ART DUBAI DIGITAL 2023 - EXHIBITORS

AFROFUTOURISM (Lagos)

"Forever. Female. Forward." is the second edition of an ongoing series by Afrofutourism and features two female artists, Linda Dounia Rebeiz and Somi Nwandu. The presentation highlights how technology has enabled these artists to tell stories of their past, present, and their visions for the future. It is curated to bring focus to strong African female artists working with digital processes, especially during Women's History Month. Linda Dounia Rebeiz's generative modelling works draw from the weaving patterns of rabaal fabric, typically used in Senegal for weddings and baptism. Somi Nwandu's works, on the other hand, looks at the unsung contribution of women to the social development in Igbo land. Paying homage in the use of visual motifs and symbols that have been drawn by the women of Igboland, Nwadu's digital mixed media on lenticular lens brings this history and tradition into the digital age.

AKTHR X AORIST (Jeddah / Miami)

AKTHR x AORIST are presenting works by six artists and collectives who are leading the discourse on art and technology, demonstrating how new technology is driving forward innovative artist practices. These artists are Andres Reisinger, Quayola, Jonas Lund, Ahmed Mater, Random International, and TeamLab. Reisinger, in particular, is recognised for his fantastical and imaginative visual landscapes and will be presenting a series newly commissioned for Art Dubai 2023, titled, "Take Over: Dubai". In this series, Reisinger envelops some of the most recognisable landmarks and neighbourhoods in different cities with his digital creations, transforming these well-known scenes into sites of theatre and performance. Meanwhile, Lund's series, "MVP (Most Valuable Painting)", consists of 512 individual digital paintings that evolve and transform based on public reception (measured by their social media engagement, likability, etc.) to slowly move towards being optimized for the audience's aesthetic tastes and preferences. These works provide an insight into how artists are bridging experiences within the static screen with corporeal, real-time imaginations.

Art in Space (Dubai)

Art in Space's presentation is a daily curated programme that will showcase newly created works of three artists: Michael Benisty, Orkhan Mammadov, and Krista Kim through a collaboration with VerticalCrypto Art. In particular, new media artist and creative director, Orkhan Mammadov, will be presenting a new body of work titled, "Orientalism 2.0", created using a combination of AI processes to generate new visual expressions that pay homage to the rich cultural heritage of the Middle East and North Africa. In doing so, reclaiming the framework of orientalism in art history and literature to re-approach this heritage through a digital lens. Art in Space's collaboration with VerticalCrypto, a leading platform for art and culture in the NFT ecosystem founded in 2020, also demonstrates how cultural entities are coming together in collaborative formats to present new works.

Artemis Gallery (Lisbon)

Artemis Gallery will be presenting the works of three artists and collectives who are pioneers working in digital arts and culture: Armin Keplinger, Banz&Bowinkel, Can Büyükberber. Their practices broadly explore relationships between our physical and virtual realities and

creating new and imaginative digitally generated imageries. Keplinger's practice focuses on digital image creation and CGI techniques, and in recent years, zooming in on virtual reality. Banz&Bowinkel is an artist duo formed in 2009, focusing similarly on CGI animation, virtual reality and installations. Büyükberber's audiovisual experiences are also designed to blur boundaries between physical and digital spaces.

GALLERIA CONTINUA (San Gimignano/Beijing/Les Moulins/Havana/Sao Paul /Rome/Paris/Dubai)

Galleria Continua will be showing a solo presentation of Italian artist, Loris Cecchini. Cecchini's works are occupied by a potential transfiguration from one form to another, developing reticular structures and molecular forms that are flexible and open to their surroundings and expansions. In this presentation, the gallery will be exhibiting three works from Cecchini's new series of digital and physical sculptures. Each work comprises of a 3D algorithmically generative sculpture which draws from one of the artist's iconic molecular structures, and an original matrix of the sculpture as a singular stainless-steel module. Building on top of Cecchini's longer-term projects, this new body of work demonstrates how his practice extends into the digital realm and can become continuously generative using digital processes.

