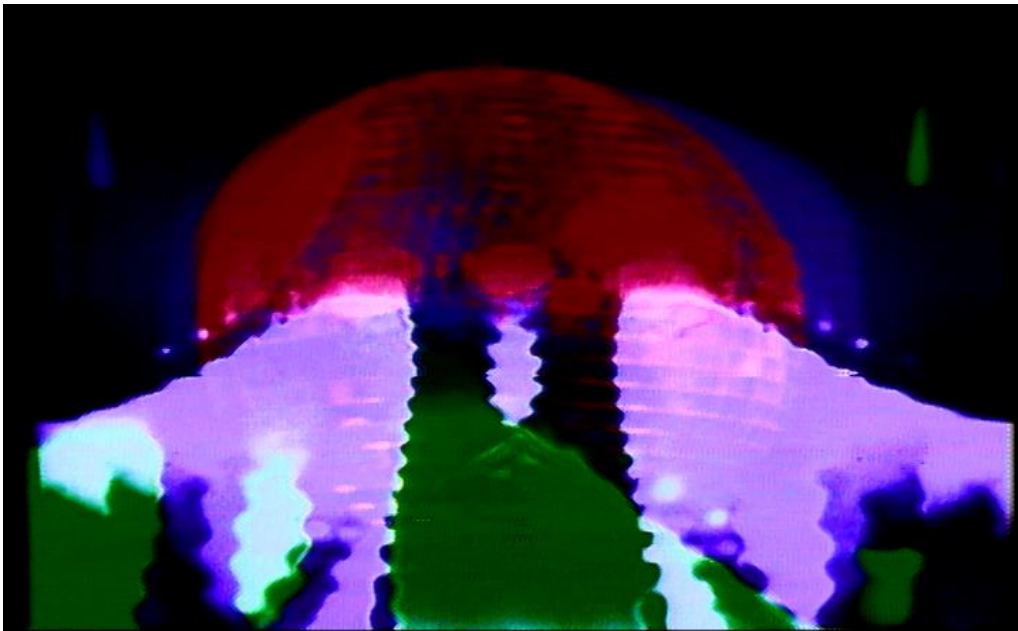


CHRISTIE'S

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PROOF OF SOVEREIGNTY: A CURATED NFT SALE BY Lady PheOnix

TO BE OFFERED AT CHRISTIE'S ONLINE MAY 25 - JUNE 3
*Featuring Nam June Paik, Jenny Holzer, Urs Fischer and Gerald Laing alongside
legacy and emerging new media artists*



NAM JUNE PAIK

Global Groove (Opening)

Video 0:38 seconds

Features: video, color, sound

Created in 1973.

NEW YORK – Christie's is pleased to announce a collaboration with **Lady PheOnix**—one of the most respected voices in the new media landscape today—to present an expertly curated sale of both legacy and newly created artwork as unique NFTs. The online auction, **PROOF OF SOVEREIGNTY**, not only brings together more than 20 new media artists utilizing blockchain technology, but also employs metadata, storage and legal standards that have been virtually absent from millions of artworks associated with non-fungible tokens until now. **PROOF OF SOVEREIGNTY** will be live online from **May 25-June 3**.

Leading the auction is a historic NFT from the Estate of **Nam June Paik**—considered the grandfather of video art—that both memorializes and revitalizes the artist's seminal work, *Global Groove*, originally aired on WNET-Channel 13 in 1974. Paik's famous piece heralds the age of global connectivity through a hypnotic visual and sonic rhythm—creating an endless loop of ecstatically groovy energy.

The subsequent works, introduced by Lady PheOnix, highlight a diverse selection of new media artists, whose collective practice spans more than 20 years. **Marguerite deCourcelle**, also known as 'Coin Artist', creates visually compelling

puzzles coded directly into the Polygon blockchain. **Joshua Davis**, known as 'Praystation', has created colorful, generative, audio reactive artwork. **Claudia Hart** implements the still life motif, inverting Matisse and Picasso references into a simulated, uncanny composition. **Lethabo Huma** of Pretoria, South Africa, captures the warmth of human connection through soft color and vulnerability. Internationally renowned artist **KESH** creates an intimate dialogue between experimental music, photography, film, fashion and sculpture. Pioneering new media artist **Tamiko Thiel** will be minting her work on a proof-of-stake blockchain to retain the values of her environmentally conscious art practice.

While most of these names may be new to the traditional blue-chip collectors, **Jenny Holzer**, **Urs Fischer** and **Gerald Laing Estate** will also offer works, recognizing the importance of the emergent NFT market. Ultimately, PROOF OF SOVEREIGNTY is at once a celebration of both 20th and 21st century digital works and new media artists, providing a tantalizing glimpse of the future of art itself.

