



HOUSE of
LOBKOWICZ

Press Release

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Past Meets Future: House of Lobkowitz Hosts Innovative NFT Exhibition Featuring Renowned Contemporary Artists

House of Lobkowitz is hosting its second edition of Non-Fungible Castle which bridges the traditional art world with blockchain technology in a one-of-a-kind exhibition, followed by a cultural program and international conference.

The highly anticipated exhibition, *Non-Fungible Castle 2022: Preserving Culture on The Blockchain*, is open October 27–November 13, 2022, at the Lobkowitz Palace in Prague Castle, and is free to the public.

The exhibition explores cultural preservation at the junction of blockchain technology and the arts. It offers the idea that when a work of art is created, and saved on the blockchain, the culture it represents lives on in perpetuity. To preserve a culture is to share the stories that define it. To that end, “The exhibition is inspired by the story of internationally lauded Czech composer, Antonín Dvořák, who demonstrated an exceptional ability to represent cultural identity through art,” says William Rudolf Lobkowitz, organizer and host of Non-Fungible Castle. Works in the exhibition will be sold as NFTs (Non-Fungible Tokens) in an online auction starting November 5, 2022. Sale proceeds will support the Lobkowitz Collections’ charitable project: the reconstruction and renovation of Antonín Dvořák’s Birth House in Nelahozeves, which will be transformed into an international musical heritage site. The first half of the exhibition explores the universal themes of nature, folklore, and literature, from which Dvořák drew inspiration. The latter half of the exhibition provides an opportunity for artists to more accurately represent cultures that are misrepresented, threatened, or marginalized.

Drawing upon Dvořák for inspiration, eminent artists from 17 countries explore cultural identity through different forms of artistic expression. The exhibition, which displays over 50 works (some sold in multiple additions) includes exceptional art by household names like Daniel Arsham, who famously depicts products from contemporary culture as “future relics” already decaying; Banksy, whose *Walled Off Hotel* project is a nod to the Israel West Bank Wall; and Toyen, credited as the founder of Czech Surrealism whose famous series, *Střelnice (The Shooting Gallery)*, was deemed “degenerate art” under the Nazi regime.

Zhang Huan, one of the most provocative Chinese artists today, created his first NFTs

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available for sale for this exhibition. His past works have been exhibited at The Met, The MoMA, Centre Pompidou, and The Hermitage Museum. London-based Czech native, Mila Fůrstová, best known for designing the cover of Coldplay's world-wide number one album *Ghost Stories*, is exhibiting two works that showcase her signature technique of etching—paying homage to her roots with emblems from traditional Czech fairytales. Her work has been featured in numerous private and public collections, including that of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Václav Havel, and the V&A Museum.

Also included is Berlin-based art collective, CROSSLUCID, who creates forward-thinking AI-generated art, and the Stockholm-based photography duo, Ryan Koopmans & Alice Wexell, who specialize in the visual revival of abandoned architecture by combining photography with animation.

The exhibition is curated by Jake Al-Haffar, and is part of a broader event called Non-Fungible Castle, which includes an interactive cultural program at Nelahozeves Castle on November 4, 2022, and an international conference on November 5, 2022, at the Lobkowitz Palace in Prague Castle.

If you are interested in press accreditation for the opening of the exhibition on October 27, 2022, or at the international conference on November 5, 2022, please contact Jan Pavelka, director of communications for House of Lobkowitz, or fill out the online form on the website: <https://www.nfcastle.com/media>

For more information, please visit: www.nfcastle.com

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