

WHITE PAPER

RETURN OF KARUGONIA



Return of Karugonia

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Return of Karugonia

About us

Return of Karugonia is lore based, gaming inspired NFT project on the Cardano Blockchain. It is a collective series with utility linked to our upcoming merchandise store “Merch Empire by ROK.” The project was founded by Green Tee, a known member in the Cardano NFT space, who has a passion for collectibles, investing & business development.

ABOUT THE ART

The artwork is gaming inspired, based on the lore of Return of Karugonia. The artist, Adaquariums, is a 3D digital artist in the space, who created all assets via VR headset digitally from scratch. Each mount is unique in their own way & contain the upmost intricate detail in every aspect, another reason why we have the mounts rotate 360 degrees on a podium, so you, as a collector, can view all fine details on every angle.

OFFICIAL LINKS

- WWW.RETURNOFKARUGONIA.COM
- [HTTPS://TWITTER.COM/ROKARUGONIA](https://twitter.com/ROKARUGONIA)
- [HTTPS://DISCORD.GG/2UWTCSGR](https://discord.gg/2UWTCSGR)
- [HTTPS://WWW.JPG.STORE/COLLECTION/RETURNOFKARUGONIA-BEASTS](https://www.jpg.store/collection/returnofkarugonia-beasts)
- [HTTPS://WWW.INSTAGRAM.COM/RETURNOFKARUGONIA/](https://www.instagram.com/returnofkarugonia/)

Meet the team

FOUNDER: Green Tee is a 27 year old, a registered nurse from Australia. Being in the CNFT space for a year, she has been inspired by many projects & individuals. She runs a small online business for infant accessories and is the founder of ROK. She was inspired to create her own project "Return of Karugonia" based off the love of investing, gaming and artwork. She loves to socialize within the space and be involved with as many projects as she can. When she's not working on the project, she is either caring for her sons day by day, or trying to squeeze in a PC game. She looks forward to the future & development of the project and bringing something new, innovating and exciting to the space. Having being a passionate collector and business owner, she endeavors to bring something innovative and exciting to the Cardano NFT space.

ARTIST: Adaquariums is 32 years old and was an early adopter of Crypto back in 2013. He went to school for film and radio and found himself working in a small studio as an audio engineer during the day, and bartending by night. He slowly transitioned into producing music, and that's where his love for creating art came in. Fast forward to January of 2020, he decided to build his own computer and that changed everything. He found his true passion for 3D modeling, design and animation by accident as he was trying to make cool visuals for his shows and followed a Blender tutorial. He has not looked back since and work's exclusively in Blender. He has always been an addicted gamer his entire life and a ton of creative inspiration draws from video games and film. He came into the CNFT space in July of 2021 as an artist looking to make a spot for himself and do a drop. As time went on, he realized he wanted to take time as an artist and was approached to help with Discord management and image generation for Horror Punks. He then worked closely with an artist to help him develop Raging Reds where he ran image generation and did all the animations for season 2. He is also currently a Community manager/Image generator for Pets R' Us.

COMMUNITY MANAGER: Disco first got into Crypto in January 2021, this was after a good bit of time “thinking about getting into it.” He watched tons of YT videos to get familiar with the jargon and watched lots of the basic TA videos for charts. He then joined a Crypto discord called The Crypto Nation and this is where he learned tons more about crypto in general. He is also a Community Mod there and has had great “Pub Chats” in the discord during lockdown where we got Hederas CMO Christian Hesker over for an AMA, that was cool but he’s no Charles From then and during the many dips last year this is when he began to get into NFT’s, his first project to invest in was Politikoz! Cardano has always been his favorite blockchain. Since then he has stayed in CNFTs and it’s great seeing them develop and projects are really focusing in on Utility and community benefits. This is what drew him to the project early Jan /Feb this year when he first joined the team! Green Tee is passionate, as is the whole team and we’re a small team but we do display the promising qualities to look for. Outside Crypto, he a Dad of two, and a big Glasgow Celtic supporter and season ticket holder. He helps run a local supporters club, he likes to do a lot for local charities to help in the community! If any of you ever come to Scotland, hit Disco up and he’ll get you along to a game!

