

Slides: <https://magnusviri.com/saintcon2026>

Dare I Call It Art?

About magnusviri - James Reynolds

- U of U BMus 1999
- U of U Marriott Library, 14 years (Mac admin)
- U of U School of Biological Sciences/COS/LAS, 12 years (Mac, Linux, network admin)
- Security has been a “hobby” of mine for decades
- Since September 2022 (Stable Diffusion 1.0) I’ve been “obsessed with AI”
- <https://magnusviri.com/saintcon2026>



Agenda

- Invoke.ai
- What Is Art?
- Glossary
- Model Families
- Demo

Invoke.ai

Invoke.ai

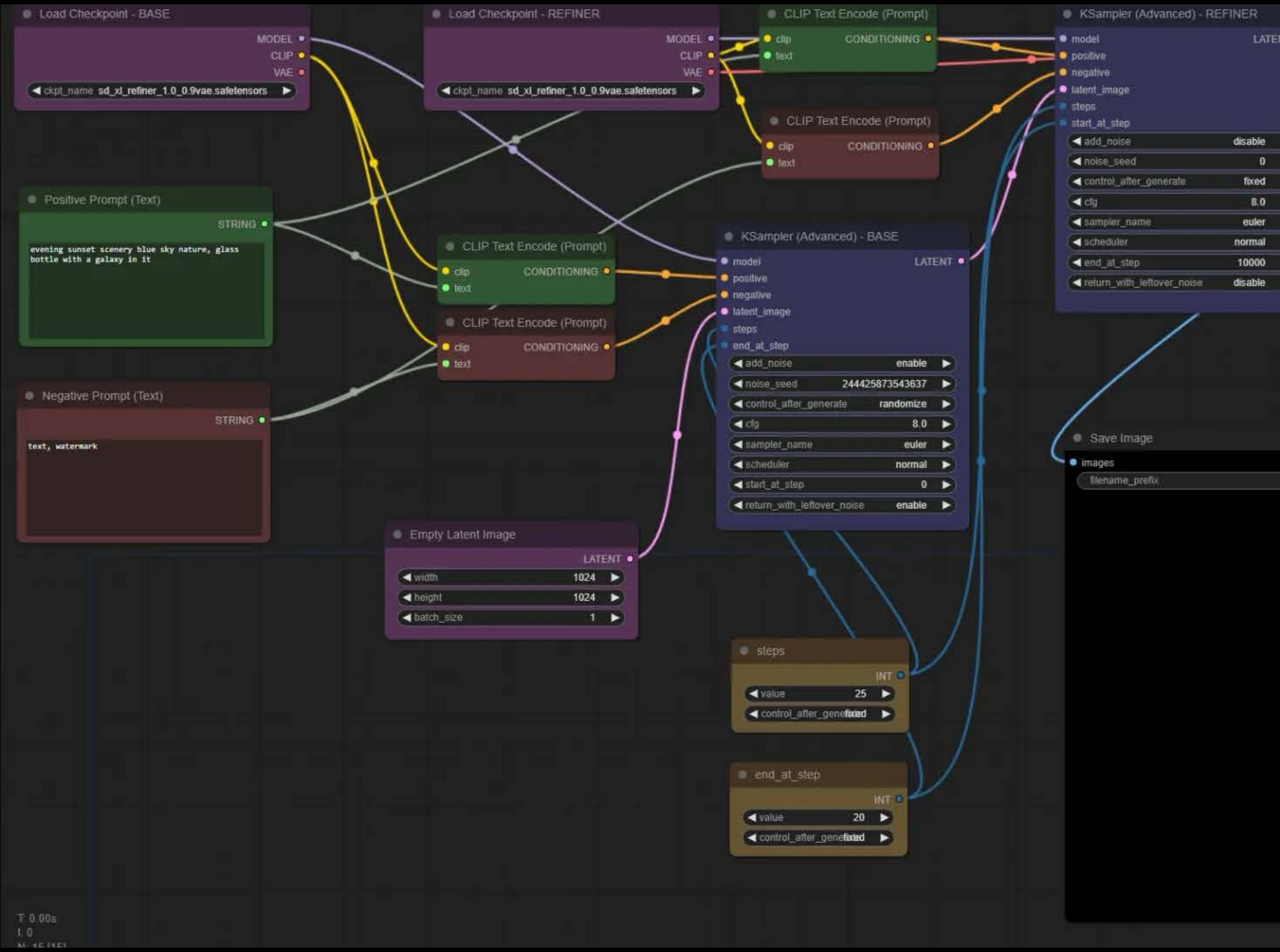


- Invoke started as a fork of the original Stable Diffusion 1.0 (Sept. 2022)
 - <https://github.com/CompVis/stable-diffusion>
 - One of the first with macOS support
- Invoke was less flexible than Automatic1111, but it always worked and only included legal components
- Invoke became a for profit company but then Adobe bought them last year
- Now they are a community group that is super active

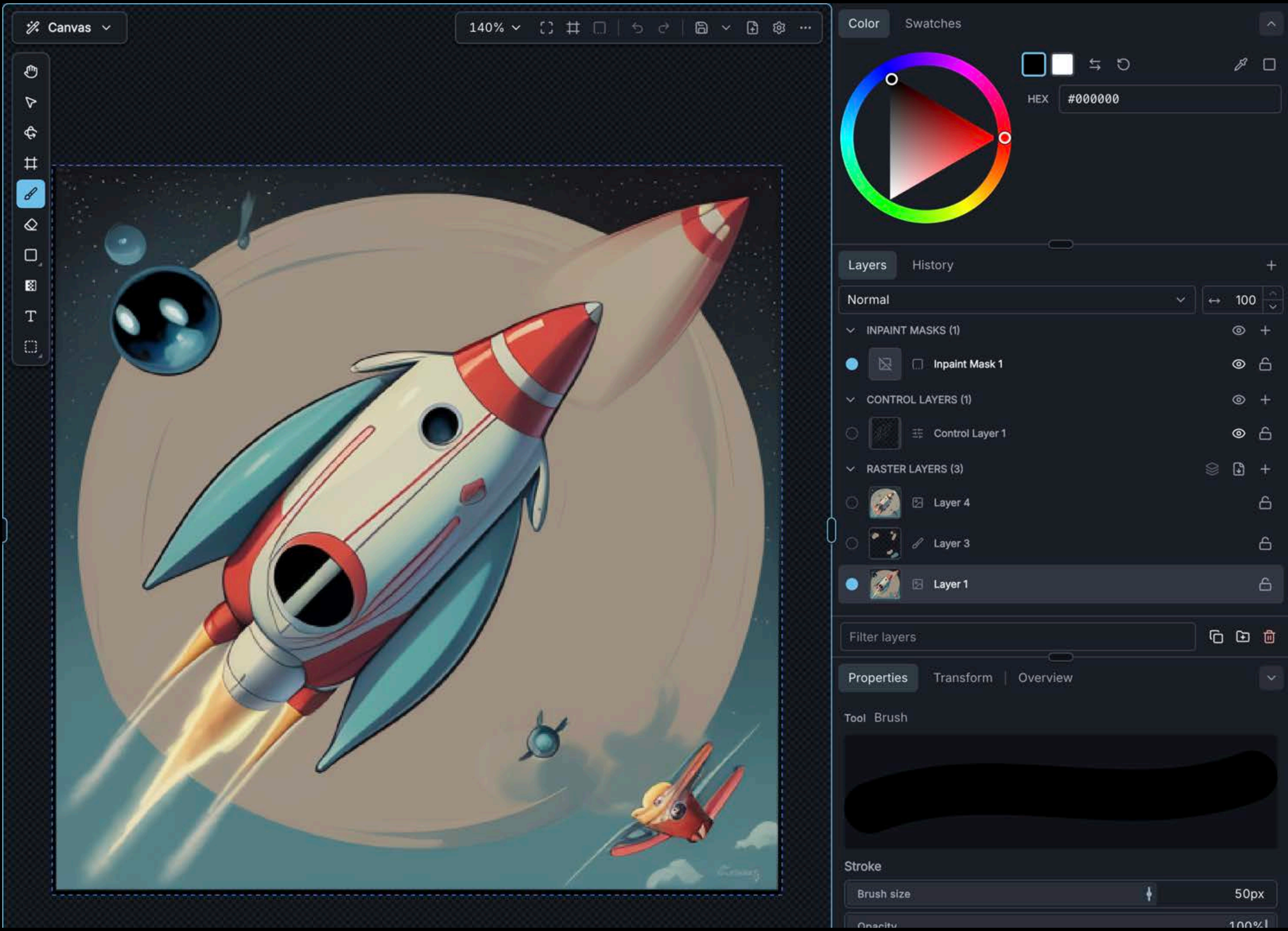
Why use Invoke instead of ComfyUI

- ComfyUI is a workflow app, the drawing tools are basic
- Invoke is meant for artists with drawing tablets
- Invoke also has workflows (they aren't compatible with ComfyUI)

ComfyUI



Invoke



Installing

- Requires an M-series Mac or a GPU with 4+ GB or VRAM
- <https://invoke.ai/start-here/installation/>
- It takes a while to download and install everything
- Completely free and local (you can also use cloud models but they cost)
- Note, I'm demoing version 7.0.0-alpha.3
- Come to the AI village and try it on one of our computers

What Is Art?

