

The Same ? tsumichara Digital data, Aluminum

John Cage once said, "No two Coca Colas are the same.* " Strictly speaking, space and time are different, so even Coca-Cola, which looks the same, is in fact different from each other. All things are supposed to have unique properties, but commercial products have bugged our senses by making us perceive "different" things as "the same. This trend is further accelerated in the digital space, where we are communicating on a daily basis via social networking services (SNS) using text and visual bases, and the symbolic perception of things seems to be amplified. Recently, our perception of the world has moved to a new stage with the creation of a metaverse, a space that could never have existed before. Here, cyberspace expands and a sense of site-specificity rises digitally as well. The technology of NFT even allows us to treat perfectly "the same thing" as "different.

This work questions the "same thing" and the "different thing" and the uncertainty of our perception. What would happen if we brought the two Coca-Colas described by John Cage into a digital space? Since the metaverse is a space, does it exist in the same way as the real world, depending on its environment? When digital objects are cut out as NFTs, can we say that they are `really' different? Can we say that what we see now is the same as what we will see the next day? When you know that it is `real' digital data that lives online, can you say that the data that existed offline was a fake? When you look at the real world again with that sense of being awake, does the Coca-Cola can look different than it did before? The expansion of the senses in the digital space reconfigures the two Coca-Cola cans in front of the viewer, making them multifaceted.

This work consists of six objects (Object A ~ Object F): Object A ~ Object D are digital data, Object E and Object F are physical matter; Object A and Object B are the same NFTs placed in different locations, representing differences that could also occur in the physical world. Object A and Object C are different NFTs overlaid in the same location, representing differences that could only occur in digital space. Each NFT is generated daily throughout the duration of the exhibition, bringing awareness to time differences as well; Object E and Object F are the same Coca-Cola cans placed in different locations, representing physical existence.

* LISTENING(1992), Film by MIROSLAV SEBESTIK, John Cage 1:20:05 - 1:22:57 "If I look at a Coca Cola bottle, and then look at another Coca Cola bottle, I want to forget the first Coca Cola Bottle. In order to see the second Coca Cola Bottle as being original. And it is original. Because it is in a different position in space and time. And light is shining on it differently. So that no two Coca Cola Bottles are the same."