Cabinet of Ether

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Curated by Federico Fauli

SPAZIO
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ANDREA CHIAMPO

DAVIDE PEPE

EMANUELE DASCANIO

FEDERICO FAULI

FVCKRENDER

HOGRE

INVADER

LUNA IKUTA

MATTEO MAURO

RYAN KOOPMANS

CABINET OF ETHER

text by Federico Fauli

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During the European Renaissance, the "Cabinet of curiosities", or "Wunderkammern",
served as precursors to modern museums. They were not just collections meant
to showcase the eccentricities of their curators but were true social tools aimed
at establishing and maintaining their status within society and conveying their own
worldview. These spaces were designed to evoke wonder in observers, to stimulate
the imagination. Each object offered the opportunity to tell a story or, more often,
to create one. Like the wealthiest individuals, collectors of the past enjoyed defining
their personalities through the possession of opulent objects, tangible signs of their
intelligence, erudition, wealth, and taste. They had already understood that precious
objects exerted a strong influence on people and that the associations between luxury
items and personality left lasting impressions. Being at the center of this microcosm
and pointing out objects to reveal their deepest secrets gave collectors a sense of
comfort and mastery in a world often perceived as too vast, confusing, and inhospitable.
Often, the selection of works in the "Cabinet of curiosities" was entirely random,
devoid of any chronological order or scientific criteria guiding the arrangement of objects.
The collector had full control over the interpretation and content, which, in reality,
reflected their own taste and identity. Fast forward to today, to contemporary
"Wunderkammern". Is there a substantial difference between the great collectors
