cellF, External Brain Improvisation

cellF by Guy Ben-Ary is a "biological self-portrait" divided into two parts. First the artist reprogrammed his skin cells to transform them into a functional neural network, defined as his "external brain." Then he developed a robotic body to interface it with an array of analogue modular synthesisers. In both bodies, voltages are passed through the different components to produce data or sound. In a live event, Darren Moore performed music, which was fed into the neurons of the "external brain" as electrical stimulations. The neurons responded by controlling the synthesiser. The degree of 'human' decisions in this performance is the main aspect questioned by the artist. We can go even further here and ask if the influence of non-human components is affecting the production of music in a way that sounds non-human as well. But this is exactly the artist's intention – to live with these doubts while experiencing the reality he created.
the freedom of escaping repetitive taps and clicks to accomplish some assumed tasks. Mixing media, electricity, electronics, mechanics and inert objects Graham Dunning has realised a structured track/performance/open script in his “Mechanical Techno: Ghost in the Machine Music.” More than a proof of concept a machine music declination.

Isn’t ASCII Art a perfect form of “graffiti” in 2010s? The 8-bit aesthetics is among the strongest visual references connecting the analogue recent past with the omni-digital present, so why not adopt it to finally have some public art embedded in the present? In Varberg, Sweden, 2016, the GOTO80 crew (feat: Karin Andersson) did it, choosing (not by accident) the Mo Soul Amiga-font.

YesNo by Timo Kahlen feels like “traditional” net art, a well crafted stuck webpage for the user’s aural and clickable enjoyment.

The relationship between Andy Warhol and personal computers (becoming quite popular during his last years) has been only partially investigated beyond his Amiga works. In November 2015, Sotheby’s sold his “Apple (from Ads)” (acrylic and silkscreen ink on canvas) for 910,000 USD, and in catalogue’s notes Warhol
tells about his meeting with Steve Jobs insisting to give him one and showing him how to draw (even if still in black and white): “we went into Sean [John Lennon’s son]’s bedroom—and there was a kid there setting up the Apple computer that Sean had gotten as a present, the Macintosh model. I said that once some man had been calling me a lot wanting to give me one, but that I’d never called him back or something, and then the kid looked up and said, ‘Yeah, that was me. I’m Steve Jobs.’ And he looked so young, like a college guy. And he told me that he would still send me one now. And then he gave me a lesson on drawing with it. It only comes in black and white now, but they’ll make it soon in color… I felt so old and out of it with this young whiz guy right there who helped invent it.”

Harsh Noise Wally, is a sophisticated mashup mixing strips of Wally, the lazy and cynical colleague of Dilbert with some epic noise music extreme attitudes. Well conceived and assembled.

Minority Report comes closer… Three huge screens at Birmingham New Street railway station are scanning passers-by and play advertisements accordingly.

http://www.birminghammail.co.uk/news/midlands-news/new-street-station-
GoPro ancestors in the 1960s and 1970s, mainly sport and movie persons like F1 driver Jackie Stewart, Bob Sinclair and Steve McQueen.

Rapper Prince Harvey, after his computer crashed and his external drive was stolen, managed to record an entire album in Apple Store SoHo in four months, befriending employees, hiding files and using USB sticks and mail as support. Abbie Hoffman would have been proud.