WEB DEVELOPER: Slave2TheScreen got into Cardano about a year ago, picking up a few CryptoKnitties as his first mint. (Yes, just missed out on SpaceBudz...). He has been into the blockchain and NFT scene ever since. He now run a drop calendar website (slavetothescreeen.com) and work with a number of projects to assist with websites, as well as design and blockchain work. Originally from the UK, he moved to Australia about 10 years ago with his wife and daughter. Back in the UK, he worked with a digital agency and spent time with brands such as Xbox and Audi. Now he works freelance from home and has helped to develop our website, roadmap & visuals.

DISCORD MANAGEMENT SERVICE: Hendo

MINTING SERVICE: Rlylikesomelettes

Beasts - Return of Karugonia (Series 1)

Return of Karugonia's first collection, Beasts, are a collective series of 1111 3D rendered, rotating mount NFTs.

There are a total of 10 different mounts, each equipped with different armour. The armour is suited to our lore and either comes as:

1. Base model armour (750 NFTs)
2. Mecha Armour (570 NFTs)
3. Ultra Mecha armour (15 NFTs)

There are a total of 4 rarities: Common, Uncommon, Rare and Legendary. Each individual who mints a Legendary NFT (only 15 total) will receive 100 ADA.

The meaning of Mecha for those unaware, is a genre from Japanese manga/anime that focuses heavily on features of mechanical innovation. We chose to incorporate Mecha armour to our mounts to show the high quality art that Adaquariums can produce, as well as create meaning to each mount individually which can be elaborated through the lore of "Return of Karugonia."

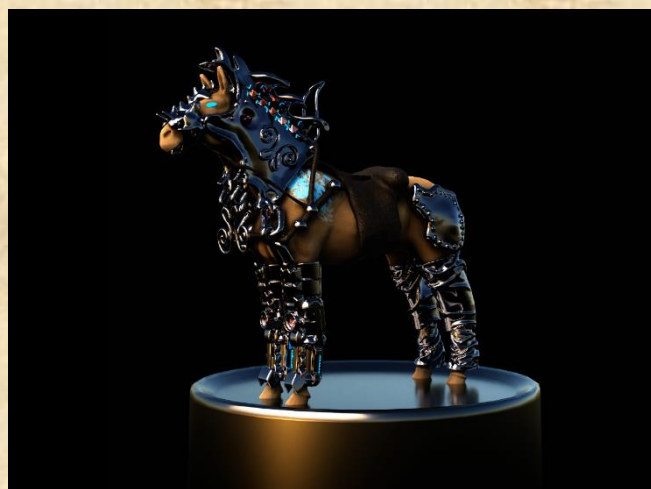
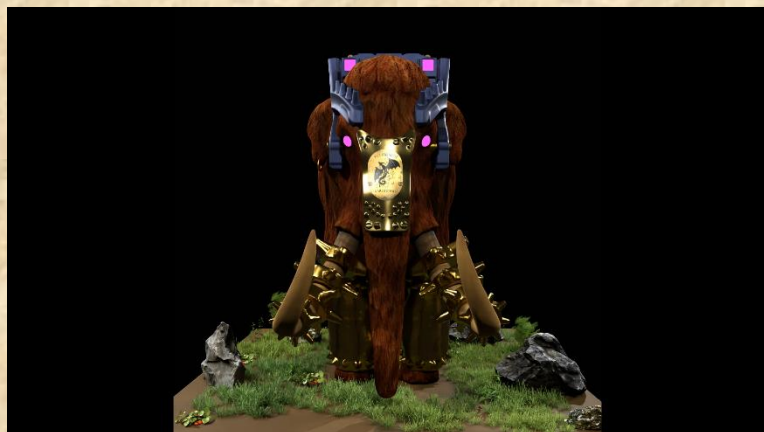
The purpose of holding one or more of our NFTs is so we can introduce utility to the consumer. Not only are we giving away milestone NFTs to our holders as well as lore based airdrops, we are using the funds to create a marketplace called "Merch Empire by ROK," which will allow individuals to use the IP rights from their favorite NFTs to create any merchandise we have to offer. We also intend on becoming a service to projects where they can reach out to us to have physical merchandise made for their project without the hassle of having to handle printing & shipping. Merch Empire by ROK will be elaborated on in the below page 10.