This is art.

Will AI ever be able
to make this?

No

Young Astronomer
by Brian Kershisnik

<https://kershisnikprints.com/products/young-astronomer-poster>



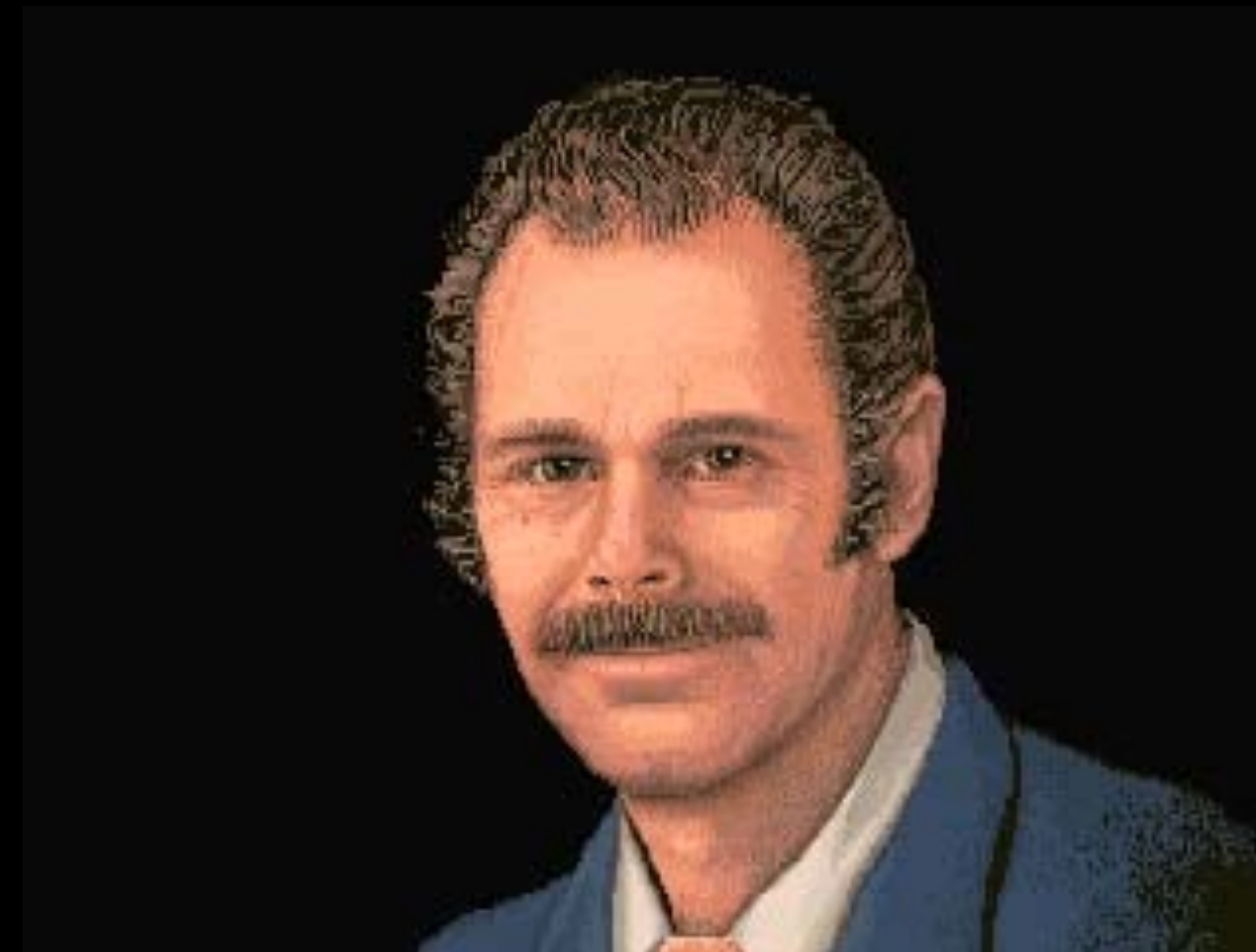
Is this art?

Yes

Is it art because of
how it was made?

Would it be art if
AI made it today?

Pixel art
(made on Amiga)
by James D. Sachs



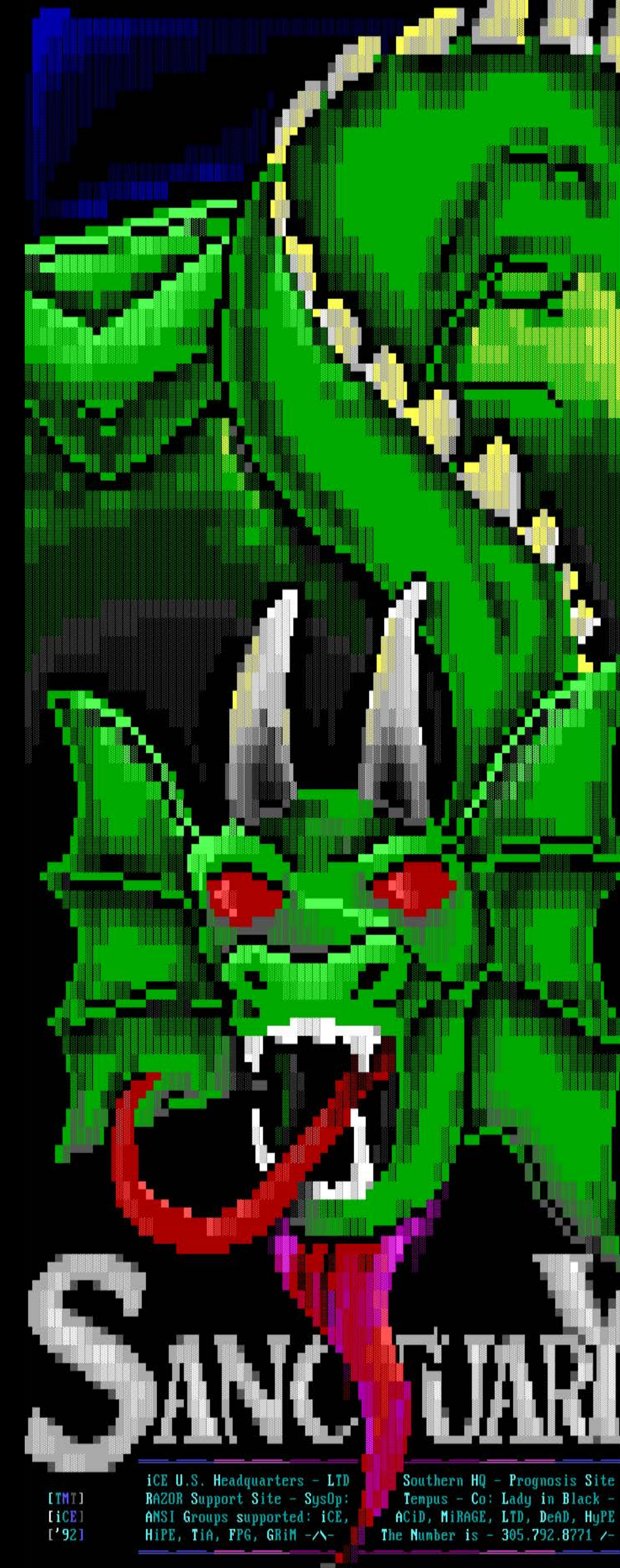
How about this?

Can AI make it?



ANSI Art, 1992

<https://16colo.rs/pack/icepk-08/TMT-SANC.ICE>



How about this?

Debbie Harry
(made on Amiga in 1985)
by Andy Warhol



“Andy, in his way, was very sociable and hung around with any-and everybody.”



