### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 2022

# Pellas Gallery Sets Sights on New Horizons with First-Ever NFT Exhibition in Boston

New Horizons, curated by NessGraphics, brings world's top digital artists to Newbury Street

**Boston, MA -** Pellas Gallery presents *New Horizons*, Boston's first-ever NFT exhibition, highlighting renowned international digital artists and the intricacies of digital art in our everyday lives. In collaboration with Metaversal, *New Horizons* is produced by David Paredes and curated by NessGraphics. *New Horizons* will open on February 24, 2022 and run through April 23, 2022.



*New Horizons* includes an NFT piece by exhibition curator and Massachusetts native Alex Ness (NessGraphics) as well as the following: 3D artist from Detroit Billy Chitkin (Gernge), landscape digital artist from Italy Annibale Siconolfli, prolific and whimsical digital sculptor Sam Clover (Planttdaddii), mixed media artist from Berlin Archan Nair, Turkish artist in architecture Idil Dursun (Javinart), technology artist utilizing psychedelic themes from Minneapolis Bradley Munkowitz (GMUNK), digital and traditional artist Raf Grassetti, Emmy-award winning artist Raoul Marks, and contemporary 3D artist Ryan Talbot.

"We aim to spread awareness of digital art so that the public and traditional art collectors can appreciate these works as a form of art equal to traditional paintings," says Pellas Gallery co-owner and NFT collector Alfredo Pellas. He continues "Each work will be displayed at our gallery in high detail on large canvases with a QR code in the corner describing the artist and value – collectors can hang the artifact at home. Here at Pellas Gallery along with my partner and fiancé Isabel Arguello we are committed to representing cutting-edge contemporary artists from around the world. With Boston being a technology hub, we feel like it is the perfect city to start showcasing these digital works." "My goal was to curate a show highlighting commercial working artists who have found their way into the NFT ecosystem," says *New Horizons* curator and digital artist Ness Graphics. "These artists are transitioning from client oriented work to creating art for themselves. This show highlights the skill and mastery these artists bring to their craft. Supporting this vision, I chose artists whose work you've certainly seen before. Their work includes television and film title sequences, concert visuals at major music festivals, and other highly visible commercial media. My hope for this show is that attendees leave with a greater appreciation for the intricacies and quality of digital art around them in their everyday lives. I am honored to present this talented group of some of the most innovative and inspirational artists in the digital art realm."

### **Exhibition Details**

### New Horizons

February 24 – April 23, 2022 Opening reception: Thursday, February 24, 6:30 – 9:30PM ET

## **Artist Biographies**

### Alex Ness (@NessGraphics) - Curator

26 year old digital artist Alex Ness works in a wide range of modern media, known primarily for his mastery of 3D animation, modeling, and design. From the age of 12, Ness gravitated towards the use of technology to captivate his audience through digital storytelling at varying scale, showcasing his visual art alongside award-winning musicians at globally prominent events and shows. Ness weaves in soothing undertones of dystopian and cyberpunk timelessness into his work, and is widely respected as a thought leader in the NFT world.

### Billy Chitkin (@gernge)

Billy Chitkin, aka Gernge, is a 3D artist, automotive enthusiast and ETH Holder since Block 3720000 from the Detroit, Michigan area. He is a commercially successful freelancer and recognized member of the online motion graphics community. He is now focusing on creating his own futuristic storylines that are brought to life with animated 3D artwork with an emphasis on world building through highly detailed scenery. His 3D artwork is primarily focused on SciFi themes: anything from sprawling, cyberpunk cityscapes to vast wastelands soaked in colorful fog.

### Annibale Siconolfi (@annibalesiconolfi)

Annibale Siconolfi is mainly known for creating detailed futuristic cities and landscapes with a unique style which is highly appreciated in the world of 3D art. The themes of his works range from the "nature-technology relationship" to overpopulation. His vision is influenced by his Architecture studies in Rome, the love for cyberpunk / scifi movies and sound design experimentations. His work has been featured on Warner Bros, ACER, Maxon Cinema 4D, Saatchi Gallery, Designboom, XP-PEN, Behance

### Sam Clover (@planttdaddii)

Sam Clover aka Planttdaddii is a prolific digital sculptor, her work involves an energetic blend of flora, fauna, and whimsical characters. She uses sculpture to transform hardships and emotions, creating works that allow the viewer to have their own emotional experience. She encourages the viewer to sit with her work and let their own emotions surface.