You can mint our NFTs live via www.returnofkarugonia.com for 100A per NFT, up to 8 per Tx.

It is purely the choice of the investor to either buy these NFTs for investing into our project, vision/mission or purely collect just for the love of supporting artists in the space/collecting 3D artwork. Please always do your own research.

Beasts - Return of Karugonia (Series 1) Artwork.

Please take the time to check out the assets live and rotating on <https://www.jpg.store/collection/returnofkarugonia-beasts> to physically see exactly what the NFT will look like if you were to mint one. As these are animated rotating pieces, the images below are for a brief visual only. The on-chain asset is indeed 360 degree rotating rendered NFTs.



Lore – Return of Karugonia

To view our lore as a flipbook, please head here

<https://issuu.com/returnofkarugonia/docs/new.pptx>

Otherwise, the lore can be read below:

THE RETURN OF KARUGONIA

The Beasts of Karugonia The land of Karugonia is an old one, its soil rich with the stories of those who worked it. In the days of old, the Kingdom of Karugonia stood a gilded testament to the ability of its people. Sturdy stone towers manned by expert marksmen kept Karugonians safe from sporadic raiders and marauders beyond the walls, for in the time before Sekiryu, the biggest worries of Karugonians were far less sinister.

Within the great walls of the Kingdom of Karugonia, its citizens prospered and made merry with little worry beyond the average toils of city life. In the interest of efficiency, society formed echelons in accordance with profession. The Kingdom itself was divided into districts in this manner, with the agricultural districts being the largest and closest to the great walls. The artisan district was further in, with Karugonians peddling their wares in the name of making a living. Being a prosperous Kingdom, the Karugonians had plenty of time to perfect craftsmanship - a task they took great pride in, for Karugonian craftsmen were known throughout the greater lands. The governance district was the smallest and most central district in the old Kingdom of Karugonia, at the heart of which lay the Palace. With medical and public services scattered in encampments though out districts, the Kingdom better resembled a well-functioning organism than a city.

The Karugonians themselves were a people grateful to the bountiful lands, with a rich culture celebrating harvests and life itself. Karugonian artisans took part in creating large effigies of iron and Karugon rock to commemorate the role of nature in their prosperity. An annual event, the best effigies were placed in the lands beyond the Kingdom walls in hope these protectors scare off goblins and other nefarious creatures beyond the walls. A tradition spanning countless years, the lands beyond the Kingdom of Karugonia were scattered with such guardians, often an assuring sign to nearby travelers as they approach the Kingdom.

With Sekiryu's fateful arrival, that the golden halls of Karugonia were reduced to smoldering ash upon the Red Dragon's visit. While the proud halls of the Kingdom were no match for the Dragon's assault, the land of Karugonia itself seemed to fight back. Perhaps it was the vile touch of the Red Dragon's flames, or it might have been the blood-curdling screams of the Karugonians as countless fell to the talons of the scaly predator, but nature sided with the residents of the once proud Kingdom of Karugonia. Plants grew sturdier, most flora grew fire resistant, almost as if the lands remember the burn of the Cursed One's flames. What was left of the Karguonians used such bark to insulate their armour and homes, lending some resilience to the small camps scattered amongst the mountains.

Most notable was the effect Sekiryu's flames had on Karugon rock -smooth, black stone veined with dormant arcane ore. Enchanting to look at, the rock quick became the favourite of artisans to work with, often valued over diamonds and other precious stones. Karugon rock adorned the effigies scattered across the lands, and with the arrival of Sekiryu, these once dormant stones sang to life. Upon waking, the Karugon rock imbued the myriad of effigies with arcane energies, bringing the majestic effigies to life. These magical creatures were the land of Karugonia's answer to the wrath of the Dragon, and the beasts retreated to their preferred habitats, often friendly to encampments of Karugonian survivors.