arte EXPERIENCE by Crypto Oasis (Dubai)

arte is showcasing three sections of their vast community base. One wall will be featuring work from the eco NFT collective, 697 THZ, the project RRREEFF that showcases different digital renders of coral life where 50% of $ETH generated from sales is donated towards rebuilding coral reefs in Ecuador; the project illustrates a beautiful IMPACT use case for combining art, tech and ecology. Another wall will be showcasing arte's collection in their own metaverse museum in OnCyber.io; the collection houses a broad range of crypto collectibles and artworks ranging from Mooncats and Meebits to artists like Jan Leegte and terra0. The third component of their presentation showcases the platform elementum.art an NFT and Digital Art pioneer that will be showcasing a digital NFT of Soliman Lopez, a speculative futures and digital artist from Spain.

DDE NFT Art Project prod. By Shun Art Gallery (Tokyo)

DDE NFT will be presenting the works of two pioneering artists, Yoichi Ochiai and Kotobuki Shiriagari. Ochiai is a major media art figure in Japan, and his practice explores the boundaries between physical representation and digital forms towards what he deems 'Digital Nature'. Ochiai's Re-Digitalisation of Waves (2022) comprises 3D printed sculptures, digital scans of physical objects, and a new motion visual work created based on the re-digitalisation of the sculpture. Shiriagari has been working with cartoons and comics since the 1980s, then expanding into a variety of new media in recent years, including video and animation, to explore new formats of storytelling. He will be presenting a series of works that poke fun at how our technological development and progress has become out of sync with human behaviour and evolution, pointing towards the absurdity of our dependency of technology.

FAKEWHALE X OBJKT ONE (Switzerland)

At the Art Dubai 2023 booth, visitors will have the opportunity to experience online & offline art-driven immersive experiences offered by Objkt.com & FakeWhale: from groundbreaking curated drops of some of the most recognized Tezos artists to podcasts and livestreams bound to keep pushing the boundaries of art. The FakeWhale collection features works by artists such as Lorna Mills, Nicolas Sassoon, Mario Klingemann, Skye Golpe, GAMMATRACE and Luna Ikuta. One of the highlights of the FakeWhale collection is that it supports artists across different blockchain ecosystems; initially starting out in Tezos it also supports artists on Ethereum making it one of the few major collections that traverses these different spaces.

Galliore (Dubai)

Galloire will be presenting a showcase of artworks built with code, algorithms and data, featuring Daniel Canogar, Miguel Chevalier, Sasha Stiles, Rafael Lozano-Hemmer, Jean-Jacques Duclaux (Eko33), United Visual Artists, Addie Wagenknecht, and Aaron Penne. In particular, Canogar's "Billow" is a sculptural LED screen that depicts abstract animations created with real-time data from Google platforms, including search interests, knowledge graph topics, trending videos and so on, with colours of the animation reflecting how popular a topic becomes. Wagenknecht's "Liberator Vases" is a series of vases composed of 3D prints of the open-source Liberator gun, the first 3D modelled and open-source handgun made available for download online. The Liberator gun is multiplied and parametrically modelled to form a vase, thus deformed, clustered and turned decorate. Several of these works not only reflect how data visualization and algorithms are being used in different and renewed ways around us, but also how these practices are investigating the intricate links between physical and digital objects.

Gazell.io (Baku / London)

Gazell.io will be presenting a solo presentation of renowned digital artist, Brendan Dawes, and debuting his new series, "Persian Dreams". Dawes' practice uses generative processes involving data, machine learning and code to create interactive installations, data visualisations and more. This series is inspired by The Book of Kings, or Shahnameh, the national epic of Iran and recounts a Persian golden age via some 50,000 'distichs' or couplets, written by poet Ferdowsi between c. 977 and 1010 CE. Dawes' reinterpretation of the epic poem is a fusion of AI, motion-captured choreography and algorithmically generated forms, presented in the form of audio-visual artworks that bring tradition, heritage and new technology into one. Importantly, Dawes' project is demonstrative of how digital artists have been working with innovative technologies to preserve and continue cultural heritage, breathing new life into historical moments and reminding us that technology does not sit alone but is built on our past.