### Archan Nair (@archannair)

Archan Nair is a Visual artist, Illustrator and Digital Artist, specializing in mixed media, illustration, and digital art based out of Berlin, Germany. Archan's visual expressions are part of a journey which is really

influenced by the mysteries of our existence and how every action, emotion, and our interconnectedness in a universal scale sets of a chain of reactions which we experience from the micro to the macro scale. Formerly a fashion major and entrepreneur, Archan started painting in 2006 at the age of 24 and made the shift as an independent artist in 2007. Since Archan's cultural roots are from India his work underlies the multi-dimensional tone which vibrate through the senses of the land. Since then Archan has embarked on an exhilarating and inspirational journey, collaborating with various companies and individuals such as: Nike, RedBull, Canon, Infiniti, Sony Netflix, Samsung, Electric Forest, GQ among many others. Archan has achieved recognition from music artists like Kanye West along with collaborations with Chris Brown, Lindsay Lohan, and Justine Bateman.

### Idil Dursun (@jarvinart)

Born in 1997, Idil Dursun (a.k.a. Jarvinart), is an architect graduated from Bilkent University Department of Architecture in 2020. She worked as the Art Director of the university radio "Radio Bilkent" while in school. In 2020, she worked with Dr. Pinar Yoldas and contributed to the Venice Biennale Architettura 2021. In September 2020, she began her professional career as a CGI Artist in the architectural visualization company "ivaBOX". Since then, she has also been working on personal projects, creating mostly cyberpunk/dystopian environment concepts and building her own universe as a vision of the future world. In March 2021, she jumped into the NFT scene and since then has been an active member of the community. She is the curator of the " Architecture World" in one of the most recognized NFT platforms Foundation. Her works are featured in Germany based science fiction magazine "Dark Matter Magazine", displayed in United States based "The Crypt Gallery", Italy based "Dart Museum - Permanente di Milano" and exhibited on "FUTR World Abu Dhabi 2021". She also works as a freelance Environment Concept artist for video games."

# Bradley Munkowitz (@gmunk)

GMUNK is a visionary whose creativity and innovation span a diverse range of mediums, and has established himself as one of the top visual design directors in the world. Utilizing a fusion of psychedelic themes and richly textured palettes, his signature style is enigmatic, atmospheric, and metaphysical – much like the Munky himself. His ethos is driven by his desire to learn and be uncomfortable. He continuously seeks to apply his foundation in design to new mediums, with new collaborators. He finds no greater joy than joining forces with the people he adores to discover what their combined talents can yield. The results of these labors often take beautiful and unexpected forms as short films, installations, music videos, commercials, digital art exhibitions, title sequences and various applications of motion design. His work often centers around themes of identity, the subconscious, and our human connection to technology.

# Raf Grassetti (@rafagrassetti)

Raf Grassetti is both a digital and traditional artist who has worked in the entertainment industry for over seventeen years. He is one of the best-known digital sculptors in the world and contributed to some of the most successful franchises in the world, winning many awards over the years including best Art Director, best Digital Sculptor, and Video Game of the year awards. Grassetti launched his career as a traditional sculptor, but he then transitioned to digital sculpting after discovering the power of immortalizing his subjects in digital stone. Raf has already made a name for himself in the NFT space with some high-profile sales, and was one of the top-selling artists in Christie's "Proof of Sovereignty" Auction and Sotheby's "Contemporary Curated" Auction. Currently located in Los Angeles, he is working as an Art Director at Sony Santa Monica's God of War franchise, as well as working on his personal art book, exhibition/gallery work, and crypto art.