Debbie Harry, <https://news.artnet.com/art-world/debbie-harry-andy-warhol-1696761>

**Art is positive human
connections**

US Copyright Office Agrees

- Only humans can obtain copyright
- “Authoring” means having sufficient control over expressive elements
- Prompts do not constitute sufficient control

<https://www.copyright.gov/ai/Copyright-and-Artificial-Intelligence-Part-2-Copyrightability-Report.pdf?pubDate=20250918>

A Single Piece of American Cheese

- Kent Keirse (ex-CEO of Invoke.ai) copyrighted this AI image in February 2025
- He did a lot more than just prompt
- USCO considers it like a collage

<https://44037860.fs1.hubspotusercontent-na1.net/hubfs/44037860/Invoke-First-Copyright-Image-AI-Generated-Material-Report.pdf>



The Social Contract

- The term “handmade” exists for a reason
- Please don’t distribute AI images and pass them off as handmade
- It’s lying
- It’s stealing
- Just don’t
- There is a lot of anti-AI image sentiment and this is why

Photoshop

- At first, Photoshop was an artistic sin
- *AI can be* a tool just like Photoshop
- My goal will be to show how to use AI image gen as a tool

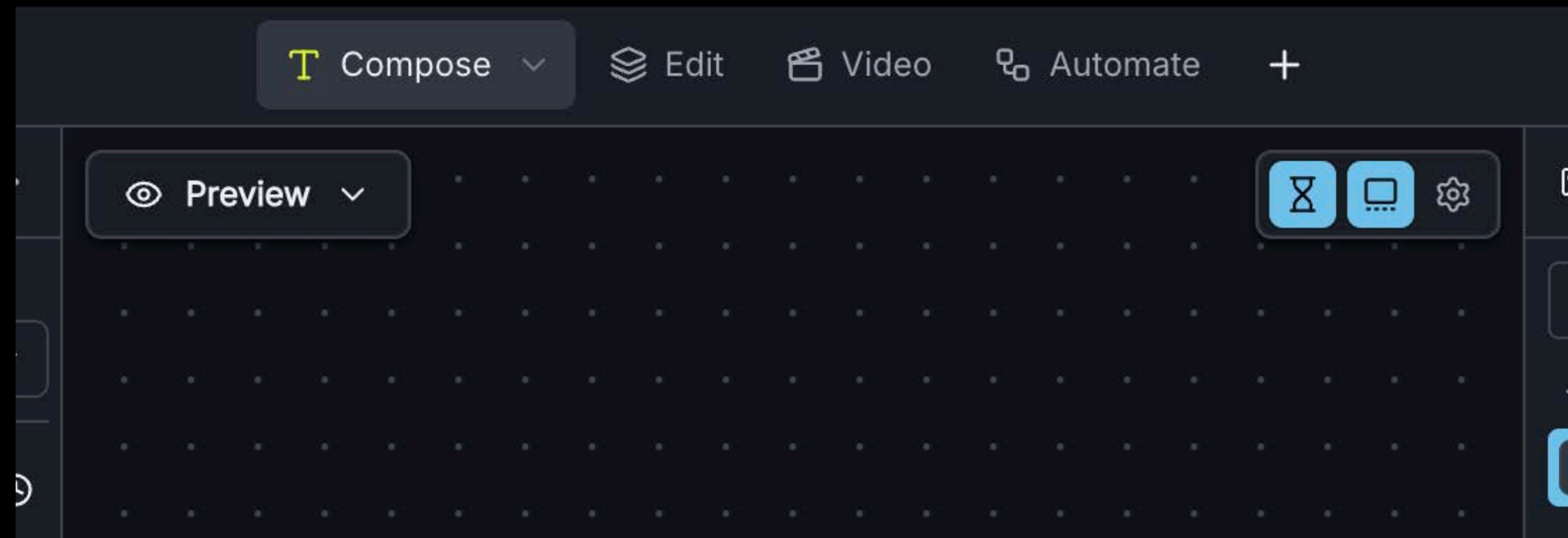
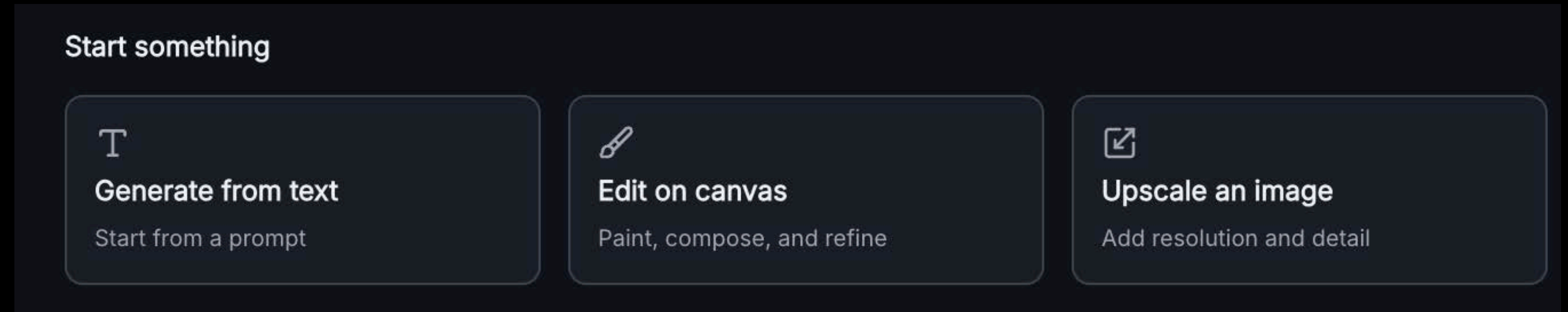
Glossary

Glossary

- Text to Image
- Image to Image

aka

Inpainting/
outpainting (Infill)



Glossary

- Model aka Checkpoint, the main trained model, aka base model
- Prompt
- Negative Prompt

The screenshot shows a web interface for a generative AI model. It features three main input sections: 'Model', 'Prompt', and 'Negative prompt'. The 'Model' section has a dropdown menu currently showing 'Anima Base 1.0' with a red 'Anima' tag and a downward arrow. The 'Prompt' section has a large text area and a toolbar with icons for 'Templates', 'Dynamic', and other functions. The 'Negative prompt' section has a smaller text area. At the bottom, a note states 'Used only when CFG is greater than 1.'.

Model

Anima Base 1.0 Anima

Prompt

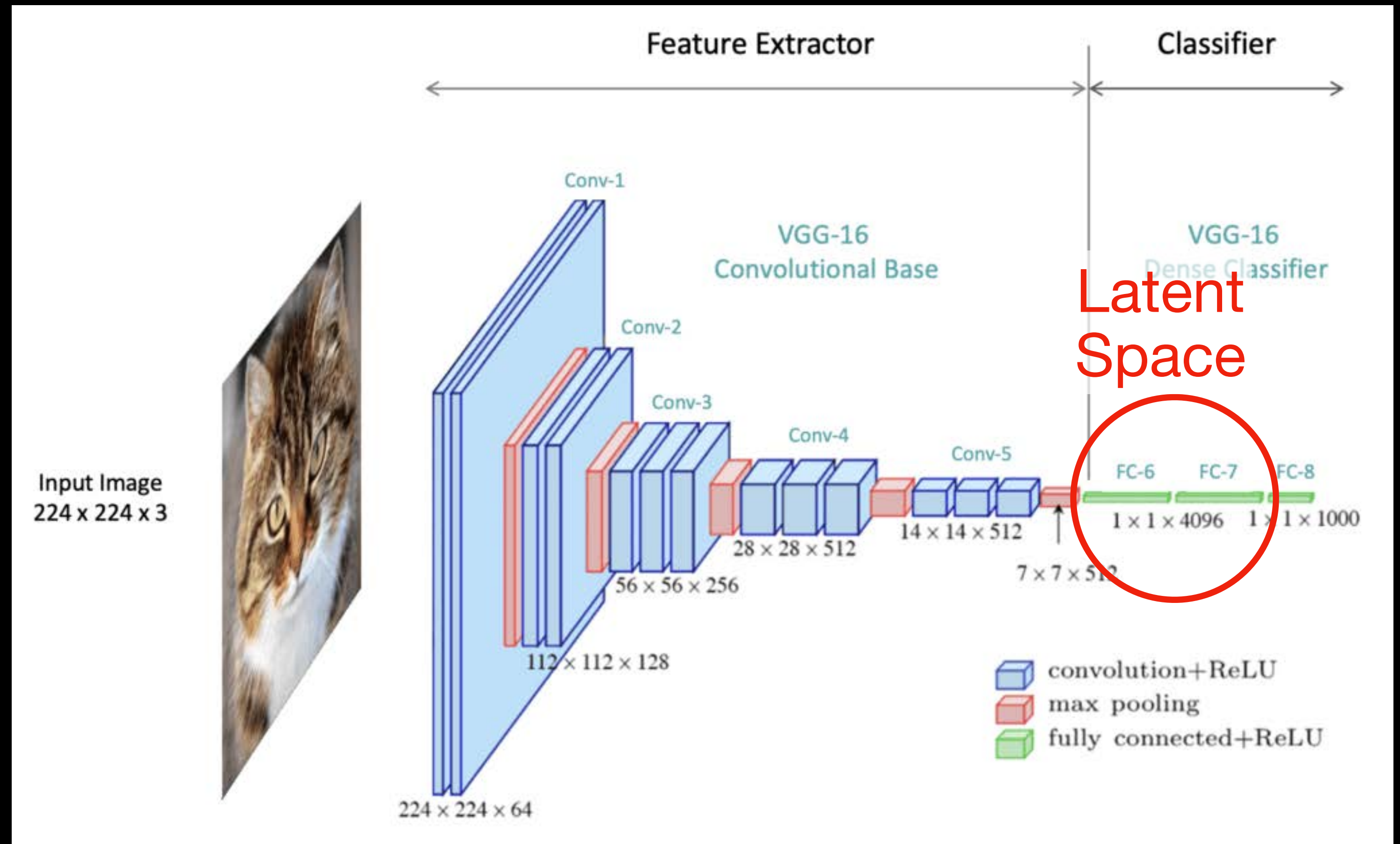
Templates Dynamic +

Negative prompt

Used only when CFG is greater than 1.

