# CYBERIAN

Life in Metaverse

Srinavin Kumar Raja

MFA 2, KIT NTNU

### Sincere Thanks to

Alexandra Murray-Leslie

Joen Vedel

C.R. Gouthaman

**Charles Hoskinson** 

Turbo Egon

**Emerald Roots** 

Liesel Dom

### **Special Thanks to**

Cryptoknitties

### AF

Monad Alexander

Nemonium

Alessandro – Developer

Lucidcic

Alex @ruttkowa

**Prashanth Sach** 

Stockpicka – Acronym DAO

### Trash Dev

Zhaata – CNFT Jungle

### K9man

Lailue

Blucollar crypto

### Fahadouken

### Antoine

### Hunter

#### &

Friends and good souls of CNFT community

## **Table of Contents**

Synopsis The Origins The Journey The mainland Web - 3.0 The Fall Cyberia – Spring – Bounce back Duck Taking on Wolf – Loans on NFTs Daily dose of Scam & Spam NFTs – Ukraine War – Fundraiser Royalties Experience is the Utility Future Possibilities Final Thoughts

## Glossary

Plaakabain	A blockshoin is a growing list of records
Blockchain	A <b>blockchain</b> is a growing list of <u>records</u> , called <i>blocks</i> , that are linked together using <u>cryptography</u> Each block contains a <u>cryptographic hash</u> of the previous block, a <u>timestamp</u> , and transaction data (generally represented as a <u>Merkle tree</u> ).
Decentralization	<b>Decentralization</b> or <b>decentralisation</b> is the process by which the activities of an organization, particularly those regarding planning and decision making, are distributed, or delegated away from a central, authoritative location or group.
NFT	A non-fungible token (NFT) is a non- interchangeable unit of data stored on a blockchain, a form of digital ledger, that can be sold and traded. Types of NFT data units may be associated with digital files such as photos, videos, and audio.
Cardano	Cardano is a public blockchain platform. It is open-source and decentralized, with consensus achieved using proof of stake. It can facilitate peer-to-peer transactions with its internal cryptocurrency, ADA
	Cardano was founded in 2015 by Ethereum co- founder Charles Hoskinson. The development of the project is overseen and supervised by the Cardano Foundation based in Zug, Switzerland. It is the largest cryptocurrency to use a proof-of- stake blockchain, which is seen as a greener alternative to proof-of-work protocols.
Ethereum	Ethereum is a decentralized, open source blockchain with smart contract functionality. Ether (ETH or $\equiv$ ) is the native cryptocurrency of the platform. Among cryptocurrencies, Ether is second only to Bitcoin in market capitalization.
	Ethereum was conceived in 2013 by programmer Vitalik Buterin.[4] Additional founders of Ethereum included Gavin Wood, Charles Hoskinson, Anthony Di DiOrio, and Joseph Lubin.
IPFS	The Interplanetary File System (IPFS) is a protocol and peer-to-peer network for storing and sharing data in a distributed file system. IPFS uses content-addressing to uniquely identify each file in a global namespace connecting all computing devices

Wallet	A cryptocurrency wallet is a device, physical
	medium, program or a service which stores the public and/or private for cryptocurrency transactions. In addition to this basic function of storing the keys, a cryptocurrency wallet more often also offers the functionality of encrypting and/or signing information. Signing can for example result in executing a smart contract, a cryptocurrency transaction (see "bitcoin transaction" image), identification or legally signing a 'document' (see "application form" image).
PFP	In computing, an avatar is a graphical representation of a user or the user's character or persona. Avatars can be two-dimensional icons in Internet forums and other online communities, where they are also known as profile pictures, user pics, or formerly picons (personal icons). Alternatively, an avatar can take the form of a three-dimensional model, as used in online worlds and video games.
Onchain Interactive NFTs	On-chain NFTs are tokens completely written on the blockchain implemented with metadata and smart contract both existing on the blockchain. rather than using IPFS and linking them to block chain. Also, there are few Interactive Onchain NFTs which are not static like a JPG image but can be
Discord Servers	interacted Discord is a VoIP, instant messaging, and digital distribution platform. Users communicate with voice calls, video calls, text messaging, media, and files in private chats or as part of communities called "servers". A server is a collection of persistent chat rooms and voice chat channels which can be accessed via invite links. Discord runs on Windows, macOS, Android, iOS, iPadOS, Linux, and in web browsers. As of 2021, the service has over 350 million registered users and over 150 million monthly active users.
Flippers	Flippers in NFT space are people who just get in in the rush and want to flip it for quick profit without any concern for space or art
DAOs	The DAO means a digital decentralized autonomous organization, and a form of investor- directed venture capital fund. It launched in April 2016 after a crowdfunding campaign via a token sale and it became one of the largest crowdfunding campaigns in history. The DAO had an objective to provide a new decentralized business model for organizing both commercial and non-profit enterprises. It was
	instantiated on the Ethereum blockchain and had no conventional management structure or board of directors. The code of the DAO is open source.

