



The Wrestlers, 2021

Digital sculpture minted as an NFT on MISA/Johann Konig, edition of 5

The Wrestlers is a virtual reality NFT sculpture developed in collaboration with Museet for Samtidskunst / the Museum of Contemporary Art Roskilde, Denmark. On the marketplace MISA/Johann Konig the sculpture is represented as a GIF.

Concretely the sculpture reimagines the Uffizi Wrestlers, a marble sculpture of two men wrestling from the first century AD that epitomizes the idealized male body in antiquity. The NFT is thus part of a millennia-long Eurocentric tradition of copying, and sometimes slightly modifying, this sculptural representation of the two struggling bodies. The Uffizi Wrestlers is itself a marble copy of the now-lost Greek original in bronze. Other replicas in bronze and plaster exist in numerous copies across the globe.

Despite being one of Western art history's most well-known works, its origin and the original artist remain unknown. Through the Creative Commons license, Ejlerskov seeks to further layer the history of copying and reinterpreting the classical sculpture. A collector of this NFT acquires the blockchain certificate ownership, but at the same time the artist waived her artistic copyright to the Creative Commons license (CC BY-NC 4.0).

"I wish to test if it is possible to reshape Western cultural history without entering discussions on the norm body or objectification of women. To me, the wrestlers are avatars without sex appeal. The project is of course shaped by my personal cultural viewpoint, and thus by definition it is Eurocentric. My focus is open-source sharing and feminist discourse set in motion through the act of making. And my motivation is deeply personal. Additionally, to me this NFT entails a new way of thinking about ownership. While the NFT exists as an edition of five, the virtual sculpture is licensed to the public domain, enabling wide access to the source files. The NFT will never change, but the virtual sculpture will gain a life of its own in our shared digital public space. People from all over the world sent me photos of their usage of the now global public sculpture."

Ditte Ejlerskov

Rán, 2025

Digital sculpture minted as an NFT on Foundation, edition of 5

Rán is a virtual public sculpture created by artist Ditte Ejlerskov in an edition of five NFT copies and five physical bronze sculptures. The sculpture reimagines Rán, the Norse goddess of the sea.

Ejlerskov's *Rán* critiques the historical erasure of female divine power and the role of organized religion in diminishing and controlling representations of the feminine. By reclaiming Rán's narrative, Ejlerskov highlights a lost era when female goddesses embodied the forces of creation, strength, and natural balance – before patriarchal structures redefined spirituality, centralizing power in male deities and systematically removing women from the divine realm. As societies transitioned from matriarchal and polytheistic traditions to male-dominated monotheistic religions, female deities were either erased, demonized, or relegated to passive roles, stripping them of their once-powerful associations with life, wisdom, and natural cycles.

Ejlerskov's *Rán* is not merely a mythological figure but a reminder of humanity's interconnectedness with the earth – where feminine forces were once revered rather than suppressed.

The sculpture exists both as a collectible NFT artwork (in an edition of five copies) and as an open public artwork, freely accessible for download and reinterpretation. Ejlerskov has waived her rights to *Rán*, making the work a gesture of shared ownership and collective storytelling. While the NFT preserves authorship and historical integrity, the open accessibility of the sculpture invites audiences to reshape, reimagine, and reconnect with a powerful female deity in a contemporary context.

Rán, along with *The Wrestlers* (another NFT artwork by Ejlerskov), is part of the collection at the Museum of Contemporary Art Roskilde in Denmark. These sculptures mark an exploration of feminist rethinking in digital art. With blockchain technology ensuring visibility and authorship, Ejlerskov positions *Rán* as a modern symbol of resistance against systems that have historically marginalized women's voices – whether in religion, art, or history.

Through *Rán*, Ejlerskov engages with mythology, religion, and the digital realm to reclaim a space for feminine agency in the public sphere. The work serves as both a tribute and a challenge, inviting viewers to envision a world where goddesses once again stand at the center of our stories and our understanding of strength.

Ditte Ejlerskov