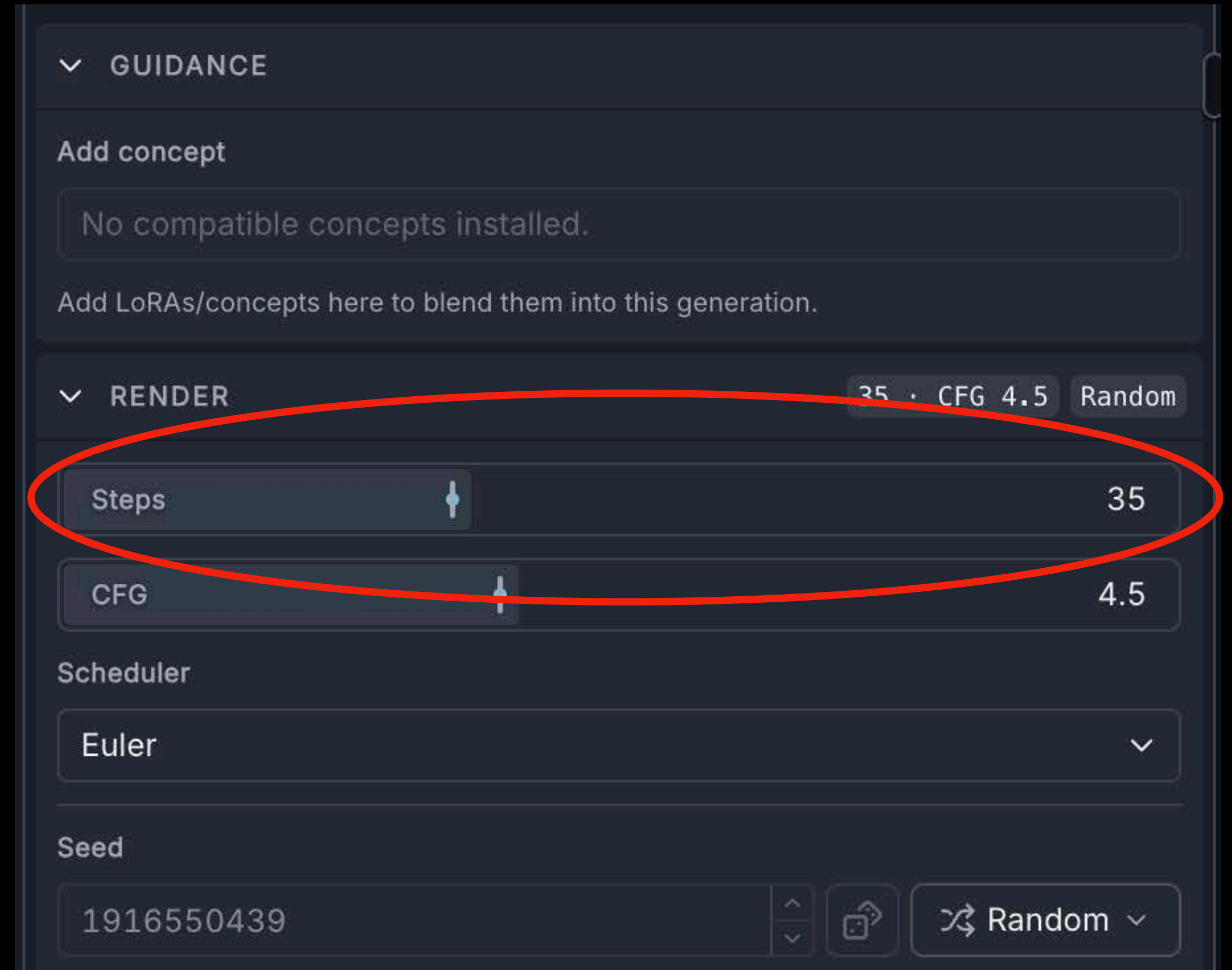
Glossary

- Latent Space
 - Where the ideas exist
 - Low resolution



Glossary

- Steps - The number of denoising steps



▼ GUIDANCE

Add concept

No compatible concepts installed.

Add LoRAs/concepts here to blend them into this generation.