CNFT	NFTs on Cardano Blockchain
Smart Contracts	Smart contracts are simply programs stored on a blockchain that run when predetermined conditions are met. They typically are used to automate the execution of an agreement so that all participants can be immediately certain of the outcome, without any intermediary's involvement or time loss.
CIP Standard	A community standard for royalties' functionality, that does not require smart contracts to implement the royalties for NFTs

## Synopsis

It has been a wild ride over a course of 9 months as an artist in Web 3.0 (an idea for a new iteration of the <u>World Wide Web</u> based on <u>blockchain technology</u>, which incorporate concepts such as <u>decentralization</u> and token-based economics). A journey where I started, like many others, trying to sell artwork as NFTs after Beeple's 69 million sale; I ended up not selling the artwork, wasting money over minting the piece, almost giving up the NFT space. Later, a chain of events after a casual talk with a friend who follows cryptocurrency led to out of the blue success in trading a block chain algorithm art which slowly pulled me in to a world unknown. Meeting people from various parts of world, countless hours of conversations, making money also losing money, with art and understanding the space/people over the course of time with good/bad experiences, it's now almost time for the launch of my own NFT project called 'CYBERIA' which is not just a project of the artist inside me but more of a project for the community, providing welfare to the people involved, which deals with yoga and mental health along with art and also comes as an experience.

## The Origins

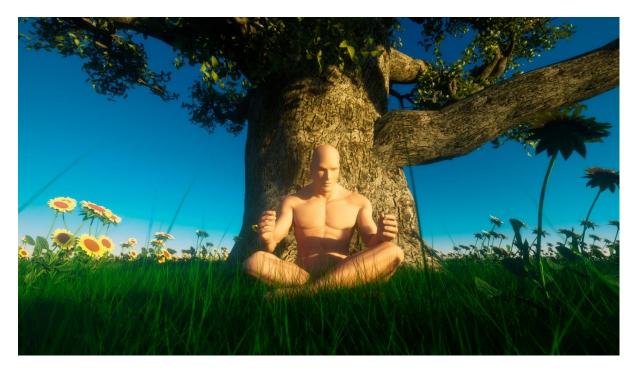
Life as we know it is full of surprises. It was a roller coaster ride over the past few months. As a guy who hustled all the way, sorting out a loan situation in India and in the middle of Covid after missing the first semester physically, finally being here in a art school in Norway was a great thing that happened to me and I wanted to start making art as I found the time to do so and as I was settling in and the plans were to make self-portraits which are conceptual and surreal, the ideas gathered from over the years, life being the base. Meeting new friends here at KiT I started having a good time as well. The chaos I carried the previous few years slowly started fading away.

As a tech enthusiast all these years, I follow tech and one fine day, the 3D artist Beeple aka Mike Winkelman appeared in headlines of major publications and news channels as he sold one of his artworks as NFT. Titled "Everydays - The First 5000 Days" sold for 69 million USD in the month of February 2021. It took the Internet by storm and as an artist I got curious to look in. NFT stands for Non Fungible Token, which non-interchangeable unit of data stored on a <u>blockchain</u>, a form of digital <u>ledger</u>, that can be sold and traded.

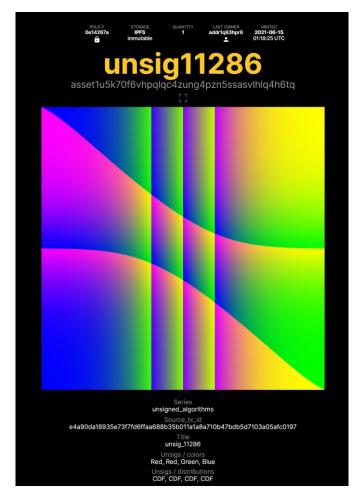
The NFT boom started after that big sale, so many marketplaces were popping off and one was Rarible.com where one can mint their artwork as NFT and sell. I spent around 600 NOK and made one of my artworks as NFT and expected it to be sold soon. I had a limited understanding of NFTs back then. A few days passed and it remained unsold. I kind of gave up and almost didn't mind that much. I even had thoughts like "I am late to the party" or maybe "It's all a bubble" or "Maybe it's a scam" or "Maybe only famous people can sell their NFTs".

However, after few days, on my birthday, I spoke to my childhood friend, and I told him that I tried selling NFTs but failed totally and eventually I spoke about the need to close my education loan as soon as I finish my Masters here. We had a conversation about cryptocurrency from 2015 but I did not pursue it so seriously after the 2017 crash, but I knew he was into something called <u>Cardano</u> and he told me that he has kept pursuing it and explained the advantages of it over the now popular currency Ethereum in a detailed way. I gave it thought for few days and planned to invest as it might be a chance to close my education loan.

