



# When Museums Engage in Web3

**Dr Frances Liddell**  
**6<sup>th</sup> September 23**

# Web3

# Defining Web 3

## As a set of tools

Blockchains  
Cryptocurrencies  
NFTs  
Smart contracts  
DAOs  
Metaverses

## As a principle

Right for privacy,  
autonomy, and a need to  
re-decentralise the  
internet

Enables users to  
**participate** in  
decentralised exchange.

# Museum Participation



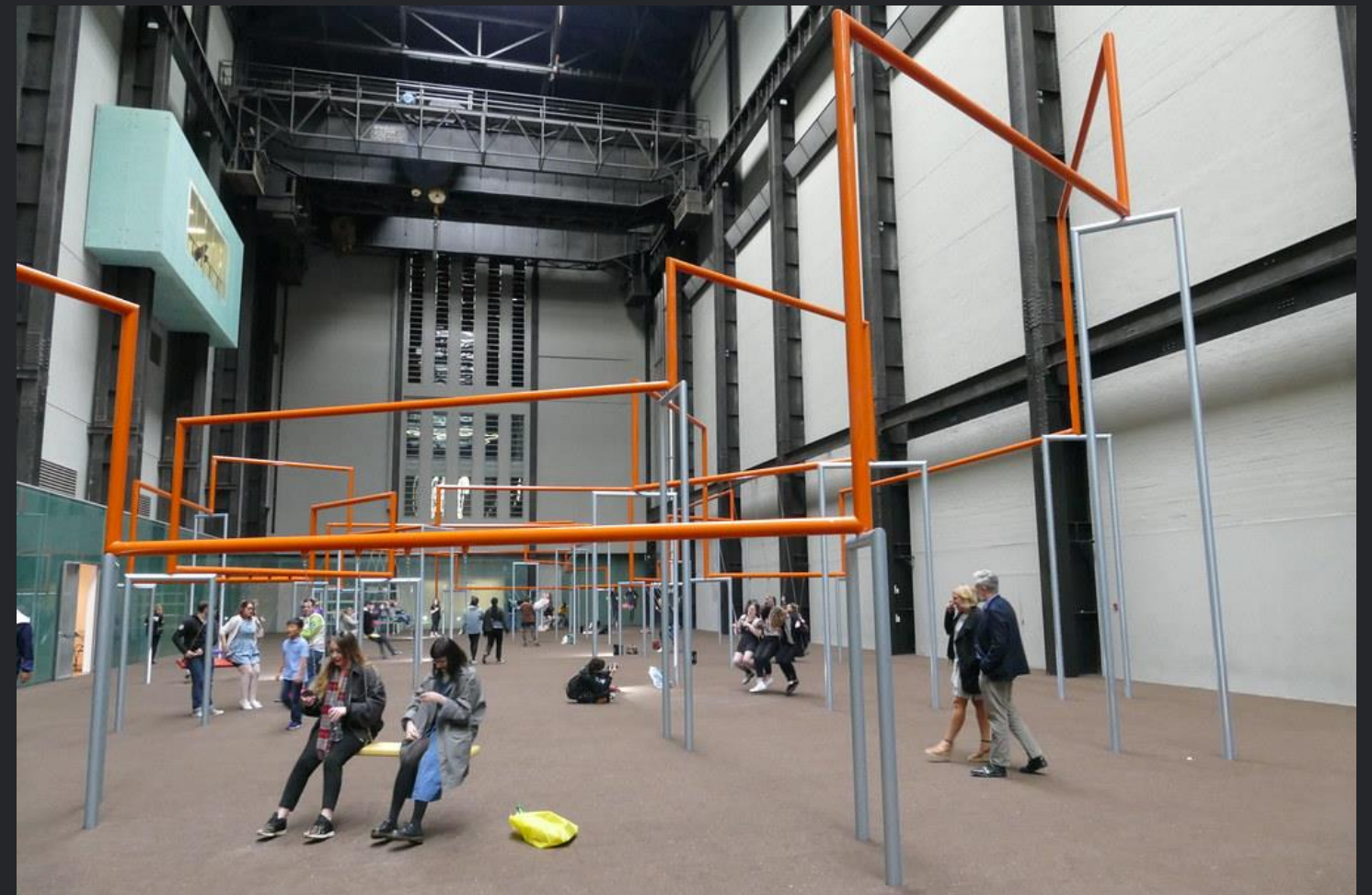
# The 'Participatory Turn' in Museums

From 'above' – a shift in cultural policy, a need to support local communities, regeneration, and generate own income

From 'below' – greater competition for more experience orientated visits

From 'within' – a desire to be part of local communities, to share knowledge, 'new museology', 'post-critical museology'.

Black (2006) *The Engaging Museum*, London, Routledge



*One, Two, Three, Swing!* Superflex, Tate Modern, Turbine Hall series, Credit @ Loz Pycck

# Definitions

**Access:** giving presence/access to resources

**Interacting:** building social exchange, 'acting upon each other'

**Participating:** process of co-deciding

*Carpentier, 2011 Media and Participation: A site of ideological-democratic struggle Intellect*

Participation is a process of **decentring control** through shared decision making and social exchange.