▼ RENDER 35 · CFG 4.5 Random

Steps 35

CFG 4.5

Scheduler

Euler ▼

Seed

1916550439 ^ v [Copy] [Random] ▼

Steps: 1



Steps: 2



Steps: 3



Steps: 5



Steps: 8



Steps: 10



Steps: 15



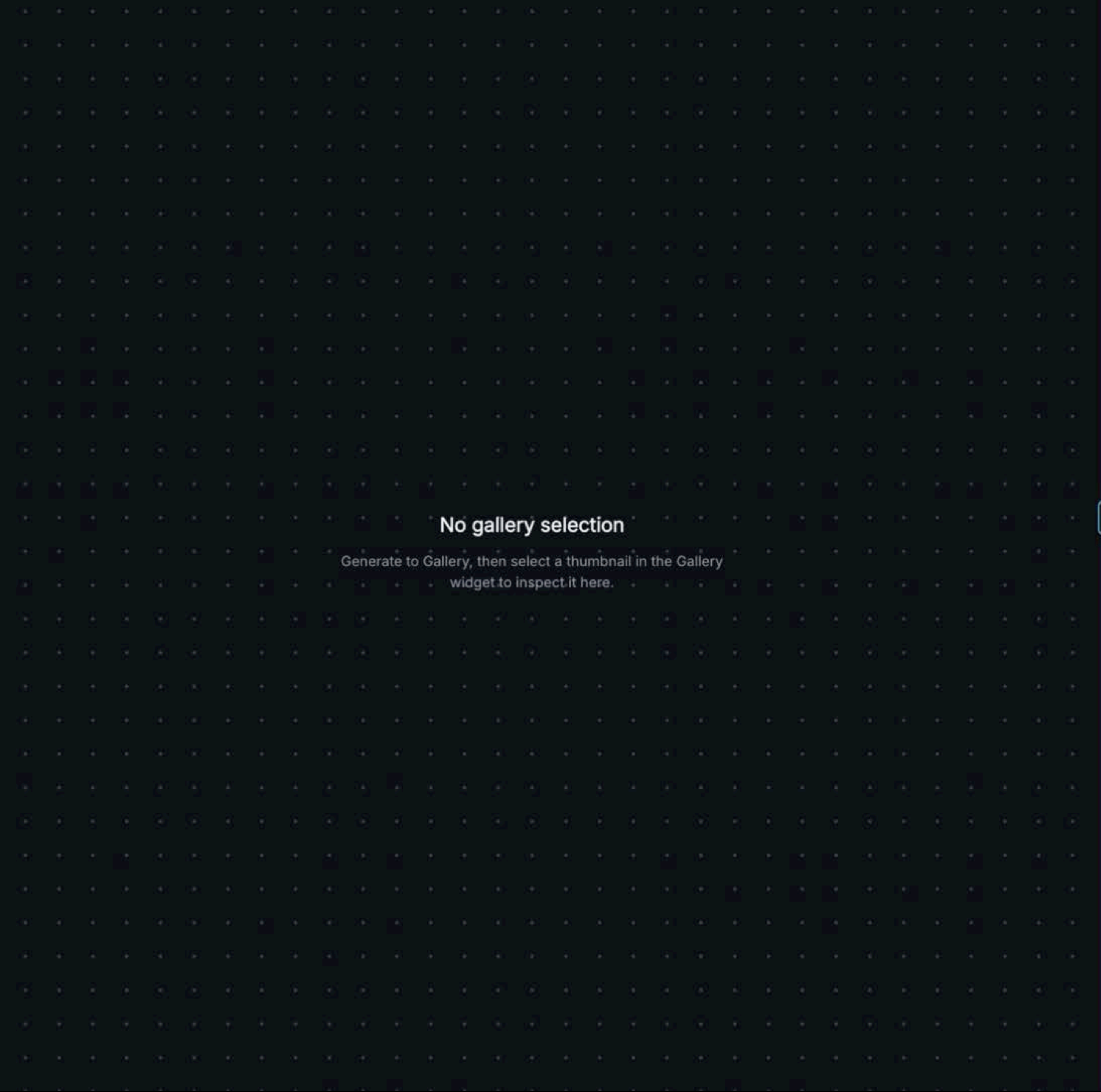
Steps: 20



Steps: 30



Steps: 40



Boards you create here

LIBRARY 0

Uncategorized

Boards here are available

Media 0 Upload

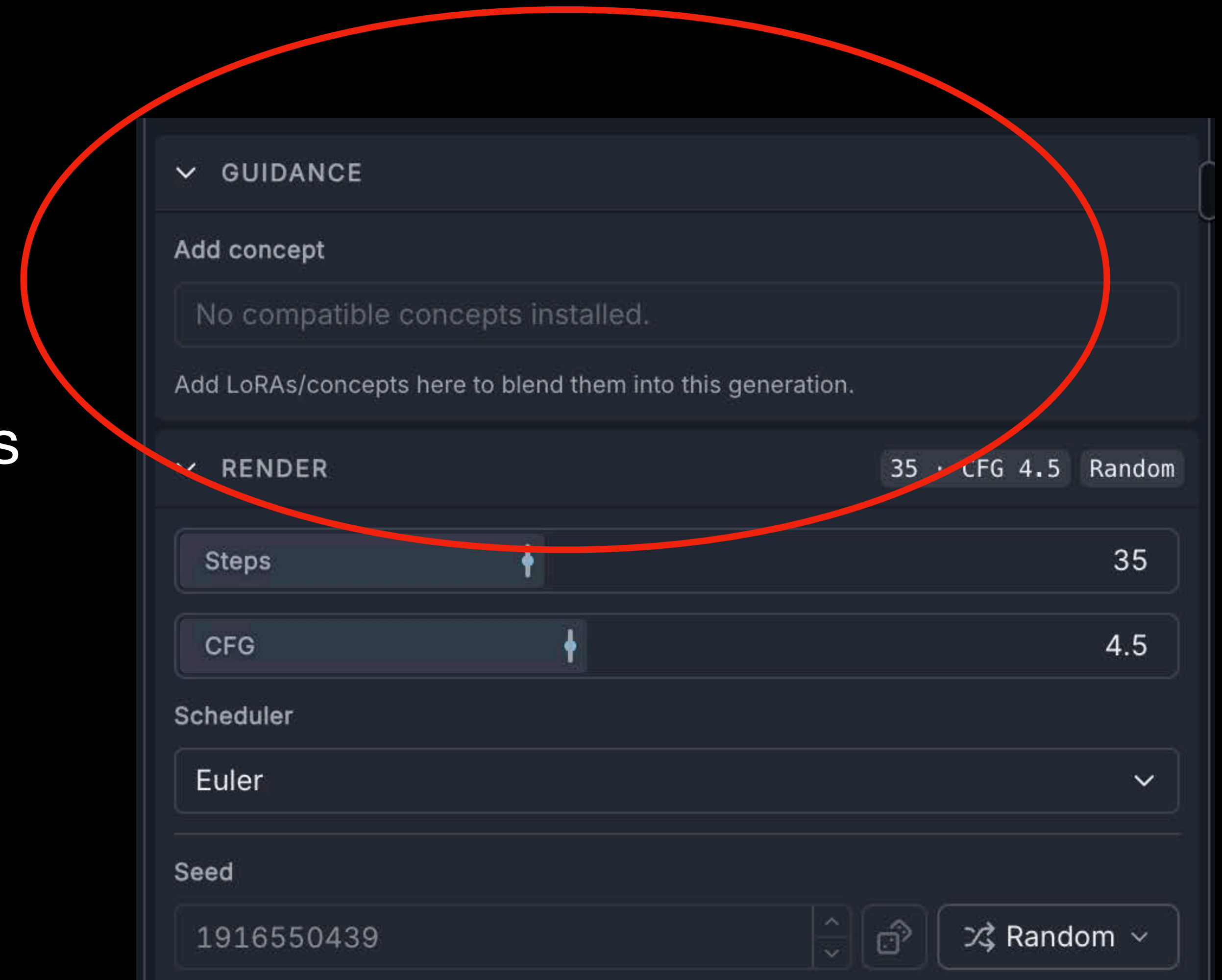
Search items

IN PROGRESS

Hourglass icon

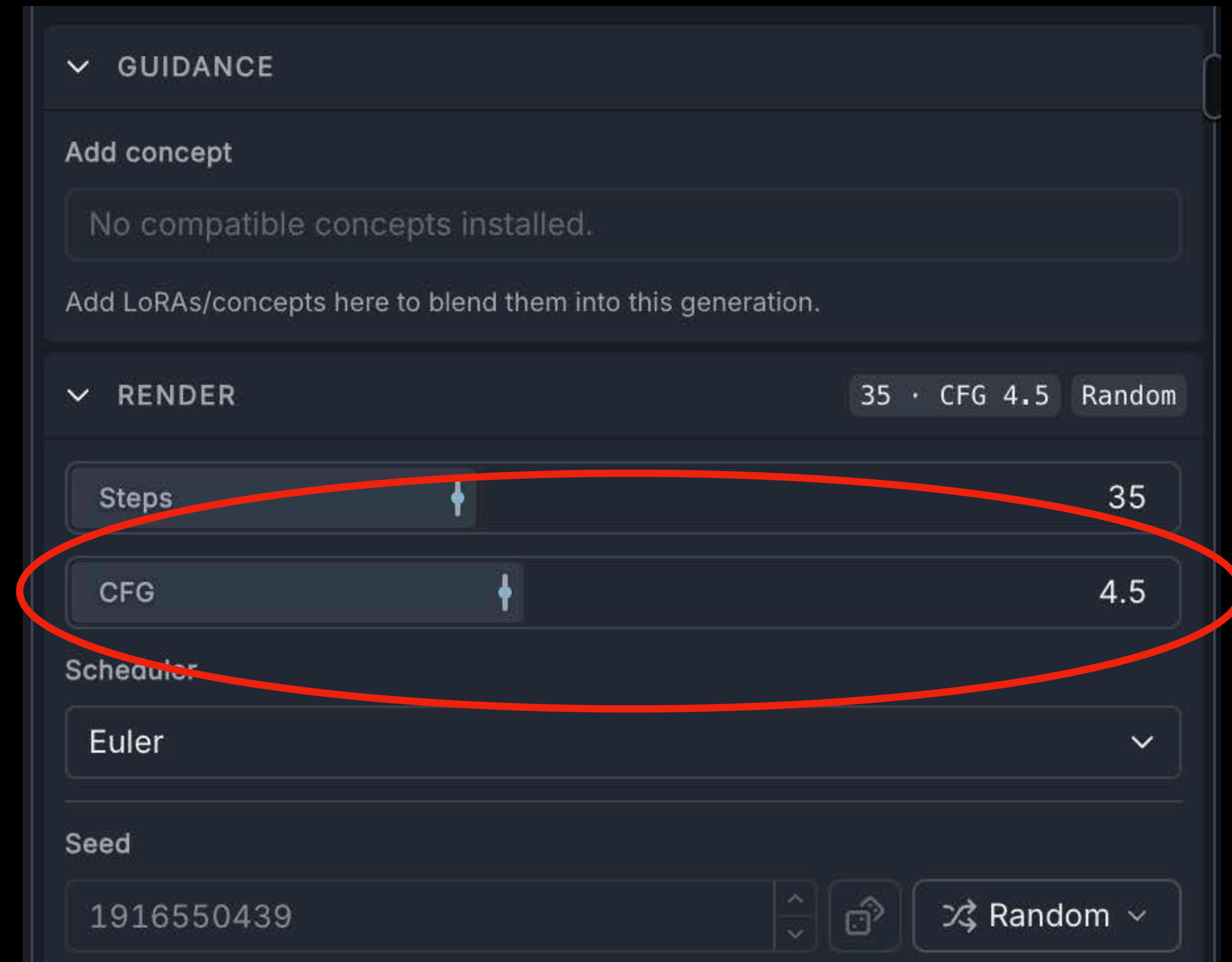
Glossary

- LoRA - A small model modifier
 - Only works with 1 base model
- Turbo model/LoRA - uses fewer steps



