



BENIN BRONZE CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROJECT



The Benin Bronze cultural exchange project is THE movement.

A collection of 1,897 unique Mask themed NFTs with hundreds of attributes inspired by the Benin Ivory Mask. Each artwork is unique, with its own Benin Bronze Ivory Mask, global citizen cultural attire, hair style and jewelry.

Benin Bronze is a fusion of Art, technology and history using NFTs to drive impact and social awareness. Together we will remember the past, embrace the present and create the future.

With our collection of 1,897 unique NFTs, we will bring the rich history of the mighty Benin kingdom to our community and beyond, promoting a cultural exchange amongst the inhabitants of our global village.

The Benin Ivory Mask is the central theme of our project representing the Benin Bronzes collection. The Benin Mask is a miniature sculptural portrait in ivory of Idia, the first Iyoba (Queen Mother) of the 16th century Benin Empire. The Mask is by far the most notable of the Benin Bronzes.

The Benin Bronzes are a group of metal plaques and sculptures that were created to decorate the Royal palace of the mighty Kingdom of Benin, in what is now present-day Edo State, Nigeria in West Africa. The bronzes were looted during a military exercise in 1897 known as the Benin Punitive Expedition carried out by the British Empire, the exercise also culminated in the destruction of the Kingdom.

Three of the looted masks ended up in museums in London, Stuttgart & New York, while there are one or two in the hands of private individuals, one of which Sotheby's auction house tried to auction off in 2010 but had to reverse course on due to push back.

COMMUNITY GOALS

An awareness project our mission is to use our NFT collection to accelerate awareness about the Benin Ivory Masks online and drive conversations globally about the Benin Bronzes being disputed pieces that should be returned to the rightful owners in Edo State Nigeria.

Our Benin Bronze NFT project is a prototype social experiment utilizing Blockchain & web3 to engage in real life socio issues. A trifecta that will intersect Past (History) + Present (Art) + Future (Technology – Blockchain/Web3) equals establishing possibilities and applications to the physical world and the Metaverse.

CONCEPT

The Benin Bronze collection of 1,897 NFTs uses a range of global citizens cultural attire with a focus on one of the 3 Benin Ivory masks, fostering social connection in order to spike awareness about the Benin Bronzes.



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Our collectors are the torch bearers, our ambassadors promoting this exciting art form, upon purchase each collector would receive their unique NFT, but also exclusive physical and Digital collectors' items of paraphernalia to immerse in and get to know more about this once great, historically relevant African kingdom.

ROAD MAP

NFT drop to occur starting February 8th through February 22nd, 2022.

PHASE ONE

- All collectors receive their unique NFT*
- All collectors receive signed digital copies of Okiojo's Chronicles 1897

PHASE TWO

- Selected holders to receive print copies of 1897†
- Selected holders to receive physical merch (Caps, T-shirts, hoodies) ‡

PHASE THREE

- All collectors can visit virtual 3D tour of the Benin Kingdom **
- All collectors can view 3D re-enactment of 1897 Punitive Expedition
- VIP Holders to receive Benin Ivory Mask pendants Ω

PHASE FOUR

- Short animation adaption of Okiojo's Chronicles debut

*1,897 unique NFTS featuring the Benin Mask and global cultural

** Benin Kingdom has since been destroyed in real life

† Bronze is the highest denoted (and thus, rarest).

‡ Only [500] selected holders to receive

Ω Only [3] VIP Holders to receive



BENIN BRONZE CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROJECT

BENIN BRONZE NFTS

Not just another PFP project, the Benin Ivory mask is the symbol that led to the development of 1897, the Benin Punitive Expedition comic book, developed in a bid to document the event in an easy to understand medium and create awareness of the once great Benin Kingdom and the Benin Bronzes which are scattered all over the world, creating value and financial gain for parties that had no hand in the creation of such visual marvels.