of a bygone era and the so-called "Whales" of Web3, the major collectors of Digital Art?
Can a relationship be established between the ancient practice of collecting as a symbol
of social status and the contemporary action of amassing extensive collections of NFTs?
"Cabinet of Ether" aims to show the similarities between the "Cabinet of curiosities"
and the new digital art markets, focusing on the act of collecting itself as a tool for
boasting and celebration. NFTs represent a relatively recent phenomenon made possible
by blockchain technology, which are digital tokens that identify ownership of a particular
digital asset or artwork. Both ancient collections and NFTs focus on the concepts of rarity
and uniqueness. Ancient collections are filled with sought-after and exotic objects that
are difficult to find, while the world of NFTs provides access to exclusive digital versions.
Digital art pieces are collected in wallets, or virtual portfolios, powered by transactions
in cryptocurrency. Although different in many aspects, both reflect an innate desire
to collect and showcase exclusive, rare, beautiful, or significant items. Digital art is not
just NFTs, but an ecosystem of works fueled by unique digital code, virtual pieces that
can activate augmented reality; or physical objects created with additive technologies,
lasers and robots controlled by digital tools. The perspective chosen for "Cabinet of Ether"
is that of a combination of analog and digital, or "phygital" as it is called in jargon.
The exhibition offers viewers an experience that allows them to interact with the digital
artwork and its physical alter-ego. An immersion in a research space where the encounter
between technology and imagination is giving rise to new forms of creativity and art.
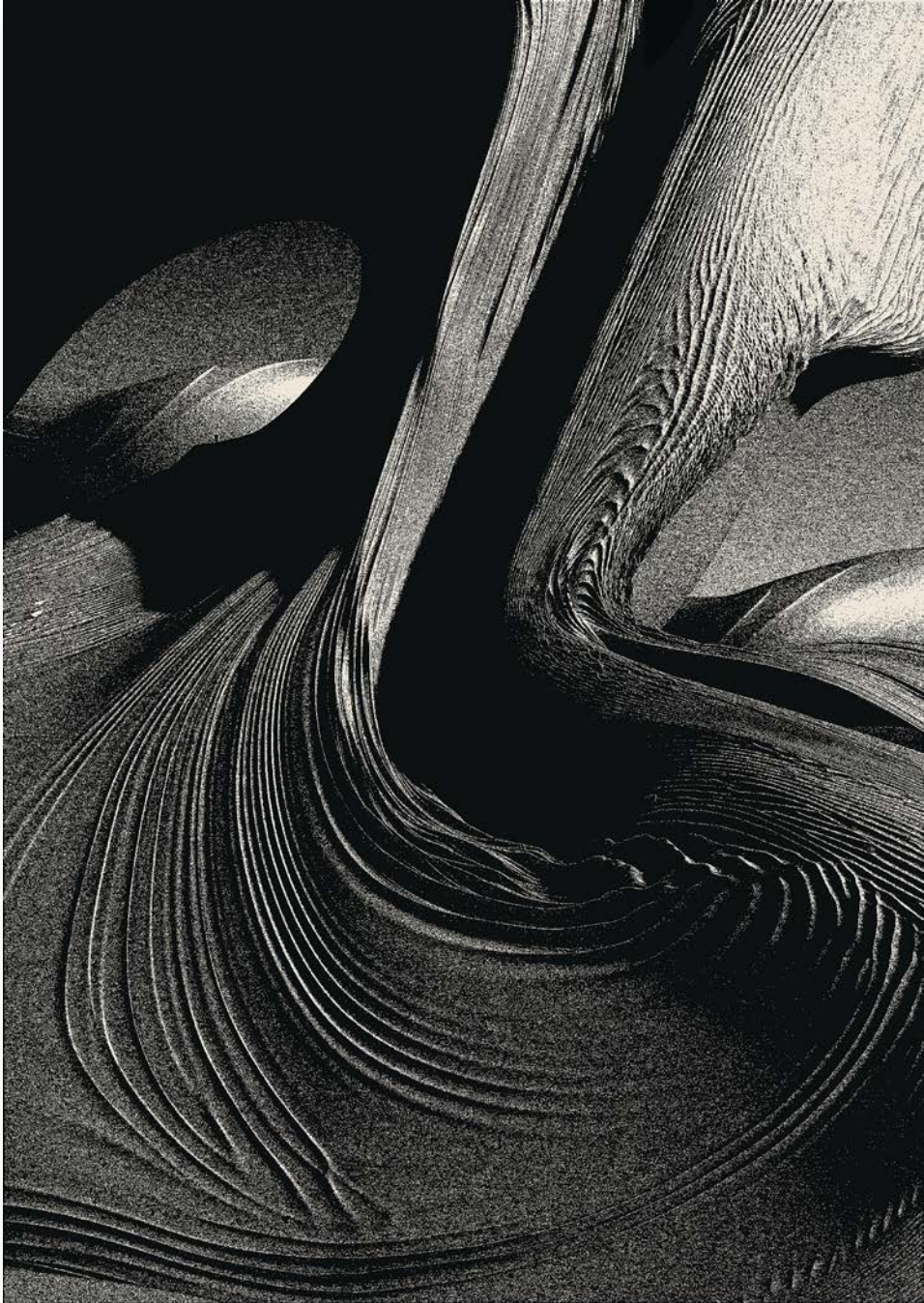
ANDREA CHIAMPO