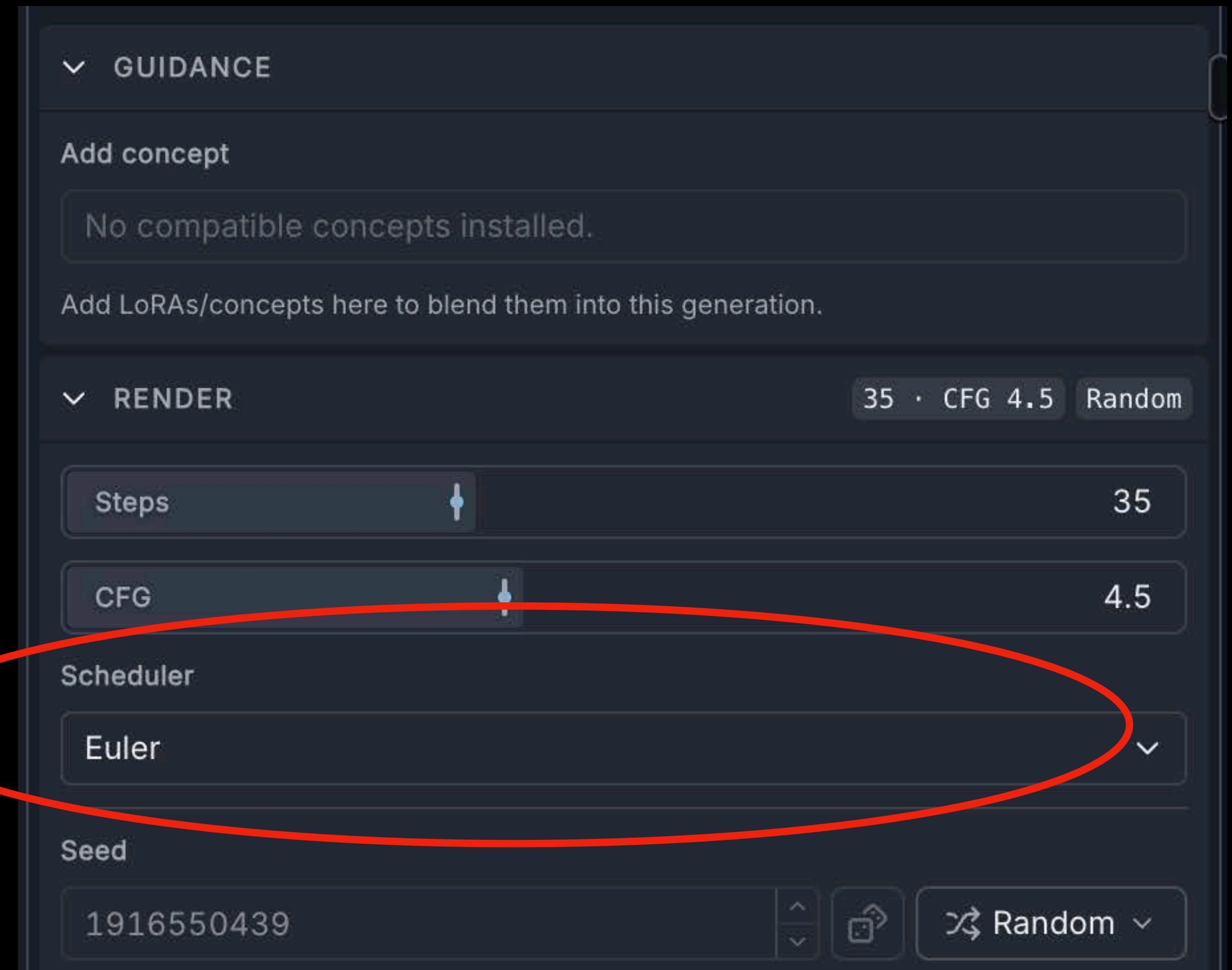
Glossary

- LoRA - A small model modifier
 - Only works with 1 base model
- Turbo model/LoRA - uses fewer steps
- CFG - How closely to follow the prompt



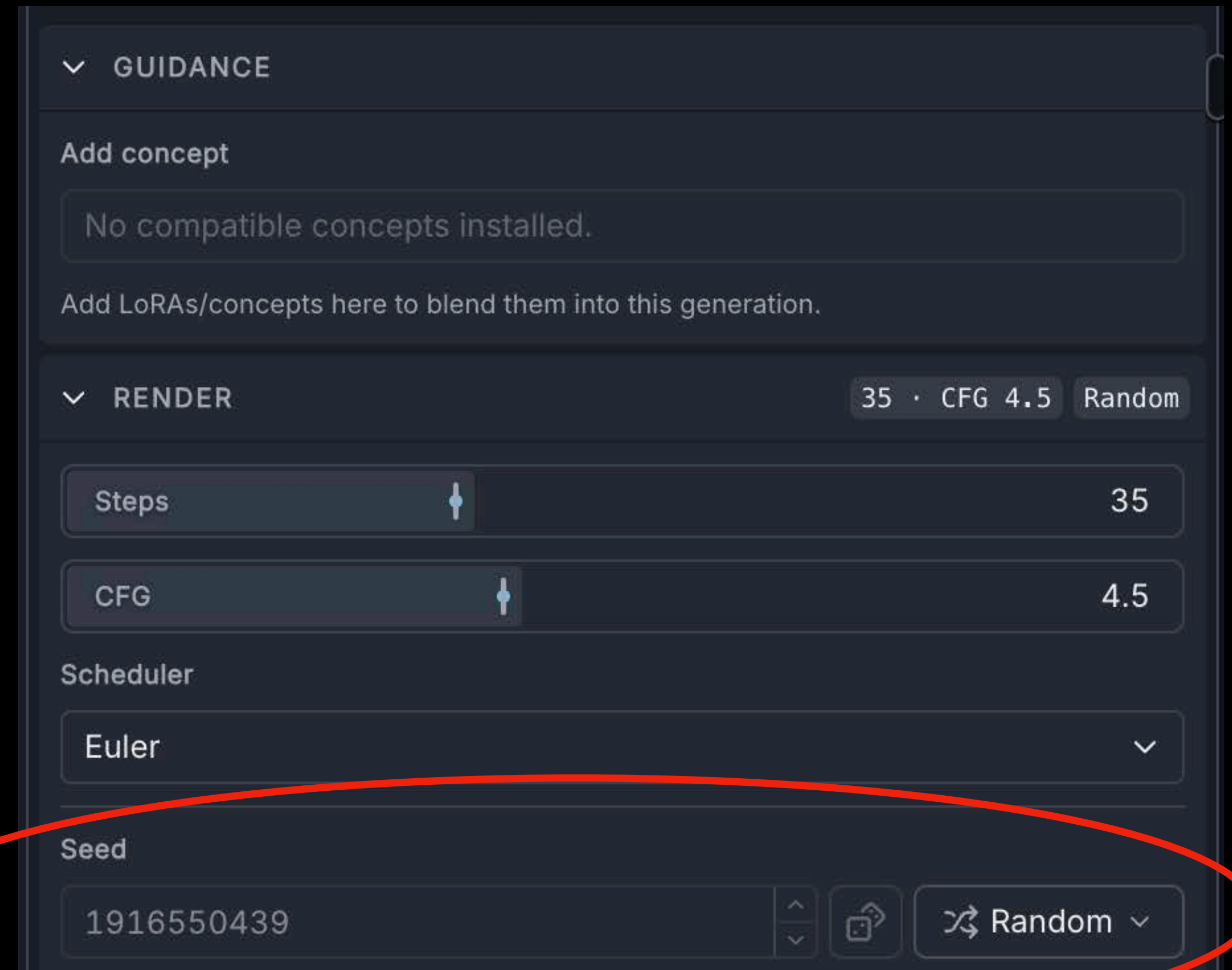
Glossary

- LoRA - A small model modifier
 - Only works with 1 base model
- Turbo model/LoRA - uses fewer steps
- CFG - How closely to follow the prompt
- Scheduler - how the model generates each step