The Benin Bronze project takes it even further, to the Metaverse, the launch of our NFTs births a new medium to shine light on one of the most valuable masks in the world and a means for our global community to know the origin story of the Benin Ivory Masks and the rest of the Benin Bronzes.





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BENEFITS FOR NFT HOLDERS

Basic	Metaverse	Digital Goodies	Physical Goodies	VIP Holders
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unique NFT*	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Metaverse skin• Access virtual Benin Kingdom**• Virtual/3D Tour of The Benin Kingdom• 3D re-enactment of 1897 Punitive Expedition.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Signed digital copies of 1897 webcomic (Bronze, Gold Silver, editions) †• Documentary on the Benin Punitive Expedition.• Short animation adaptation of Okiojo's Chronicles 1897	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Signed print copies of 1897 comic (Bronze, Gold, Silver editions) †‡• Adorned apparel (one of the following - Face caps, T-shirts, Hoodie & Silk Shirts ‡)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Benin Ivory Mask pendants (Bronze, Gold, Silver editions) †Ω

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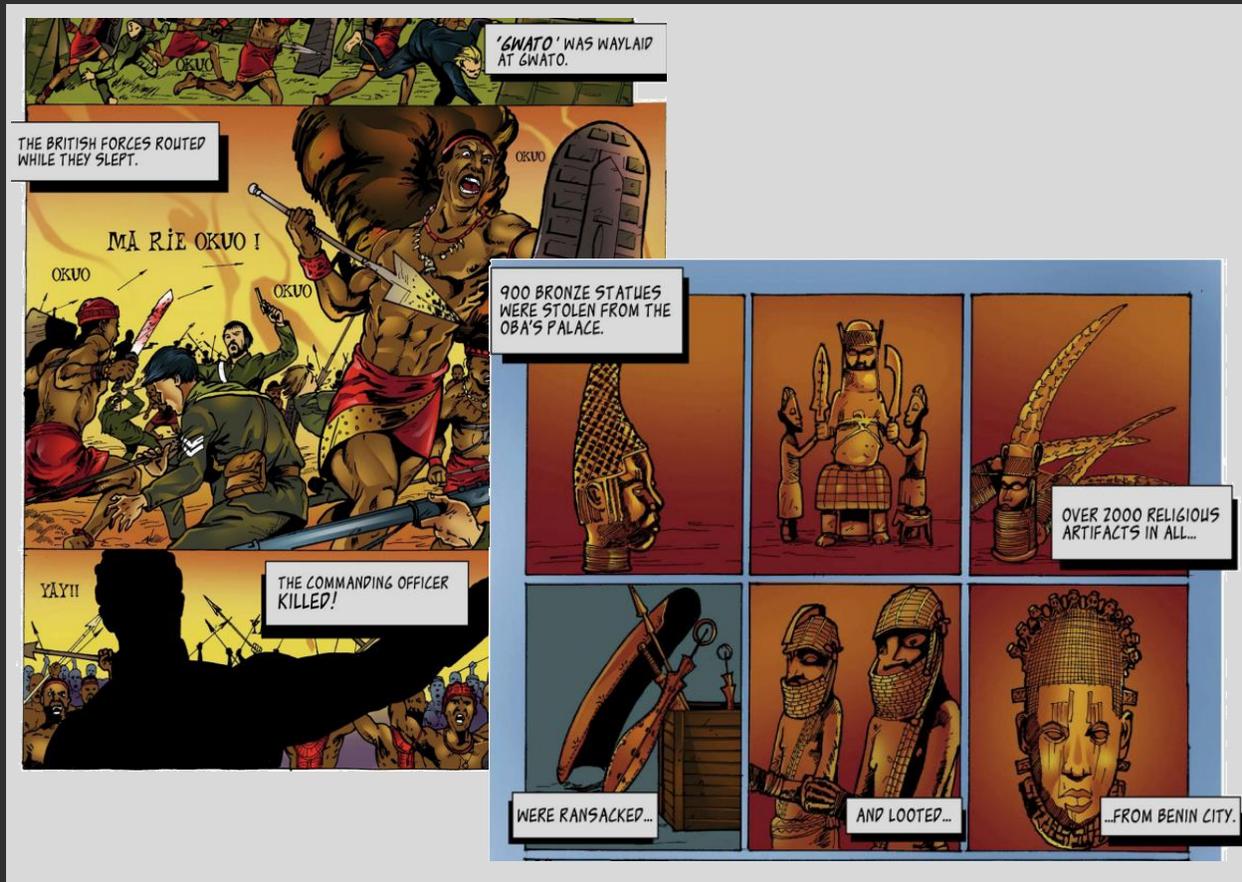
† Bronze is the highest denoted (and thus, rarest).