Andrea Chiampo is a London-based Italian Artist and established Concept Designer for the Entertainment Industry. Over the years, he has contributed to numerous films working for major studios such as Disney, Netflix, 20th Century Fox, and many others. Although his work for clients is mainly known for a distinct and never-before-seen photorealistic creature design, since 2019 Chiampo has sparked curiosity among the digital art community with his new dreamlike, unique and evocative style. What at first glance might be misunderstood as ancient and eerie lithographies are instead the result of Andrea's digital sculpting and 3D rendering. In 2023, Chiampo debuts in the traditional art scene with LIMBUS, a special Limited Edition of 50 finest quality Intaglio prints that bring together over 600 years of printmaking craft, etching artistry, and creativity. Combining the virtual, digital 3D, and analog.
Shifting from concept art for films to pursuing a career as an independent artist, he now focuses exclusively on his FUTURED PAST collection: a fine art project that aims to bridge antique techniques with new technologies.

andrea_chiampo

ARTWORK TITLE	BIS LUMEN
DIMENSION	Unframed 80 x 60 cm Framed 105 x 79 cm
MEDIUM	High-end quality intaglio printmaking Process: 1 color etching with chine collé with letterpress Paper: Somerset White, 300 gsm - Traditional intaglio oil-based ink
EDITION NUMBER	1 of 5 Black 1 of 1 White
RELEASE DATE	JANUARY 22, 2024
ARTWORK DESCRIPTION	From the FUTURED PAST collection Digitally sculpted and rendered in ZBrush 4948x7000
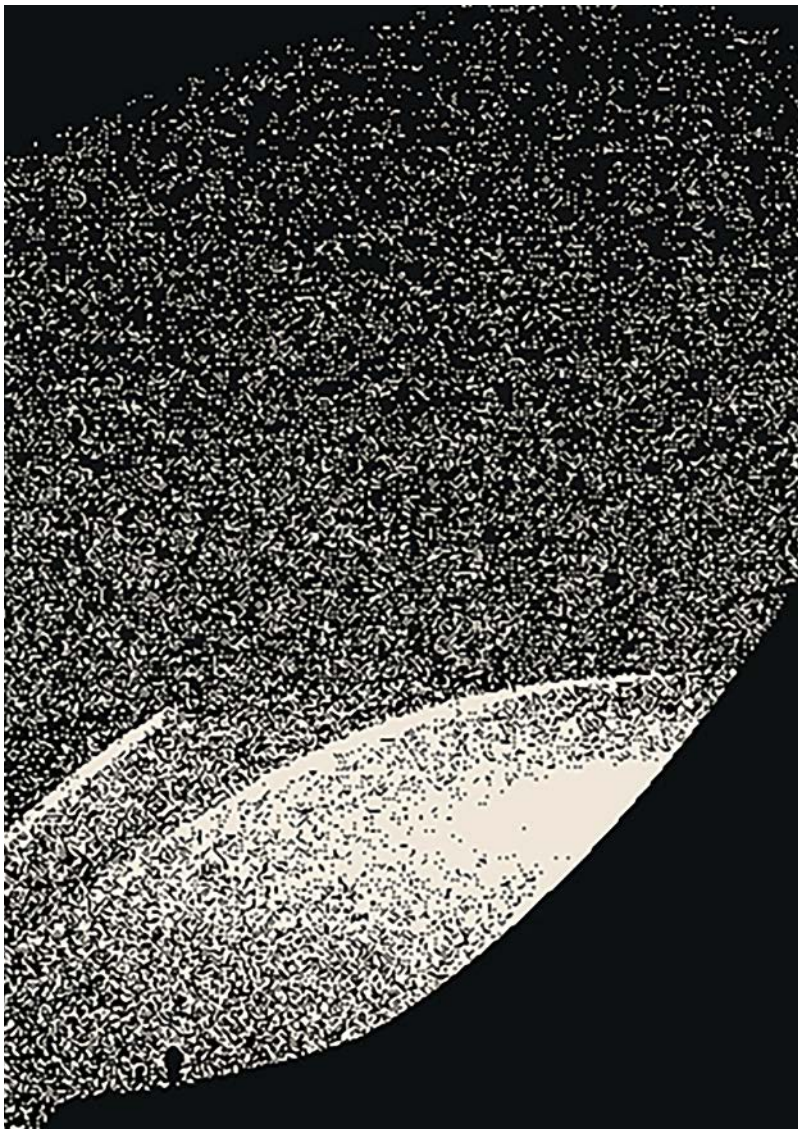
DAVIDE PEPE

Davide Pepe lives and works between Bologna and Scandiano as an independent artist and filmmaker. He has been developing, filming and producing artistic short films, music and experimental photography, also collaborating with world renowned artists such as Lucio Dalla, Diamanda Galás, Steven Stapleton and David Tibet. He also teaches Video Editing at the Fine Arts Academy of Bologna. For the past eighteen years, his interest in quantum physics has guided his artistic career. With his series of video and print installations, "Four Seasons", "Tragedy Dualism", "If YOU could see with God's eyes" and "Access Denied", the space is explored as if it was observed from a timeless dimension. In each frame of the films made with his technique, all the events, occurred in the shooting time frame, happen simultaneously. To understand what happens in these works, one must think of being in front of a mountain sliced vertically, in which it is possible to observe the different sedimentations of matter occurred over time, the difference in this case is that it is not organic matter but light: a sedimentary light.