Lian Foundation (Geneva)

Lian Foundation will present a series of works by American artist, Austin Lee, who is recognised for his airbrush paintings which combine digital technologies and painting. These works draw from Manganiello's private collective. Lee transfers iPad sketches onto the canvas using airbrush and painting, involving his hand in compositional shifts while preserving the sense and texture of the digital. The sculpture, "Mirror", is 3D-printed and shows a figure seated in front of a desktop computer, a compositional nod to George Segal's Time Magazine cover from 1983, and a reflection of how technology has becoming increasingly intertwined with our lives to the point of influencing our own perceptions of reality.

MORROW collective: UAE FIRST IMMERSION (Dubai)

A curated selection of diverse artworks by Emirati artists: Juma Alhaj, Najat Makki, Aisha Juma, Khalid Al Banna to celebrate the UAE's cornerstone values as represented visually by Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid's signature 'WVL' hand gesture, an acronym for Win Victory Love. This project exemplifies MORROW's commitment to bringing more Emirati artists into the NFT space, through crypto art's most celebrated collaborative format: an algorithmically generated project. Each unique 1/1 artwork contains elements from collage, carpet making, digital drawing, videography and painting and will be available for a limited time. MORROW collective will present 'UAE First Immersion' at Art Dubai Digital in 2023. This is a presentation of new artworks by a number of leading names in crypto art, produced after they visited the UAE for the first time in November 2022. The presentation will feature new works by Coldie, Colborn Bell, Monaris, Bryan Brinkman, untitled xyz and Raphael.

PILEVNELI (Istanbul)

PILEVNELI Gallery aims to bring stimulating worldviews to Istanbul by hosting international artists and presenting contemporary Turkish artists in a local and global context. For Art Dubai Digital 2023 they will present several works by celebrated new media artist Refik Anadol.

UAE NFT (Dubai)

UAE NFT is presenting a duo show of Jason Seife and Alexis Christodoulou with their curated art drops. Seife's works reference old Persian carpets, as textiles and carpets were a big part of his childhood growing up with immigrant parents of Middle Eastern descent. These works make use of the intricate geometry and colours often found in such carpets and extends into a new visual language. Alexis Christodoulou, on the other hand, is a digital artist and leader in the field of 3D design. His works focus on imagination and architecture, creating new visualisations of fantastical spaces within the digital sphere.

Unit London (London)

Returning to Art Dubai Digital, Unit London will be showcasing a selection of artists focusing on forging movement in light, colour and space from algorithmic code. Informed by early pioneers of Op Art such as Bridget Riley and Victor Vasarely, the gallery is showcasing generative artists Zach Lieberman, Iskra Velitchkova and Fingacode, whose works play with perception, employing shapes that captivate the eye of the viewer. In addition, the presentation will also feature the works of Maxim Zhestkov and Krista Kim, who are exploring virtual environments and spatial dynamics in their individual practices. Kim's work, in particular, will be present as a virtual reality experience, bringing multi-dimensionality to Kim's architectural work, Regenesis. Upon purchase, the collector will receive a digital property, designed, built and hosted on a plot of virtual land in the Spatial metaverse. The gallery will also be bringing a preview of Tyler Hobbs' upcoming work, ahead of his debut European solo exhibition at the gallery's London space in March.

