

# Interview Transcript

## Dasha Ilina

<https://dilemmablog.fabrikanten.at/blog/blog-ganzer-beitrag/interview.html>

DASHA:

My name is Dasha Elina, I'm originally from Moscow in Russia, but I live in Paris now since 10 years, and I'm an artist.

*Gerald:*

*How often do you use AI? Once a month, once a week, or almost every day?*

DASHA:

I guess it depends on what you define as AI, because I think there's a lot of ways in which we use AI which we are not conscious of. If you're talking about, like, image generators or Chat GPT or something like this, then never.

*Gerald:*

*Never?*

DASHA:

Never. I've never used Chat GPT. I do use, I have to admit, DeepL, the AI-based translator. I mean, it's just very, very helpful. Somehow I don't see it as problematic as Chat GPT. Maybe that's not the right way to see it. Maybe it's also just as problematic, but I feel like translation-based, or especially a DeepL service is not as evil as the other ones.

*Gerald:*

*So what is the most evil part of Chat GPT, for instance?*

DASHA:

The energy and water consumption, I would say. To me, that's the worst part about it.

*Gerald:*

*Compared to the rare earth, what you need for mobile phones and so, isn't it evil too?*

DASHA:

Of course it's evil too, but I don't have the stats in my mind or the numbers in my head, but I'm pretty sure that the consumption of Chat GPT has already surpassed that of the airline industry, like the entire airline industry, I think, if I'm not mistaken.

So, yeah, I mean, I'm not trying to say that smartphones are so great either. Yeah, of course there's horrible mining happening for rare earth materials that are in the chips and in the technology, but I don't know. I feel like it's a lot easier for me anyway to just not use AI services.

*Gerald:*

*And are you alone? I mean, compared with your friends and so, and your surroundings?*

DASHA:

I'm not alone, but I am in the minority. I know some other people that never ever used AI. Most of them were part of the panel that we just saw earlier. But yeah, of course, even friends of mine that I expected would have never used it have ended up using it. So it is becoming to be more and more

ubiquitous, but I hope that like with NFTs or some kind of other novel technologies that don't stick around, it will eventually die down. That's my hope. I think it's not going to happen, but that's my hope.

*Gerald:*

*So when it will be like a standard tool in each mobile phone, you would have to switch it off?*

DASHA:

I don't know, this is very vague, though. I feel like we need to define exactly what you're talking about. Like, I don't know if image generation is going to become part of every iPhone. If it is, then maybe I'll get a brick phone. Who knows? But I don't know.

I feel like saying AI services is too vague. I mean, of course, there's probably already so many things within my phone that are functioning with some kind of algorithms that are machine learning and constantly updating and evolving. But yeah.

*Gerald:*

*Okay. So you're not using it, but a lot of people are using it, and also artists try to make some experience with it. Do you think it will change the definition of creativity somehow? Because we think creativity is something very unique for human beings? But if you look at the development of artificial intelligence, maybe somehow superintelligence, it will be creative as human beings.*

DASHA:

I don't think so.

*Gerald:*

*You don't think so?*

DASHA:

No. What is the special thing in our creativity? I don't think humans are special. I just think that artificial intelligence is not going to be that good. I mean, I think the difference between human creativity and machine-based creativity is the fact that algorithms are just trained on data that is already existing.

So to generate an image, it's never going to come up with something incredibly inventive because it's based on a bunch of images that are already existing. And making a painting in the style of a famous artist, yeah, of course it's very good at that because it's very good at taking pre-existing data and just making a soup of it and having some average painting coming out of that. But that's not how human creativity works, I don't think.

For me, with the project that I just presented inside, (*@AMRO conference 2024*) I went from doing research on surveillance to making a YouTube tutorial for a grilled cheese sandwich. And I don't think an AI could ever make that leap because it's not capable. Yeah, it just doesn't work the same way as the human brain does.

*Gerald:*

*Can't AI be very helpful as a daily assistant, for example, in office work?*

DASHA:

I mean, I understand why these tools are so attractive. Yeah, of course, it's much nicer to have someone write your annoying email for you than having to do it yourself, but it's all just coming out of laziness. And I kind of like doing the banal work.

I like doing boring tasks, so it's also my way of resisting these tools. It's just saying, no, I want to write my own stupid email that just says, well received, thank you, you know. So I don't know.

I mean, I hope that eventually more people start feeling the same way. So I don't know, yeah. An office assistant? I'm not sure if it's really necessary.