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SESSION 7:

GOVERNANCE, COOPERATIVE RESILIENCE, AND CULTURAL VALUE EXCHANGE

EDUCATOR: Kelani Nichole

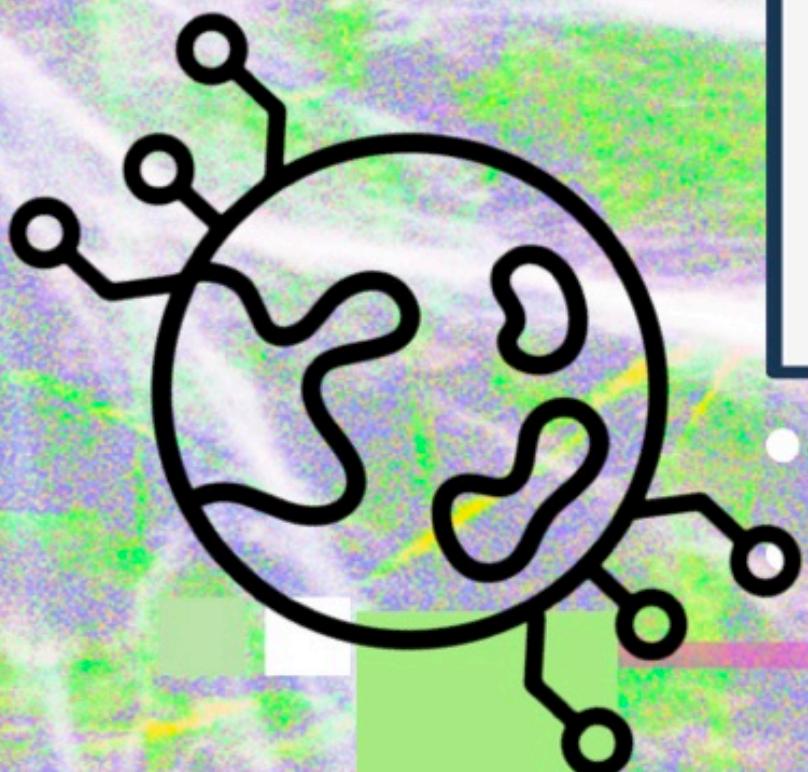
April 17th, 2024

WELCOME

Cooperative forms of resilience are emerging, powered by decentralized principles of transparency, solidarity, and adaptability.

In this session, we will discuss case studies from across the cultural sector shining on artists, organizations, and institutions exploring decentralized principles and cooperative structures. We'll discuss governance models and the patterns of human coordination that underlie cooperative efforts.

Participants will be invited to contribute their experiences with solidarity economies surrounding their practice, which powers much of the emerging cultural sector. Together we'll create a generative model for building new forms of cooperation and resilience as a blueprint to deploy in your own work.

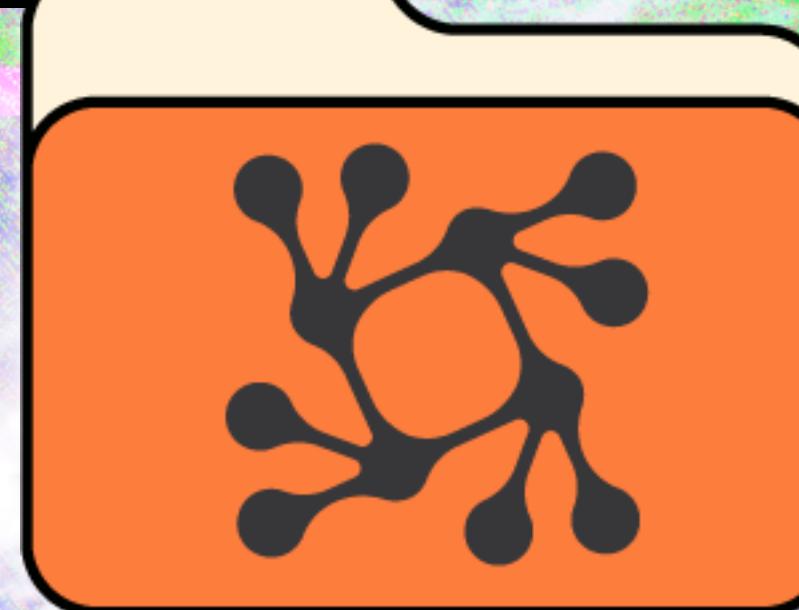
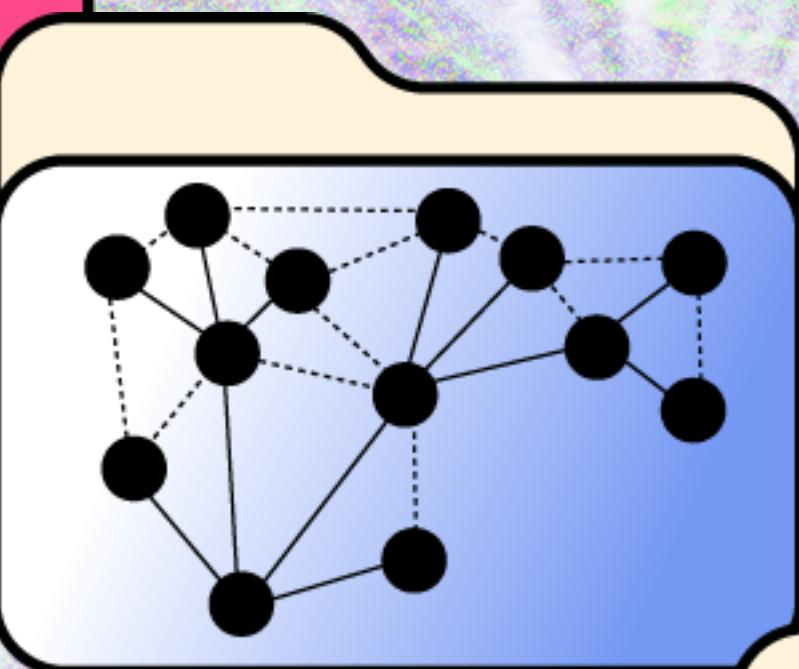
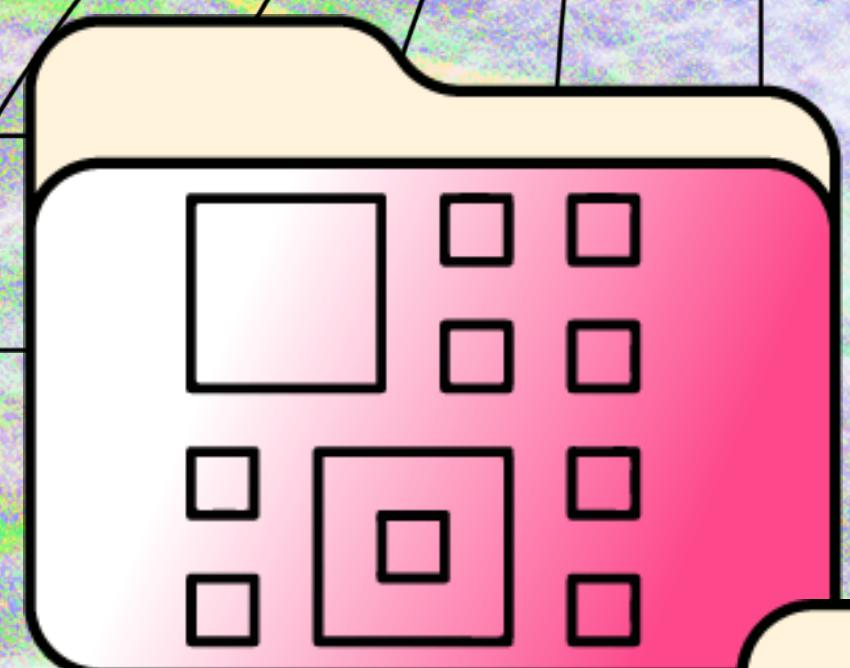


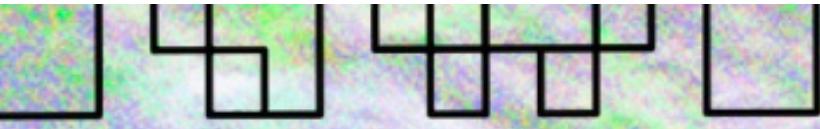
AGENDA

**RESILIENCE MODELS
& COOPERATIVES**

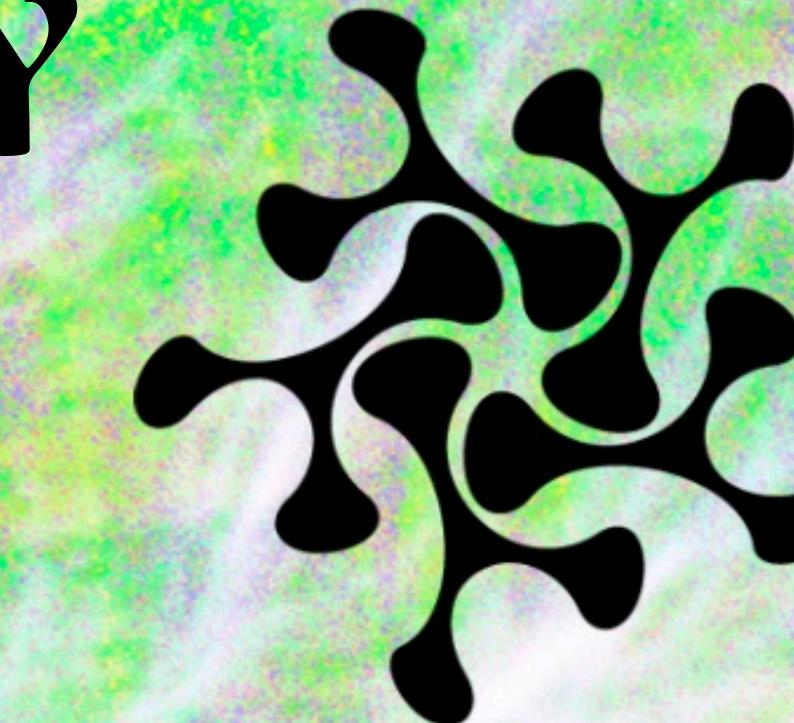
**GOVERNANCE
MODELS**

**WORKSHOP:
CULTURAL VALUE
EXCHANGE**





ARTIST SOLIDARITY



Artists have been experimenting with solidarity models since the 90s. This online avant-garde was overlooked for decades, and had to make their own context for exhibiting and producing work.

This section explores a small sampling of solidarity experiments from the decade leading up to the emergence of NFTs.

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-  SpeedShow
-  BYOBeamer
-  GIF Screenings
-  Ways of Something
-  A2P
-  DiMoDA
-  EPOCH
-  Pieces of Me



speedshow.net

[About](#) [How to...](#)

SPEED SHOW

Speed Show Athens: STITCH INCOMING!!

Speed Show: FACE THE FACE

Speed Show LA: Manifesto

Speed Show Athens: STITCH INCOMING!!

Monday 25th of March 2024, 7:00 PM at
Web Cafe, Eptanisou 40, 113 61 , Kypseli –
Athens

Speed Show: FACE THE FACE

July 5th 2019, 7pm, Internet Cafe –
Midnightshop, Schönhauser Allee 188,
Berlin.