### Raoul Marks (@raoul\_marks)

Emmy-award winning artist Raoul Marks, is well known for his work helping to craft some of the most iconic title sequences of his generation, including opening credits for *True Detective*, *Westworld*, *The* 

*Crown, Halt and Catch Fire, American Gods*, and *Man in the High Castle*. In 2015 he created a title sequence for design festival Semi-Permanent - as part of that process, he open sourced some of the 3d files used in its creation. In particular a detailed model of an Astronaut. Those files have been downloaded over 40k times, seeding the proliferation of astronaut artworks that have subsequently flooded Instagram and crypto platforms. And as such the phrase "OG Astro" was coined. Marks's work revolves heavily around the anonymity of this avatar and it's explorations of new crypto-topographical horizons.

## Ryan Talbot (@ryantalbot\_art)

Ryan Talbot is a contemporary 3D artist raised in Southern California. He has worked with a variety of brands over the years including Nickelodeon, Nissan, New Balance, Lil Nas X, *America's Got Talent*, Western Digital, Star Trek & more. He was a grand prize winner of Australia's Got Talent in 2019, collaborating with dancer Kristy Sellars on visually interactive dance pieces. Since 2021, Ryan has shifted his focus from client work to selling his personal artwork as NFTs. His current series centers around whimsical robots and their perspective on the universe, often from a micro scale. His tool of choice is currently Cinema4D, and one day hopes to write and direct a feature film. In his spare time you might find him taking his dog to the park, or making a mean bowl of Udon.

#### **Partner Information**

#### About Metaversal

Metaversal is an innovative holding company that combines a venture studio and investment firm focused on NFTs. It co-produces, curates, and invests in iconic NFT projects and the key technology that unlocks the open metaverse. Metaversal's mission is to invest in the infinite stories of our culture.

#### **About Atomic Form**

Atomic Form makes hardware and software for NFTs and Web3 media. We build for a blockchain-based internet-of-property that spans networks, currencies, video games, art, collectibles, and identification. We understand that community, shared interests, and resources are the backbone of distributed networks - be it stemming from the early Bitcoin Forums or the Trollbox or your local meet-up. We acknowledge the Internet as a proper noun and we design our products to fit the needs of a new generation of users to manage, explore and pave the way for what is to come while maximizing the utility of what is already here.

### **About Pellas Gallery**

Pellas Gallery is a contemporary art gallery located in Boston, MA whose primary goal is to discover the best new emerging artists with a focus on local talent. Pellas also has a commitment to showcasing global talent, exhibiting works from prominent West Coast artists as well as international works from Japan, the UK, China and more. F Alfredo Pellas IV and Isabel Arguello, an engaged couple from Nicaragua, are partners at Pellas Gallery and art collectors themselves. Pellas and Arguello view every work at the Gallery as both an object of beauty and as an appreciating investment for collectors.

Pellas decided to take the risk of opening the largest gallery on Newbury Street in Boston in November of 2019, because both Pellas and Arguello saw there was something new their beloved city of Boston needed in its growing arts scene.

Both Pellas and Arguello gained an eye for art through training and traveling the world with presidents of art advisories and senior art directors to see all the most important art fairs from KIAF in Seoul, to Art Basel Hong Kong, to Frieze and the Armory Show in London. This helped them develop a keen eye of appreciation for contemporary art culture and the current market to be able to make investment decisions on their own. Many of the artists Pellas has collected have appreciated tenfold; Pellas also

collects the artists the gallery represents. The mission of Pellas Gallery is to give the people of Boston the opportunity to buy the latest and best new contemporary art from around the world.

### Pellas Gallery Owners - Bios:

F Alfredo Pellas IV is 26 years old and from Nicaragua. Pellas grew up in Miami, lived in Telluride for four years, Lugano, Switzerland for three years, nine years in Boston and one year in Sydney, Australia in between. He is an avid traveler, skier, and surfer, and has recently gotten into collecting NFTs.

Isabel Arguello is 27 years old and was born in San Jose, Costa Rica and a native of Nicaragua. She has lived in Boston for nine years and spent a year in Cape Town, South Africa in between. She shares a passion for art, travel, understanding and integrating different cultures with Alfredo, which is one of the many things that brought them together. She has also become very interested in the NFT market.

Website: <u>www.pellasgallery.com</u> Instagram: <u>@pellasgallery</u>