davidepepe93 📷

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ARTWORK TITLE	ACCESS DENIED: COFFEE POT #1
DIMENSION	70 x 120 cm
FISICAL / DIGITAL DESCRIPTION	Dibond print
EDITION NUMBER	1 of 4
RELEASE DATE	2018
ARTWORK DESCRIPTION	ACCESS DENIED is a series of film and print installations. Various everyday objects are shownas if they materialized out of nothingness before the viewer eyes – indeed, as though there were no other point of view, making themselves completely visible in a unique wayand then dematerializing again. When I was working on this project I felt as if I was almostable to enter into the very essence of the object although I was at the same time facing a wall of individual atoms. This project deals with the human desire for knowledge. We have thought it possible for us to understand matter itself and that we can explain everything but finally we shall always come to that wall beyond which we may not pass.

Moda Espre

MADE IN ITALY

EMANUELE DASCANIO

Emanuele Dascanio, born in 1983, most known for his hyper realistic neo-renaissance technique, he won many prestigious prize and have his artworks placed in private collections all over the world. As NFT artist from 2019 and as Ordinal artist from 2023, is Honorable Member of DLC-Della Leader Club, Head of Sector Art & Culture Fenimprese Dubai and Cypherpunk Board Of Members as Head of Artists Representing.

emanuele_dascanio 📷

ARTWORK TITLE	FATHER'S HEART
DIMENSION	58 x 81 cm
MEDIUM	Nails and Thread on board
EDITION NUMBER	1 of 10
RELEASE DATE	2024
ARTWORK DESCRIPTION	Focus on key details of the 1 / 1 hyperrealistic drawing "The Father Does Not Want A Divorce With Die Mutter. This Is MyFather"; the hand of the FATHER'S HEART reveal his suffering from the laceration occurred by the divorce.
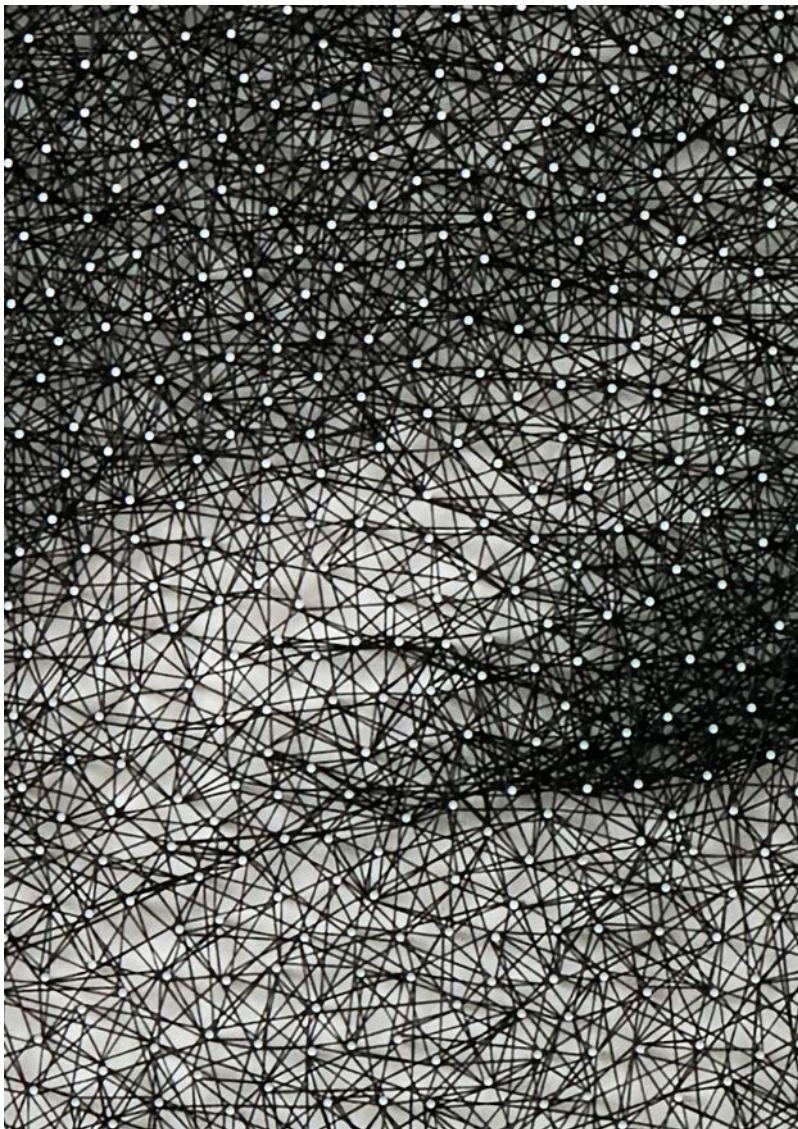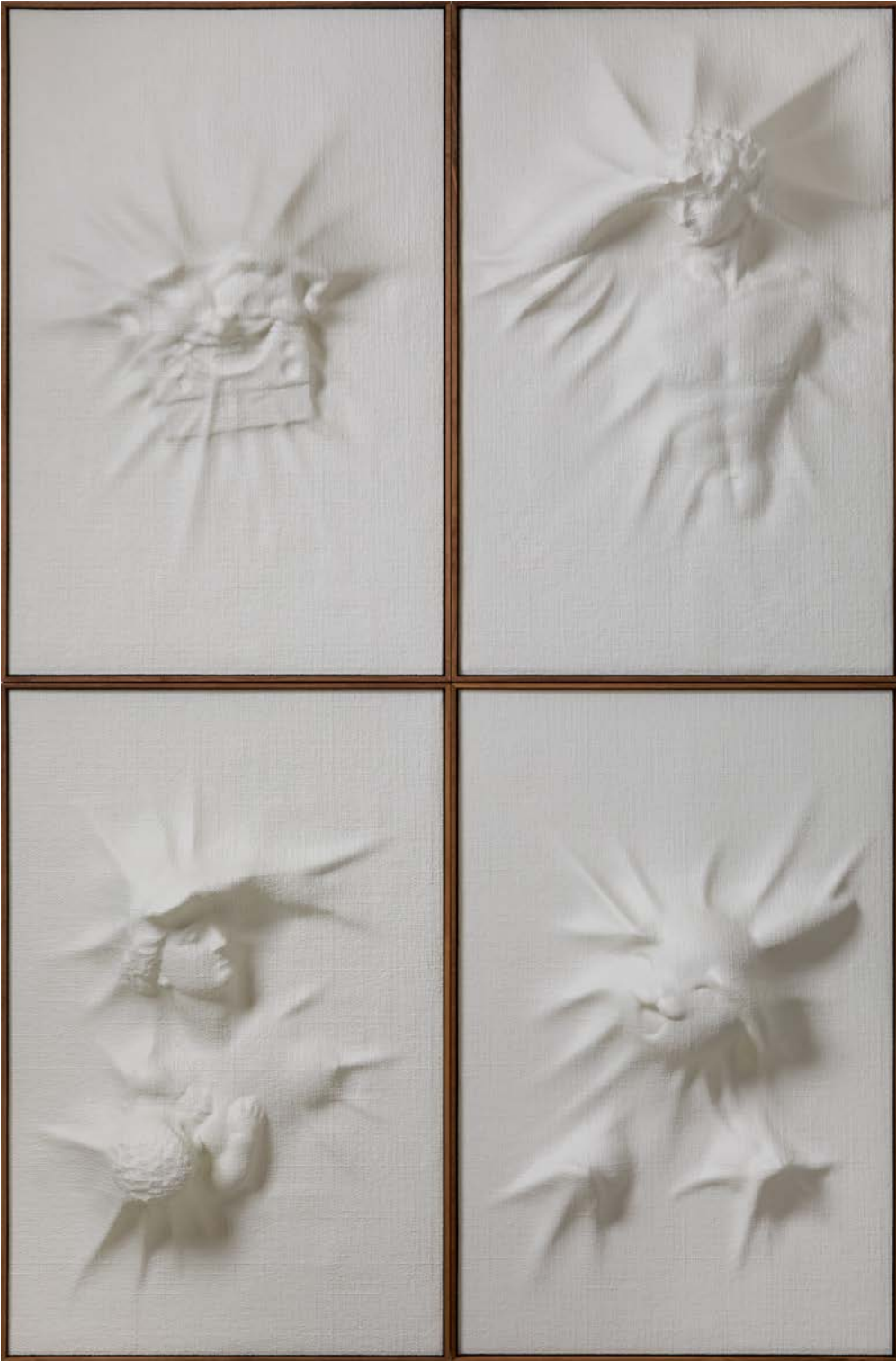
FEDERICO FAULI