I almost did not think much after the investment was done and got into a school routine. Months passed and on June 15 I had a call from my friend again and he said there is a NFT collection that is on sale now called Unsigned Algorithms, which is unique. Up until now, all the NFTs on Cardano have been a bit of metadata that points to an IPFS (Inter Planetary File System) image. What Unsigned Algorithms is doing is minting code which generates art onto the blockchain. He is keen on chasing innovative projects like this. Anyways, it reached my wallet. I considered that as an investment too and moved on with life but after a month my friend called me to check the prices on the algorithms. It went parabolic, which is a breaking point for me and gave confidence, so I also spoke to him about making my own NFT collection sometime back but this time I started seriously thinking about it. Initially the idea was to make a collection of PFPs (Picture for Proof) which is what the space was mostly about; the PFPs are mostly as profile pictures in social media to show directly that they own the NFT. My idea was to make a collection of Monks/Yogis with various attributes and gadgets. This is nothing but a collectible and I did not think anything beyond it for this collection.



A mock-up of Cyber Yogi – concept for my NFT collection



My First NFT Purchase

### The Journey

Around the end of June all these processes were happening and at some point, I wanted to shelve the plan and decided to travel. I also wanted to do something unique beyond making a new style of art even though the success in the space does not matter entirely on that aspect. I was moving around Europe slowly chewing on the idea and in the back of the head constantly thinking to make something unique. While travelling I also minted a few NFTs from various collections which are suggested by a friend and these new collections coming where entirely different. I could sense the change of direction in the NFT space. Now it's not just PFPs, the block chain gaming NFTs – On-chain Interactive NFTs are finally here in Cardano. The notable projects are <u>Deadpxlz</u>, <u>Stellar hood</u> and <u>Cardano Trees</u>, each one is unique in their own way. I minted the trees on a train when I was in Portugal with my smart phone and stellar hood likewise.

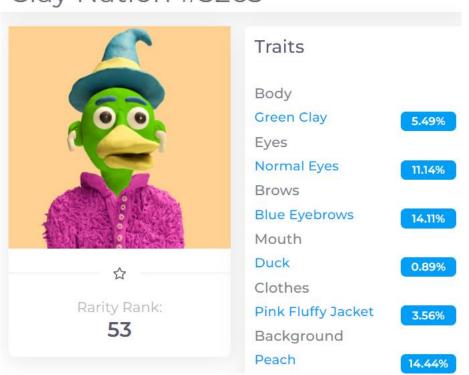


**DeadpxIz – Wolf #5170** DEADPXLZ is a collection of 10,000 code-generated, unique & interactable NFTs minted on the Cardano blockchain



**Cardano Tree - 4153** First Full On-chain Evolutive Art Living and Growing in Cardano

Along with these experiences, the travel was going great and at around the end of the travel I was in Nice, France and minted a project based on clay art called Clay Nation by Clay Mates. It was the day before I was leaving back to Norway. It's a PFP project but for some reason it got the interest of people and was also noticed by a curator from an art museum which blew up the prices in a few days. Most of the collections have a ranking system, yes, which is artificially created based on the attribute distribution among each piece of NFT collection. Here I got lucky to mint a rank 53 duck clay that made it even more special for me and that was the point which made me enter the community. The community actively functions through Discord servers.



## Clay Nation #3263

## The mainland - Web 3.0:

Into the realm of an unknown world which is still a baby in the macrocosm of existence which exists in the physical world but in a different form which makes one feel that they live in a totally new world. The moment I entered it felt chaotic in a way, but it is fun for a guy who was looking for something beyond from existing reality of the way of life in the physical world where relationships are complicated. The way the system is structured was also so rigid in a way for an outsider from a third world country. It is not a complaining tone rather the admiration of a new world that is being built in front of my eyes which is apparently going to change the way I see the real world as well. For a guy who was born very late to explore untouched places in the real world, this land of mystery gave the same feeling of exploring the unknown

where things are open and structures are not fixed, the happenings are rampant. A fool today is a wise man tomorrow, then he is a fool again. This could be a decent explanation for my experience of this place. I met thousands of people and as a guy who loves to connect with people, but which was kind of not available physically. As I look back now, the lack of finding my tribe here in Norway, even after I have put in enough effort to make it happen, is another reason for me to embrace this unknown world where people like me from different parts of the world can easily connect. This could still be critiqued that it's not real and maybe labelled as dystopian but what I felt is entirely different. Let me cut this adoration and for once get to the happening of things.

When I entered, the idea was simple for me beyond the extraordinary performance of that duck clay NFT. It was the experience of this chaotic market which fluctuates every second where the pace of people is extremely fast and directly reflecting each moment which never happens even in a traditional crypto market, which is not for everyone. I knew crypto way back but the charts, numbers and theories were not so exciting after a point and I could not enjoy it, whereas here in this NFT space it fundamentally created a society of people which has its base extracted from real world society - it's the people and their identities, the connections and community shaping the market and the art which are not really valuable for not just artists but for common people. It hurt, in some sense, that average art was being sold for ridiculous amounts of money but as I stick to the web 3 and NFT community and just living my everyday spending time just talking to people for countless hours, made me realise so many things about humans as I am interacting with people all around the world and why they are here too. My feeling for NFTs I own has grown as I kept interacting with people. I saw how they have been valuing their possessions and the image that gives for holding certain things. Yes, there is no place on earth without politics. I for once started feeling this duck NFT is so powerful which will be shown later. I refused an offer of about approx. 300,000 NOK for that duck. Simply, I didn't feel it is weird and I told myself whatever happens after this point I am ready to take it even if it is regret. That answer was not just about the bet I took on him but also could have been stupid - I got attached to that duck and I don't want to psychoanalyze myself over it anyway.

