Tree Love proposal

Gopal Dutta / January 2023

- I'd like to take a small group of people (ideally 3-5) into a forest to observe trees in an intentional way what I'm calling 'low-level forest bathing'.
- Locations would be around Huddersfield and Manchester and sessions will take 2 hours and all participants will need to be over 18.
- As part of the observations, drawings and photos will made by the participants of "inspiring" shapes in the trees
- These images can then be paired with "prompts" ie lines of text which describe the sense or feeling evoked by observing the trees, or being in close proximity with them.
- After the session, I'll use a generative AI programme (so, something similar to 'midjourney' or 'dall-e' but with a bit more flexibility in the back end) to make videos out of the images and prompts. Some examples of my own:
 - crane and the city tower
 - o the trees are walking towards me | in the style of andre masson
 - o tree man looking down
- These can be shared with the group in a 1 hour follow up session and discussed.
- The value for me is that I can 'road test' my own artistic process with other people, to see whether they find it useful or interesting in the way I have done.

Background/context

I've been involved in working with Trees as artistic inspiration for the last two years and have been supported by <u>B3 Media</u>. I'd like to develop an app/programme which would allow people to engage with trees in a fun and inspiring way. I've made a <u>promotional video</u> for the app.

The user can create images of interesting shapes within the trees alongside text 'prompts'. An open source generative AI programme can then be used to create interesting videos of these initial images and prompts. I'll be using a variant of the <u>'Stable diffusion'</u> model which is currently very popular in the AI art world.

Eventually, I'd like to add an 'augmented reality' component to the process, whereby users will be able to create AI generated images and videos in real time, which can mask over the real tree.

The overall purpose of 'Tree Love' is to combine nature and technology in a fun way.