Speed Show LA: Manifesto

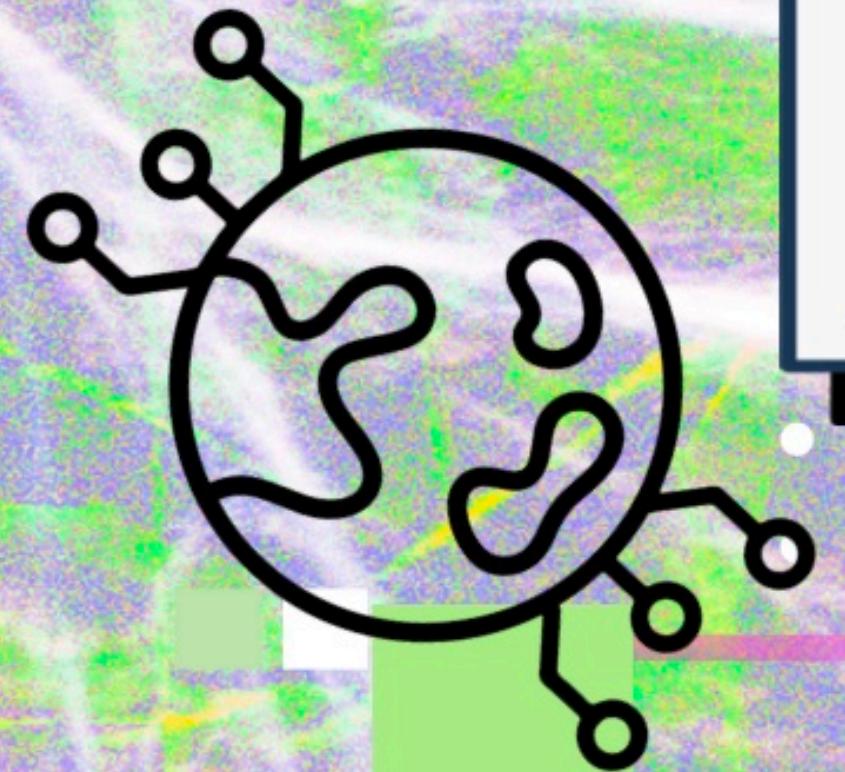
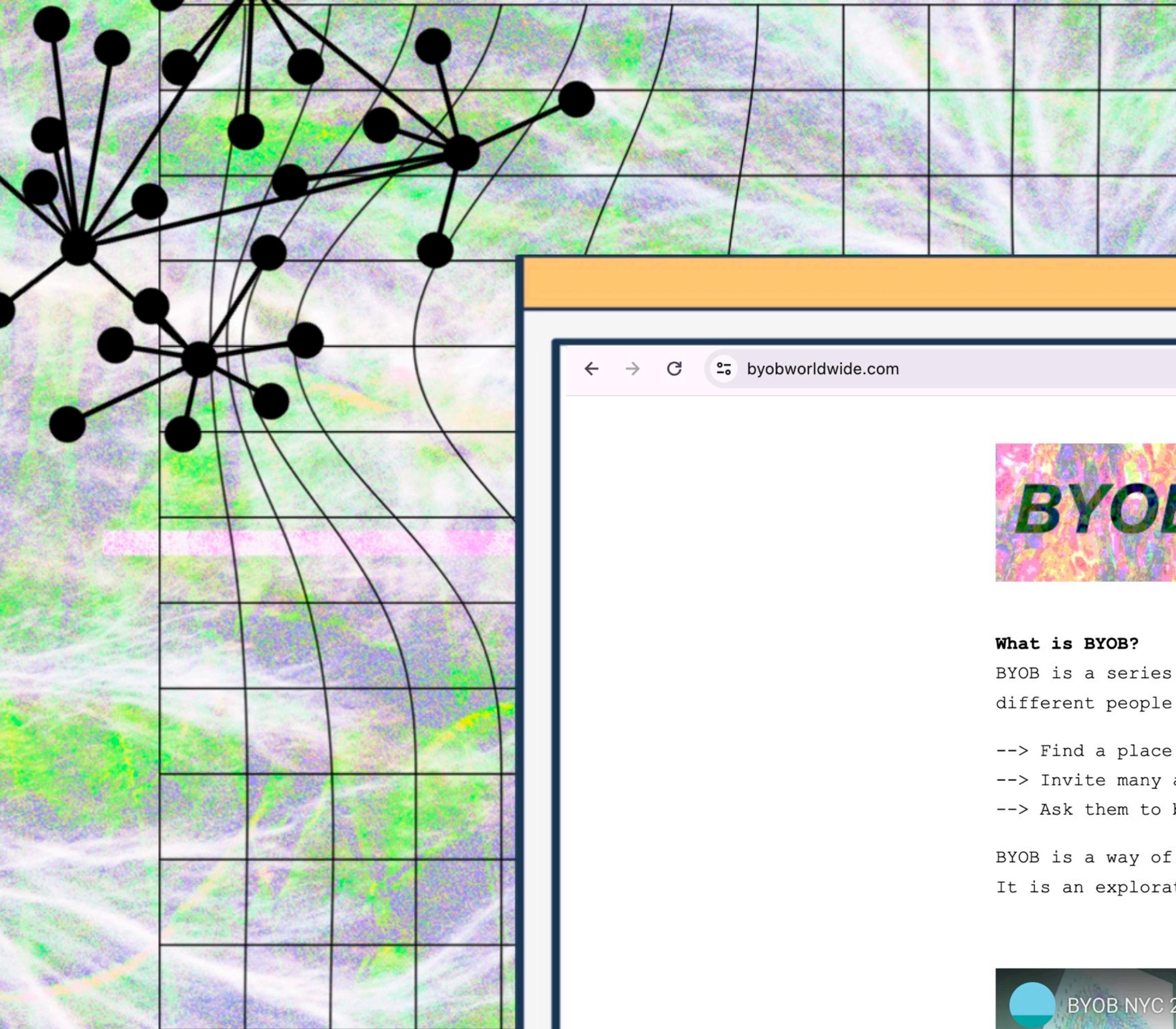
Feb 18, 2016, 7pm at iPC Bang Internet
Cafe, 401 S Vermont Ave, Koreatown,
Los Angeles curated by Aram Bartholl

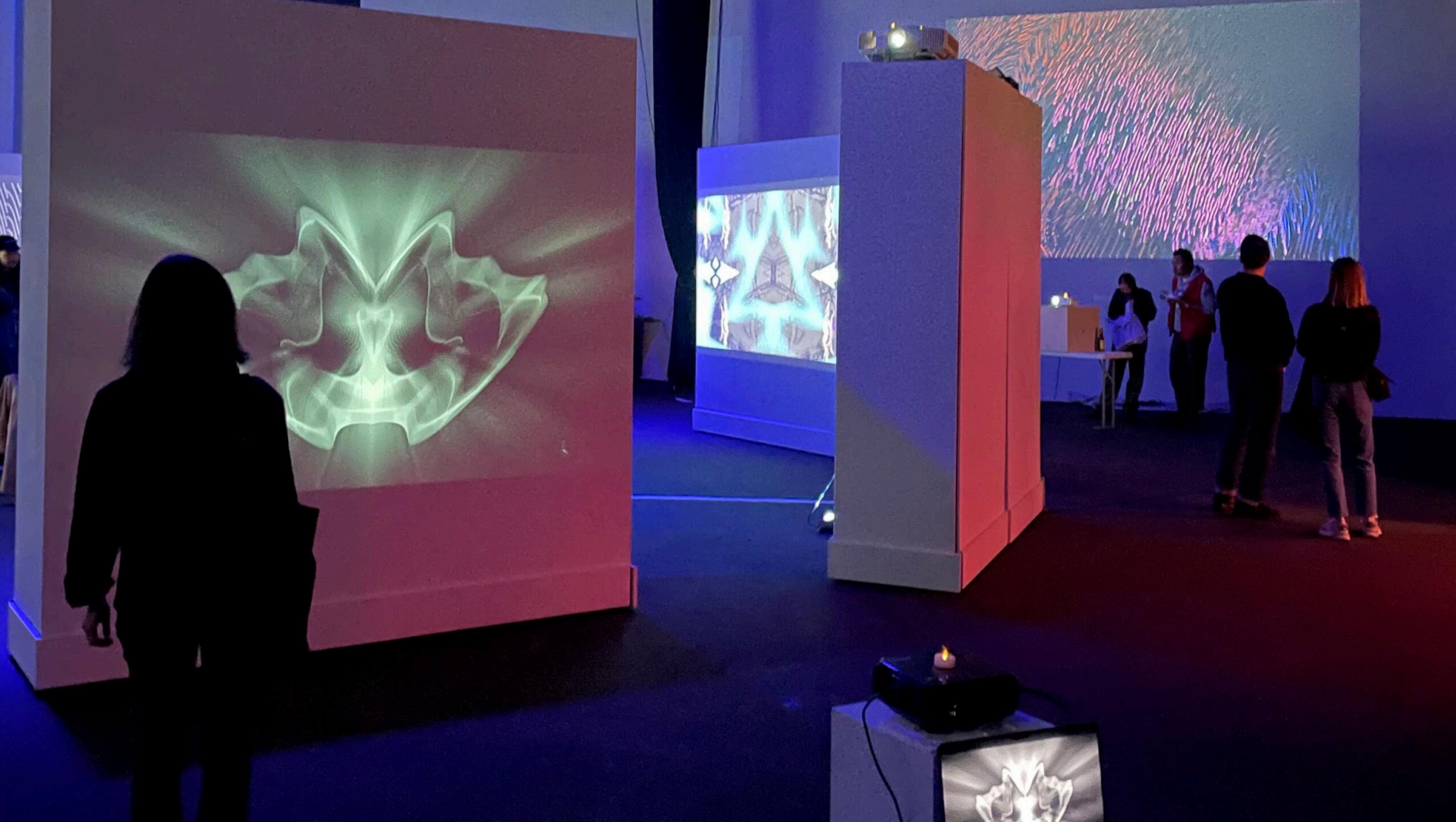
SPEED SHOW

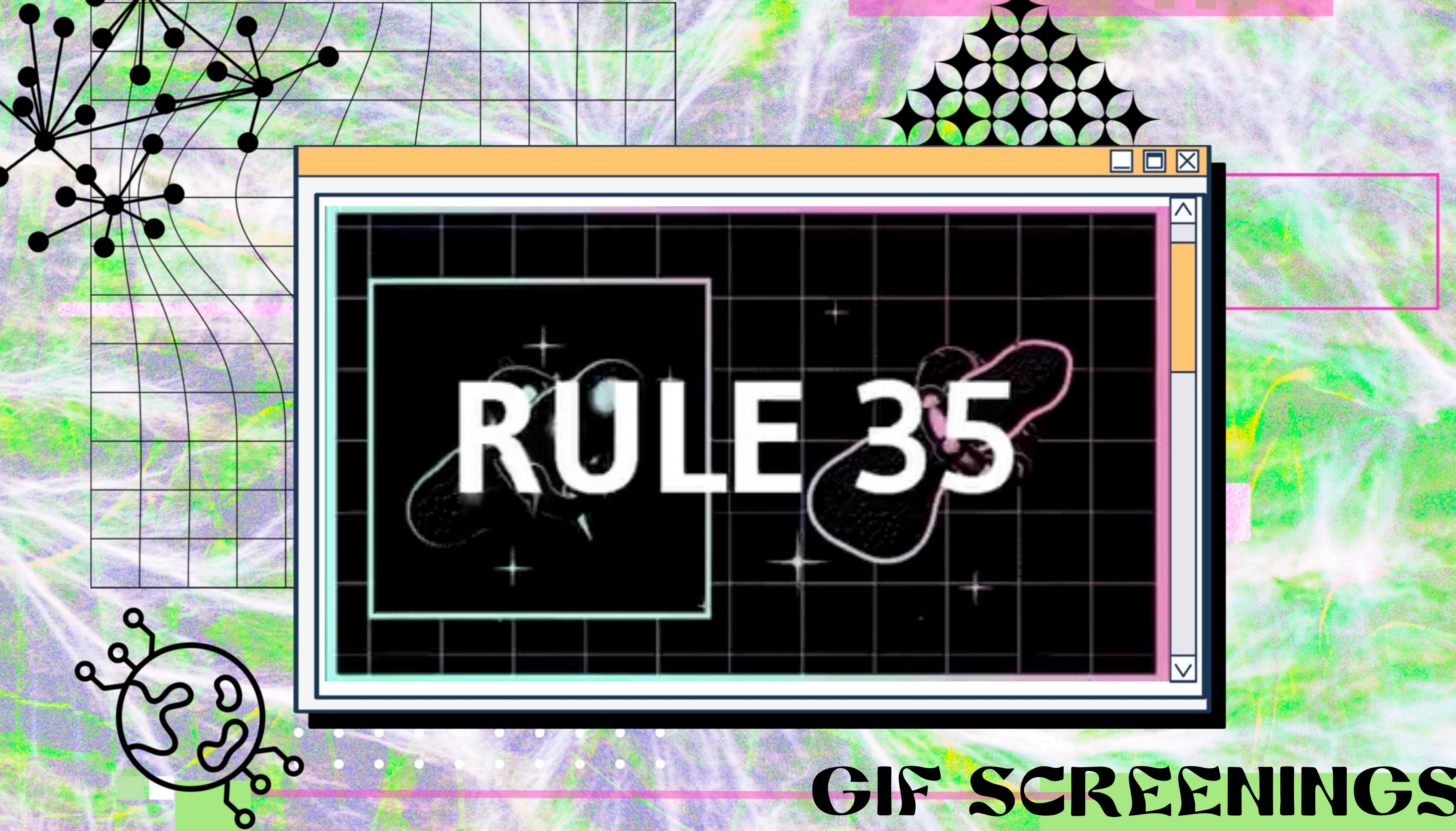
BYOBEAMER



A screenshot of a web browser window showing the website byobworldwide.com. The page features a large, colorful, abstract background image. In the center, the letters 'BYOB' are displayed in a bold, green, sans-serif font. Below this, the text 'What is BYOB?' is followed by a description: 'BYOB is a series of one-night-exhibitions curated by different people around the world. The idea is simple: --> Find a place --> Invite many artists --> Ask them to bring their projectors BYOB is a way of making a big exhibition with zero budget. It is an exploration of the medium of projection.' At the bottom of the page, there is a video thumbnail for 'BYOB NYC 2012, curated by Rafaël Roz...'. The browser window has a standard OS X-style interface with a yellow title bar and a vertical scroll bar on the right.





