

# M2 TERRITORY TOKENIZED AS NFT FOR SALE BY FRED FOREST



M2 territory, tokenized parcel, Second Life/NFT

**Creation date 2008/2021**

The creation of the M2 tokenized in NFTs constitutes in the continuity of the original Territory concept, the logical continuation of the development of the initial M2, created by Fred Forest in 1975 near the Swiss border in France, near Annemasse, at the place called "Chez Mermier". It was

established in 1979 under the name of Territoire du M2 by its implantation in Anserville, a small village in the Oise region. Accompanied on the spot, permanently, by a physical ground of 1000 M2 divided in plots. The M2 land being the surface devoted to actions of all kinds, realized in France as well as abroad, and the buildings which are there representing the seat of its government, composed of 15 rooms devoted to its various state functions.

Visit the premises in Virtual Reality here:

[www.fredforest.org/m2](http://www.fredforest.org/m2) The white arrows allow you to enter the buildings.



Seat of government of the artistic M2 territory located in Anserville, in the Oise.

Each of the pieces being reserved to specific functions of this fictional state self-proclaimed created by the artist Fred Forest. The actions produced these last 50 years on this concept (that is to say a half-century during ...) contributed to give to this concept of art and to the produced works an existence and a strong historical recognition. Theorized by numerous critics of art, sociologists and philosophers.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=755rraQFi7o>

Above, a video on the M2 with Pierre Restany subtitled in English.

This recognition is now also established by numerous documents, testimonies, videos, writings, installations, various actions, conferences, and books that have been produced over the last 50 years, bringing together prestigious names such as Pierre Restany, Vilem Flusser, Mario Costa, Pierre Levy, Edgar Morin, Frank Popper, Marshall Mc Luhan, Derryck de Kerckhove, Michael Leruth, Sophie Lavaud, Pierre Moeglin, Harald Szeemann, Jean Devezé, Annick Bureau, Vinton Cerf, Louis-José Lestocart, Priscila Arantes, François Rabate etc... Notoriety also acquired by the links established by the artist on the occasion of his participation in the Biennial of Sao Paulo, the Biennial of Venice, the Documenta of Kassel, the MAC and Paco das Artes of Sao Paulo, the MoMa of New York, the Slought Foundation of Philadelphia, the CAYC of Buenos Aires, the Museum of Fine Arts of Lausanne, the Jeu de Paume, among others, and finally the Pompidou Center etc.

**TODAY, A NEW ERA FOR THE  
M2 TERRITORY BEGINS WITH**

# ITS TOKENIZATION IN THE FORM OF NFT PARCELS IN 2021



The M2 Territory on Second Life in 2008 on the Promenade des Anglais in Nice where it was first dematerialized.

## THIS FIRST DEMATERIALIZATION CONSECRATING ITS NEW BECOMING

Indeed, in 2021, in the era of blockchain and NFTs, the M2 Territory will become even more dematerialized. It must be said that Fred Forest had already anticipated in 1996 during a sale at Drouot the process of NFTs. He proposed the idea - in fact brilliant - during this sale, the access code to this virtual work



and not the work itself. This was the sale of Parcelle/Réseau, which has since been converted into NFTs with the support of the Cartier Foundation.

Below are the links concerning the creation of this NFT:

<https://nft-archeology.org/>

<https://bit.ly/3g8dJTty>

The artist has chosen this new name of NFT-Archeology to mark as closely as possible its origin, its anteriority and its novelty. The name of Parcel/Network and Parcelization having always been a direct allusion to that of M2. This adaptation of the name followed in 2008 the great move of the M2 Territory from its physical space to that of the networks and the Internet. Borrowing at the time the very new technique offered by Second Life to create metavers (these immaterial places that substitute themselves to those of the physical world where, in the form of avatars, you can intervene at a distance, and in a way recreate the world by abolishing the distance) Fred Forest, who immediately understood the unheard of aspects of this change for our civilization, appropriated it, always ahead of time, to install his Territory of the M2 in the form of a laboratory of social and ethical reflection. Always with its formal concept of

parcellisation in M2 lending itself particularly well, in a way that is homothetic to that of the tokens in today's blockchain...

**Below, video of the inauguration in 2008 of the Experimental Center and M2 Territory Laboratory located on the Promenade des Anglais in Nice. (English subtitles)**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tmksP9NQCaw>

During the 2008 inauguration of his Laboratoire du Territoire du M2, Fred Forest organizes real-time performances where artists from all over the world in the form of avatars meet, improvising ritual dances, before gathering around a table in the buildings of the Territoire, to reflect on ecology and the future of our planet.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rA4PzM4xwkY&list=UUYZkhgVj62LSecLH-MalfkA&index=6>



Below, video of the Metavers of the M2 Territory Experimental Laboratory where artists of different nationalities (Canadians, Lebanese, Brazilians, Belgians, Germans, French, etc.) met to perform the original dance created by one of them, Ferdinand Corte, in the form of their avatars, before going to the meeting room of the adjoining Territory's head office, in order to deal with different social issues, including those related to ecology

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gUQDtWG7IJY>

The "metaverse" promises so to push back the limits of the physical world until the real and virtual universe end up merging. It is well for that that Forest is interested since always in this notion. Notion that for him connects him directly, not only to those of art and imaginary, but also to those of game, critical and creative reflection in a social, humanistic and quasi spiritual perspective.

