# Artists voice concerns over AI-generated 'starter pack' toy images and their impact



Artists and creatives are expressing concerns over a growing trend involving the use of artificial intelligence (AI) to create "starter pack" images of individuals portrayed as toys. This trend, which gained momentum at the beginning of April, has seen thousands of people uploading personal photographs to AI platforms to generate doll-like images of themselves. However, some in the creative community warn that this practice could pose risks to their livelihoods and the broader artistic landscape.

Nick Lavellee, a craftsman who has specialised in making custom action figures for six years, spoke to the BBC about his unease regarding the impact of AI-generated images on his work. He noted that social media has become saturated with such AI-created portraits, leading to a growing weariness among audiences. "People are sick of them," he said. Lavellee described his craft as an "artistic aesthetic" and expressed the belief that AI-generated art tends to diminish this traditional form of creativity.

Beyond potential economic consequences for artists like Lavellee, concerns have also been raised about broader implications of the trend. Critics highlight risks including environmental damage due to the computational power required for AI generation, as well as privacy issues stemming from the sharing of personal photographs with AI platforms. There are also worries about the devaluation of genuine creative efforts in favour of algorithmically produced images.

As the use of AI continues to intersect with various forms of artistic expression, the debate around its influence on creativity and the livelihoods of human artists persists, reflecting a complex and evolving relationship between technology and the arts.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.fastcompany.com/91318427/the-ai-starter-pack-trend-is-taking-over-linkedin-and-tiktok> - Corroborates the viral nature of the AI starter pack trend, mentioning its spread on LinkedIn and TikTok, and highlights concerns about its impact on creativity.
* <https://www.nbcphiladelphia.com/news/national-international/ai-action-figures-ai-dolls-social-media-trend/4160127/> - Supports the trend's use of AI tools like DALL-E and Midjourney to generate doll-like images, and mentions user engagement through hashtags like #AIbarbie.
* <https://www.instagram.com/p/DIhgpgPPaDA/> - Demonstrates public participation in the #starterpack trend and references critical views on AI art, aligning with concerns about creative devaluation.
* <https://www.instagram.com/p/DIm5Z6xM3Ao/> - Shows continued engagement with the trend in April 2025, reflecting its persistence and social media saturation as described by artists like Lavellee.
* <https://www.realsimple.com/ai-generated-action-figures-11713742> - Details the technical process of creating AI-generated action figures using ChatGPT, supporting claims about widespread adoption and accessibility of the trend.