The presence of these beast were largely inconsequential to the survivors, that is, until the first new Karugonian children were born. Faster, stronger and smarter, these children were invigorated by the lands, equipped with the makings of warriors. Upon the arrival of the warrior children, the beast of Karugonia converged around encampments, drawn to the warrior spirits residing within the new babes. By the time the warrior children were six years of age, they were chosen by a beast, bonded to each other by the tether of the Karugonian spirit empowering them. With the bondings, child and beast became Warrior and Mount.

Closest to the ruins of Karugonia, the War Rams grazed in the Stellar Mountains. The strange arcane energies bringing the beasts to life also gifted them the ability to propagate life, and the mecha beasts now roamed the mountains in herds. Agile and sturdy, War Rams were the preferred mounts of Scout Warriors, enabling seamless traversing of the hilly lands. The Mountains were also home to another favourite mount of Scouts, the Pegasi. Gorgeous, winged horses made their roosts at the very tops of the Stellar Mountains, flying down to grassier lands amongst the War Rams to graze as needed.

A little beyond the mountains in the West Windfall Plains, War Horses and Triceratops made their natural homes. Tenacious beasts of labour, these Mounts were rode at the Vanguard, as well as in the daily lives of the Agricultural District. While the Pandas of Merlin Point and the gentle beasts of the grasslands roamed Karugonia in abundance, arcane energies also brought life to more predatory effigies, works of the more imaginative artisans.

The arcane beasts roamed far and wide, beyond the rocky Mountains and the Grasslands, past Karugonian borders and into that of friendly Kingdoms. The colossal mammoths were among such beasts, who chose to make their home in the Duxa Empire, across the great Karugonian river. Where these behemoth mounts ambled along oblivious to the little creatures scurrying at their feet, the Mammoths when trained were the fiercest vanguard Mounts, shattering the ranks of opposing forces in magnificent displays of brute force.

While Kingdom Falls was breath-taking to behold, the term also applied to the mighty predators of the falls, Lions and winged Griffons. Razor sharp claws, teeth and beaks made these Mounts perfect for offensive-line warriors, and it was no surprise that warriors in training often hoped against hope to be chosen by the majestic beasts. Unbonded, these beasts were best steered clear of at risk of a nasty gash. Whispers around campfires speak of other beasts brought to life by the arcane energies; effigies unsightly enough to discomfort audiences, sent away to stand watch of the Shadow Lands. Here these beasts are said to remain, claiming dominion over lands no Karugonian in their right mind seeks to enter.

Thus was Karugonia's response to the threat of the Dragon, forging symbiotic relationships amongst its inhabitants in resistance to its Cursed oppressor. The Mounts awaken now, looking to bond with their chosen Warriors. While the Kingdom of Karugonia has fallen, the Return of Karugonia is just beginning.

Written by Stash Menon, Jack Hammer & Green Tee.

Merch Empire by ROK

Our near future vision for Merch Empire by ROK is to create a place where NFT enthusiasts (starting on the Cardano Blockchain), provided they hold the IP rights to their NFT, can have any form of merchandise made. Not only do they get to own their NFTs as an on-chain asset, but they will also be able to print their favourite NFT onto the merchandise we have to offer and pay with ADA! As a starting point, we will be creating mugs, basic tees, hoodies & mousepads.