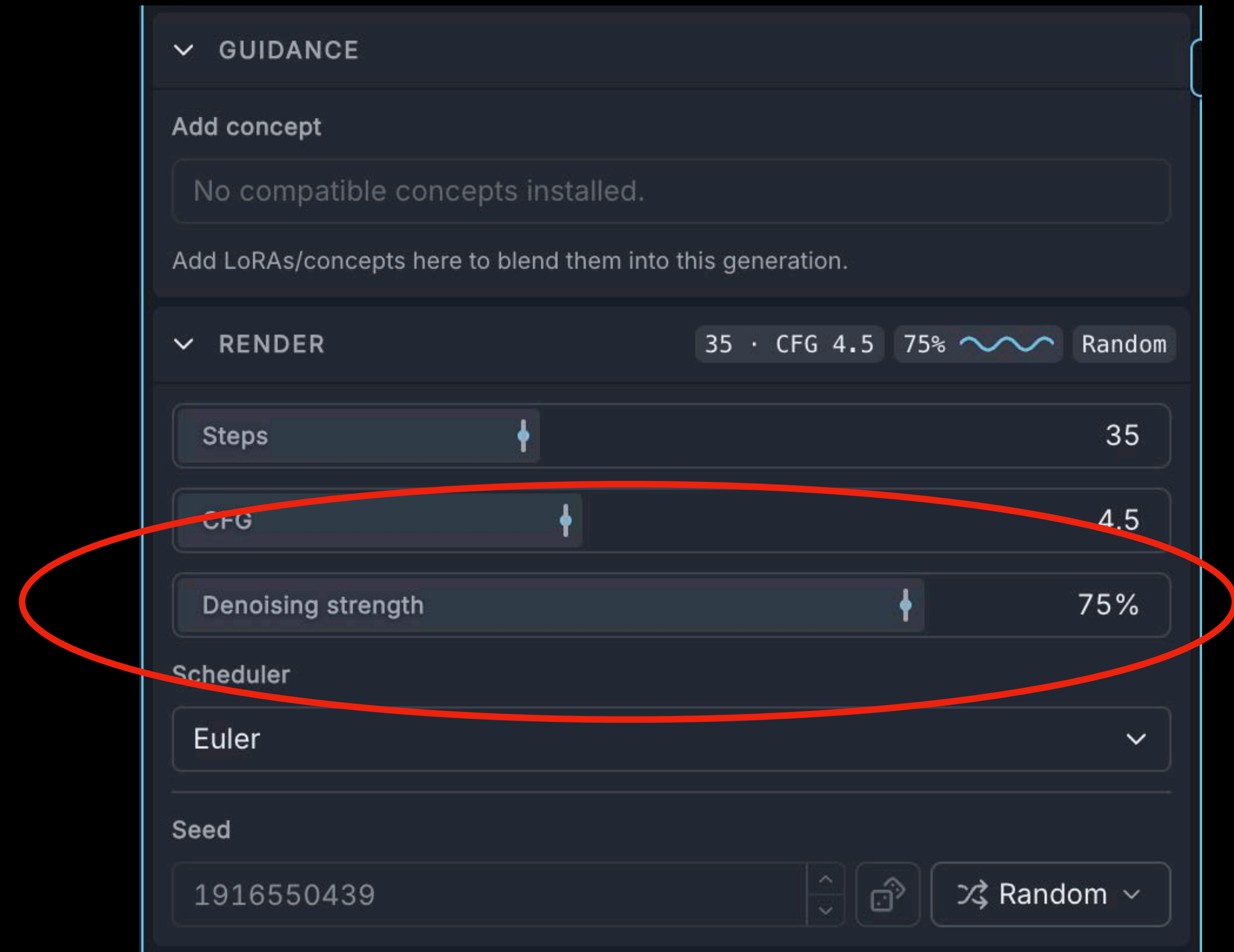
Glossary

- LoRA - A small model modifier
 - Only works with 1 base model
- Turbo model/LoRA - uses fewer steps
- CFG - How closely to follow the prompt
- Scheduler - how the model generates each step
- Seed - Same seed, same image



Glossary

- Denoising strength - how much to change the image (Image to image only)



Glossary

- VAE - Variational Autoencoder, converts between latent space and full image

▼ ADVANCED

VAE VAE precision

No compatible vaes installed. FP32 ▼

Using the VAE bundled with the model.

CLIP skip 0

CFG rescale 0

▼ COMPONENTS

Qwen3 Encoder

Model default ▼

Required for Anima models.

VAE

Model default ▼

Anima decodes with the 16-channel Wan 2.1 VAE, which may be installed under the Anima, Qwen-Image, or Wan base, so all three are listed. Required for Anima models.

Inpaint Adapter

None ▼

Optional 4-channel ControlNet-LLite adapter, used only when inpainting or outpainting on the Canvas.

Glossary

- VAE - Variational Autoencoder, converts between latent space and full image
- CLIP - Links text descriptions and visual ideas

▼ ADVANCED

VAE

No compatible vaes installed.

VAE precision

FP32

Using the VAE bundled with the model.

CLIP skip

0

CFG rescale

0

▼ COMPONENTS

Qwen3 Encoder

Model default

Required for Anima models.

VAE

Model default

Anima decodes with the 16-channel Wan 2.1 VAE, which may be installed under the Anima, Qwen-Image, or Wan base, so all three are listed. Required for Anima models.

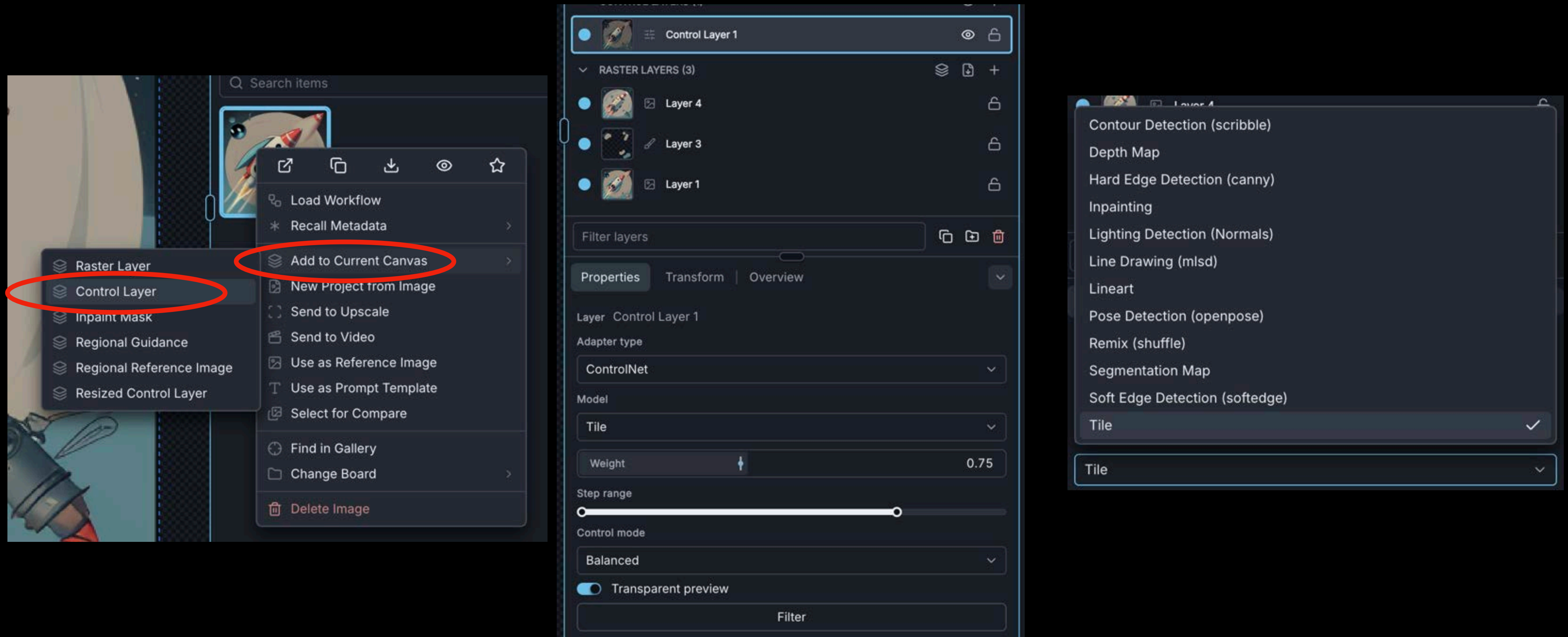
Inpaint Adapter

None

Optional 4-channel ControlNet-LLLite adapter, used only when inpainting or outpainting on the Canvas.

