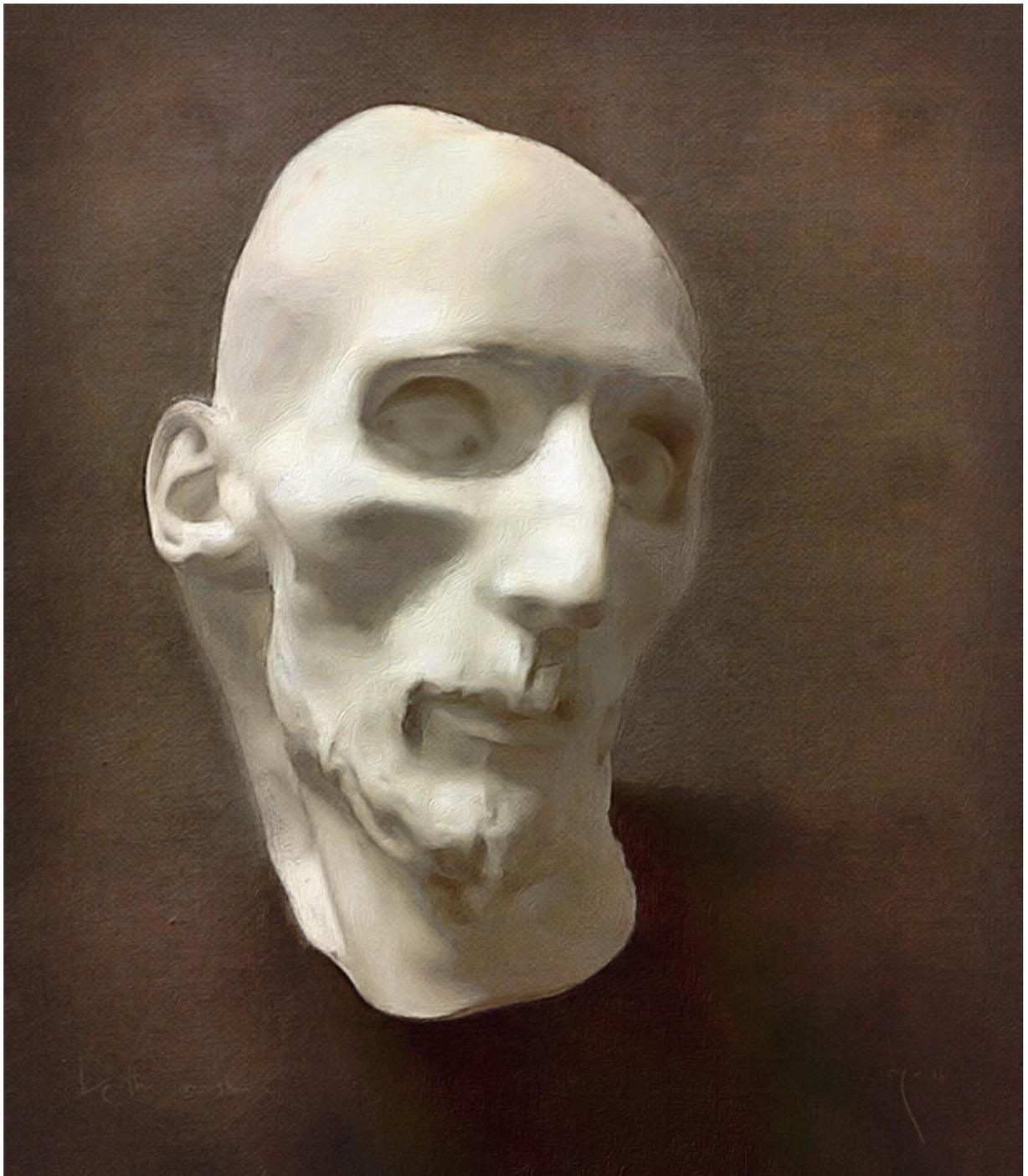
*Death mask* by Leo Sandberg. Alphoszo.