
Crypto Mogul Devours \$6.2M Banana Art in Hong Kong

Description

HONG KONG -- A cryptocurrency mogul recently acquired a piece of conceptual art featuring a solitary banana affixed to a wall with duct tape, which he purchased for an astounding \$6.2 million last week. On Friday, he indulged in the fruit during a press conference at The Peninsula Hong Kong, one of the city's most opulent hotels, situated in the bustling area of Tsim Sha Tsui.

Chinese-born Justin Sun peeled the banana from the wall and savored it while addressing an assembled audience.

"It is decidedly superior to typical bananas; quite delightful indeed," he remarked.

Entitled "Comedian," this provocative work by Italian artist Maurizio Cattelan made waves upon its debut at Art Basel Miami Beach in 2019, captivating festival-goers who pondered whether the whimsical display was a satire or a bold critique of the art market's increasingly opaque values. Infamously, an artist once removed the banana and consumed it.

The artwork garnered such unprecedented attention that it had to be withdrawn from public view. Nevertheless, three iterations sold for prices ranging from \$120,000 to \$150,000, as per the gallery overseeing the sales at that time.

Last week, Sun, the founder of the cryptocurrency platform TRON, secured the winning bid at Sotheby's auction in New York. More precisely, he acquired a certificate of authenticity, thus conferring upon him the right to recreate the artwork by duct-taping a banana to a wall and denoting it "Comedian."

At the time, Sun articulated in a statement that the piece "epitomizes a cultural phenomenon that amalgamates the realms of art, memes, and the cryptocurrency landscape."

"I shall personally consume the banana, thereby honoring its significance in both art history and contemporary culture," he declared.

The South China Morning Post subsequently reported that the banana he devoured on Friday was procured locally.

On a further note, Sun announced via X that he invested \$30 million in World Liberty Financial, a cryptocurrency venture initiated by U.S. President-elect Donald Trump in September, aimed at securing a prominent foothold in the digital currency domain.

In his post, Sun affirmed that his platform, TRON, is "dedicated to revitalizing America and spearheading innovation." Following this financial commitment, he was appointed as an advisor to World Liberty Financial.

It is pertinent to mention that last year, Sun faced charges from the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission for fraud and various violations of securities law. Responding to the allegations, he asserted that the complaint "lacks merit."



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Vocabulary List:

1. **Acquisition** /,akwə'ziʃən/ (noun): The act of obtaining or gaining possession of something.
2. **Provocative** /prə'vɒkətɪv/ (adjective): Causing a strong reaction or strong feelings.
3. **Cultural** /'kʌltʃərəl/ (adjective): Relating to the ideas customs and social behavior of a society.
4. **Articulate** /ɑ:'tɪkjuleɪt/ (verb): To express an idea or feeling fluently and coherently.
5. **Phenomenon** /fə'nɒmɪnən/ (noun): A fact or situation that is observed to exist or happen especially one whose cause or explanation is in question.
6. **Epitomizes** /ɪ'pɪtə,maɪz/ (verb): To be a perfect example of a particular quality or type.

Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What is the term used to describe the payment received for work or services?
Option: Expenditure
Option: Compensation
Option: Cultural
Option: Acerbic
2. What term refers to the act of acquiring something?
Option: Articulate
Option: Discrimination
Option: Provocative
Option: Acquisition
3. What term is used to describe a special anniversary or celebration?
Option: Candidly
Option: Jubilee
Option: Manipulative
Option: Dominate
4. Which term describes something intended to provoke or arouse strong reactions?
Option: Luminaries
Option: Provocative
Option: Poignant



Option: Prevalent

5. Which term refers to something that evokes a keen sense of sadness or regret?

- Option: Epitomizes
- Option: Ill-conceived
- Option: Poignant
- Option: Tumultuous

6. What term is used to describe individuals who are inspirational or famous in a particular field?

- Option: Esteemed
- Option: Captivates
- Option: Luminaries
- Option: Inaugural

7. Which term means to have power and influence over others?

- Option: Condensing
- Option: Discrimination
- Option: Dominate
- Option: Allege

8. What is the term used when someone claims something without providing proof?

- Option: Virality
- Option: Epitomizes
- Option: Allege
- Option: Defamation

9. Which term relates to the arts beliefs and customs of a particular society?

- Option: Cultural
- Option: Articulate
- Option: Phenomenon
- Option: Rhetoric

10. What term describes something that attracts and holds attention or interest?

- Option: Tumultuous
- Option: Captivates
- Option: Condensing
- Option: Excruciatingly

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. _____ based on race gender or age is illegal in many countries.



12. The professor is held in _____ regard by his peers for his groundbreaking research.
13. The video quickly went viral due to its _____ on social media platforms.
14. The singer hit an _____ high note during the performance.
15. Obesity is _____ in many developed countries due to poor diet and lack of exercise.
16. She was known for her _____ speeches that could persuade even the toughest audiences.
17. His dedication to his work truly _____ the company's values of excellence and creativity.
18. The couple went through a _____ period in their relationship before deciding to break up.
19. The textbook was filled with complex information but the professor did an excellent job of _____ it for the students.
20. The celebrity sued the magazine for _____ after they published false information about his personal life.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. The author shared her experiences in her autobiography not shying away from the difficult parts.
22. The grand opening of the museum marked its exhibition featuring works by local artists.
23. The con artist's tactics were finally exposed by the authorities.
24. Legal action was taken against the company for its acts of _____ in the hiring process.
25. The comedian was known for his sense of humor that often left audiences in stitches.
26. The politician was accused of spreading _____ about his opponent to gain an advantage in the election.



27. The meme's on social media platforms led to millions of shares and likes within hours.
28. The artist's unique style audiences and art enthusiasts from around the world.
29. The sudden appearance of the rare bird in the city park became an overnight .
30. The conference was attended by scientific who shared groundbreaking research and discoveries.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Compensation 2. Acquisition 3. Jubilee 4. Provocative 5. Poignant 6. Luminaries 7. Dominate 8. Allege 9. Cultural 10. Captivates

Gap-Fill: 11. Discrimination 12. esteemed 13. virality 14. excruciatingly 15. prevalent 16. articulate 17. epitomizes 18. tumultuous 19. condensing 20. defamation

Matching sentence: 1. candidly 2. inaugural 3. manipulative 4. discrimination 5. acerbic 6. defamation 7. virality 8. captivates 9. phenomenon 10. luminaries

CATEGORY

1. Entertainment - LEVEL6

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