Born in Reggio Emilia (1993), a digital artist with a background in architecture. His work transcends the boundaries of art, architecture, and design, unfolding between virtual and physical spaces and engaging with digital ephemerality and solid matter. His poetics integrate pop codes and classical aesthetics, are contemporary, and are influenced by the language of social media. Federico delves into global languages and iconographies and experiments with frontier materials, technologies, and production techniques, using design as a means to unveil a contextual language that enriches personal critical sense. His most recent production consists of virtual sculptures realized in NFT format and their physical variants, vacuumed resin canvases. Federico graduated in Architecture from the Polytechnic of Milan and from the Architectural Association of London. He worked at the Renzo Piano Building Workshop in Genoa and with Zaha Hadid Architects and Bjarke Ingels (BIG) in London. He has participated in and won numerous competitions, while his works have been exhibited internationally, most recently at the Seoul Biennale and the Decentraland Pavilion during the latest edition of the Venice Biennale.
Federico teaches in London at the AA, a course aimed at dissolving the boundaries between art and architecture, the result of which is the production of an artwork in NFT format.
He is a curator at the NiftyGateway platform, where he has published his first NFT collection, also present on various Marketplaces including SuperRare, Ninfa, and OpenSea.

fede_fauli 📷

ARTWORK TITLE   REMINISCENTIAM

DIMENSION   80 x 52 cm each

MEDIUM   Resin Vacuum Canvas

EDITION NUMBER   1 of 1

RELEASE DATE   MARCH 01, 2024

FEDERICO FAULI

ARTWORK TITLE	COSCIENZA INTUITIVA 100 + NFT
DIMENSION	Height 100 cm
MEDIUM	High-res Resin, Sandblasting, Chrome Etectroplated
EDITION NUMBER	1 of 1
RELEASE DATE	2023
ARTWORK DESCRIPTION	COSCIENZA INTUITIVA emphasizes and criticizes the poverty of content, language, and meaning in this society increasingly focused on over-accumulation and the re-sharing of images. "Retweet, share, like". Powerful social media connect billions of individuals, dominating and homogenizing the planet. Media that build illusions and communicate universal truths that hide falsehoods and abuses of the time. The society of the image elects idols, builds icons, and mocks its inhabitants by inducing behaviors selected from a range of possible options: suggesting what to do, what to choose, what to say, and what to think, promising freedom, success, and happiness. Mass consumption products and icons, "artifacts of banality," merge with the ruins and fragments of a decadent architecture still rich in symbolic, historical, and cultural values. A baroque visual clash, detached from the canons of harmony and proportions, based on an iconography full of bold formal solutions that integrate classical, iconic, and mass society products, toys, memes, and popular figures.