‡ Only [500] selected holders to receive

Ω Only [3] VIP Holders to receive



OKIOJO'S CHRONICLES: 1897 (THE BENIN KINGDOM)



Our holders will receive digital and print signed copies of *Okiojo's Chronicles: 1897 (The Benin Kingdom)*. 1897 delves into the punitive British military expedition that crushed the Kingdom of Benin, in what is now southern Nigeria, after its ruler Oba Ovonramwen defied the British empire.

Benin City was the principal city of Edo Kingdom of Benin, which flourished during the 13th to the 19th century. It was destroyed, but before burning the city down, the British pillaged it, taking many of its famous bronzes, ivory, and other treasures.

The people of the city have one of the richest dress cultures on the African continent and are known for their beads, body marks, bangles, anklets, and raffia work.

The Benin Bronzes, portrait figures, busts and groups created in iron, carved ivory and especially in brass (conventionally called bronze), were taken from the city by the British and are currently displayed in various museums around the world.



ORIGINAL CONTENT DEVELOPMENT

Animated Promo

Benin Bronze is producing an animated short to be released in the weeks leading to our NFT drop in February 2022.

Webtoon and Graphic Novel Comic book

Till date Queen Idia's story is not widely known and as part of our awareness campaign Benin Bronze is developing a Webtoon and Graphic Novel Comic book to tell Queen Idia's story.

The Benin Ivory Masks are a part of a collection of artefacts known as Benin Bronze, miniature sculptural portrait in ivory of Idia, the first Iyoba (Queen Mother) of the 16th century Benin Empire. The Mask is by far the most notable of the Benin Bronzes. This 16th century ivory portrait of Queen Mother Idia is one of four related ivory pendant masks, that were among the prized regalia of the Oba of Benin, among the prestige items taken by the British during the punitive expedition of 1897.

Iyoba also known as the infamous Queen Idia, the Queen mother of Oba Esigie the 16th Century Oba of Benin, she earned her status as Queen Mother by playing a key role as the leading political advisor to Oba Esigie, who dynamically ruled the Edo people, after coming to power while the Portuguese explorers started to trade with the Empire of Edo.

Queen Idia, Iyoba would be rewarded with the title of Iyoba (Queen Mother) – the first in a tradition of Queen Mother advisors. Though the depiction of women is rare in Benin art, the position of Idia known to Edo tradition as “the only woman who went to war” is very exceptional, so exceptional that the position of Iyoba/Queen Mother was created for her and her alone.

Queen Mother – Iyoba: Idia





BENIN BRONZE CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROJECT

TEAM

Chukie “Lynxxx” Edozien - Nigerian AfroBeats pioneering Artists / Co-Founder of Syndik8 Records. Web & Graphic Designer, Avid Crypto and NFT investor.

Twitter: [@Chukie_Lynxxx](https://twitter.com/Chukie_Lynxxx)

Tunji – has 16 years in Media, Content Creation and Comic book Publishing experience.

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Derrick - has 10 years in Silicon Valley and Hollywood. He is an animation, ARVR, web3, and synbio enthusiast. He also writes and illustrates children’s books on STEM.

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CONTACTS

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