Things moved past and I was just holding these things without any liquid cryptocurrency in hand which I regretted later but I started understanding the space as time passed. In fact, there are whales in the market, the ones who are maxis, referring to people holding a lot of assets and there was a guy who was collecting ducks and we bunch of newbies who got lucky with getting the duck. Yes, there are a total of 89 ducks in the collection. So, we bunch of people decided not to sell it to him and make him the monopoly of this market - it was another reason for me to not sell.

It was all emotional for me and I did not mind, or I failed to see the market as it is. I was sticking to the words we agreed upon and just kept moving with the little amount of liquidity I was holding, and I believed things will be fine in long run. It was around

end-September, and it was a kind of golden month if I look back, as there were so many different collections being launched and we the guys who are swimming in NFT space took a ride on lot of those drops.

Coming back to real life and the happenings in the university, things were going as per routine. My classmates were kind of busy as I understood that we are in our final year of studies, and we have a life of commitments ahead after this year so this gave more reasons for me to spend time here in web 3.0 because I always loved to be with a community where I can be myself and not being judged. I clearly saw the structure here in society which felt like I was not so welcomed or part of. It felt so hard even though people were nice to me out of their politeness and out of societal behaviour, but I was chasing true connections and not layered relationships. Not inferring that everything is green in web 3.0 but it felt much better, and it made me dwell in that space.

I can just speak so openly filled with memes, GIFs, emojis, and it nourished the core of me and the child inside me I always hustle to protect. When I communicate things with these GIFs and emojis, I saw people enjoying it a lot and at some point, whenever I enter a public Discord chat, they obviously understood it's me who use the emojis, because there are certain reacts that people message. This was embedded in me; to entertain and make people happy through any possible means this is just a reflection of that nature.



Screenshot of chat from my project's server

<b>E</b>	will do, thanks		
	Time for me to go off the grid with the trea	SURY (edited)	
8	<ul> <li>Srink.pxlz- PxlPrince Click to see attachmen</li> <li>Reksir Today at 2:39 AM</li> <li>Mohawk is rare</li> <li>4</li> </ul>	nt 🖾	
	<ul> <li>@Reksir Mohawk is rare</li> <li>Srink.pxlz- PxlPrince Today at 2:39 AM</li> <li>love you reksir</li> <li>2</li> <li>i sniped it some paper hand</li> <li>5</li> <li>for 75</li> <li>not today</li> </ul>		
8	<ul> <li>Srink.pxlz- PxlPrince for 75</li> <li>Reksir Today at 2:40 AM</li> <li>Think cheapest one is 150ada</li> <li>2</li> </ul>		
	Srink.pxlz- PxlPrince Today at 2:41 AM	Delegating To Cardano Fans (CRFA)	

Screenshot of a public chat in Deadpxlz server

	Srink.pxlz- PxlPrince Today at 1:11 PM
	people dont like kek trains these days wat to do
	BieSrink, pxlz-PxlPrince people dont like kek trains     Hz.pxlz Today at 1:13 PM     I'll start     E 1
	201 201
۲	Srink.pxlz- PxlPrince 😅 Today at 1:13 PM
	Hz.pxlz Today at 1:13 PM
۲	Srink.pxlz- PxlPrince 😅 Today at 1:13 PM
	Hz.pxlz Today at 1:14 PM
۲	Srink.pxlz- PxlPrince 🔤 Today at 1:14 PM
2	Hz.pxlz Today at 1:14 PM nooo you broke the stair
۲	Srink.pxlz- PxlPrince 🗷 Today at 1:14 PM

Screenshot of a public chat in Deadpxlz server

The above images could give a glimpse of the conversation and the nature of this space. To put it simply: it's like a café where friends hangout but meanwhile there is also money involved. The space is filled with people in their 20s but I have also spoken to a lot of people in 40s, 50s and one cannot judge the age of person just by the nature of their conversing style, yes, people feel free to be themselves and they openly accept getting trolled and this nature cannot be seen all servers, but this is my vibe and I spend time in a few servers which are of the same nature. It almost

relates to what I told earlier, about me chasing a tribe, the same thing: I was trying to find a place where I feel happy and there are a few servers which after spending quite some time, I felt it's not for me and it's just one click away to get out of those places.

From these server chats I randomly DM people who are engaged during my conversations and a lot of friendships developed over the course of the last 9 months. Friends who are not just sharing their knowledge but helped me monetarily at critical times which did not happen with my real-life friends here which is quite bemusing for me because even though we have lot of conversations online I am still a stranger who never met these guys in real life, yet they trust me which of course makes me feel grateful but also helps me have more appreciation for this space.

## The Fall

While speaking of all the glory in such suave, now comes the part which is the negatives and the cycles of the market, especially the fall of hype which taught us a lot of things about the space and the attitude towards art here.

