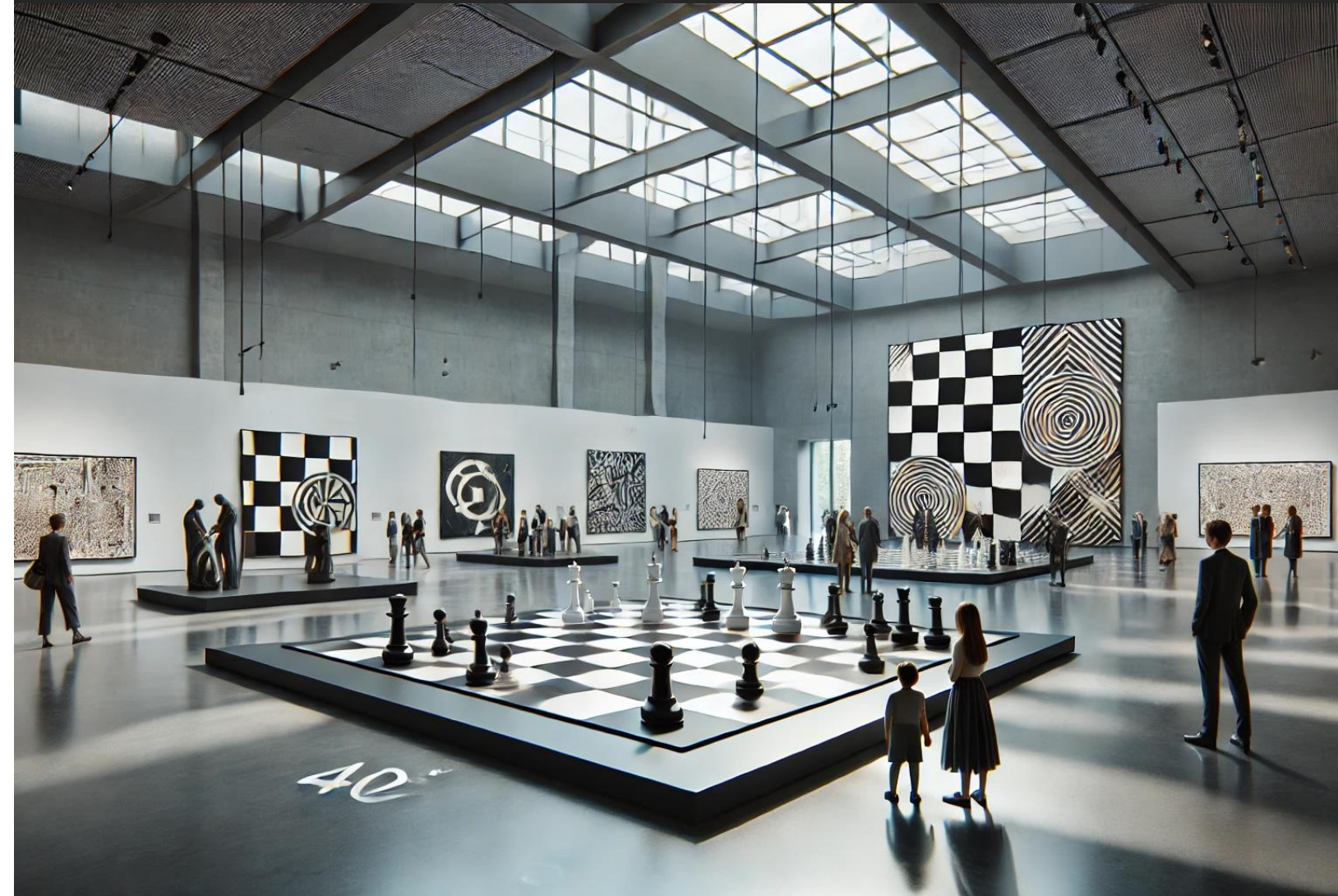




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The Gold and Chessboard Problem

Serial conceptual artwork



Prices double with every square. How far will this go?

An **ancient legend** about a mathematical problem. A gigantic chessboard that consists of a series of simple squares. An investment and a gamble. A **new perspective on art** and wise lessons based on Biblical principles: this artwork has it all.

*This artistic interpretation on the famous legend about the invention of chess leads to an eternally open ending – and **YOU can help shape what it becomes!***

The Gold and Chessboard Problem

This serial conceptual artwork is a **life-size chessboard**, constructed from 64 squares. Each square features one shade of gray. They are **sold individually as standalone artworks** measuring 611 x 611 mm.

Sold items are removed from the chessboard. As a result, the composition is influenced by the purchases of collectors – which means that they are co-creators.

Prices of the panels are determined according to the mathematical series from the famous '*Wheat and Chessboard Problem*'. The first work costs one gram of gold and the **prices double with each subsequent step**.

One gram of gold is about the size of a grain of wheat. This makes it a **great analogy** to the ancient legend about the invention of chess, but more importantly: **gold is timeless**. Its value is known all over the world. Today, tomorrow and a hundred years from now.

The series **starts small and insignificant**. It is accessible and affordable to everyone: unknown and unwanted. It only **takes a few visionaries** to make the price rise. In relative anonymity, the work will quickly become **more exclusive**.

At some point, the selling price of these factory-reproducible panels will become newsworthy – proving that value can

emerge from context. This leads to recognition and acknowledgement from the art world – despite the absence of uniqueness or craftsmanship.

This is **value, creating art** instead of value-creating art.

Co-creators and shared proceeds

Collectors give that value to 'The Gold and Chessboard Problem'. Financially, because they buy the work, but also in terms of status. Their purchase ensures the work of publicity and recognition. In addition, **they influence the composition** of the public part of the artwork.

These collectors are therefore literally co-creators. That is why they are entitled to a share of the proceeds from each subsequent sold section. First, *the last buyer up-to-that-point receives the entire purchase price back*. The other half of the proceeds is divided among all co-creators via a predefined sharing method. This means that a purchased artwork **yields a return without** having to be **resold**.

It's inevitable: the last buyer finances the gains of everyone before them. A position familiar to every collector — and where each new participant begins. This sense of **uncertainty and tension** is obviously an important part of the **psychological dimension** of the artwork: it makes people wonder whether they should have taken part, or might still dare to join this timeless monument.

Follow my work, share it or actively participate as a collector. This is your chance to be part of a journey that is literally greater than the sum of its parts!

Dennis Ebert



instagram.com/goldandchess