



Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami Acquires CryptoPunks NFT Through Major Gift from Trustee Eduardo Burillo

Acquisition Marks the First NFT to Join a Major Art Museum Collection

Miami, FL – July 6, 2021 – The Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami (ICA Miami) today announced the acquisition of the non-fungible token (NFT) *CryptoPunk 5293*, marking the first NFT to enter a major art museum collection. Gifted by ICA Miami Trustee Eduardo Burillo, *CryptoPunk 5293* will be on view at ICA Miami this summer, reflecting the museum’s commitment to advancing a wide understanding of contemporary art and fostering experimentation.

[CryptoPunk 5293](#) is one of 10,000 unique 24-by-24-pixel icons, created in 2017 by the collective Larva Labs, as one of the earliest series of NFTs ever offered for exchange on the Ethereum blockchain. Inspired by British punk rock culture, CryptoPunks are designed to appear as “misfits and non-conformists,” according to their creators. Each has its own unique combination of features that are randomly generated by a software algorithm. *CryptoPunk 5293* is one of 3,840 female punks, and has the attributes of “purple lipstick,” a “mole,” and “frumpy hair.”



“Larva Labs challenged and revolutionized our understanding of the meaning of art objects and ownership when they pioneered the creation of some of the first-ever NFTs in 2017. In doing so, they helped to launch a ‘cryptoart’ movement that is emblematic of the ways that our digital and physical worlds are merging and becoming inextricably intertwined—influencing contemporary art and culture in a myriad of ways. ICA Miami’s collection represents the most pressing and pioneering art and ideas of the present moment, across cultures and mediums, as well as historic work that influences artistic production today. *CryptoPunk 5293* joins the ICA Miami collection as a work that is truly representative of the cultural zeitgeist and will have historic significance for generations to come, reflecting ICA Miami’s commitment to fostering an expansive understanding of contemporary art and cultural production in the 21st century. We are enormously grateful for the extraordinary vision and generosity of Eduardo Burillo with this landmark gift to the museum,” said ICA Miami Artistic Director Alex Gartenfeld.

“The CryptoPunks represent innovation in art, identity, and cultural archive. I am so pleased to support experimentation in ICA Miami’s collection by contributing an important work that captures contemporary discourse and the evolution of artistic practice,” said Eduardo Burillo, ICA Miami Trustee.

About the Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami

The Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami (ICA Miami) is dedicated to promoting continuous experimentation in contemporary art, advancing new scholarship, and fostering the exchange of art and ideas throughout the Miami region and internationally. Through an energetic calendar of exhibitions and

Institute of
Contemporary
Art, Miami



programs, and its collection, ICA Miami provides an important international platform for the work of local, emerging, and under-recognized artists, and advances the public appreciation and understanding of the most innovative art of our time.

Launched in 2014, ICA Miami opened its new permanent home in Miami's Design District on December 1, 2017. The museum's central location positions it as a cultural anchor within the community and enhances its role in developing cultural literacy throughout the Miami region. The museum offers free admission, providing audiences with open, public access to artistic excellence year-round. www.icamiami.org

The Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami is located at 61 NE 41st Street, Miami, Florida 33137.

Media Contacts

National/International Media

Barbara Escobar, Resnicow and Associates
bescobar@resnicow.com, 212.671.5174

Regional Media

Allie Schwartz Grant, Schwartz Media Strategies
allie@schwartzmedia.com, 305.308.6351