

# Using New Technology To Produce More Effective Memes

**Post by “Cassius” of November 27, 2023 at 10:54 AM**

In addition to the new graphics that Nate's wife has been producing, I see that [Bryan](#) has produced some new work that apparently also uses new technology.

[epicureanfriends.com/wcf/gallery/image/726/](http://epicureanfriends.com/wcf/gallery/image/726/)

[epicureanfriends.com/wcf/gallery/image/725/](http://epicureanfriends.com/wcf/gallery/image/725/)

When I combine my reaction to these new images with Kalosyni's recent efforts towards "motivational posters" and "pamphlets" it seems like we ought to be able to combine the two to produce striking presentations not only of persons but also illustrations of ideas.

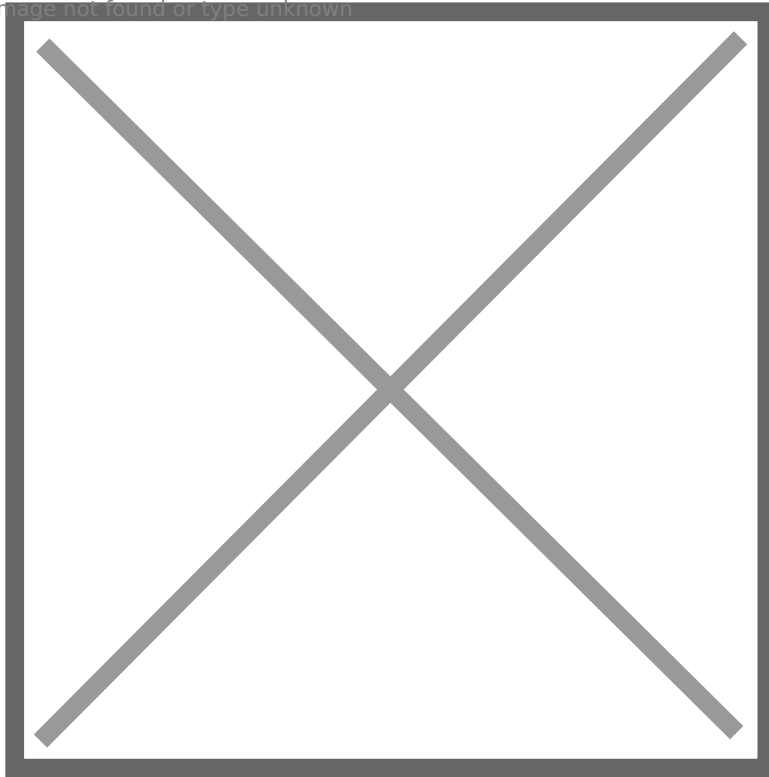
Meaning: Can we tell the generators to combine the text of striking quotes with a striking background or scene?

In order to get started we need some discussion of what tools are available, how to access them, and how to use them.

[Bryan](#) or others, can you let us know what you are finding in the "tools" department?

Here's one list of tools but we need to save each other time by networking what we are finding to be best:

Image not found or type unknown



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### **Post by “Kalosyni” of November 27, 2023 at 12:37 PM**

The process that is bogging me down with creating the posters is the actual text, lol. And there will be a whole lot of text, so it is more instructional/educational in nature.

I started working on a pamphlet (zine) a while back...and here is my unfinished project:



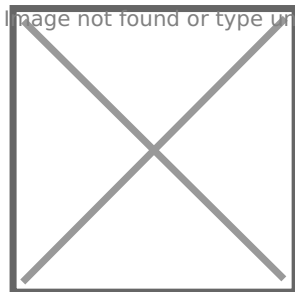
...this zine is also is black and white 8-1/2" x 11" and which folds up to create small pages, but was finding it hard to come up with exact wording (there are so many directions to take it).

## Post by “Don” of November 27, 2023 at 12:38 PM

I am not a fan of AI generated artwork for various reasons. Using "tools" is one thing. Plugging in text and getting AI to spit out an "original" artwork is something else.

## Post by “Kalosyni” of November 27, 2023 at 12:44 PM

Here is a website for directions on zine making, which could either be "high-tech" images and text --or-- could be simple handwritten/hand-drawn to give it a more human feel.



[How to make a one-page zine](http://www.epicureanfriends.com/thread/3553-using-new-technology-to-produce-more-effective-memes/)  
[experimentwithnature.com](http://www.epicureanfriends.com/thread/3553-using-new-technology-to-produce-more-effective-memes/)

## Post by “Bryan” of November 27, 2023 at 12:51 PM

Here is the one I have played with the last few days: <https://wepik.com/ai#rs=menu>.

I have been going through DRN and having it create images from translations of Lucretius. You can add text, but it does not generate text well at all.

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## Post by “Cassius” of November 27, 2023 at 1:57 PM

[Bryan](#) -- So you can't just say for example: "Take this sentence: "[Death is Nothing To Us](#)" and display it in the style of a golden plaque on a museum wall" ?

