

Press release

The World's First Collection of Three-dimensional NFT Bibles

(Oslo, November 10th) The Nordic Bible Museum is launching nine exclusive Bibles as digital art.

The Oslo-based museum ties old books with modern-age blockchain technology. The collection includes historical texts such as the 1550 Reformation Bible of King Christian III of Denmark, the large folio 1703 Bible of Swedish warrior king Karl XII, as well as, the First World War Soldier's New Testament, and a Rembrandt Bible.

- These digital works of art make it possible to digitally experience the book's complexity and incredible details. The project makes the Bible collection more accessible through new technology, presenting the opportunity to own a piece of history, says the director of the Nordic Bible Museum, Rune Arnhoff.

Challenging stereotypical associations

Non-fungible tokens (NFT) are digital assets stored using blockchain technology, making each object unique and valuable. All assets are exclusively sold on selected marketplaces where the NFTs can be resold or transferred to whomever one wishes, whenever one wishes.

– The idea of creating digital art is part of the museum's overall vision. We want to develop projects and products that challenge stereotypical associations many may have towards museums, Bibles, and book collections. NFT Bibles are perhaps an unexpected combination, but we hope it will create great fascination, says Arnhoff.

Connecting old writings with new technology

Creating digital originals proved to be an extensive and ambitious project, requiring precision and expertise while ensuring high-resolution images optimized to the technology.

– When you look closely at the books, one can clearly see the meticulous craftsmanship carried out in an incomparable quality. It was an honour and pleasure to work with such unique objects and to pass on the knowledge to new generations. The Bible Museum demonstrated a willingness to think outside the box and even added a new variant to the NFT market, namely 3D models, says an enthusiastic photogrammetrist Steffen Aaland.

The museum's digital art is sorted into categories ranging from *regular*, consisting of two thousand five hundred copies, to *ultra-rare*, with just six copies. Each Bible has been photographed with a Phase One digital medium format camera with a sensor twice the size of marked-leading professional digital cameras. The exceptionally detailed objects can consist of up to 7,000 high-resolution photographs compiled into 3D photogrammetry models.

The NFTs can be purchased at OpenSea, the largest crypto collectibles marketplace. OpenSea is based on the cryptocurrency Ethereum, and the entire collection can be explored at nft.nobimu.com.

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About the VR museum

The Nordic Bible and Book Museum launched Nordic's first entirely virtual museum in May 2022, exhibiting over 120 Bibles from the collection in 13 themed rooms. Each room has its own exhibition, interior, and backdrop. Study 3D Bibles from the collection, flip through the pages, enjoy the wall illustrations and listen to audio files. Visit the VR museum with someone you know - you can talk to other visitors and receive guided tours.

About the Nordic Bible and Book Museum

The Nordic Bible and Book Museum is the only one of its kind in the Nordics and has a collection of over 6,000 Bibles. Highlights from the collection include cultural treasures such as an original Gutenberg page from 1450, handwritten Bible pages from the 13th century, a miniature Bible collection with the world's smallest printed Bible, and the Nordics' first Bible, the Gustav Vasa from 1541.

The museum invites you to embark on an exciting journey through the history of the Bible, from the oldest leather and parchment pages to today's digital editions. Discover how the Bible has influenced art, culture, legislation, language, music, and society over the centuries.

The museum opened its doors to Bible, art, and history enthusiasts in the spring of 2018 in the centre of Oslo.