Museum participation is a process of **decentring institutional authority** through shared decision making and social exchange.

# Museums & Web3



# Digital Franc Carolinum

VIRTUAL  
SHOWROOM ON  
VOXELS

A space that is open around the clock & accessible at any time

# Ian Cheng: *Life After BOB*

The Shed / Luma Foundation / LAS Art Foundation

## Crypto Connection: the new National Museums Liverpool

Partnership with new platform LaCollection aims to inspire next generation of art collectors

CRYPTO CULTURE IN WEB3

# JING CULTURE & CRYPTO

THE BUSINESS  
OF ART AND  
CULTURE IN WEB3

CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS | INDUSTRY PROFILES

## ACMA's Art + Technology Lab The NFT Conversation

LU / AUGUST 9, 2021

ZHIYUAN SUN

## Royal Museum of Fine Arts Antwerp tokenizes million-euro classic masterpiece

key claims the tokens are compliant with both the Ethereum and Polygon blockchains.

YOR

Blockchain  
NFT  
Crypto Art

8.10.2022-  
15.1.2023

## The Whitworth gallery in Manchester mints a William Blake NFT in aid of community causes

## New NFT Collection to Support Pollock-Krasner House

MAY 09, 2022



ART NEWSPAPER

Exhibitions Books Podcasts Columns Vermeer Adventures with

'We have no doubt NFTs are art': after  
selling tokenised Leonardo,  
Hermitage plans exhibition of born-  
digital works