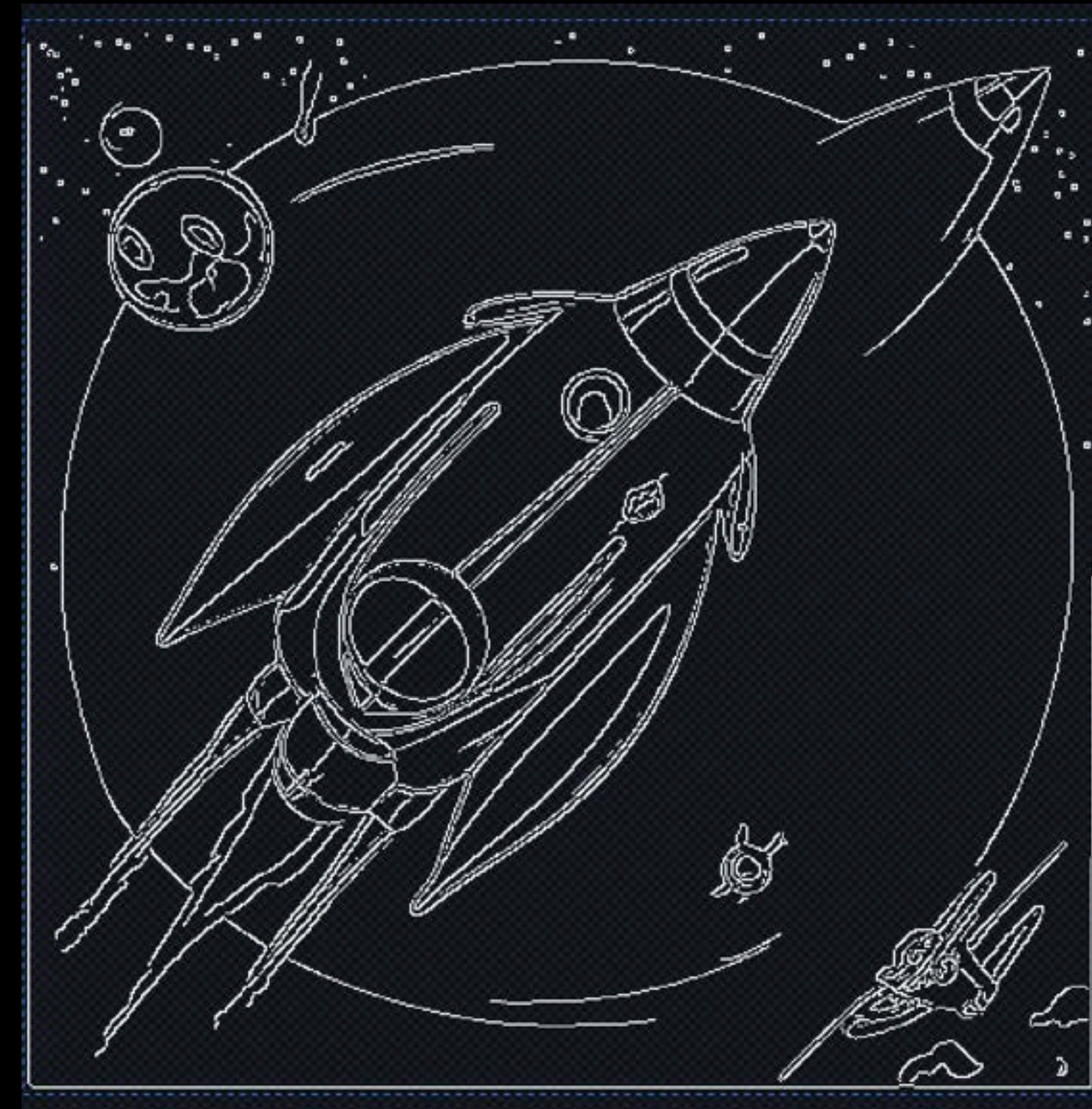
Glossary

- IP Adapter/ControlNet - Guides the image generation (not all models)



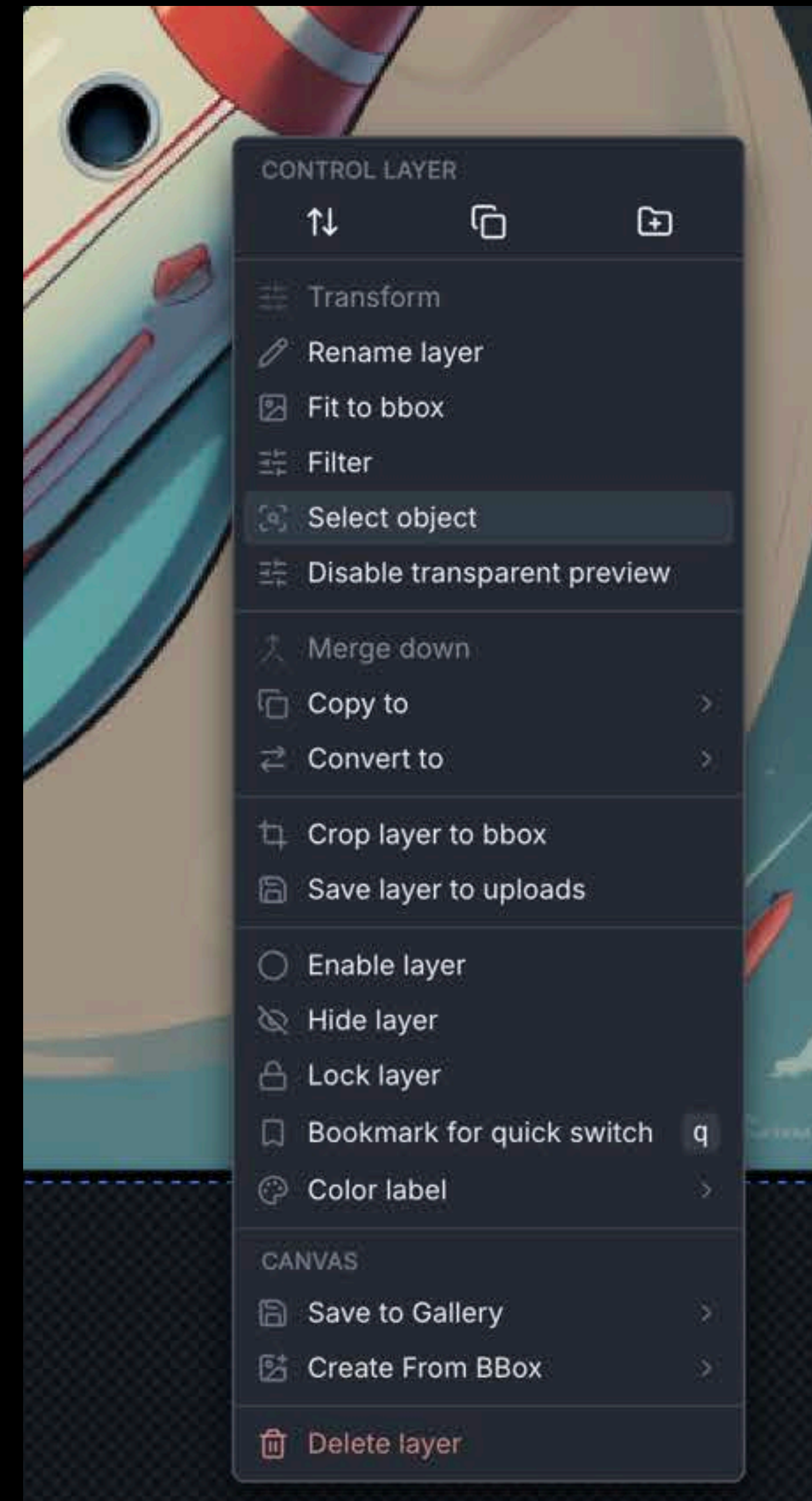
Glossary

- Canny result (this is editable)
- Depth, pose, and scribble can be created in different applications



Glossary

- SAM (Segment Anything Model)
Smart selection



Glossary

- GAN (Generative Adversarial Network)
Used for upscaling



Project Name #3



Generate



...



c211c966-b127-4218-b876-1b9302317a1a.png

512 × 512

Click to replace, or drop from the Gallery

× Remove image

Input512 × 512

Scale4×

Output2,048 × 2,048

Output area4.2 MP

Spandrel model

SwinIR - realSR_BSRGAN_DFOWMFC_s64w8_Swi... L_x4_GAN

Any

The first-pass upscaler. Choose a model suited to photography, illustration, or linework.

Scale

4×

Output dimensions are the source dimensions multiplied by this value.

Conservative

Balanced

Creative

Artistic

Creativity

0

Higher values invent more detail and increase prompt influence.

Model Families

Model Families

- SD1.5 - 2022, 512x512, 4 GB, there's tons of models and LoRAs
- SDXL - 2023, 1024x1024, 6-8 GB
- FLUX.1 - 2024, 6–8 GB quantized; ~12 GB unquantized
- FLUX.2 - 2025, 8 GB for Klein 4B quantized, way more for the other versions
- Z-Image - 2025, 6–8 GB quantized, fast, turbo versions
- Qwen Image - 2025, ~12–16 GB, instruction following and text

Model Families

- ERNIE-Image - 2026, 24 GB,
- Anima - 2026, 6-8 GB, dedicated to anime, there's a turbo LoRA
- Krea 2 - 2026, 8 GB for a quantized Krea 2 build
- Ideogram - 2023, typography, posters, and graphic design.
- Wan - Video, 2025, 8–12 GB for 1.3B; ~20+ GB for quantized 14B
- MiniMax H3 - Video, 2026, ?, can synchronize audio
- LTX 2.5 - Video, ?, it's fast

Where to Get Models



CIVITAI

- CivitAI is a huge ImageGen community
- It is *the* hub for AI image models and LoRAs
- New content constantly being uploaded
- Used to host adult content but that has all moved to civitai.red

Demo