FVCKRENDER

Fvckrender is a self taught digital artist currently based in Montreal, QC.
His style is unique, futuristic, and mechanical. He uses his art to illuminate and thereby
overcome past traumas. His clients include Supreme, Columbia Records, Lil Nas X, Epic Records,
Harpers Bazaar China, TOKiMONSTA, High Snobiety, Instagram, Wieden+Kennedy, Spotify, Puma,
Rosalía, Northlane, Damian Lazarus, Le Cirque du Soleil, Lebron James, Primitive Skateboard,
OVO, 88 Rising, Dior, Hypebeast and many more.

fvckrender

ARTWORK TITLE	BIOLOGICA
DIMENSION	167,5 x 95 cm
EDITION NUMBER	1 NFT / 1 Physical
RELEASE DATE	Executed in 2022 and minted on 27 July 2022 / Printed in 2024
ARTWORK DESCRIPTION	BIOLOGICA is a mesmerizing piece originally on display at GANA Art. It is a deep dive into the push and pull of life-embracing the challenges and triumphs, the fears and the fights. Every detail on this canvas speaks to the artist's personal battles and victories. At the heart of the piece is a vibrant flower. It is more than just a thing of beauty, it is a symbol of overcoming challenges. Surrounding it are unique orange chains, which are not just barriers but reminders of what's been overcome and the inner fire that keeps pushing forward. BIOLOGICA is not just a piece of art; it's the artist's heart and soul, their journey of growth, facing the unknown, and finding their path. It's something many onlookers can relate to. The grain within the piece represents the imperfections beneath seemingly flawless stories, reminding viewers that in every story, even the ones that look perfect on the outside, have all been faced with their own struggles. We have thought it possible for us to understand matter itself, and that we can explain everything but finally we shall always come to that wall beyond which we may not pass.

HOGRE

With the tag Hogre he has been painting graffiti and stencils in Rome since 2006.
In 2011 he inaugurated his first solo exhibition at Mondo Bizzarro in Rome, which was followed
by various other solo and group exhibitions in Italy and abroad (London, Berlin, Warsaw, Bogota,
Mexico City). In 2015 he moved to London, where two years later he published with Dog Section
Press "Subvertising, The piracy of outdoor advertising" a collection of unauthorised interventions
in English advertising spaces. From 2019 to 2022 he co-curated the online project
stealthisposter.org with Doublewhy and Illustre Feccia. In 2022 he co-curated the exhibition
'Werbe Pause, the art of subvertising' at the Kunstraum Kreuzberg Bethanien in Berlin.

buyanewsoul 📷

ARTWORK TITLE	HYPNOPEDIA
DIMENSION	120 x 60 cm
MEDIUM	Stencil on glass
FISICAL / DIGITAL DESCRIPTION	His portrait of musician and performer Lady Maru is a marker for a 2D and 3D animation in Augmented Reality The animation is accessible via Bepart (bepart.net)
EDITION NUMBER	1 of 1
RELEASE DATE	2020
ARTWORK DESCRIPTION	The stencil was also the central frame for a stop motion loop animation with the same name. The video was inspired by roman post-punk band Trouble vs Glue. It required installing 90 posters, 60 stencils and about 200 stickers around Rome's suburbs over two years. Each item photographed in situ became one frame of the animation. Covering analog installation to digital animation, Hogre's cyberpunk method links chunks of public spaces with digital space.

INVADER

Invader (French, b.1969), also known as Space Invader, is an Urban artist originally based
in Paris. He affixes mosaic images of characters from the 1970s video game "Space Invaders"
in cities around the world. Once a work is completed, Invader records it as an "invasion" and
creates accompanying maps and reference books to indicate the location of each piece.
Invader began these urban, outdoor installations in Paris in 1998, and continued to "invade"
31 other cities in France, followed by an additional 22 cities across Europe. Currently, cities
in the United States, Canada, Asia, and Australia are also home to examples of Invader's work.
The mosaics are made using weather-resistant tiles, which represent the pixels used for graphics
in early video and computer games. The installation process typically takes at least one week,
including scouting, recording, and mapping locations, using QR code tecnology.
In addition to mosaics, Invader creates similarly pixelated works using the Rubik's Cubes.
Since 2000, Invader's works have been featured in galleries around the world, and he gained
even greater popularity and renown after he was featured in the 2010 documentary film about
Street Art, Exit Through the Gift Shop. Invader's works have been exhibited in galleries in Paris,
Osaka, Melbourne, Los Angeles, New York, London and Roma; and in Museums all over the world:
Musée en Herbe, Paris, HOCA Foundation, Hong Kong , MOCA, Los Angeles and Borusan Center
for Culture and Arts, Istanbul.

