The notion of “business process” is no longer just considered an academic topic for experts interested in niche topics. Today, almost every organization, every manager has to deal with business processes, with the management of process excellence (MPE). “Business process” has become part of today’s mass culture – at least in the business environment.

Consequently, the concept of “business process” should start getting interesting for artists dealing with topics and images of mass culture. Why should the MPE not become an interesting topic for pop art? We have discussed the relation between jazz and process management, let us finish this book with a brief comment on pop art and process excellence.

Pop art generally involves the use of existing images from mass culture that are already represented in two dimensions, for example, in advertisements, photographs, comic strips, or other mass media sources. Pop art paintings are often emphasizing a flat frontal representation of those popular images and day-to-day life objects. Artists mostly use strong unmixed colors bound by hard edges and suggest a depersonalized approach of mass production. Pop art targets the popular taste sometimes even close to kitsch that was previously considered outside the limits of fine art [1].

You may have heard about well-known pop artists like Andy Warhol, Roy Lichtenstein, Robert Rauschenberg, James Rosenquist, Jasper Johns, Claes Oldenburg, Tom Wesselmann, and Keith Haring [1]. But there are also many more emerging and, in the meantime, more and more accepted artists are dedicated to pop art, such as Romero Britto, James Rizzi, Steve Kaufman, Burton Morris, Peter Mars, and Jeff Schaller [2]. These artists are confronted with a new reality of mass culture.

An important component of the MPE is the transfer of business reality into business process models. These process models and the information technology supporting them during design, implementation, execution, and process controlling have made process management a real mass phenomenon. The depiction of complex business environments in such models also provides a link to pop art by delivering the images that can be picked up by interested artists.

When I discussed this development with Jeff Schaller [3], one of the important emerging pop artists, he got very interested in the topic. The result was the painting...
shown on the next page. It is titled *Performance Process* and shows the human element of presses as well as the automation aspects – and in the background the key motivation: to make money. Typical for many pop art pieces is that he even includes a kind of description in the painting. Jeff has really shown that process excellence became popular (Fig. E1).

I hope you enjoy the painting and get interested in getting to know more about process excellence and pop art.

**References**


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