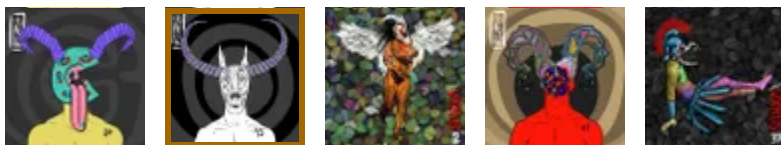




BEER IS FUNGIBLE

VXRUS





BEER IS FUNGIBLE

A Chat with Winston Torr

1. Winston, great collection, super interesting art. Could you give a little bit about your background as an artist?

I first became interested in art as far as I can remember in Los Angeles around 3 to 4 when my parents gave me a set of crayons and watercolour. At the time, I was drawing on scrap pieces of paper left for the shredder. I drew a lot of flowers and flying demons.

In elementary I was drawing boats, ships and sneakers.

In high school it was all about using my pens on my jeans to draw eyes which automatically sent me to detention due to my lack of class participation.

I then enrolled in California State Polytechnic University in Pomona to study Fine Arts which introduced me to my first Life Drawing course.

After graduation I moved to Berlin and spent over a decade drawing live nude figures using charcoal on newspaper, self-published a 1-year auto-portrait book called "The Daily New(d)s", created sculptures, and also did a few street art projects. At the same time, I had many in-between mini-jobs to support myself such as retail, call center, delivery, while also dabbling in oil, paint, watercolour, collage, intaglio and linocut. After a certain point, I put all my brushes and paint in storage to focus on illustration.

All these artworks mentioned above were once on my personal website, but it got hacked, so everything is lost. I will rebuild it soon though.

All this has lead me to NFTs.

2. When and how did you decide to get into NFTs?

I started NFTs months ago when my brother had introduced this new concept of creating online as an artist. I had heard about it the prior year and hadn't quite grasped the concept yet.

For the first new months, I learned with trial and error collections. I make a point to finish the collections regardless if they sell out or not. Once my mind is set, it is good to go. There is still one





BEER IS FUNGIBLE

Demons, death, and spirits.

I grew up in a pretty superstitious background. There are as many superstitions in the Eastern Culture as there are in the Western. I wanted to mix these up and create "demons" because everyone could have demons in their heads.

The inspiration has also to do with the fact that I was a victim in a hit-and-run car accident, where the hitter was never found. I spent five weeks in the hospital, almost lost a leg, and had a "near death" experience. Thank goodness to the doctors who put me back together and the support of my family and friends.

I am now living my second life.

Whatever happened before the accident I can not remember much, except the urge to not work in an office anymore. Being an artist is a choice. I could have easily stayed in an office and been unhappy for the rest of my life. I choose the artist route even if it was for those couple years of living very basic — eating potatoes, broccoli, carrots, apples, beans, and rice.

Then comes the "spirits". This is an entirely different story.

All these experiences put together inspired the VXRUS collection.

4. It has a very dark, biblical mythology component to it. What was the genesis for this angle?

Series A, the genesis series in the VXRUS collection, is a novella story writing project which includes 113 VXRUS Angels of Death oil paintings. The story is about an artist named Winzo who sees mysterious things after his uncle passes away leaving him a box of used oil painting tubes. Winzo becomes delusional to the point he is transported to a different realm each time he paints. The story VXRUS begins as the Series A collection ends. We are halfway through.

Series A ties into Series B VXRUS666 Demon Breeding Game, in reserve genesis. Series B is an illustrational Demon Breeding Game. The answer to how Series A and B will tie in will reveal near the end of Series B.

5. What is your process as an artist? Are you the type to just start drawing and come up with





BEER IS FUNGIBLE

type of structural rhythm. My head does not tick this way. Many times I just start to draw. At times, when I do plan things out, I end up with mumble-jumble. Although if there is no set goal, nothing is accomplishable.

6. With the VXRUS collection, in your view, what is the significance of the horns and the hair? Those are wild and varied from piece to piece.

Horns signify strength, power, and fertility. Each one is unique and individualistic.

Hair signifies playfulness and direct forwardness.

7. What's all this about breeding?

Series B VXRUS666 is an illustrational demon breeding game. Basically, by the end of 666 demons and 113 mortals, the breeding begins — aka breeding demon babies. Some has already happened, although we decided to wait until the collection is almost done.

Potions are used to magically activate a spell. There is a number of potion utilities ranging from breeding, fusing, aging, and fountain of youth. Each time a potion is used, I draw a new illustration — aka another NFT.

Extra notes are that VXRUS666 Demons and Mortals may breed with each other regardless of gender because they can all change reproductive functions on VXRUS.

This means not only male and female but also male and male, female and female may breed, as well as group breedings.

The breeding potion combines characteristics from each parent to create a new baby demon. This new baby demon with the help of other potion utilities may grow into a teenage, adult, or senior demon. Only adult demons are able to breed with other adults. This cycle may go as long as there is a demand to breed VXRUS666 demons and mortals.

8. How do you plan to expand on the collection?

VXRUS plans to collaborate with cool artists and also looking into transforming each of the c demons into real-life sculptures. The method is yet to be determined if I would make them by hand





BEER IS FUNGIBLE

David Medalla who has just recently sadly passed away is one of my favourite artists. I met him a few times in Berlin many years ago and I learned a lot from him. I look up to him because of his wisdom and personal experiences he shared with me throughout our conversations about his long-term installation project "A Stitch in Time". He was one of the kindest people I met and motivated me as a developing artist.

Yayoi Kusama, known as the famous Polkadot artist, is very inspiring — to learn about her world in her eyes through her art.

Ai Weiwei because his human rights activist art just really speaks to me.

10. When you create these pieces, what sort of sensation do you feel - is it like excitement or foreboding?

I definitely feel a range of excitement while creating. There is nothing more that I ever want to do but draw. I can't stop drawing. I am drawing obsessively and have been a drawing addict since I was a child. The sensations are very much being free from the distraction of the world, outside my space. It is when I step out of my planet where I get dizzy.

11. What do you want your customers to feel when they see one of the works in your collection?

I would like viewers to feel the same tingling sensation I get when I am working on this collection while looking at one of my works.

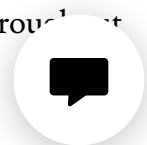
12. Do you have plans to drop anything for people who are collecting your works — like rewards?

Absolutely, from the beginning, there have been airdrops starting with the second Rank. As the collection progresses, I would like to continue this for Hodlers.

13. How do you grow as an artist — your methods, practices — is it a daily thing?

How I grow as an artist is to continue exploring different ideas, mediums, and concepts through my everyday experiences.

14. To the future — what's next?





BEER IS FUNGIBLE

15. Speaking to newer artists who always struggle with exposure, what advice would you give to them when starting out?

This is just my advice coming from an artist to collector point-of-view.

There will be high and low waves. During low waves remember and appreciate your supporters from the high waves and keep on pushing to complete your collection.

It is not good manners to stop a collection midway because of changed plans mainly due to early adopters who had spent their finance to support your creations.

However, If you do intend to change collections midway promise your collectors (early adopters) they will each get an airdrop from the new collection to atone.

16. Finally, what music do you listen to when you create?

I turn SoundCloud on because there is an array of new independent artists there to discover with vast amounts of talent and different styles of music.

Links

Twitter: https://twitter.com/winston_torr

Twitter: <https://www.twitter.com/vxrusnft>

OS: <https://opensea.io/collection/vxrus>

Discord: <https://discord.gg/cnUpbmNwJw>

Copyright © 2021 Beer Is Fungible - All Rights Reserved.