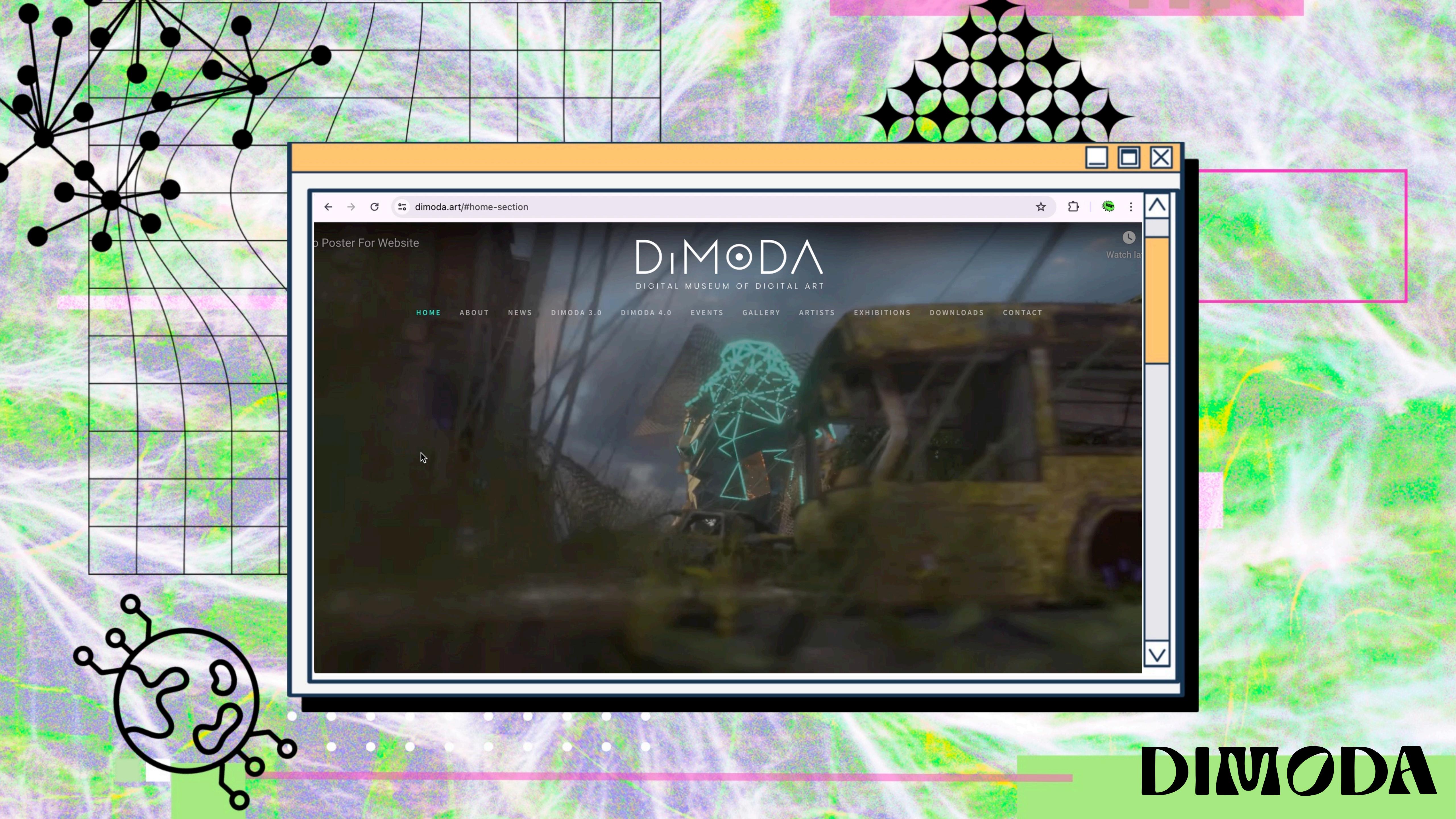
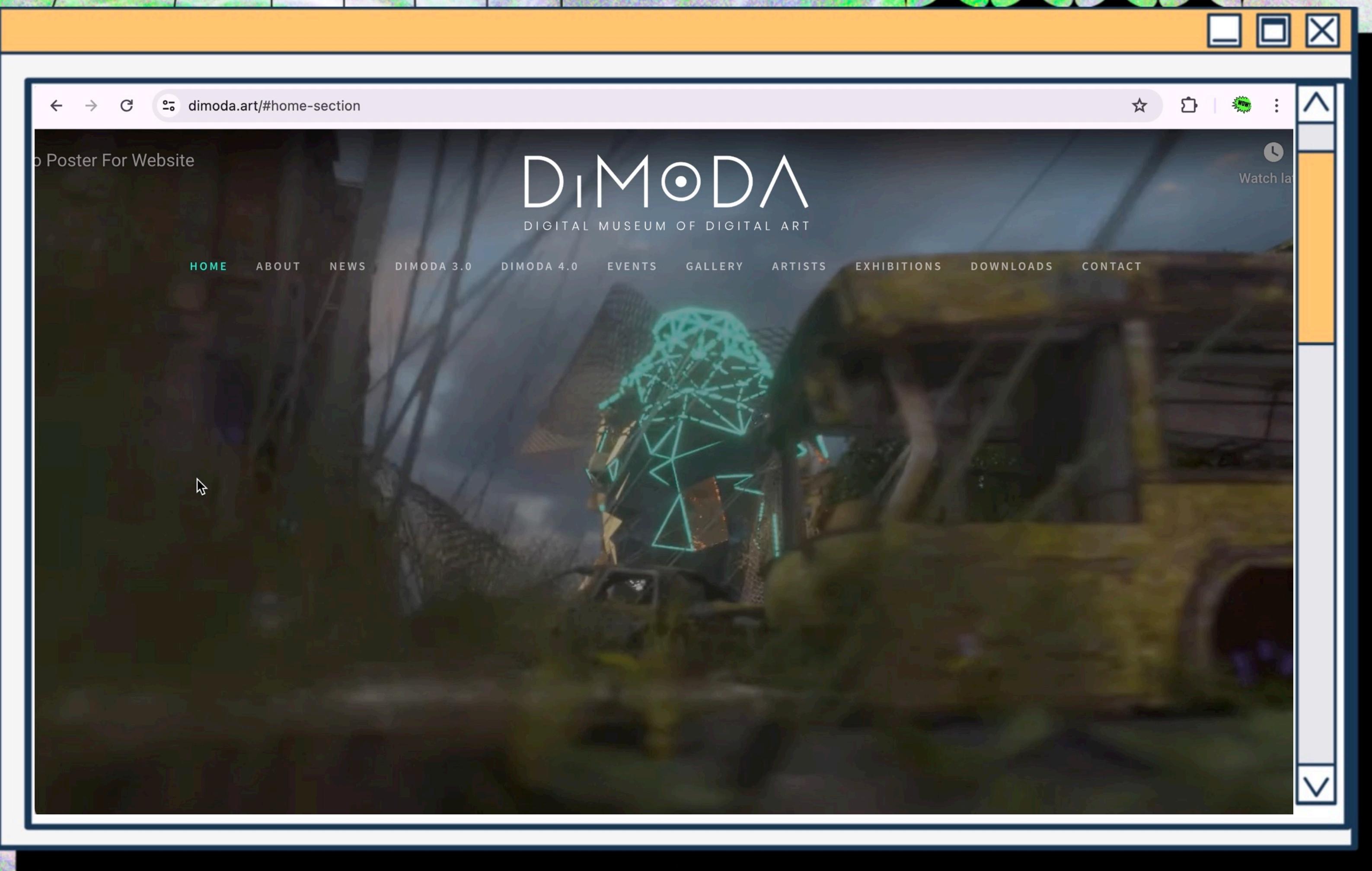