So, everything has a pattern or cycle where things pop out of nowhere and makes everyone FOMO (Fear of Missing Out); makes most people go blindly collecting these pieces for insane prices which by default increases the value of the product but there is always a saturation point in a cycle or simply put, the momentum cease to exist. It might bounce back or might not but when I was entering the space like a lot of people who got on this train at the same time, we were not aware of these things which left us with JPGs without value. Some pieces became digital junk in our wallets and the value of the duck has fallen more than half of the price it was asked for. The new collections were coming up and I was left with no liquidity to enter the market and the cost of not selling that duck was huge if I look back from now, as time passed by, I started to understand the meaning of art in this space: well, these things are essentially linked to the future utility and promises. I started to understand the projects which are entirely nothing but are collectibles and they are not investments by any means and investing in them expecting to perform in the market over the time is nothing but a gamble.

Now, another thing that started plaguing the space was an endless supply of PFP Project with no underlying concept or philosophy. They just look cool and most of the crowd were still chasing these projects because of the hype that is created around the project through social media influencers and their tribes.

As an artist it was unacceptable to watch this unfold but the endless supply of these pieces coming as NFTs were starting to take a toll. The flippers (people who just get in in the rush and want to flip it for quick profit without any concern for space or art)

started taking hits because the money getting stuck with unsellable assets made them go broke and eventually over the time the volume has fallen.

This was a cold period not just in the real world but also in the NFT space. It was around end-December and all the fun and adrenaline rush was gone. The traffic of people in the space started falling significantly and now as a community we started seeing who are going to stay here long-term because it's always the time of distress that shows the true colours of people. Even though the space has shrunk, it was good to have a good relationship with people who are going to be here in the long run. This was a time that gave me new ideas and subconsciously from the gained experiences all this time. I finally found a solid idea for my own project and I started pitching the idea to my new friends in this space.

## Cyberia - Spring - Bounce back

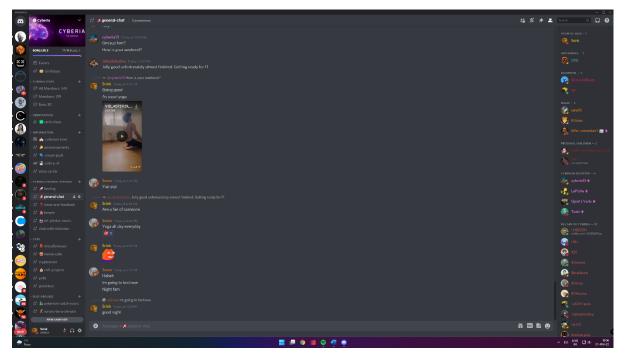
After a lot of brainstorming, I arrived at the name 'Cyberia'. I settled with that name as it was simply referring to the cyber space and '-ia' usually refers to a geographical thing like Siberia, Serbia, etc. It felt like a name that is a new world in the web 3.0 universe. Initially, the plan was to work around an old planet piece I made a few years ago. I tried to expand it in a way that many different planets with different trees, plants and flowers. The plan was to inject artificial rarity and make it traditionally fit into the templates of the existing marketplace, but I was still not convinced as I wanted some strong value and philosophy must be the base. As a person who practiced yoga for almost 15 years it felt so good to do something based on it. I was like "woah! why I did not think about it all these months".

The idea that was formulated is based on the 7 chakras which are imagined as planets. Chakras are energy centres of our subtle body. Even though there are many chakras' centres all over the body, the major ones are located along the spinal cord starting from pelvic region and extends above to top of head. It is present in everyone and there are practices though which we can reap the benefits of these energies which pushes us to a super conscious state.

This a vast topic and the basics of the chakra system will be explained visually; there will be 7 planets, each chakra has a specific pose, colour, etc. The prominent things visually represented are the colour and the pose variation. There will be an avatar on top of each planet which does the specific pose of that chakra.

This project is educational and as far as I know it remains unique not just by the idea but also in technique involved. Usually, it is JPGs and videos that are created as NFT, but this is based on live 3D rendering using GLB files and HTML and ThreeJS scripting.

The test mint/NFT has been successfully created and right now I am about to finish the pieces and will plan the launch soon. The key part of any project is a Discord server, which is like a gathering place where people who want to be involved follow the updates, befriend others who are interested and slowly it evolves into a true community. Over the time it becomes more social and now I make certain decisions after discussing it with them. I started the server way back in December and slowly started building it without any hype as I wanted organic growth, not like major projects who are just using people like rats which is bad for any project with good intention and vision in the long run. Right now, I have around 300 people in the community.



A screenshot of my project's Server.

