

jiwa

S. RYAN O'CONNOR
ARTIST

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S. Ryan O'Connor aka jiwa is an American artist and engineer whose practice treats algorithms as instruments for examining process, progress and the self. Born in Virginia Beach and based in Berlin, he studied Information Systems at George Mason University before a career in creative technology and full-stack architecture. His entry into generative art followed years of programming alongside drawing, music and spray-paint practice; he has described the expansion of on-chain generative art in 2021 as the moment coding became legible to him as a fine-art medium. Rather than presenting software as an autonomous spectacle, his work asks how code can preserve imperfection, narrate inner life, and sustain meaningful encounters.

EDUCATION

B.S., Information Systems, 2009
George Mason University

PRACTICE

Generative & by-hand · on-chain · performance
GLSL · JavaScript · Solidity

RECOGNITION

Exhibited internationally at Galerie Met, OBEY Art Space, NOTAGALLERY, and Bright Moments (Berlin), Art Blocks Gallery (Marfa), NEORT BYOD (Tokyo), and Times Square, NYC, among others. Inaugural Artist-in-Residence, Art Blocks & OpenSea (2025). Collaborator with contemporary artist Bernar Venet on works shown in New York, London, Paris, and China, released with Sotheby's.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2026	<i>Counterspace</i> - Galerie Met, Berlin
2025	<i>DDUST</i> - Art Blocks Gallery, Marfa, Texas
2024	<i>The Slide</i> - Bright Moments Berlin
2023	<i>PETLS</i> - OBEY Art Space, Berlin

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2026	RGBMTL - Montreal, Canada
2026	<i>In Process</i> - NFC Lisbon, Portugal
2025	<i>Becoming Art Jeju x FuturaCanvas</i> - Art Blocks, South Korea
2025	<i>Portraits I</i> - Art Blocks Weekend, Marfa, Texas
2025	<i>Takeover #7</i> - Former Bright Moments Gallery
2024	<i>Time is Running Out</i> - notagallery, Berlin
2024	<i>The Slide</i> - Art Blocks Weekend, Marfa, Texas
2022	<i>Moment After</i> , <i>Gekaufte Liebe</i> , notagallery, Berlin
2022	Berlinverse - Berlin
2022	Value in Art - NFT NYC
2022	Gateway to the Metaverse - House of Wisdom, UAE
2022	One Drop, Into the Metaverse - Spatial, NYC
2022	Metanoise - Denver, CO

ONLINE RELEASES

2026	<i>NORML</i> - SuperRare
2026	<i>Counterspace</i> - Galerie Met x Verse
2025	<i>Portraits I</i> - Art Blocks
2025	<i>DDUST</i> - Art Blocks / OpenSea
2025	<i>Against the Wall</i> - Bitcoin Ordinals, Gamma
2024	<i>Affirmations</i> - ntent.art
2023	<i>AXO</i> - Art Blocks Presents
2023	<i>PETLS</i> - ntent.art

COLLABORATIONS

- 2024 *EVENT* - with Bernar Venet, Sotheby's
- 2023 *L'Isotrope* - with Bernar Venet, Venet Foundation
- 2023 *D'Morphism* - with Bernar Venet, Budapest Biennale

RESIDENCIES

- 2025 Art Blocks Gallery, Marfa, Texas, Art Blocks & OpenSea

TALKS & PANELS

- 2026 NFC Lisbon - Artist Panel with OpenSea
- 2026 SuperRare - *NORML*: What does "normal" mean on the internet? (online)
- 2025 Gamma - *Against the Wall* talk (online)
- 2025 Art Blocks Gallery - *DDUST* Residency Presentation
- 2024 Sotheby's HQ, NYC - *EVENT* release
- 2024 Art Blocks Marfa Weekend - *EVENT*, with Bernar Venet
- 2024 Art Basel - *EVENT*, with Bernar Venet & Sotheby's
- 2024 Perrotin, Paris - *EVENT*, with Bernar Venet & Sotheby's
- 2022 NFT Berlin - "Generative Art: We need a new vocabulary"
- 2022 NFT San Francisco - Artist Success Stories
- 2022 SUGOI @ NFT NYC - Smart Contracts for Artists
- 2022 W3BTHR33 Lounge, NFT NYC - ntent.art
- 2022 Studio Praachtsaal, Berlin - Mintwoch

PUBLICATIONS

- 2025 "Jiwa Completes Artist Residency with Saturday Art Blocks Reception" - Big Bend Sentinel
- 2025 "In Conversation With jiwa" - OpenSea
- 2025 "Living Art Onchain: PostParams + Jiwa Launch on OpenSea" - Art Blocks
- 2025 "Art Blocks x OpenSea Artist Residency Launches with Generative Artist Jiwa" - Art Blocks
- 2025 "Live From Marfa: In Conversation with Jiwa" - OpenSea
- 2023 "Remixing the Art World with Blockchain Technology: A Q&A with ntent" - Filecoin Foundation