GIF SCREENINGS

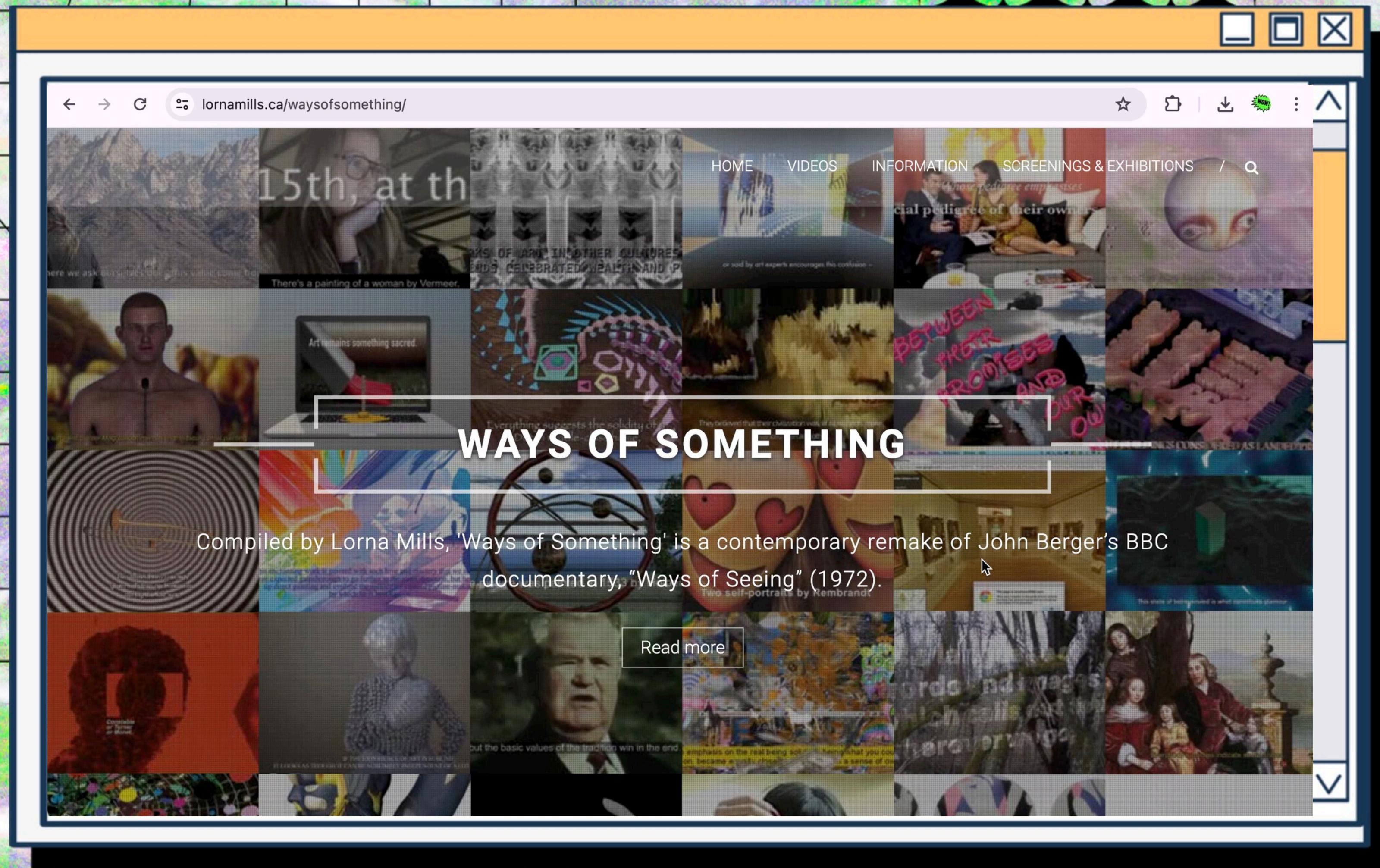


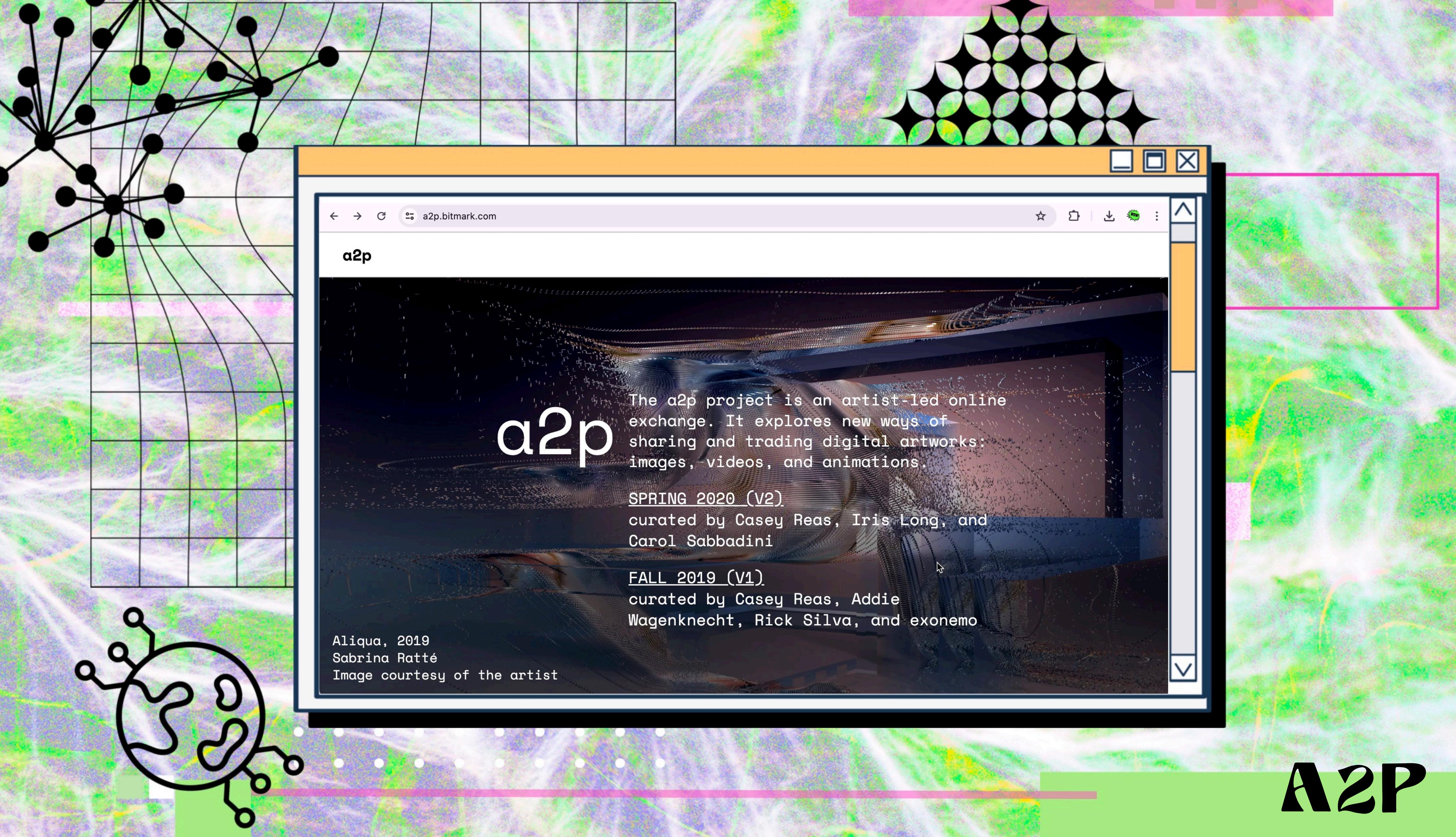
PANTHER MODERN

DIMODA



WAYS OF SOMETHING





A2P

PIECES OF ME

piecesofme.online

PIECES OF ME

In response to the aggregate hype of the emerging global NFT marketplace, TRANSFER presents *Pieces of Me* – 50 artworks are offered in the browser as a respite from the frenzy and dystopia surrounding the boom. We invite you to reflect and transact with intention.



Explore the show by swiping through the thematic rooms.
Click on 'Pieces of Me' (top) for the full artist list.
Please have patience while the tabs load, these artworks are substantial.

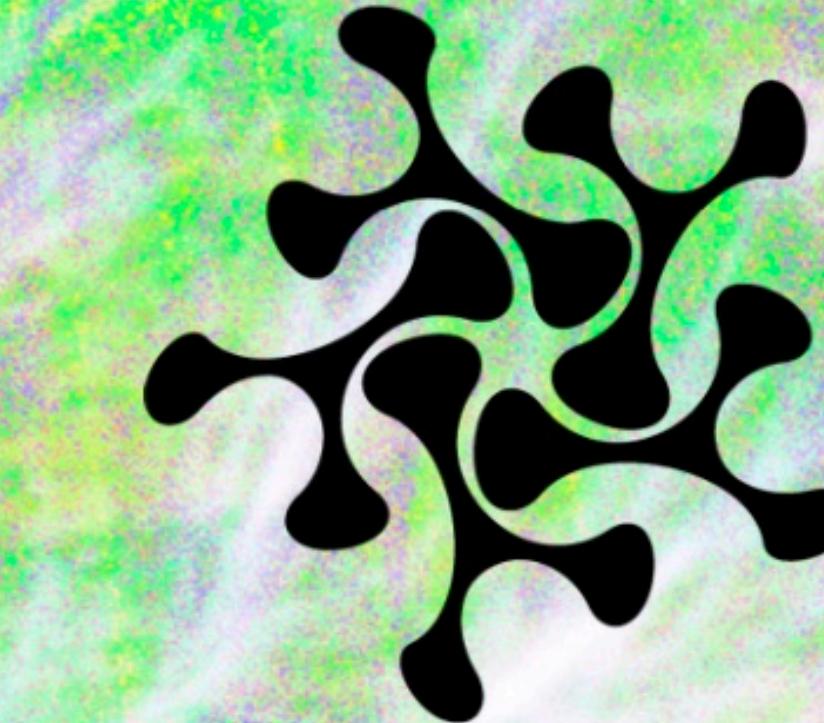
THIS IS WHO I AM

This is the part of myself that I present to you. I'm here, plain for you to see. This is how I make real what I want to be. *Each of the pieces in this room is a deeply personal offering or self-portrait.*

COOPERATIVES

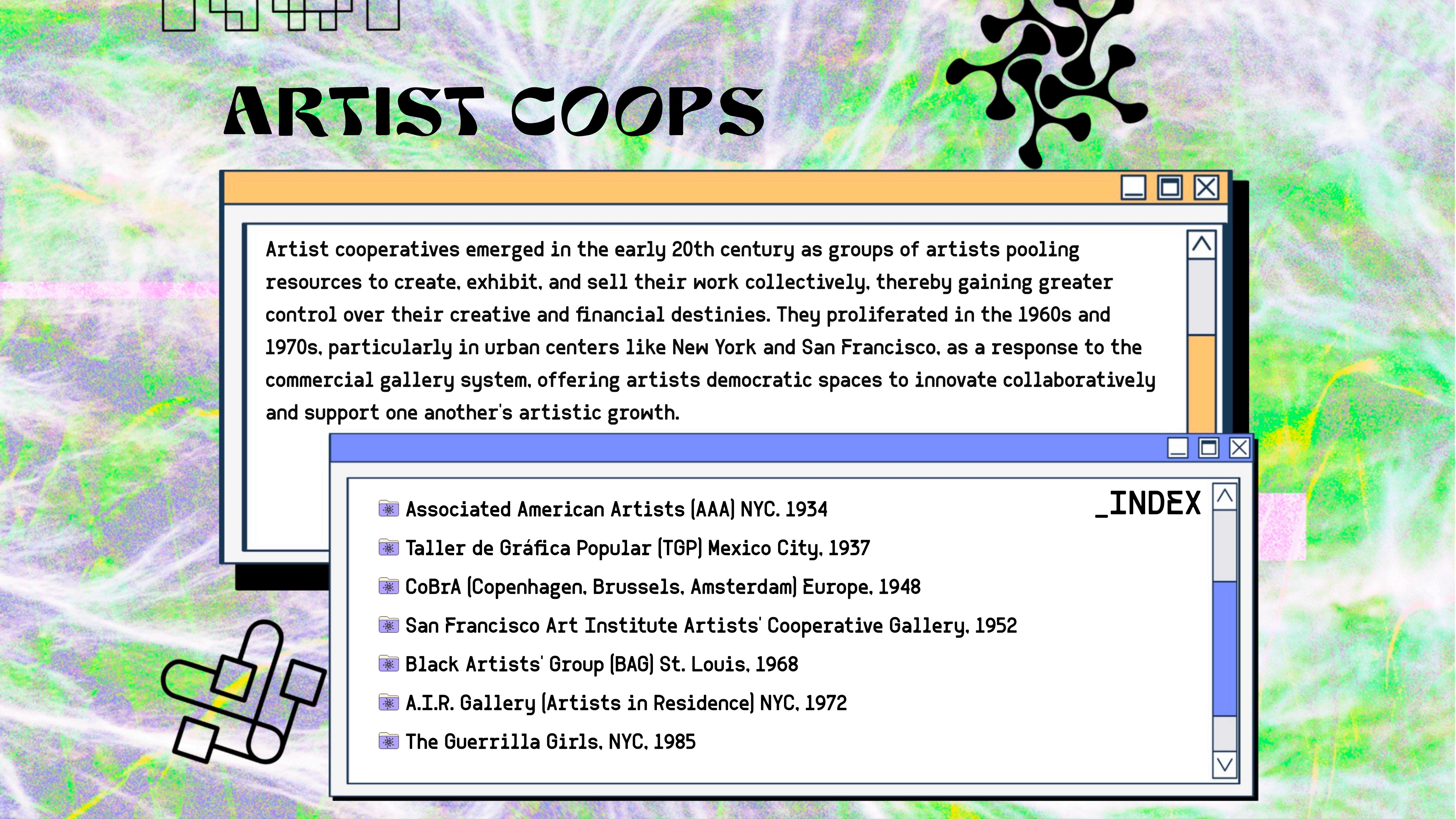
The rich history of cooperatives is well beyond the scope of this course. Artists alone have been forming cooperatives for more than 100 years as a means of resilience.

We'll start with a brief look at Artist Cooperatives, a personal story, and then jump into some contemporary examples of cooperatives in art and technology.



_INDEX

- [Brief History of Artist Coops](#)
- [Art.coop](#)
- [Trust.support](#)
- [DisCO.coop](#)
- [Hypha.coop](#)
- [Exit to Community](#)
- [TRANSFER Data Trust](#)



ARTIST COOPS

Artist cooperatives emerged in the early 20th century as groups of artists pooling resources to create, exhibit, and sell their work collectively, thereby gaining greater control over their creative and financial destinies. They proliferated in the 1960s and 1970s, particularly in urban centers like New York and San Francisco, as a response to the commercial gallery system, offering artists democratic spaces to innovate collaboratively and support one another's artistic growth.