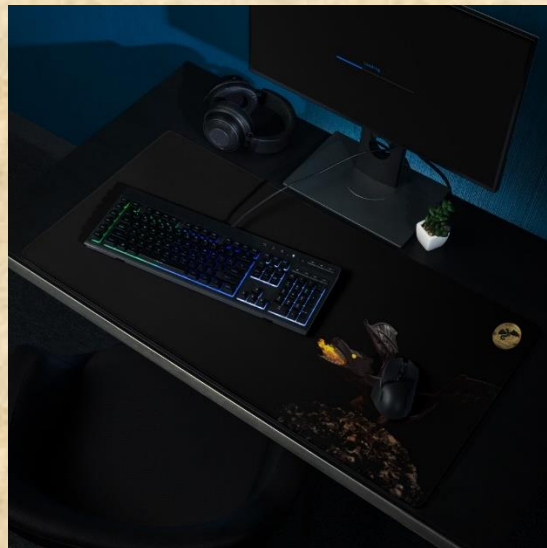
The platform we are utilizing is Shopify, with plans to utilize app “Webkul,” which is a multi-vendor marketplace app that integrates with Shopify. The app we will use to integrate wallets is called “tokengated.”

Tokengated is a newly integrated app with Shopify that allows payments using Cryptocurrency. It also allows us to recognize the holders of our ROK NFTs, meaning those who do hold, are able to have early access to exclusive drops of limited edition merchandise when they connect their wallet to our store. We will test this out first with our first mini merchandise drop for Return of Karugonia on the Merch Empire store, exclusive to holders only.

Our long term vision is to generate a multi-vendor marketplace for Cardano NFT projects. We want projects to be able to reach out to us and utilize our merchandise printing services without the hassle of costly printing, dealing with shipping & customers. All the team would have to do is provide us with the “logo” they want on a certain physical piece, and with the approval of a mock-up, the Merch Empire team will print, mint & post the merchandise to the customer. There will be no fees to list their products/merchandise on our site, however, we will monetize as a company by taking a certain percentage of sale. We will also provide a way to advertise your merchandise to appeal to the eye of consumers as they browse our website for a small fee.

It will be an online marketplace where customers are able to universally explore many collections of physical merchandise from Cardano NFT projects, with visions to expand reach beyond Cardano projects in the future. Consumers will have the options to pay the vendor with ADA via wallet integration, or via PayPal/credit card. The merchandise will be printed & shipped according to the order type. Shipping costs to be dependent on the location of the consumer, calculated by ROK.

Our marketplace will be beneficial to projects in the space, from an advertising stand point as well as a sales perspective, creating global reach to consumers who are interested in physical merchandise from Cardano NFT projects. We also see this as incredibly beneficial to the consumer, as it creates a means to explore merchandise from projects they potentially have not come across, therefore exploring opportunities to join new and exciting communities.



Why mint Beasts – Return of Karugonia NFT?

By holding/minting our NFTs, not only are you supporting a rising, talented artist in the space, you are investing into a project and team which is endlessly building and creating. The ADA income that has been made thus far from our mint (currently 174/1111 NFTs minted) has allowed us to:

1. Purchase our Merchempire.io domain
2. Purchase our plan on Shopify and begin to graphically design the site.
3. Design and purchase our logo for Merch Empire
4. Speak to an (Australian) accountant and lawyer regarding the monetization of the project
5. Purchase and register the company in Australia
6. Source the company who will be printing for us/you.
7. Start the design of our limited edition merchandise piece for ROK.
8. Have our lore extended upon by lore writers
9. Begin to workshop the project of Merch Empire

Minting an NFT from us will allow you to have early access to exclusive drops of limited edition merchandise when you connect your wallet to our store. We will test this out first with our first mini merchandise drop for Return of Karugonia on the Merch Empire store, exclusive to holders only.

As our mint is ongoing at this current phase, our founder, Green Tee, has generated a business plan that allows her to use her own funds from the mint/personal account to create the marketplace/website. We see positivity in building our project in the bear market and look forward to expanding our Empire to other Blockchains in the future provided the success of Cardano NFT project merchandise implementation. We hope to be able to reach a wider audience that becomes increasingly interested in investing into our project and development.

Our project started with Cardano, and our heart remains in Cardano. We believe the support behind the Cardano community will help us to grow above and beyond what we expect to.

If you are interested at all in supporting us, you can mint via our website.