### Duck taking on Wolf – Loans on NFTs

A small detour from narrative. The story of how I got the wolf DeadpxI NFT is one of the most exciting stories for me personally and it was totally a new experience not just for me but for the entire CNFT space. As the value clay duck dropped, it was hard time, and I was just simply holding it. One fine day, there was a rumour up from Deadpxlz that the royalties calculator is going to be released which can be used to calculate the rewards for holding the genesis collections. The rewards are split based on the rarity of the NFT and the distribution happens whenever someone forges a pxl in pxl war game. I already knew that wolf is a rare PXL and I heard from the people close to the developer that if 10000 players plays the game over the year the rewards for holding the wolf is almost closer to a million NOK, it might sound ridiculous but I wanted to take a bet and so I thought of getting a loan and I heard that loans are already provided against NFTs as Collateral so I spoke to one of the DAO who loans money for NFTs. I requested a loan of 250000 NOK against my green duck clay, another 2 clays and spacebudz NFT and a friend came all the way in to provide his high valued asset along as it was till not matching the valuation since only 60% of the entire value of NFT will be provided as loan. It took just 6 hours to get the loan and that wolf was still 300000 NOK and almost all other wolves were either taken off the market or relisted at higher price. It was so nervous and adrenaline rush moment but finally I secured the loan and purchased the wolf and the following day after the release of calculator the prices went through rough and the sales volume of Deadpxl went parabolic and no other wolves were available for less than half a million NOK that day.

Nobody has ever taken such a big loan in CNFT community and invested in another NFT which turned out to be successful. It was benchmark and many people followed it later and right now getting loans are becoming normal. It could be a strange story, but I did this to experience that there is a possibility in life like this.

In real life it took me almost 2 years to come to Norway because of Loan delays from Indian banks. I had to postpone a year of my studies. I don't regard banks that much after these kinds of incidents and the way the managers were behaving like gods made me feel angry and now there is a future where a total new way of banking is clearly changing the dynamics and entire financial system. I am sure it breaks the traditional structures and decentralized finance is going to change millions of lives as there are protocols and services built and the loan, I took through help of community will move to next stage that smart contract-based services used to deal this loan systems where no person will be looking over the process, all automized.

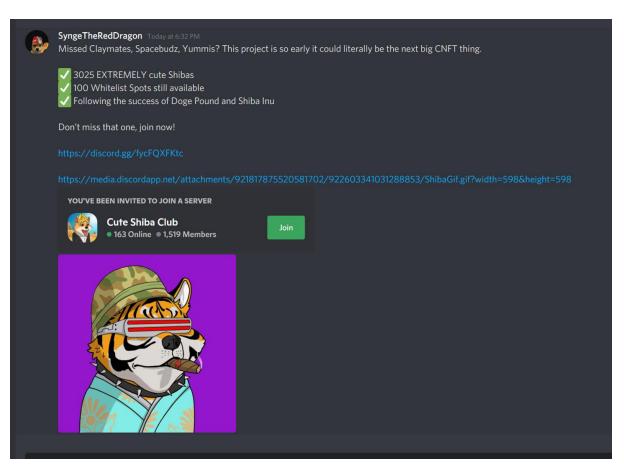
### Daily dose of Scam & Spam

Now I am taking another detour to address a particular thing which is common in this space and everyone here experiences it every day. Yes, when there is money involved and there are no police here in decenterland scams are very common. The Scam and Spam. It's a huge topic, I am going to give a small brief about it.

The space is inviting a lot of people every day as it grows, and which also brings in scammers. The scammers are usually doing various activities like running a fake project, collect money and run away without selling NFTs or some just runaway in few days after selling the NFTs. Another Scamming is pretending to be escrows because escrow is a common thing here where a middleman acts a validator of sale.

The work of an escrow is to collect the NFT from seller and the money from buyer and cross verifies and sends the money to seller and the NFT to buyer. There are established people and services exist but sometimes the profiles will be cloned, and they pretend to be legit person and once they receive NFTs they just runaway. I have seen a lot of people who are affected by this and lately we have smart contractbased escrow services where no more human is needed, the buyer and seller directly interact with service through website and if the conditions are met the smart contract will be executed.

Speaking of Spammers, Many projects are hyped ones, and people want to secure a spot like a reservation which these projects asks people to do certain tasks like inviting people to discord servers and certain conditions like 'n' no of invites can get the grant to secure a spot will be set so these people spam the strangers with invite links and not just that, many projects want to boost their numbers so they use bots to spam with invite links.



