



ART

January 7, 2022

Chando Ao

The Postmasters gallery was an early adopter of digital art, which it has been exhibiting since 1991. So its recent foray into the crypto ecosystem—Postmasters now accepts cryptocurrency for all transactions, and also mints and sells N.F.T.s—is only natural. The Chinese artist Chando Ao’s début with the gallery, titled “My I,” spans physical and virtual realms. Two animatronic dogs occupy the front of the space. One is relatively cute and programmed for companionship; the other, designed for service, is more robotic and unsettling. What follows is largely interactive. Visitors are invited to climb a pair of metal poles, which are fitted with office-chair elements, and perch. Elsewhere, a wall text details an Instagram-based collaboration: post a selfie and it might be minted as an N.F.T., if it receives the most likes that week. If the piece sells, the artist will give twenty-five per cent of the proceeds to the participant, proving (though perhaps not to stalwart skeptics) the profit-sharing potential of the emerging crypto art market.

—*Johanna Fateman*

Dec. 10-Jan. 22

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