Really? That's old news. Haven't you seen *The Lawnmower Man*?
Oh, yeah, that's computer art, alright. And did you see *Knightmare*?
*Tron*? It's amazing what they're doing with their new-fangled computers. But now it's time for a revolution, and it involves taking some key words out of my previous sentence. And then, er, shifting the words around a bit so it makes more sense. It now reads: 'It's amazing what computers are doing.' Forget art made using computers; this is computers creating art.

**Computers creating art? Programming, fool.**
To begin with, maybe. But The Painting Fool software — created by Dr Stephen Colton, Professor of Computational Creativity at Goldsmith's, University of London — has been gradually refined since 2001, and it's now making decisions. It has moods. It looks at a photo then makes art based on its interpretation of the tone of the image, and what it feels like creating. The results are unpredictable. It frequently surprises its creator with its choices. And that's quite scary.

"Skynet closed all human art galleries at 2.14pm..." Hmm. Not scary.
Well, that's what humanity said. The Painting Fool has won plaudits for its artificial intelligence. It can read news feeds and produce collages that match the tone of the story. See thepaintingfool.com for more example shots. But most exciting is the possibility of a computer — acting completely independently of its user, remember — producing something that displays individuality and creativity. So, here's a question: how much would you pay for it?