The Upside Space (Singapore)

The Upside Space presents "A Shared Room", bringing together the works of nine artists from across Southeast Asia, South Asia, and the Middle East, and zooming into how digital artists are working with technology to convey their own heritage and experiences. Bhutanese artist Zimbiri explores the use of traditional Bhutanese paint (saa-tshen) and imagery to present the vision of a "stripped down tiger" as a metaphor for letting go off possessions, ambitions, and an ego, while Poornima Jayasinghe from Sri Lanka depicts her work as tales from Jataka and uses this form of local art and storytelling to narrate a contemporary folklore on political controversies surrounding her nation. Building on top of these narratives, Indian artist Osheen Siva presents a very personal take of a Dalit and Tamil queer person and the idea of diverse beings and bodies that can embody strength and power irrespective of gender. Works in the presentation demonstrate how these artists take technology and digital tools as a new paintbrush and are bringing their own realities into the digital canvas.

Window Project (Tbilisi)

Window Project in collaboration with Instigators presents the second series from, Sacred Creatures - Beraqas (Anahata and Vishuddhas) by Uta Bekaia x Denis Davydov at Art Dubai 2023, Digital Section. The drop was created at a seismic time when the world order itself was shaken. Ethnic conflicts, wars, and changes in the global political paradigm were all represented in the artists' reflections on how their universe should function and develop. According to Davydov and Bekaia, the Anahata is the most empathetic family of all, precisely because the feeling of empathy has been totally atrophied in our time.

This project is conceived as a serial undertaking with each instalment shedding new light on Davydov & Bekaia's universe. Each work consists of a hand-painted watercolour sketch and ceramic sculpture, that is transferred into virtual space with the help of unique textures, materials and mechanisms that were not taken from reality but specially developed for the project to activate the plastic possibilities of the avatars.

Wizara (Ciaro)

Wizara presents "Chiseling Pixels", featuring the works of four artists: Omar Houssien, Harshini Karunaratne, Ahmed Elshaer, and Mariam Sadik. The selection examines regional futures and the rise of new materialities, building on the rich digital output of West Asian and North African artists living and working at home and abroad in the diasporas. The exhibition looks at key notions including new mythologies, virtual homelands, and disruptive economies. It roots its investigations in the visual vernacular of a digitally-native generation of regional artists, and challenges stereotypical representations of Arab, African or Asian subjects. It plays both with form, as well as the aesthetic genealogy the artists are responding to, creating a new system of cross-referential maps and new possible futures to navigate, collectively.

6529 (Miami)

6529 will be presenting artworks from the 6529 NFT Fund to highlight artists that the fund has identified to be working at the forefront of art on the blockchain and demonstrate the diversity and excellence of works in the collection. Through a daily curated programme, 6529 brings different artistic practices in conversation to demonstrate the myriad of ways in which artists are utilising and building on top of emerging technologies. From Urs Fischer's "Chaos" series of unique digital sculptures, which reimagines common objects and images through technological intervention; and Sarah Zucker's "Lick This Lotus", a continuation of Zucker's ongoing exploration merging analogue and digital technologies; to Matt DesLauriers' on-chain generative "Meridian" series, the presentation is a comprehensive look at some of the most significant artworks on-chain. In presenting the collection at Art Dubai 2023, 6529 is also demonstrating how collectors in Web 3.0 are reshaping relationships of patronage and support for artists.

OLEA By Solimán López – Digital Immersive Installation (Dubai)

"Olea" is a multi-room immersive installation. In the first room, visitors will encounter visual artworks that represent the DNA sequencing and information now merged with the uniquely produced olive oil. In the next room, a robotic arm will repeatedly perform the act of mixing untampered olive oil with the newly infused oil containing DNA molecules, then bottling the mixed liquid into small vessels that will be certified through NFTs and cryptography. Visitors are also invited to taste the mixed olive oil, becoming carriers of the biotoken. Lopez's work into biodata, biotechnology and ways of imagining alternative relationships that humans share with our agricultural and food industries introduces an exciting site-specific installation to the section, and prompting open questions on how digital art and experiments can illuminate the designing of our collective futures.