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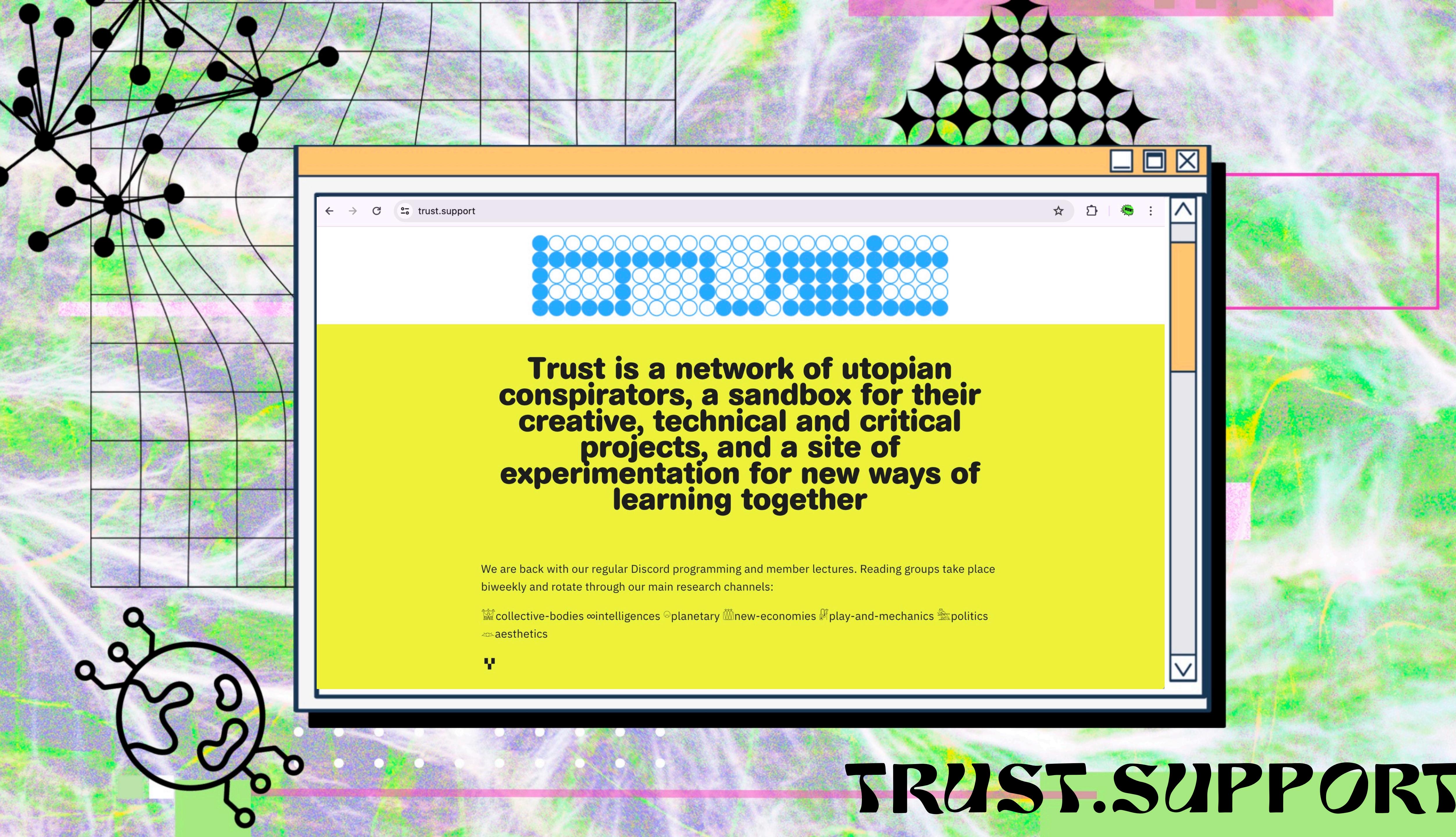
- 📁 Associated American Artists (AAA) NYC. 1934
- 📁 Taller de Gráfica Popular (TGP) Mexico City. 1937
- 📁 CoBrA (Copenhagen, Brussels, Amsterdam) Europe. 1948
- 📁 San Francisco Art Institute Artists' Cooperative Gallery. 1952
- 📁 Black Artists' Group (BAG) St. Louis. 1968
- 📁 A.I.R. Gallery (Artists in Residence) NYC. 1972
- 📁 The Guerrilla Girls, NYC, 1985



LITTLE BERLIN



ART.COOP



Trust is a network of utopian conspirators, a sandbox for their creative, technical and critical projects, and a site of experimentation for new ways of learning together

We are back with our regular Discord programming and member lectures. Reading groups take place biweekly and rotate through our main research channels:

collective-bodies [intelligences](#) [planetary](#) [new-economies](#) [play-and-mechanics](#) [politics](#)
[aesthetics](#)

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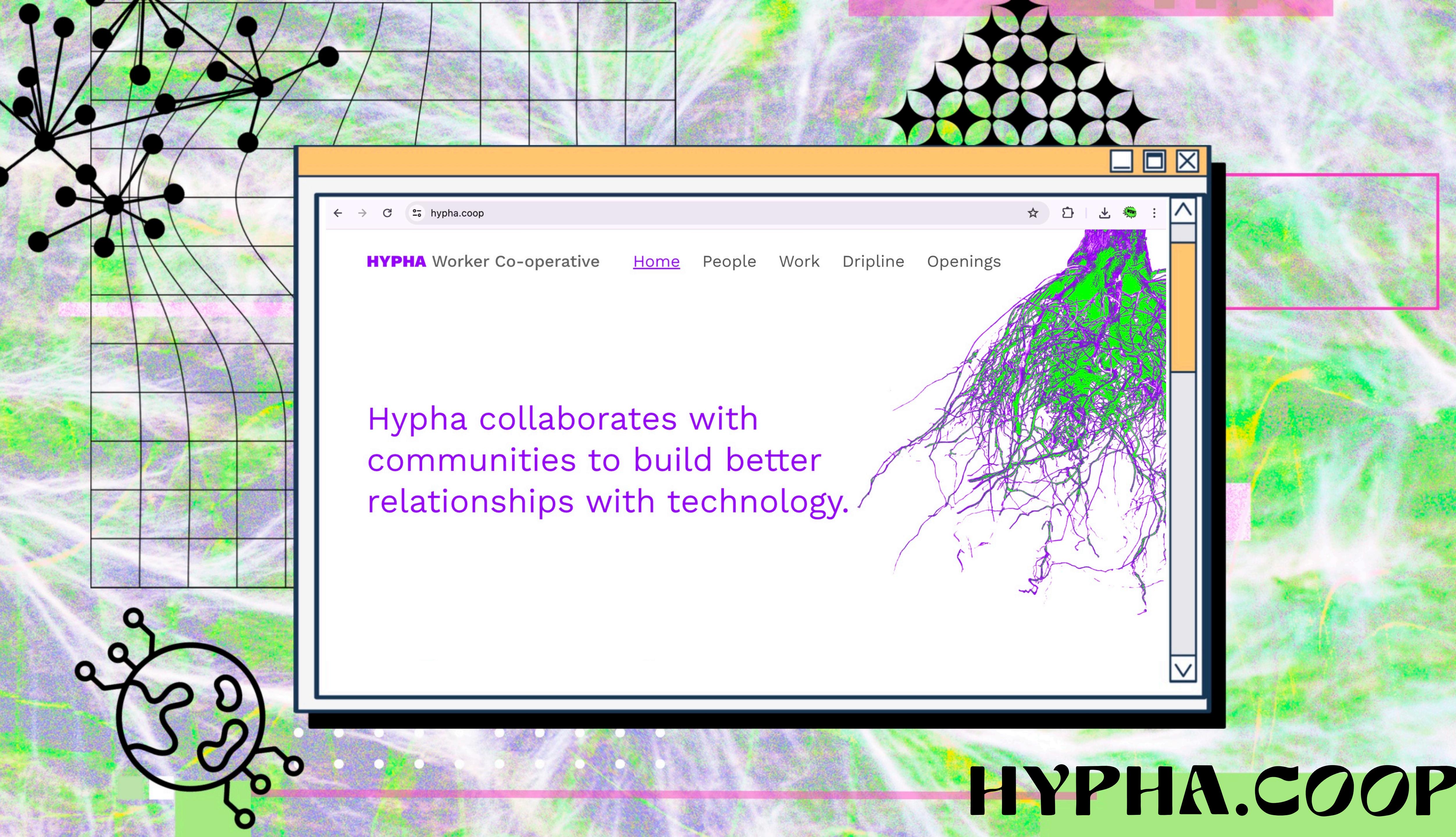
TRUST.SUPPORT



DISCO.COOP

If I Only Had a Heart: **A DisCO Manifesto**





HYPHA.COOP



Exit to Community Stories & Strategies

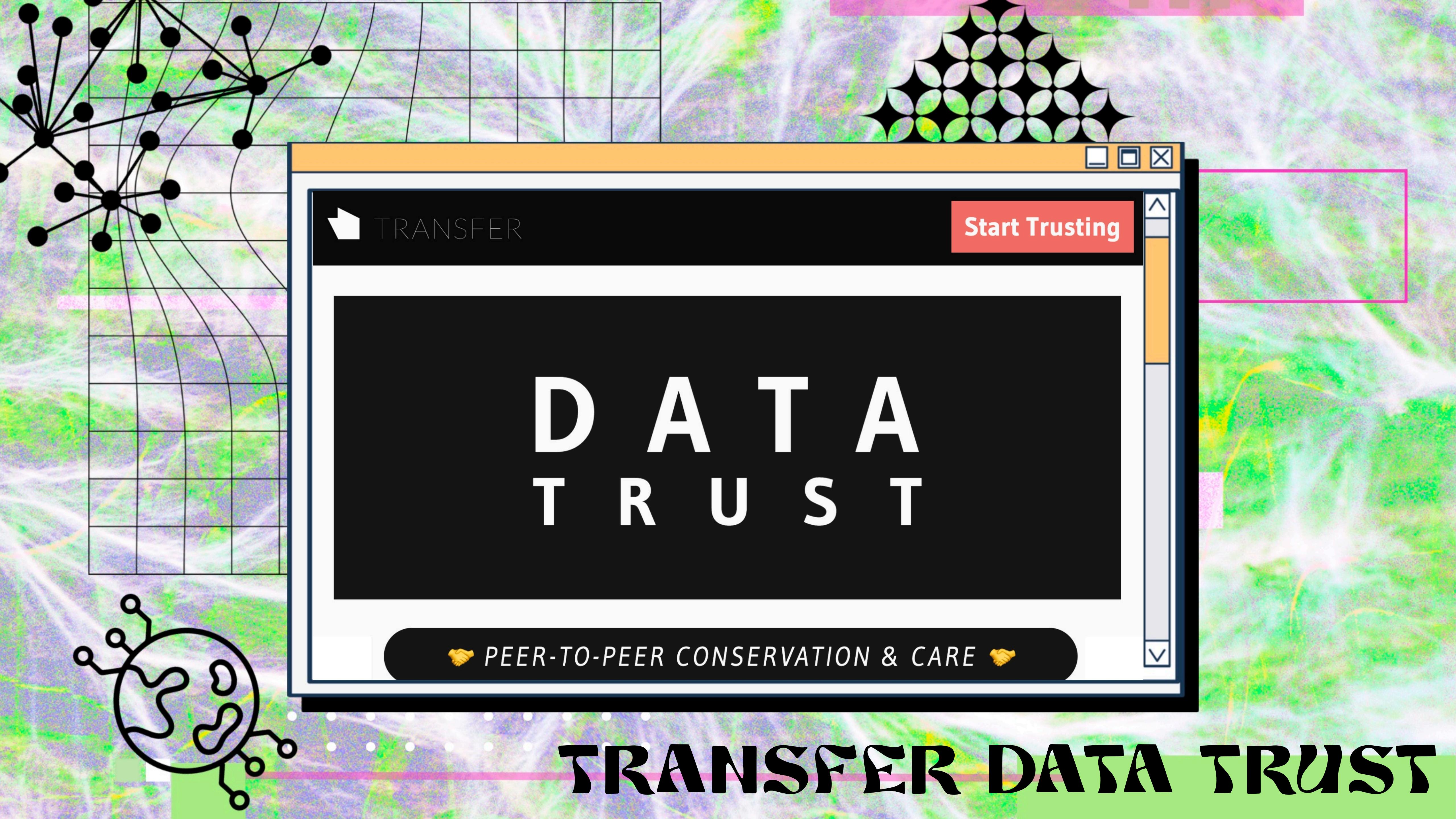
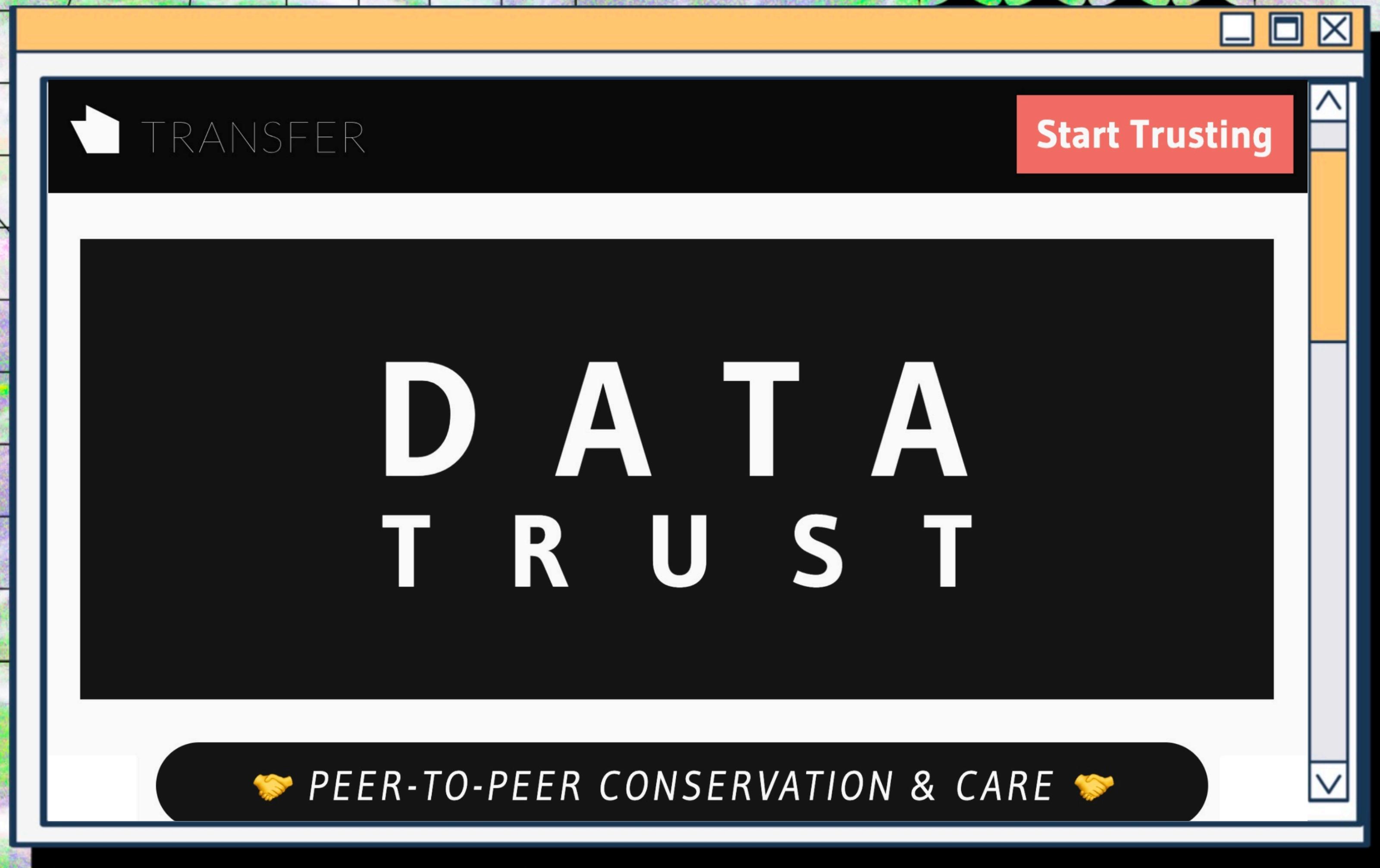
A library of community ownership

