

Canned Bitcoin to Be Auctioned with a Starting Price of One Million Dollars



Bitcoin as Survival Rations: One Million Dollars Sealed in a Can

In an era defined by military conflict, financial uncertainty, and rapid digital transformation, Zyborn seals one million dollars' worth of Bitcoin into tin cans and releases them as artworks at auction. The project poses a fundamental question: as money becomes increasingly abstract, what can truly be considered a survival resource today?

Visual artist Zyborn will present *Survival Rations* on 3 January 2026 in London through a live performance. In the work, digital wealth takes on physical form: the artist seals a total value of one million dollars in Bitcoin into 21 identical metal cans.

Online bidding for the first piece in the limited series will begin prior to the public presentation. The full proceeds of the auction will be donated to charitable causes.

War Logic and Digital Tensions



The title *Survival Rations* evokes the world of military supply kits and directly references contemporary realities:

- escalating war narratives,
- increasing militarisation,
- and the social and economic tensions produced by accelerated digital transformation.

In an age where algorithms determine value, risk, and distribution, the work examines how money itself becomes a strategic tool for survival.

The project is part of the *FIRST CANNED BTC* series. All 21 cans are identical in weight and appearance, yet each contains a different amount of Bitcoin. The value allocated to each can is determined by artificial intelligence, making the internal distribution unknown in advance.

Opening a can is a single, irreversible act — much like a financial transaction.

Weightless Value, Invisible Wealth



The work deliberately plays on the contradiction between the physical and the digital.

While traditional money derives its value from material form, Bitcoin is weightless and invisible. Each can weighs exactly the same, regardless of whether it conceals minimal or substantial digital value.

This contradiction reflects a core experience of the digital economy: value has detached from material substance, while its social and political consequences have become increasingly tangible.

In a militarising and digitally abstract era, value itself becomes a survival tool — this is the central thesis of the project.

Performance as Ritual



The London presentation is not a conventional exhibition but a ritualised event.

During the performance, the can — a classic symbol of durability, stockpiling, and crisis management — becomes the carrier of digital wealth. Its military-industrial aesthetic simultaneously reflects:

- war-driven collective psychology,
- the uncertainty generated by automation and algorithmic decision-making,
- and the erosion of trust in financial systems.

In this sense, the work is not a technological demonstration but a social commentary, compressing the invisible structures of the digital age into a simple, everyday object.

Online Auction and Moral Counterpoint

One of the project's key components is the auction itself. While the work employs the language of digital wealth and speculation, one hundred per cent of the auction proceeds will be donated to charity.

This decision creates a deliberate moral counterpoint: as the artwork addresses abstraction and accumulation, its material outcome is redirected back into society.

The gesture underscores the tension between digital value and the physical world, and raises the question of what responsibility accompanies the possession of value in an unstable, conflict-ridden global environment.

Art at the Crossroads of the Present



Zyborn's *Survival Rations* occupies a space at the intersection of contemporary art, technology, and geopolitics.

Rather than explaining how Bitcoin works, the project examines how the concept of value is transforming in an era where war logic and digital infrastructures simultaneously shape everyday reality.

The sealed can thus becomes more than an artwork; it becomes a symbol — a unit of survival in a world where value is increasingly invisible, yet increasingly vital.