*To browse highlights in advance of the sale open, visit [the dedicated viewing room](#)
More artists and community partners to be announced in the coming days.*

Noah Davis, Christie's 21st Century Art Specialist, said, *"Working with Lady PheOnix has been an incredible privilege. I feel honored to have been welcomed into this insanely creative community, humbled by their virtuosic talents, and inspired by their utopian visions. I see so much potential for blockchain technologies—from Smart Contracts to DAOs—to revolutionize (some might say "disrupt") our way of doing business. And by "doing business," I really mean that as generally as possible. Blockchain isn't just going to shake up the art world and decentralize the financial industry, it's going to change the way artists make art, and the way every creative industry operates, by democratizing access to information, diminishing opacity in favor of transparency, and empowering creative people everywhere."*

Curator Lady PheOnix said, *"PROOF OF SOVEREIGNTY places the sovereignty and legacy of the artist at the center of the conversation—and has established a new standard for artists, collectors, and institutions with the help of Time-Based Media Specialist, Regina Harsanyi and smart contract partner, Monegraph. These practices rarely get implemented outside of museums and academia, but are essential for the long-term preservation and storage of digital art. With Christie's as the leader in NFTs, they are helping to secure the future for all new media artists."*

The premier provider of rights management technology for NFTs and other crypto assets, **Monegraph** has partnered with Christie's to support the artists and associated galleries in registering their copyrights and managing their rights on the blockchain for PROOF OF SOVEREIGNTY. The company's smart contracts enable owners of intellectual property to secure their rights on the blockchain. Based on global patents for media copyrighting and licensing, the company provides infrastructure to support the seamless sales and transfer of media rights on the Ethereum, Bitcoin and various other blockchains.

Note to Editors:

On March 11, 2021, Christie's sold the first NFT based purely on a digital work of art ever offered by a major auction house—Beeple's [EVERYDAYS — THE FIRST 5000 DAYS](#) for USD \$69,346,250. The Beeple sale achieved the third-highest price for a work at auction made by a living artist, closely competing with top lots sold in Christie's marquee live auctions. Prior to this time, Christie's 21st Century team of specialists had been tracking the upswing of the NFT market throughout 2020 and noted the significant increase in what NFT artworks were selling for late in the year. As a result, Christie's believed it this was the right time to enter into this market with the sale of Beeple's work.

On May 19, Christie's also announced **Andy Warhol: Machine Made**, a ground-breaking sale of five digital works created by Andy Warhol in the mid-1980s and recovered from obsolete floppy disks in 2014. In a first for the nascent market for digital art and NFTs, these original works by the celebrated 'Pope of Pop Art' which previously existed only as digital files will be brought to life again in the form of 1/1 NFTs (non-fungible tokens). They are being offered for sale individually by Christie's on behalf of **The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts**, with all sale proceeds to benefit the non-profit philanthropic foundation established by Warhol. The sale **runs to May 27** on [Christie's website](#).

Images available on request

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About Christie's

Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service and international expertise. Founded in 1766 by James Christie, Christie's has conducted the greatest and most celebrated auctions through the centuries providing a popular showcase for the unique and the beautiful. Christie's offers around 350 auctions annually in over 80 categories, including all areas of fine, decorative and digital art, jewellery, photographs, collectibles, wine, and more. Prices range from \$200 to over \$100 million. Christie's also has a long and successful history conducting Private Sales for clients and online sales are offered year-round across all categories. Christie's global presence is spread across a network of international salerooms and 61 representatives and offices. Christies.com provides detailed articles and videos on the objects offered for sale alongside the latest advances in digital viewing tools to make Christie's accessible to all.

**Please note when quoting estimates above that other fees will apply in addition to the hammer price - see Section D of the Conditions of Sale at the back of the sale catalogue.*

**Estimates do not include buyer's premium. Sales totals are hammer price plus buyer's premium and are reported net of applicable fees.*

About Lady PheOnix

Lady PheOnix is the leading voice for contemporary digital art and culture, providing an essential platform for the art and artists of our time. She is a passionate producer of creative works at the intersection of art and technology. Lady PheOnix is a guest lecturer at Harvard and Dartmouth where she teaches the foundations of cryptomedia and NFTs. She is the founder of premier art and cryptomedia consultancy, Universe Contemporary and co-author of the forthcoming book, *Freedom Dreams in the Open Metaverse*.

About Monegraph

Monegraph is the premier provider of rights management technology for non-fungible tokens (NFTs) and other crypto assets. The company's smart contracts enable owners of intellectual property to secure their rights on the blockchain. Based on global patents for media copyrighting and licensing, the company provides infrastructure to support the seamless sales and transfer of media rights on the Ethereum, Bitcoin and various other blockchains.

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