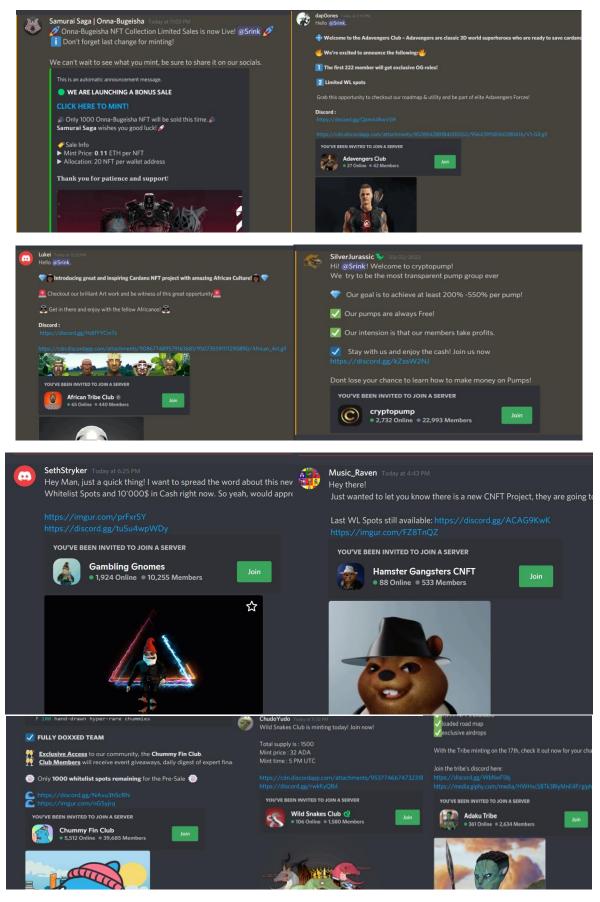
### screenshot of a spam message



### Screenshot of a spam message



Screenshot of a spam message



A bunch of Scam messages over the months

### NFTs – Ukraine War – Fund raiser

During the recent tragic events that happened in Ukraine, NFTs and the web 3.0 community made a huge difference by helping people financially without any intervention of government, organization, etc. As the people of Ukraine were suffering to access basic amenities and many fleeing the country, another major issue that knocked them is access to money, the centralized money from the banks. Cryptocurrency became a true game changer, being a decentralized form, the ability to transfer the currency and make sure it reaches to people's wallet straight away without any gateways or barriers is a wonderful thing and as the world witnessed it, the true purpose beyond the gold rush which is happening in the web 3.0 space is the true vision of cryptocurrency. Yes, a currency to not be controlled by any system or political power is what we need as the standard for the future.

Many established communities of web 3.0 and DAOs (Decentralized Autonomous Organization) especially raised major funds. I am talking about millions that were raised in a matter of days which be sent as cryptocurrency to Ukraine welfare schemes but also to so many different small teams and individuals who were on the ground helping people in real time and it was a great sight to witness that the help is working without the help of any power structures.

I am glad that I could do something as well with the help of the Cyberian Community. Yes, I wanted to help the people of Ukraine and I decided to make couple of artworks which are made as NFT, and I ran a campaign for 36 hours where people could send 7 ADA to buy the NFT. 1 ADA is 10 NOK approx. by today. ADA is the symbol for Cardano Blockchain. Once the Individual sends 7 ADA, the NFT will be minted, and 1.5 ADA will be returned along with the NFT to the person who purchases it. The NFT will be one of the two pieces I made.

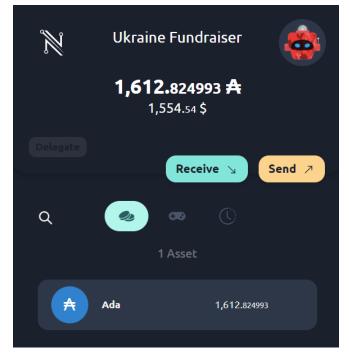


One of the 2 Artworks



One of the 2 Artworks

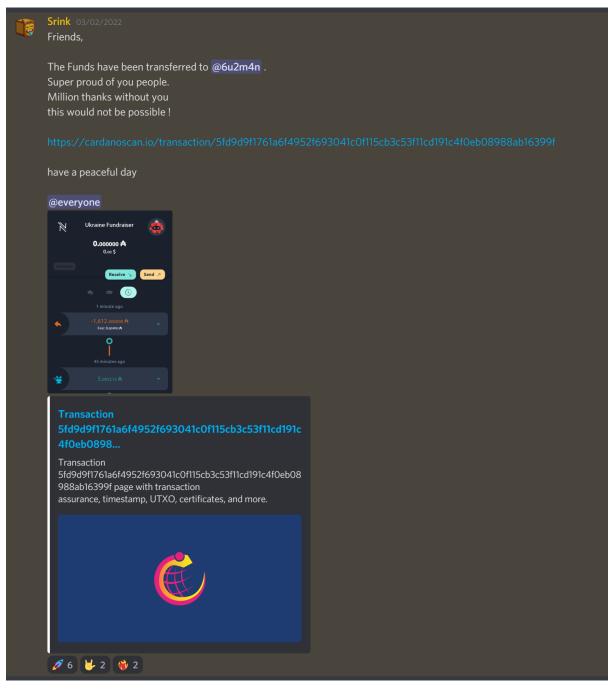
At the end of the 36 hours, I managed to raise around 16000 NOK worth of ADA. The beauty is that it reached a person from the CNFT community running a stake pool in Poland who is a brother who was involved in helping people on the ground and after a voting session in the community we decided to hand it over to him.



Screenshot of fundraiser wallet

Everyone from the community felt great after this event and beyond all the talks from outside that crypto and NFTs is a scam space - there are greater benefits which are possible through this medium and the future is crypto, it is inevitable.

The following week, we saw pictures of him making food for people who are from Ukraine. This felt even more satisfying than before I launched my project and the feeling of brotherhood and the harmony of my project server was elevated, which is what I wanted. I dreamt of this as a long-term thing, the community should exist, and I always critique myself and I would like to use this space in better way.