# British Museum enters world of NFTs with digital Hokusai postcards

## What's Inside Seattle's First NFT Museum

1 / DECEMBER 29, 2021

# JING CULTURE & CRYPTO

THE BUSINESS  
OF ART AND  
CULTURE IN WEB3

Analysis

CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS | INDUSTRY PROFILES

## From The 17th Century To Web3: How MetaRembrandt Is Onboarding The Dutch Master

ERI KOSTINA / AUGUST 31, 2022

art  
rights  
protect your art

ART RIGHTS

## Klimt's Kiss transformed into NFT

Art World

Crypto Art

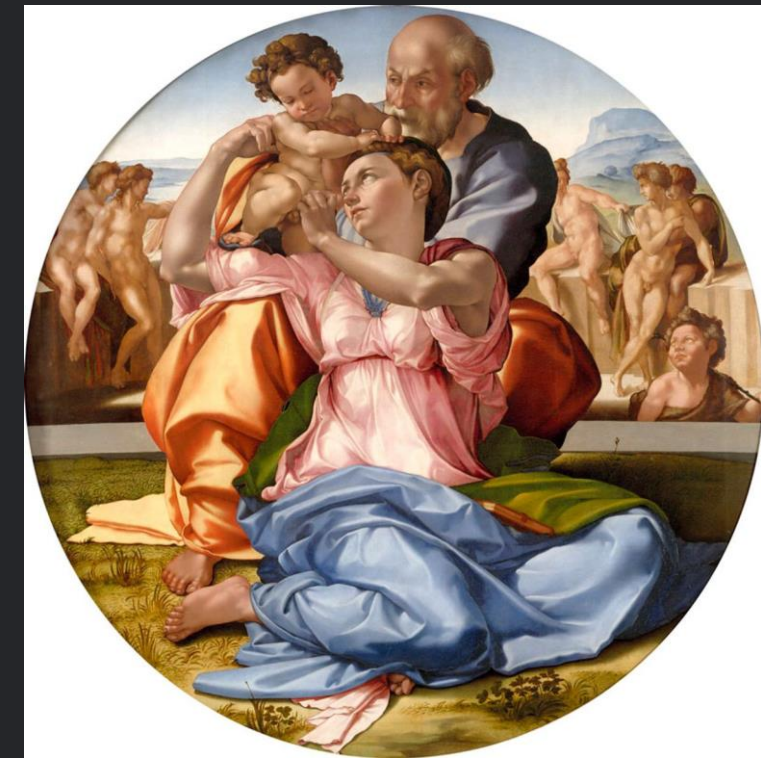
14 February 2022



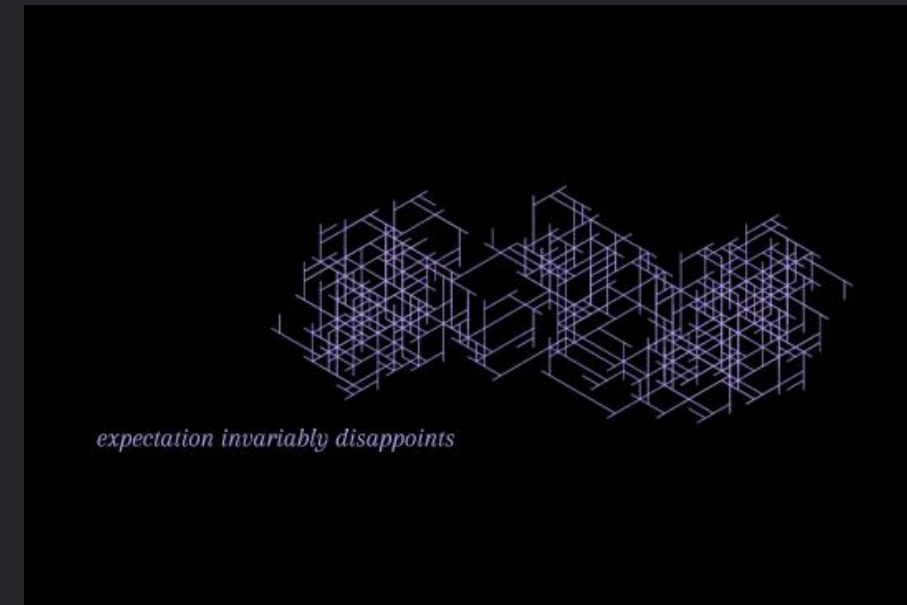
# Museums and Web3

- Fundraising & Membership
- Collecting & Conservation
- Exhibitions & Interpretation
- Education & Reflection

Uffizi & Cinello, May 2021, Sale of Michelangelo's *Doni Tondo* for 240,000 euros



Harm van den Dorpel, (2015) *Event Listeners*, MAK



Digital Francisco Carolinum, Cryptovoxel



Kunsthalle, *DYOR* (2022/23)



To what extent can web3  
support participation and  
engagement?



# The Paris Opera introduces its first NFT collection! OBVIOUS

DISCOVER THE COLLECTION

## Access Token

NFT collections as membership tokens, giving access to the museum through exclusive benefits

## Opéra National de Paris

Three generative works. Coryphée, Sujet, and Étoile, each provide specific benefits to the collector



You must complete a few more steps before you can start talking in this server. [Complete](#)

Opéra de Paris : Balle... ✓ | Règlement # / + 👤 Search 🔍 🗨️ ?

# Browse Channels **NEW**

🗣️ Conférence

----- | IMPORTANT | -----

✓ 📄 | Règlement

# 📢 | Annonces

# 🔗 | Liens

----- | COMMUNAUTÉ | -----

# 💬 | Général

# 📷 | Opéra-et-moi

# 💡 | Infos

# 👋 | Bienvenue

----- | LANGUE | -----

# FR | French

# Opéra de Paris : Ballet Algorithmique 🎭

This is the beginning of this server.

28 February 2023

👤 **Piosh** 28/02/2023 15:22

Bonjour et bienvenue sur le serveur Discord de l'Opéra de Paris : Ballet Algorithmique 🎭.

Afin de garantir une expérience agréable pour tous les utilisateurs, nous avons établi les règles suivantes :

🚫 Interdictions :

- [1] Tout langage offensant, abusif, discriminatoire, sexiste, homophobe ou harcelant est strictement interdit.
- [2] La diffusion de contenus illégaux ou piratés est interdite.
- [3] Les spams, les publicités et les messages répétitifs ne sont pas autorisés.
- [4] La publication de liens vers des sites douteux ou dangereux est interdite.
- [5] Les insultes, les menaces et les provocations sont interdites.
- [6] Les discussions politiques ou religieuses sont interdites.

Nous vous remercions de respecter ces règles afin de garantir une expérience agréable pour tous les utilisateurs du serveur Discord de l'Opéra de Paris : Ballet Algorithmique 🎭.





11 JUN 2022

— 03 SEP 2023

# UFO – Unidentified Fluid Other

Current  
— exhibition

## Interactive Token

The token as part of the visitor experience, supporting this process.

## NxT Museum, *UFO:* *Unidentified Fluid Other*

PAOPs (proof of attendance token) scattered across the physical exhibition space, collectable through email

Digital



## THE GAME

Gabriel Massan & Collaborators: Third World: The Bottom Dimension

Online

Available from 23 June 2023

FREE



### Interactive Token

The token as part of the visitor experience, supporting this process.

### *Third World: The Bottom Dimension*

NFTs embedded into game-play to collect as mementos.





# Crypto Connections: Exploring the Personal

This online collection is the outcome of a project which explored our relationship to our personal possessions and museum artefacts.

Participants each chose both a personal possession and a museum object or artwork from National Museums Liverpool's collection that they felt a

## Collaborative Token

The participant invests in the process of making the token

## National Museums Liverpool, *Crypto-Connections*

NFTs representing the personal experience of the visit and taking part in the project



DYOR  
Blockchain  
NFT  
CrYpTo Art

8.10.2022-  
15.1.2023

Scroll



*Play Record Mind, DYOR, Kunsthalle, Zurich, courtesy  
Matt Maurer and Stefano Pibiri*

## Collaborative Token

The participant invests in the process of making the token

## *Play Record Mint*

Interactive in *DYOR* where visitors could experiment and create their own unique artwork and mint as an NFT



# The Impact?

## **Access Token**

NFT collections as membership tokens, giving access to the museum through exclusive benefits

## **Interactive Token**

The token as part of the visitor experience, supporting this process.

## **Collaborative Token**

The participant invests in the process of making the token

**Inclusive?**

**Sustainable?**

**Ethical?**

**Decentralised?**

**Dr Frances Liddell**

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