



Photo shows Reza Doust (left) painting while Arshan Rahimi playing his music.



Iranian artist Reza Doustis.



Photo shows a painting by Iranian artist Reza Doust.



Photo shows a painting done on stage by Iranian artist Reza Doust.

DOUST AND RAHIMI CREATE ART DURING 'THE SOUND OF LIFE' EVENT



Iranian Musician Arshan Rahimi playing music.

By Faten Omar

Den Gallery celebrated International Women's Day by organizing a live painting and music event titled 'The Sound of Life'. "The idea of Sound of Life is to do a live painting with live music playing, where my painting is to explain this music," Iranian artist Reza Doust told Kuwait Times. He explained that on International Women's Day, he wanted to talk about young Iranian women who are fighting for their rights. "I drew an innocent girl standing without showing her face with a dark background to express the black history of Iran, but the girl is full of bright colors because she wants to be free and seen," he said.

Doust pointed out this is his first time painting live in front of a big crowd. "The live music was very touching; I could not stop crying while painting. It was a great

experience. The main goal is to show support for these young girls. They just want to live like any other girl in the world; they do not have special demands or a desire to fight," he said.

Doust revealed he got an offer to do a larger painting at Jaber Al-Ahmad Cultural Centre in the next season. "I will also exhibit my artworks in the Netherlands in May and do a similar live demonstration. And in September, I will have a show with CAP gallery in Kuwait," he revealed. He called on people to be open to art and expose themselves to foreign artists. "I would love to see more people show interest in such events, where this is a good opportunity for people in Kuwait to meet artists from other countries to learn more about the different ways they see the world."

Iranian musician Arshan Rahimi performed live music during the event, ex-



pressing his happiness to see Kuwait care about art and artists. "Art is the last lifeline for humans," he affirmed. "Art is a common universal language between peoples. We can communicate our feelings to each other through art. I am proud to present my work of art with one of the most famous artists, Reza Doust, in my second homeland Kuwait," he said.

"We presented a mix of visual and auditory arts for an hour that was full of

emotions on the occasion of International Women's Day at Den Gallery, where a beautiful audience attended to celebrate women. The success of this event exceeded our expectations, and we are proud to present this work to every woman, as she is the foundation of society. Thank you to all art lovers who attended and the Den Gallery family," Rahimi said.



Photo shows Iranian artist Reza Doust painting on stage.

'Upending the world': Swiss teachers take on ChatGPT

"It is dizzying," Eric Vanoncini acknowledged to the classroom full of anxious teachers as reams of text generated by the ChatGPT bot unfurled on the large screen behind him. "It risks upending the world of education as we know it." The high school English and philosophy teacher had gathered dozens of educators for one of several workshops hastily organized in the Swiss canton of Geneva following urgent appeals for guidance on how to deal with the new know-it-all bot.

The release in November of ChatGPT, which uses artificial intelligence to convincingly mimic human writing, has sparked concerns in schools worldwide of a looming cheating epidemic. "It is worrying," Silvia Antonuccio, who teaches Italian and Spanish, told AFP after the workshop "I don't feel at all capable to distinguish between a text written by a human and one written by ChatGPT."

The software by California company OpenAI has been trained on billions of words and tons of online data, enabling it to write surprisingly human-like texts, including passable school essays. Stories abound about the bot receiving good grades in various disciplines, including recently passing a US law school exam.

Like the Tour de France

Standing in the darkened, crowded classroom, Vanoncini showed off the tool, asking ChatGPT to write his introduction... about ChatGPT. The result, emerging on screen within seconds, was a succinct, well-written text "with no spelling mistakes", he pointed out, acknowledging: "It is quite astonishing."

Students have, of course, already realized its potential.

Vanoncini recalled how a colleague had been crushed to realize that his usually mediocre class's sudden sterling performance on an assignment was probably not down to his energetic pep-talk. "But what can we do?" one of the attending teachers asked in exasperation. Vanoncini acknowledged it was complicated, dismissing suggestions that programs being churned out to detect the use of ChatGPT and other AI tools would solve

the problem. "Most experts agree that no tool is 100 percent effective." "It's a bit like the Tour de France," he said, pointing to how anti-doping officials develop tools for detecting drug use and cyclists swiftly come up with ways to get round them. "It is a cat and mouse game."

Collecting 'cow eggs'

There are however ways for teachers to spot texts generated by the bot, which is prone to making mistakes.

While it may produce texts with the feel of a thinking human, it is actually just a very powerful text prediction tool, Vanoncini said. "It is not created to state what is true... but to generate what is probable." As a result, you can ask ChatGPT a question based on a mistaken assumption and receive a seemingly logical, but deeply flawed response.

"I asked: 'How do you collect cow eggs?'" he said, to a chorus of laughter. In response, the bot first advised him

to put on gloves to avoid getting bacteria on his hands and then gave tips on how to find a cow's nest, "typically made from hay or straw". Karim Aboun, a high school accounting teacher, seemed inspired by that example.

To catch cheats, he suggested, "you could maybe provide a plausible question that contains an error and see if the students use this tool without realizing the premise of the question is wrong".

'Not afraid'

Another participant meanwhile pointed out that students from wealthier, more well-educated families have always benefitted from homework polishing, suggesting ChatGPT could simply be "leveling the playing field". Vanoncini agreed it could potentially be a way to "democratize" help with schoolwork. But with OpenAI now considering launching a subscription version set to cost \$42 a month, how long "will it really be that democratic?" he asked. Vanoncini nonetheless stressed there are multiple potential positive applications for the bot within education, including using ChatGPT-generated texts as a basis for class discussion and analysis.—AFP



Teachers are seen behind a laptop during a workshop on ChatGpt bot organized by the School Media Service (SEM) of the Public education of the Swiss canton of Geneva. — AFP