EXIT TO COMMUNITY

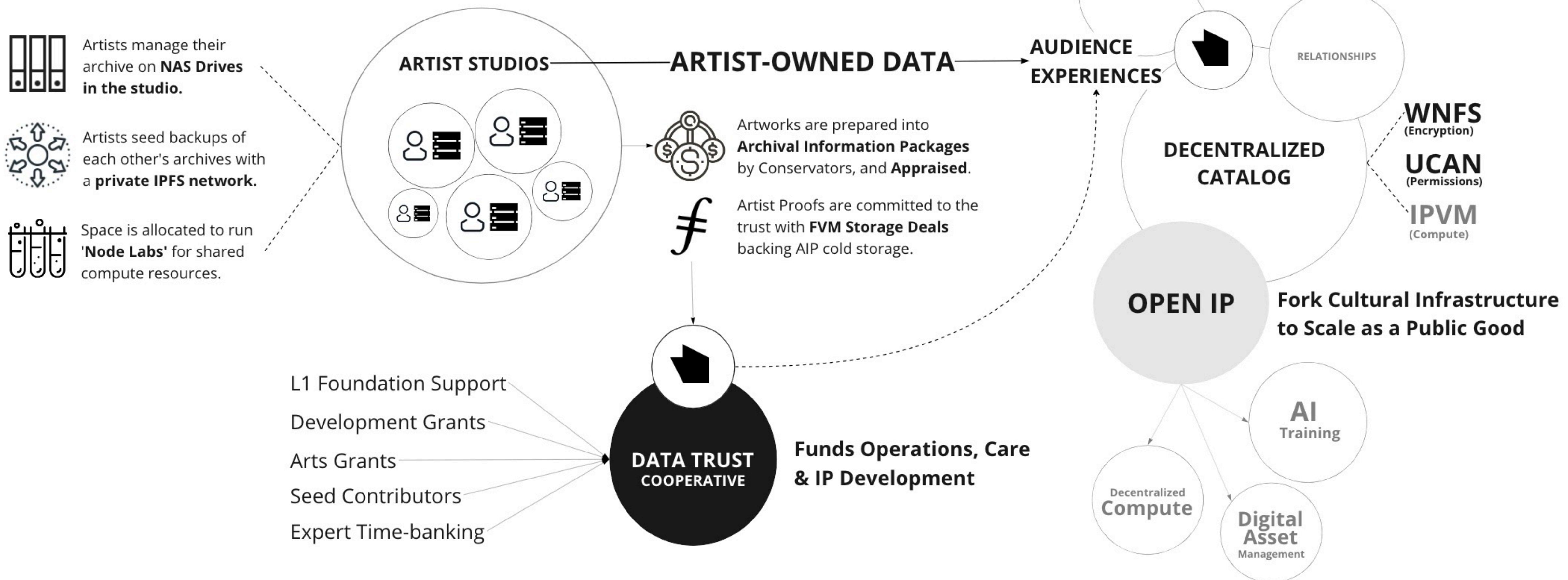
TRANSFER DATA TRUST

DATA TRUST

🤝 PEER-TO-PEER CONSERVATION & CARE 🤝



TRANSFER DATA TRUST STRUCTURE

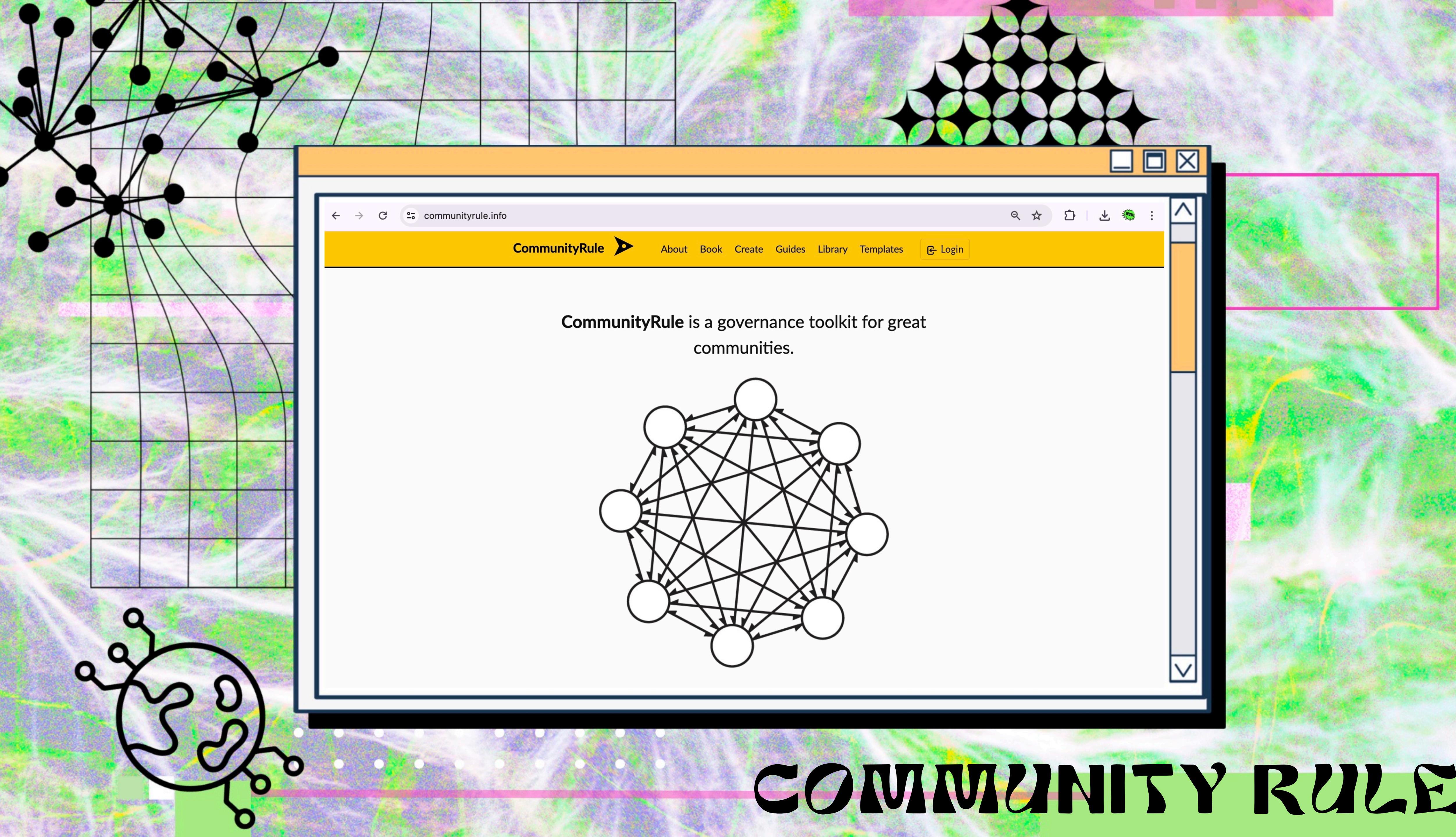


GOVERNANCE MODELS

Decentralized Autonomous Organizations (DAOs) took off in Web3, but they have quickly been revealed as flawed in ideology and execution.

We'll start with a look at some emergent governance models, before jumping into a case study of three leading DAO experiments to discuss the structures, what worked well, and what didn't.

-  Governance Models **_INDEX**
- Community Rule
 - Emergent Strategy
 - Distributed Coops
-  DAOs
- Ethereum Name Service (ENS)
 - Friends With Benefits (FWB)
 - Haus der Elektronisch Kunst (HEK)



COMMUNITY RULE

GOVERNANCE TEMPLATES

X



Benevolent Dictator

The Benevolent Dictator holds ultimate decision-making power, until the group is ready for a more inclusive structure.

Values Membership Autocracy Delegation Expiration Executive Lobbying



Circles

Units called Circles have the ability to decide and act on matters in their domains, which their members agree on through a Council.

Values Membership Council Delegation Lazy consensus



Consensus

Decisions that affect the group collectively should involve participation of all participants.

Values Membership Exclusion Consensus Deliberation Do-Ocracy



GOVERNANCE TEMPLATES



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Do-ocracy

Those who take initiative to do something in the group can decide how they do it.

Values Membership Autonomy Do-ocracy Lobbying



Elected Board

An elected board determines policies and organizes their implementation.

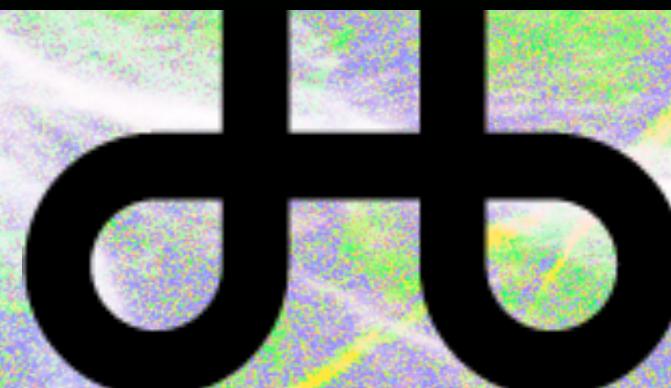
Values Membership Board Representation Majority Voting



Jury

Proposals are shaped and decided on by randomly selected juries.

Values Membership Legislature Sortition Petition Policy Register



GOUVERNANCE TEMPLATES



Benevolent Dictator

The Benevolent Dictator holds ultimate decision-making power, until the group is ready for a more inclusive structure.

Values Membership Autocracy Delegation Expiration Executive Lobbying



Circles

Units called Circles have the ability to decide and act on major decisions. They can also agree on through a Council.

Values Membership Council Delegation Lazy consensus



Consensus

Decisions that affect the group collectively should involve participation from all members.