invaderwashere

ARTWORK TITLE	ALIAS BXL40
DIMENSION	51 x 51 cm
MEDIUM	Tiles
EDITION NUMBER	1 of 1
RELEASE DATE	2012

LUNA IKUTA

Luna Ikuta is a conceptual artist whose work draws from biology, material science
and media. Operating within multidisciplinary fields, her diverse portfolio emerges from
alchemical processes, experimenting with both organic and industrial mediums.
Her creations include underwater transparent botanical landscapes, laser-etched crystal
monuments, immersive digital projections, and conceptual blockchain projects.
Ikuta's works address intangible themes such as memory, identity, and evolution.
Born in Tokyo and currently based in Los Angeles, Ikuta earned her BFA from the Rhode
Island School of Design. Her works have been commissioned for public art installations
and have been exhibited in museums and galleries worldwide, transforming spaces into
contemplative environments. Selected projects include "Eternal Garlands" in Culver City,
"12 Months of Afterlife" for Vogue Singapore and "Remember Me". Institutions include
Times Art Museum, Beijing; CAFA Museum, Beijing; Dynamic Art Museum, Milan;
and Descanso Gardens.

lunaikuta 📷

ARTWORK TITLE   ORCHID

DIMENSION   167,5 x 95 cm

EDITION NUMBER   1 of 1

RELEASE DATE   2024

MATTEO MAURO

Matteo Mauro, born in Sicily and currently based in London and Milan. He graduates
at the University College of London, studies and works with influential designers such as
Isaie Bloch and Ron Arad. His main instruments of artistic expression are contemporary
techniques of representation which reinvents the traditional engraving and sculpting
methodologies. Matteo Mauro's inscription paintings have won many awards around the world
for their unpreceded generative technology, including Master of Art 2018 and International
Van Gogh Prize, awarded by Roy Dali, son of Salvador Dali. He is well-known for his series
Micromegalic Inscriptions. His research has been published in a worldwide distributed book,
Micromegalic Inscriptions. Founded his art studio in 2017 in Mornington Crescent London,
Matteo Mauro Studio. In 2021 became an emerging star of the NFT art market and the first artist
in history to offer retrospective blockchain tokenization to his collectors for physical artworks.
Defined as "a representative of Crypto Art in Italy" by Forbes, Libero, Adnkronos.
His art is collected by some of the largest artfunds. Mauro collaborated with the Lamborghini
family at their first NFT release. His works have been exhibited at Royal Academy of Arts,
MACS, Milan Triennale, Marte Museum, MEAM, Museo della Fabbrica, Dubai Design District,
Qianjiang International Art Museum, Datong Museum, Le Salon des Indépendants.

matteomaurostudio 📷

ARTWORK TITLE	AN ALLEGORY OF JOY
DIMENSION	90 x 125 cm
FISICAL / DIGITAL DESCRIPTION	UV Light Sublimation on Certified White Composite Aluminium
EDITION NUMBER	1 of 1
RELEASE DATE	2023
ARTWORK DESCRIPTION	Verified and certified 2D Artwork

RYAN KOOPMANS

Ryan Koopmans (BA, MFA) is a lens-based artist specializing in reviving abandoned architecture through digital techniques. Partnering with his wife, Swedish artist Alice Wexell, they create capGvaGng artworks for their celebrated project, "The Wild Within". Koopmans, of Canadian-Dutch heritage, explores the built environment's impact on societies. Wexell, with a particular interest in 3D art and photography, co-creates these surreal environments using new technologies.

ryan.koopmans 📷

ARTWORK TITLE	SPRING SONATA
DIMENSION	78,75 x 140 cm
MEDIUM	Photography and 3D techniques
EDITION NUMBER	1 of 1
RELEASE DATE	FEBRUARY 24, 2024

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