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## Post by “Bryan” of November 27, 2023 at 3:15 PM

Not in a way that I have seen yet, but I am probably just missing something (this image is just an example, and we should probably delete it).

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## Post by “Eikadistes” of November 27, 2023 at 6:23 PM

### [Quote from Cassius](#)

In addition to the new graphics that Nate's wife has been producing, I see that [Bryan](#) has produced some new work that apparently also uses new technology.

Just to be clear, Gen (my wife) did not use any kind of an image generator or an AI-based tool on her neo-Classical adaptations that she is selling through her Etsy store. Each of those images took her days-to-weeks of editing using professional applications for which she has acquired professional licensing. She has been working as a self-employed photographer and graphic designer for over a decade (long before AI-based web apps were hosted), and a lot of what you see in her art are adaptations from models she has shot and pictures we own using Adobe

*Photoshop* and *Illustrator*. All of this art took a lot of time, and, also, investments in materials, tools, and education. One danger of using AI apps to produce art is that the users do not have any initial investment in either materials education, and every other kind of artist has a big expense at the beginning of their work just to get started in the first place.

#### Quote from Don

I am not a fan of AI generated artwork for various reasons. Using "tools" is one thing. Plugging in text and getting AI to spit out an "original" artwork is something else.

Agreed whole-heartedly (*and the recent issues brought up due to the Writer's Strike can help inform us about the dangers of infringement*). It bums me out as a songwriter and instrumentalist that other performers can gain notoriety as "musicians", when they neither play an instrument (including vocals), nor write lyrical poetry, nor compose melodies, and cannot perform live music without relying on engineers to process their sounds. In that same light, it is a bummer that my wife can spend months designing a Hollywood-authentic costume, but doesn't get as much attention as some amateur model who purchases all of their pieces online and produces nothing of their own but selfies; likewise, it is even more frustrating for her as a visual artist to have her work quietly appropriated without accountability.

I can say from experience that there are a lot of really excellent artists out there that are hungry for work, and will provide the kinds of images that we crave for a fair commission. AI can be helpful for inspiration, but there are other avenues that would actually lead to much higher quality art than what even AI can produce.

I think that the most responsible option would be to commission artists to do this work so that the actual creator can be appropriately credited. Otherwise, we *really* have no idea who is personally responsible for the images from which the Generators are taking. It risks completely robbing artists of their agency and limited their reach.

Imagine if you could just write, "*Give me a 3-minute love song in 4/4 time, like the Beatles and Moody Blues*" and in a few seconds, a future music generator could do what takes me months of work, months of recording, editing, balancing, re-recording ... employing the decades of practice and rehearsal and failure and marginal success, and thousands of hours of studying and rehearsal and applying trigonometric functions to balance the gain structure of multiple tracks, and quitting out of frustration with digital tools, and then returning with the constant, obsessive curiosity of an artist, and dozens of shows, and many of them were failures, and struggles with self-esteem, and personal victories in being brave enough to share your skill. All that persistence and struggle is utterly absent from AI-produced material.

AI could completely eliminate a company's obligation to compensate their talent, so I think if anything is going to be represented as being the production of a studio, business (or a website), the actual artist needs to be credited, and AI limits our ability to do that. For example, since my wife's images are public, AI-generators will see her [#Epicurus](#) #Hashtags and pull from her art

(due to the limited number of Epicurean images out there). We have absolutely no way of knowing which generators are now using her images to inform their reproductions.

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### **Post by “Cassius” of November 27, 2023 at 7:43 PM**

Thanks for the further explanation Nate and I should not have painted with so broad a brush as to include your wife's art in this thread. You are absolutely right that AI / computers will never be able to replace true creativity, in music or in art, and that when we're really serious about getting something creative done we'll never be well advised to try to let a computer do it. For someone like me even the most expensive graphic or video program is a waste of time, because i have no artistic ability to make use of it. AI has a place, but it's definitely never going to take over the place of true creativity.

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### **Post by “Cassius” of June 3, 2024 at 8:33 AM**

A "laughing Epicurus" by Kalosyni -- can you post the AI generator and code used to produce this?

Post

#### **[RE: The Facial Expression of Epicurus](#)**

Just for fun I put into an AI image generator: "laughing Epicurus" and this is what I got, and these strike me as being not very photogenic. Others who posted here in this thread above have way much better stuff (especially those which are human made art), but I decided to post these anyway because these bring up the human quality of emotions. Even though we see and think of the stern face of Epicurus in carved busts, he was a human being with emotions.

[epicureanfriends.com/wcf/attachment/4794/](http://epicureanfriends.com/wcf/attachment/4794/)



Kalosyni

June 3, 2024 at 8:22 AM

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### **Post by “Kalosyni” of June 3, 2024 at 2:15 PM**

<http://www.epicureanfriends.com/thread/3553-using-new-technology-to-produce-more-effective-memes/>

I used the Canva app, and typed in "laughing Epicurus" - under Magic Media, filmic style, portrait format.

[Bryan](#) has made a number of good text-to-image (much better than one's I've made in Canva).