

Question-Answer with Emma-Jane MacKinnon-Lee

Do you still participate in panels, NFT NYCs, or other live events?

Not really. I did a lot of that back in 2020, 2021, even into 2022—panels, talks, hosting events during NFT NYC, all of it. Back when those gatherings actually meant something, when the energy was raw and a mix of people were showing up to build, not posture.

But now, most of it feels like cosplay. The same dead conversations on the same over-lit stages, now just tech bros recycling each other's Twitter takes in real-time. GenAI, WANs, onchain agents—we've moved way past the point where you need to sit through a panel to get real insight. That whole format belongs to the past.

These days, third spaces are hard to find—ones with actual cypherpunk energy. So I'm focused on building them, both online and offline. I'm not interested in maintaining presence in broken web2 social feeds just to be seen. When I do show up socially, it's mostly on Lens—sometimes on apps I've built myself, sometimes not.