The artist's aim in the M2 Territory project has always been to critically question reality, including the notions of political and financial power. Staging himself, not without irony, in the role of



debonair potentate that he attributes to himself by the distance that art allows him.

***HE SETS FOR SALE, HERE AND NOW,  
THE FIRST NFT, OF THE FIRST  
TRANCHE OF THE TOKENISED M2  
TERRITORY, DIVIDED IN 10 PARCELS  
(a collection created on OpenSea)***



**FredForest Collection**  
**Parcelle N°1**

This new section that he opened with a new status is now intended to ensure the creation in Anserville of a foundation with humanitarian and associative goals, whose purpose is to defend artists by providing them with technical and legal tools

as well as qualified personnel. We believe that many artists of his generation, being deprived of these means, are stuck in traditional pictorial practices that do not give them the possibility to express themselves to the extent of all their imaginative capacities. Artists of vocation and training often replaced by technicians who claimed to be artists remaining too often, with rare exceptions, only very good technicians ...

THE M2 TERRITORY REPRESENTS FOR THE COLLECTORS WHO WILL BUY IT NOT ONLY AN ORIGINAL GRAPHIC WORK THAT THEY WILL BE ABLE TO HANG AT HOME ON ONE OF THE WALLS, BUT THEY WILL ALSO POSSESS A SYMBOLIC PART OF ITS HISTORY. MADE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE ARTIST FRED FOREST WHO HAS NOURISHED ITS CREATION AND ITS EXISTENCE FOR FIFTY YEARS. IT IS NO LONGER AS MAURICE DENIS 1870-1943 SAID:

"Remember that a painting, before being a warhorse, a naked woman, or some anecdote, is essentially a ... flat surface covered with colors in a certain order assembled."

Fred Forest does not sell us a painting but a part of his journey through the technical evolution of this unique work, made up of real and imaginary facts that constitute its history. What you, collectors, will acquire here is not only an image but much more, because the essential of what the artist proposes to

acquire in order to share it mentally with him is a STORY, the story of a creation and a piece of life.

**(Video Fred Forest realization 2008) :**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1-X1Xg6A97k>

The President of the M2 Territory that we see here, below, in the so-called **Power Room** with his red telephone on his right allowing him, thanks to his direct lines, to communicate with his counterparts which has more than once avoided major international conflicts from which you yourself benefited at the time in ignorance of the M2 Territory. On his left you can see a permanent television equipment that allowed him to contact his subjects (sorry, citizens...) day and night according to what he had to tell them, about the promised but never realized reforms, the increase of the purchasing power or the advancement of the retirement age, myths that nobody believed anymore. So life went on in the M2 Territory without anyone complaining, except for a few snarling trade unionists who were no longer even used as extras on the days of the big demonstrations, being replaced by avatars rented from Zuckerberg at preferential rates.

# LE PRESIDENT DU TERRITOIRE DU M2

Fauteuil - copie — Modifié ▾

Surbrillance

Pivoter

Annoter

Rechercher

Recherche

Fauteuil - copie



The President of the Territory, sitting in the Power Room, with his exceptional gift of clairvoyance, is scrutinizing the prospects of winning the next elections that are now before him. His tactics of indecision, now theorized by his communication advisors, have been quite successful to date, with his natural ability to affirm one thing and the next day its opposite. One day black as night, the next day white as a sheet, this is the only rhetoric that has kept him in power for so long. Knowing from experience that it is the assurance with which the most questionable and implausible things are said, without necessarily raising one's voice, that is finally heard...



From his privileged position, he observes, as well among his subjects - those who are in principle loyal to him - as among his most fierce enemies, the most secret states of mind. Knowing from experience that some and others may well change sides alternately. To avoid any eventuality, he has to be constantly on the lookout. Forced to monitor the temperature, the direction and the strength of the wind from day to day. And above all, he must know how to anticipate and take the necessary measures in time. Flatter some, admonish others, smile or frown. If ever he makes a mistake, never acknowledge it and instead justify it as a well thought-out measure, even if it only came to mind at the last moment.

In order to set his personal authority in stone, he takes all measures to accuse his closest circle of personal failings, and to condemn the person in charge, before the latter has even had time to open his mouth to defend himself with a word. Having drawn all his philosophy of action from the fine observation of the behavior of the men and women of power - his contemporaries - whom he knew and approached during his numerous trips around the world. But fortunately his field of

action being limited to art and fiction, he could not have the opportunity to practice in real life all the turpitudes of this world, and this gives him on the contrary the opportunity and the advantage to denounce them today.

