

AVID Online's next live session with Israeli Poet, Author and Digital Artist Eran Hadas will explore the intersection of poetry and technology

"Poetry should both reflect and affect reality."

- Eran Hadas

For Immediate Release

Have you ever wondered how technology can shape the deeply personal experience of poetry? Will poetry be more collaborative and multidisciplinary in the near future?

With the rise of Artificial Intelligence, much attention is given, both in computer science and in popular culture, to the generation of natural language texts by computers. But can computers generate poetic texts? And if a computer-generated text seems poetic to us, even though it does not express any human emotion or thought, does it count as a poem?

Poetry has changed radically through time to reflect and interact with the world. New forms of poetry may be explored in order to correspond with the digital world and Artificial Intelligence, and to better understand the difference between humans and machines. Moreover, perhaps the two should not compete with one another, but rather collaborate to create new forms and futures for poetry.

Embassy of Israel in India, Consulate General of Israel in Mumbai, Literature Live! and Avid Learning present **Computational Poetry: Technology, Collaboration and the Future of Poetry** a fascinating live session with Israeli *Poet, Author and Digital Artist Eran Hadas*.

Please read below for more details:

This session will be part of **AVID Online's Words meet Technology** – a virtual week dedicated to diverse perspectives on the future of writing across digital platforms, the future of poetry writing using algorithms, the impact of the digital on children's literature and the virtual way to experience children's literature festivals.

Eran, a Tel-Aviv based digital poet and media artist, has published 8 books. Among his collaborative projects are a headset that generates poems from brainwaves, a

documentarian robot that interviews people about the meaning of being human, and an artificial intelligence art curator.

In this fascinating, introductory session, Eran will draw upon his skills and experience as an experimental software developer and poet to outline the motivations, concepts and basic implementations of computer and computer-like methods to read, write and edit poetic texts.

Drawing upon examples of his revolutionary hybrid work, he will examine the intersections between creative technology – like Artificial Intelligence and Virtual Reality- and poetry and touch upon the written and technological skills required to write poetry in the digital age. Eran will also touch upon **the conception and creation of poetry** as a collaborative effort that takes place between humans and machines.

Using illustrative exercises, Eran will detail how the poem can be outside the page, how one can write **computational poetry** using algorithms and will speak about the rise of artificial intelligence and other entities to generate poetry.

Highlights include:

- The role of AI in shaping and expressing human emotion and identity
- The cross-disciplinary aspects of collaborative and computational poetry
- The role and techniques of how to create poetry using technology
- Basic notions of intersectional buzzwords (eg. computational literature, poetic chatbox, the modernist imagism movement, algorithmic and constraint-based editing etc.)
- Create your own original computer –generated poetry through instructive exercises and using original techniques

Join us to understand how language can work with machines and technology to create poetic words!

When: Thursday, 1st October 2020 | 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

RSVP: www.avidlearning.in

Press Email / Call: Ayesah Dadachanji on ayeshah.avid@gmail.com / +91 9820155297

About the Speaker

Eran Hadas is a Tel-Aviv based digital poet and media artist. He has published 8 books. Among his collaborative projects are a headset that generates poems from brainwaves, a

documentarian robot that interviews people about the meaning of being human, and an artificial intelligence art curator. His most popular collaboration to date is a viral AI Eurovision song, to which he contributed the lyrics generator. Hadas was the 2017 Schusterman Artist-in-Residence at Caltech and he is the 2020 Artist-in- Residence at Weizmann Institute. His projects have been exhibited internationally in various contexts, such as science museums (Heinz Nixdorf, Paderborn), art

museums (Tel-Aviv Museum of Art), new media festivals (Ars-Electronica, Linz), and literature festivals (Tata Literature Live, Mumbai). He teaches in the New Media Program, Tel-Aviv University, in the Game Design M.Des, Shenkar and in College of the Literary Arts Jerusalem.

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About Partners

The Embassy of Israel in New Delhi: The cultural department of the Embassy of Israel in India is dedicated to promoting cultural ties between Israeli and Indian artists, facilitate cultural exchange between both countries and initiate a wide range of cultural performances, art exhibition, music concerts, visual arts events, conferences, seminars, workshops and community service. The cultural department is in charge of implementing Israel's cultural policy in India, representing Israel's relationships with Indian government officials and local authorities and dominant decision makers in the public and private sectors. We jointly work to promote the arts by organizing multi-cultural events in collaboration with other local and international festivals and cultural institutions all over India.