The message in server after the funds have been transferred

## **Royalties**

This is a topic that requires a special mention. Well, the technology is so beautiful that it allows artists to attach royalties through CIP standard which will be part of the metadata, which is the DNA of NFT: artists can attach a percentage of sales as royalties so whenever it gets sold in the market the wallet mentioned in the wallet will be transferred to the artist without any third parties being involved.

In the Ukraine welfare project, I made sure the royalties are attached and the royalties will be completely given to the welfare programs of Ukraine people.

## **Experience is the Utility**

Every NFT these days is being judged as people matured a lot and utility is a very common thing that has been looked upon. Although art projects will keep coming, the desire towards project with utility is what an average NFT collector these days looks for and not everyone is a collector with millions.

I planned something beyond the art part of the project, but not just to strike a balance. Yes, I am planning to have yoga sessions. I have hired a certified yoga instructor and every week before the drop, on one day the holders of the previous week's chakra planet NFTs get access to the session where the chakra healing and yoga poses will be taught to the people. It is a one-of-a-kind experience which is going to benefit the people in a space where the feel of time and the pressure is totally different relative to real world. I do realise people are going to hangout in this space for coming years and it is only going to rise so mental health and welfare projects are essential for the web 3.0 space. I am happy to do something related to it and it connects to me personally as well.

### **Future Possibilities**

The seven weeks will be completed, and an experience will be provided to the people where they will hold the NFTs in their wallets forever while some will trade it. I have plans to provide future benefits after this drop.

I have various ideas for totally new drops after Cyberia and the holders of Cyberia NFTs are going to benefit from it first-hand when I plan the future drop. The upcoming projects I planned are mostly still related to wellbeing such as concepts based on aromatherapy, tree conversation and a possible puzzle-based storyline of a man's journey in the NFT space critiquing and portraying the experiences which will appear as different NFTs, where all are jumbled so people will create the narrative as they receive it weekly by engaging - the possibilities are endless.

## **Final Thoughts**

I am grateful that I have found something unique in this modern world which shows endless possibilities for me as not just an artist but as a man who wants to do something new, responsible, and useful as well. Of course, mostly what I have written speaks for the growth of this space. Yes, there are a lot of things that need to be fixed, just like in real life but at the end of the day, as people from all around the world gather and I could see most people express their thoughts in a freeway, this space will continue to evolve as a better community. Over time the true believers will see the changes the way they wanted. Shades of tribalism exist already, and some average projects are being given the limelight and sometimes I can realize my project is not noticed much even though I have put in a lot of effort and designed it in a unique way, but I don't want to get low because I can see new people come from different corners of the world to join every day. Many artists are already making a success without any curation or support from art galleries or influencers. They are just successful just by themselves. It gives me hope that my skin colour; race will not be a hindrance as I could see the possibility of me making it through are a lot in web 3.0 than in real life because of those things. I feel confident and safe. I will continue to study the space and critique it and look forward to building a better web 3 space. My efforts I consider another brick in the wall and I would love to support small artists after my main drop, which will give a better establishment to myself and my project which can act as a launchpad for the artist of various mediums who would like to associate with me. I hereby thank my Professor/Supervisors Alexandra Murray-Leslie and Joen Vedel for their continued support. Future is Bright.

## Bibliography

"Everydays - The First 5000 Days"	Everydays: The First 5000 Days is a digital work of art created by Mike Winkelmann, known professionally as Beeple. The work is a collage of 5000 digital images created by Winkelmann for his Everydays series. Its associated non-fungible token (NFT) was sold for \$69.3 million at Christie's in 2021, making it second on the List of most expensive non-fungible tokens. Everydays was purchased by Singapore-based programmer Vignesh Sundaresan, a cryptocurrency investor and the founder of the Meta purse NFT project, also known online by his pseudonym MetaKovan. Sundaresan paid for the artwork using 42,329 Ether. Sundaresan receives rights to display the artwork but
	does not receive copyright. He has displayed the artwork in a digital museum within "the metaverse", which the public can view through a web browser. Link: https://www.theverge.com/2021/3/11/22325054/beeple- christies-nft-sale-cost-everydays-69-million
Unsigned Algorithms	The first algorithmically generated art living on
	Cardano. Mathematically derived and designed, generated using computers and advanced algorithms.
	Link:
	https://www.unsigs.com/
Deadpxlz	DEADPXLZ is the first interactive NFT collection on the Cardano blockchain. There are 10,000 PXL NFTs in existence. And there always will be.
	Link:
	https://pxlz.org/
Stellar Hood	Stellar Hood is the first ever truly on-chain NFT! Everything from the thumbnail to the interactive NFT application is placed fully on the Cardano blockchain. There is no external storage like webserver or IPFS. This is the first NFT that can never go offline. Link: https://stellarhood.com/

Cardano Trees	First Full Onchain Evolutive Art Living and Growing in Cardano. Emphasizing the importance of trees and collaborating in environmental care projects. Link:
	https://cardanotrees.com/
Clay Nation by Clay Mates	The original handmade Clay NFTs - doubling as entry to Clay Nation festival & moulding the metaverse
	It is a collection of 10,000 NFT characters composed of handcrafted, algorithmically assembled clay traits.
	Link:
	https://www.claynation.io/