Values Membership Exclusion Consensus Deliberation Do-Ocracy



Do-ocracy

Those who take initiative to do something in the group can decide how they do it.



Petition

All participants can propose and vote on proposals for the group.

Values Membership Petition

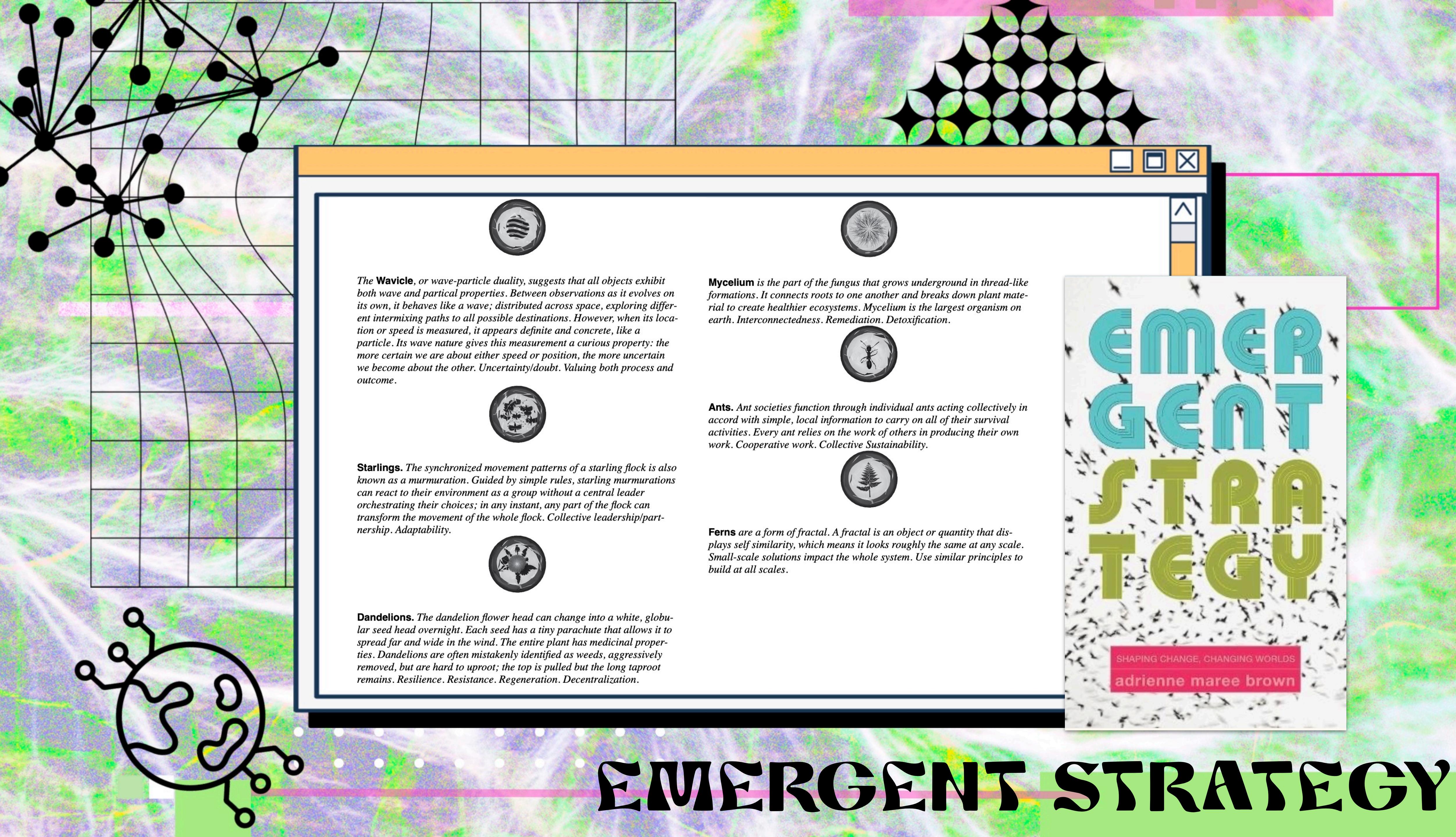


Self-Appointed Board

A board that selects its own members determines policies and organizes their implementation.

Values Membership Board Majority Voting





The **Wavicle**, or wave-particle duality, suggests that all objects exhibit both wave and particulate properties. Between observations as it evolves on its own, it behaves like a wave; distributed across space, exploring different intermixing paths to all possible destinations. However, when its location or speed is measured, it appears definite and concrete, like a particle. Its wave nature gives this measurement a curious property: the more certain we are about either speed or position, the more uncertain we become about the other. Uncertainty/doubt. Valuing both process and outcome.



Starlings. The synchronized movement patterns of a starling flock is also known as a murmuration. Guided by simple rules, starling murmurations can react to their environment as a group without a central leader orchestrating their choices; in any instant, any part of the flock can transform the movement of the whole flock. Collective leadership/partnership. Adaptability.



Dandelions. The dandelion flower head can change into a white, globular seed head overnight. Each seed has a tiny parachute that allows it to spread far and wide in the wind. The entire plant has medicinal properties. Dandelions are often mistakenly identified as weeds, aggressively removed, but are hard to uproot; the top is pulled but the long taproot remains. Resilience. Resistance. Regeneration. Decentralization.



Mycelium is the part of the fungus that grows underground in thread-like formations. It connects roots to one another and breaks down plant material to create healthier ecosystems. Mycelium is the largest organism on earth. Interconnectedness. Remediation. Detoxification.



Ants. Ant societies function through individual ants acting collectively in accord with simple, local information to carry on all of their survival activities. Every ant relies on the work of others in producing their own work. Cooperative work. Collective Sustainability.



Ferns are a form of fractal. A fractal is an object or quantity that displays self similarity, which means it looks roughly the same at any scale. Small-scale solutions impact the whole system. Use similar principles to build at all scales.



EMERGENT STRATEGY

DISTRIBUTED CO-OP



DisCOs are our proposal to use the power of distributed ledger and peer-to-peer technologies to prioritize taking care of human beings. They constitute an affirmative, entirely feasible vision for new and radical forms of ownership, governance, entrepreneurship, and financialization to fight pervasive economic inequality. At the same time, they focus on building synergies among related but often siloed sectors that urgently need to build better strategic alliances to develop creative, inclusive solutions.

What are these sectors? Beyond the blockchain space and the ideas of Commons and co-ops, there are more ingredients in the DisCO mixer.

If I Only Had a Heart: **A DisCO Manifesto**



DISTRIBUTED COOP

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What are these sectors? Beyond the blockchain space and the ideas of Commons and co-ops, there are more ingredients in the DisCO mixer.

- **The Commons and P2P:** Commons are community led, self-organised systems for the long-term stewarding of resources, often flowering in the cracks between the market or State. Peer to Peer or P2P describes non-hierarchical, non-coercive social relations happening in human networks, often augmented through technological infrastructures. P2P provides an enabling infrastructure for acts of commoning. Examples include [cooperatively managed forests](#), [water distribution irrigation systems](#), [social currencies](#), [Free/Libre and Open-Source Software](#), [self organized urban spaces](#), [distributed manufacturing networks](#) and [so much more](#).
- **Open Cooperativism:** These are locally grounded, commons-oriented and transnationally-networked cooperatives focused on social and environmental work. Open co-ops can be viewed as the experimental edge of the work of [Platform Cooperativism](#), exploring convergences between the Commons and P2P movements along with the world of cooperatives and the Social and Solidarity Economy. Examples include [Enspiral](#), [Fairmondo](#), [L'Atelier Paysan](#), [AnyShare](#) and the [Mutual Aid Network](#).



DISTRIBUTED COOP

DisCOs are our proposal to use the power of distributed technologies to prioritize taking care of human beings over profit. It is an entirely feasible vision for new and radical forms of entrepreneurship, and financialization to fight pervasive precarity. At the same time, they focus on building synergies among sectors that urgently need to build better strategic alliances and solutions.

What are these sectors? Beyond the blockchain space, there are more co-ops, there are more ingredients in the DisCO mix.

- **The Commons and P2P:** Commons are community led, self-organised systems for the long-term stewarding of resources, often flowering in the cracks between the market and State. Peer-to-Peer or P2P describes non-hierarchical, human networks, often augmented by technology. It provides an enabling infrastructure for cooperatively managed forests, currencies, Free/Libre and Open-Source software, distributed manufacturing and more.
- **Open-Value Accounting:** A form of accounting where contributions to a shared project are documented to allow retrospective analysis of the distributions of effort and labor, and enable better and more fair distributions of incomes. Open-value accounting enables [value sovereignty](#), or how a commons self-regulates its market relations so the core aspects of its common wealth and social relationships remain inalienable. Examples include [Sensorica](#), [Backfeed](#), [CoMakery](#) and [MetaMaps](#). Open-Value Accounting also highlights invisible work, which leads us to...
- **Feminist Economics:** This school of economic thought also asserts value sovereignty by challenging normative¹⁹ notions of economic abstraction – something very persistent in the blockchain space. Feminist Economics proposes a more holistic approach to the very idea of “the economy,” factoring in often-invisibilized and unpaid factors such as care work, human connection, interdependency and emotional labor into economic theory. [Examples abound](#), yet are often hidden.²⁰

rounded, commons-oriented and sustainable models based on social and environmental values. The experimental edge of the work of cooperatives is at the intersection of the Commons and the Social. Examples include [Circular Farmhouse](#), [L'Atelier Paysan](#), [Circular Farmhouse](#), [L'Atelier Paysan](#),

DAOs

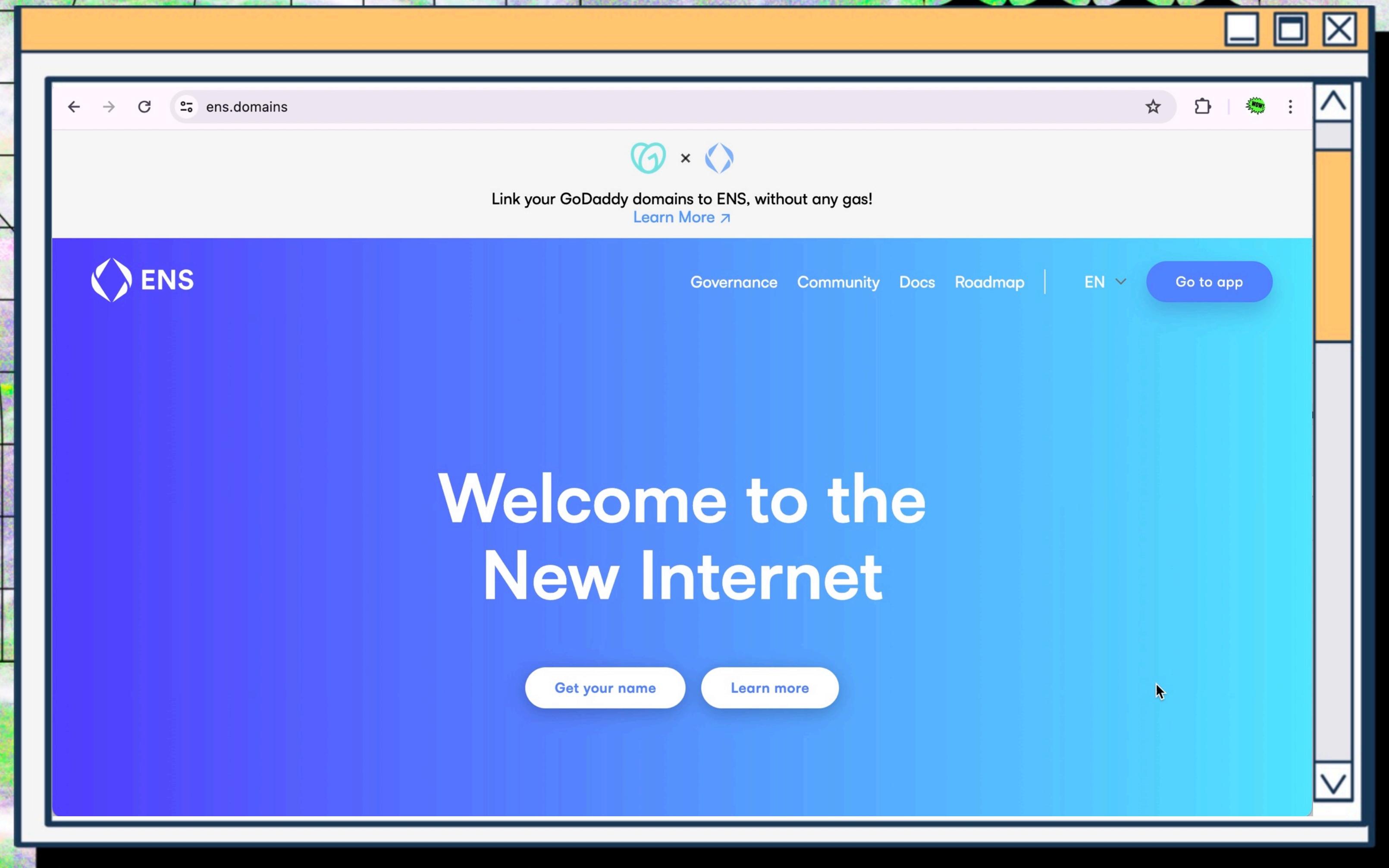
A Decentralized Autonomous Organization is a blockchain-based system that enables people to collaborate and make decisions in a decentralized manner without the need for a central authority. The key infrastructure component is a 'token' that can serve both functional and financial purposes.