His readings of Machiavel and the Comtesse de Ségur, later tempered by those of Mahatma Gandhi, have given him since his adolescence a taste for observing the mechanics of power and the game of competing ambitions, which he puts to good use according to the circumstances.

Thus goes life in the M2 Territory, where all citizens are finally comfortable with their way of life and do not particularly want to change it, either out of laziness or out of cowardice, considering that what is shown to be better is never assured and that, on the contrary, when put to the test, it is often much worse ...

### **Below is the seat of the M2 Territory Government**

It is installed in an outbuilding of the Anserville castle, consisting of a building composed of 15 rooms all equipped with the attributes and technologies necessary for the functions of any constituted state. It is here that all the major decisions are

taken that condition our lives without us ever knowing their scope or their rigorous application, and to which we will only have the freedom to conform with a smile. Those who would not do so would be immediately banished, considered and treated as reprobates for life.



**Below is the new M2 Territory Cadastre created in Anserville and its programmatic forecast.**

It shows the two parts of tokenized M2 that will be offered for sale soon at Christie's, in the form of 20 NFTs registered on the OpenSea platform, first sold individually and then in series of 10.

A first unit will be offered to test the market. If the operation proves conclusive, it will continue.

A first part numbered from 2 to 10, marked with a red logo, will be offered to collectors.

A second part will follow immediately if there is a demand. The reserve price of each parcel is set at X ETH corresponding to the average price of an artist whose career has been distinguished by permanent creativity and the passage through important institutions.

1	11	21	31	41	51	61	71	81	91										
2	12	22	32	42	52	62	72	82	92										
3	13	23	33	43	53	63	73	83	93										
4	14	24	34	44	54	64	74	84	94										
5	15	25	35	45	55	65	75	85	95										
6	16	26	36	46	56	66	76	86	96										
7	17	27	37	47	57	67	77	87	97										
8	18	28	38	48	58	68	78	88	98										
9	19	29	39	49	59	69	79	89	99										
10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100										

The division of a whole in parcels has always been the prerogative of the concept privileged by Fred Forest for the total surface of the Territory of the M2. This is for the good reason, according to him, that the whole of the latter is composed of parts, sections, pieces... whose totality constitutes its whole and its identity. The individual M2 Parcels, identified as such, are destined, depending on the situation, to appear either as a

single identity, or as a collage of elements added together indiscriminately, and finally also as a whole.

English speakers have only one word, "globalization", to designate what we call "mondialisation". "Mondialisation" refers to the advent of the world as a space, as a society, and as a relevant scale of analysis in many fields. Its history is intertwined with that of the emergence of human exchange and circulation. Globalization is also a narrative of the linking of the world's places, through the influence of metropolises, the worldwide generalization of neoliberalism, the financialization of the world economy, and the instantaneous connection of the actors of capitalism. Between microcosm and macrocosm we are confronted today with another infinity, that of the infinitely complex...

We are confused by the number and the prodigious variety of the elements, the relations, the interactions or the combinations on which rests the functioning of the great systems of which we are the cells, not to say the cogs... We need a new tool... A tool which is a symbolic instrument, made of a set of methods and techniques borrowed from very different disciplines... A tool that



filters the details, amplifies what connects them, brings out what brings them together. It is not used to see bigger or further. But to observe what is at the same time too big, too slow and too complex for our eyes (like the human society), this gigantic organism which is totally invisible to us... The systemic approach is a new approach symbolized by this artistic tool... It is based on a global approach of the problems or systems that we study and focuses on the interplay of their elements. It is this tool that the artist tries by the means of the art to approach.

He sets as a measure for this tool here a square of 1 meter side. For what he wishes to stage, in truth, is the theater of life and its actors in the plurality of roles that are theirs, by attributing to them in a fictional and parodic way additional elements. A role that each of the holders will play in spite of himself by the function that he or she already has in the real life, and that he or she can correct if he wants - and if he or she has some free time - by annotations on the booklet of the M2 Territory that will be given to him at the time of his purchase.

This purchase makes him more than a simple art collector but also a man or a woman, unless it is also an Institution, responsible before the community of Humans for a part of the M2 Territory of our current civilization. Which he will always have to protect symbolically against its destruction, until the moment when the last human being will have, it seems... left the Earth to join the planet Mars. Helped by some billionaire, converted into a tour operator organizer.



*With family Adrien Forest, Sophie Lavaud-Forest, Fred Forest,  
on the M2 Territory, Center Pompidou, Paris, 2017*

Fred Forest retrospective at the Centre Pompidou 2017:  
Collective performances on the M2 Territory.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JlEmmOi4b1Y>