The Consulate General of Israel in Mumbai that under her Jurisdiction comes Maharashtra, Goa, Gujarat & Madhya Pradesh, is dedicated to promoting bilateral relations between Israel – India straightening ties & cooperation in a broad range of fields, including education, literature, the arts, media, and sports. Facilitate technological, economical, student and academic exchange programs as well as cultural exchange between both countries and initiate a wide range of cultural performances, art exhibition, music concerts, visual arts events, conferences, seminars, workshops and community service. The Consulate seeks to promote people to people ties, and ties between influencers from the two countries in cinema, literature, music and more, Engaging community members, educational institutions, organizations and other key constituencies works towards maintaining and enhancing relationships with wide range of communities within the Republic of India by opening various channels of communication, such as press, culture, academia, politics and social media, with the general public and the Jewish world. Taking part in several major events in the past year such as IFFI where Israel was the focus country, Pune film festival & Techfest among others, helps towards achieving those goals.

Literature Live! The Mumbai LitFest, is India`s leading literary festival, attracting the world`s great writers, performers and publishers. Last year over 150 writers from 17 countries took part in the festival. It has hosted world renowned authors like Sir Vidia Naipual, Anne Enright, Martin Amis, Germaine Greer, Amitav Ghosh, Shashi Tharoor, Ramchandra Guha, Ben Okri, Vikram Seth, Tom Friedman, Sebastian Faulks, AC Grayling, Lionel Shriver, Neil McGregor and many other Nobel, Booker and Pulitzer Prize winning authors. In its 11th year, the festival will take place from November 19 to 22, 2020, at NCPA, Nariman Point; Title Waves, Bandra and Prithvi Theatre, Juhu.

Avid Learning, the cultural philanthropy arm of the Essar Group founded in 2009 has, over the past decade, grown into one of Mumbai`s leading public programming platforms and is firmly entrenched in the country`s wider cultural ecosystem. Our thoughtfully curated and diverse events embrace the spirit of collaboration to bring together the best of Indian and international writers, artists, intellectuals, cultural experts, policymakers and industry leaders across Visual Art, Literature, Culture and Heritage, Education, Design & Technology and the Performing Arts through engaging and dynamic formats like panel discussions, workshops & master classes, roundtables, lecture demonstrations, festival platforms, symposiums & conferences, multidisciplinary performances and walkthroughs. To date, AVID has conducted over 1250 programs and connected with more than 150,000 individuals, a widely eclectic group of life-long learners including students, patrons, practitioners, influencers, thought leaders and cultural & creative enthusiasts in Mumbai, Delhi, Jaipur, Bangalore, Goa and Gujarat. We have also made our mark internationally, with events and collaborations in Dubai and New York. We regularly collaborate and partner with institutions, organisations and initiatives like the National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA), (CSMVS) Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), one of the apex bodies that impact cultural policy and the creative sector as a whole. We have been at the helm of programming at the Royal Opera House, Mumbai India`s only surviving Opera House since its reopening in 2016. We believe in the importance of arts for social change and we regularly offer our support and platforms for Social Advocacy. In April 2020, we launched **AVID Online**, an online further learning campaign on our social media platforms for our followers to engage with a range of varied topics across the breadth of the arts. Our eclectic faculty of experts, thought leaders, practitioners and innovators continue to share their learnings, expertise and knowledge on our social media platforms with tailored content featured weekly for AVID`s online community and beyond. In collaboration with long-term and new partners, we have since dimensionalised the campaign by re-introducing our existing offline formats and IPs and enhancing them for digital engagement. We have taken our content live with engaging masterclasses and virtual panel discussions and also built robust tangential campaigns and series in support of worthy causes and highlighting topical issues. To keep updated on our programmes, like us on <https://www.facebook.com/avidlearning/>, follow us on <https://twitter.com/AvidLearning> and Instagram: @avidlearning or log onto <http://www.avidlearning.in> #LearningNeverStops!

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