The concept gained popularity with the launch of the Ethereum blockchain in 2015, which provided a platform for creating and running DAOs.

The first major experiment was "The DAO," created in 2016 as a venture capital fund in the Ethereum ecosystem, which aimed to democratize investments, and infamously resulted in a significant security breach leading to a substantial loss of funds.

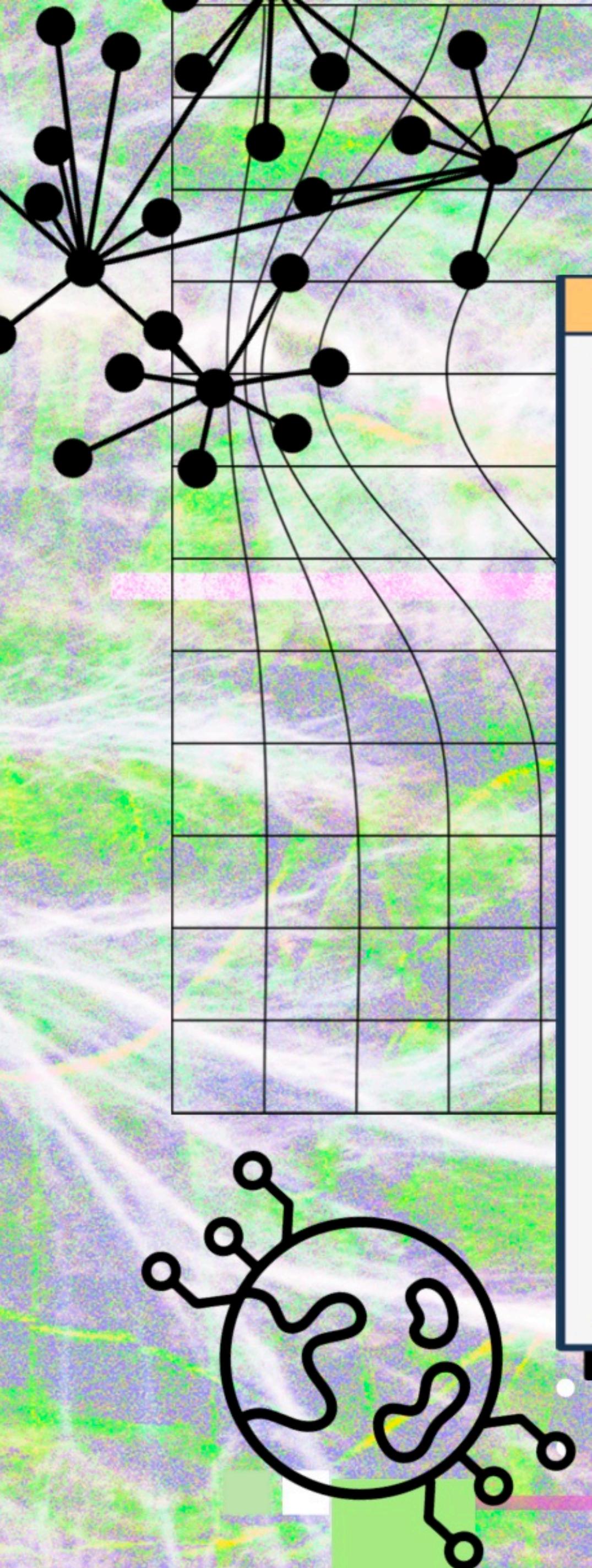
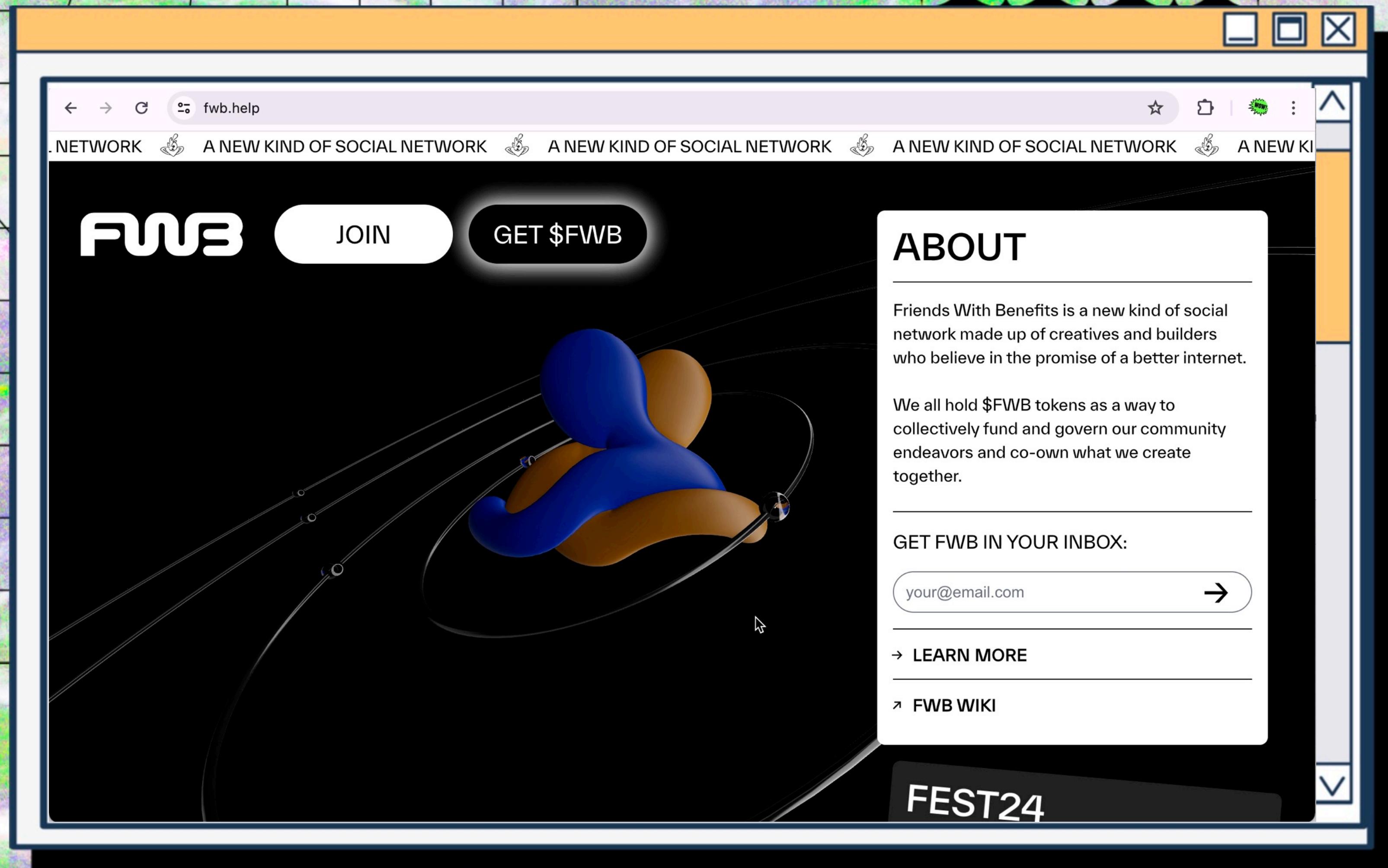
ENS

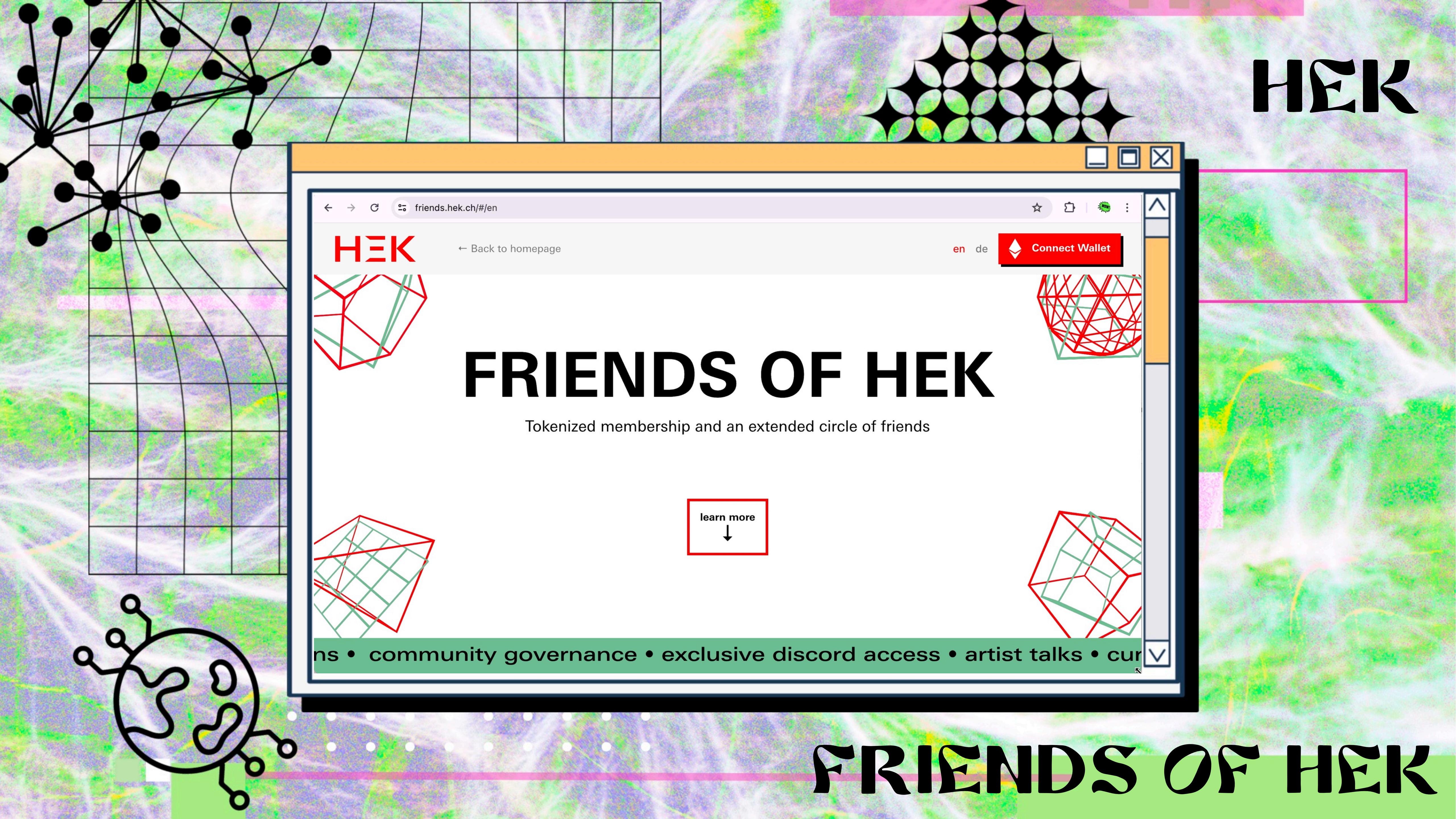
ETHEREUM NAME SERVICE



FWB

FRIENDS WITH BENEFITS





HEK

FRIENDS OF HEK

Tokenized membership and an extended circle of friends

learn more
↓

ns • community governance • exclusive discord access • artist talks • cur

FRIENDS OF HEK

X

**BREAK:
10 MINUTES**



**WORKSHOP:
CULTURAL VALUE
EXCHANGE**