



Commissioned to work with SALT Research collections, artist Refik Anadol employed machine learning algorithms to search and sort relations among 1,700,000 documents. Interactions of the multidimensional data found in the archives are, in turn, translated into an immersive media installation.

Archive Dreaming, which is presented as part of The Uses of Art: Final Exhibition with the support of the Culture Programme of the European Union, is user-driven; however, when idle, the installation "dreams" of unexpected correlations among documents. The resulting high-dimensional data and interactions are translated into an architectural immersive space.

Shortly after receiving the commission, Anadol was a resident artist for Google's Artists and Machine Intelligence Program where he closely collaborated with Mike Tyka and explored cutting-edge developments in the field of machine intelligence in an environment that brings together artists and engineers. Developed during this residency, his intervention Archive Dreaming transforms the gallery space on floor -1 at SALT Galata into an all-encompassing environment that intertwines history with the contemporary, and challenges immutable concepts of the archive, while destabilizing archive-related questions with machine learning algorithms.

In this project, a temporary immersive architectural space is created as a canvas with light and data applied as materials. This radical effort to deconstruct the framework of an illusory space will transcend the normal boundaries of the viewing experience of a library and the conventional flat cinema projection screen, into a three dimensional kinetic and architectonic space of an archive visualized with machine learning algorithms. By training a neural network with images of 1,700,000 documents at SALT Research the main idea is to create an immersive installation with architectural intelligence to reframe memory, history and culture in museum perception for 21st century through the lens of machine intelligence.

SALT is grateful to Google's Artists and Machine Intelligence program, and Doğuş Technology, SKODA, Volkswagen Doğuş Finansman for supporting Archive Dreaming.

Location : SALT Galata, Istanbul, Turkey  
 Exhibition Dates : April 20 - June 11  
 6 Meters Wide Circular Architectural Installation  
 4 Channel Video, 8 Channel Audio  
 Custom Software, Media Server, Table for UI Interaction

Credits:

SALT Research  
 Vasif Korkun  
 Meriç Öner  
 Cem Yıldız  
 Adem Ayaz  
 Merve Elveren  
 Sani Karamustafa  
 Arı Algosyan  
 Dilge Eraslan

Google AI  
 Mike Tyka  
 Kenric McDowell  
 Andrea Held  
 Jac de Haan

Refik Anadol Studio Members  
 Raman K. Mustafa  
 Toby Heinemann  
 Nick Boss  
 Kian Khiaban  
 Ho Man Leung  
 Sebastian Neitsch  
 David Gann  
 Kerim Karaoglu  
 Sebastian Huber

