
A dip for digital currencies, Spotify's evolving podcast strategy, and CloudKitchens feels a lot like early Uber, say insiders

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And it is Friday!



Hope you have a terrific weekend, everyone.

Before you head out on your various adventures, we leave you with the newest episode of [StrictlyVC Download](#), featuring this week's guest: **Bobby Goodlatte**, a former Facebook product designer turned angel investor turned venture capitalist who saw his biggest exit to date last week when Coinbase went public. (Goodlatte had invested in the company's A, C and E rounds.) We [talked about that deal](#), of course. Given Goodlatte's background in social media and design, we also talked about [breaking up big tech](#); how Clubhouse could better take on rivals like Twitter Spaces (and why he thinks [Reddit Talk is a bigger threat](#)); and where to get the best returns right now, in his opinion. We really enjoyed talking with him; hope you'll enjoy it, too.

Giant thanks to episode sponsor **Anduin**, whose granular data allows fund managers to closely track how investors engage with their subscription forms -- and helps them [focus on the right people to follow up](#) with (and when). More on Anduin below.

More Monday.:)

Top News

Speaking of podcasts: unlike Apple's podcast subscription, which rolls out next month to users, **Spotify** plans to announce its own offering next week and it won't charge podcasters or take a cut from their subscriptions or in any way determine their pricing, according to the WSJ. [More here](#).

Speaking of Coinbase: **Bitcoin** and other digital currencies plunged today as a proposed capital gains tax hike from President Joe Biden led to a [wave of selling](#).

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The Fed has committed to printing \$120 billion every month and over \$2.9 trillion in the next two years. Add in \$1.9 trillion of fiscal stimulus and a \$2 trillion infrastructure program, and it's easy to see why many investors are [looking to protect their portfolio from inflation](#) by investing in real, tangible assets, like art. **Masterworks** is an exclusive community of art investors who are looking to take advantage of a historically inefficient market. From 1995 to 2020 contemporary art prices rose [13.6%](#), had a lower loss rate than gold, and only a [0.01 correlation factor to equities](#). StrictlyVC subscribers can skip the 12,500 person waitlist to start investing in artists like Basquiat and Banksy today. (See important [information](#)).

Bobby Goodlatte Has Designs on How to Succeed in Venture (and So Far, So Good)

Bobby Goodlatte has only been an investor for about a decade, but he appears to have already made tens of millions of dollars, contrary to the expectations of some traditional VCs who have privately, and publicly, griped that too many novice investors have flooded into the industry.

"I remember a very prominent investor saying at the time, 'All these new angel investors, they're all going to lose all their money; they're fools for doing this,'" recalls Goodlatte, who was recruited out of college to become a product designer at Facebook and left four years later, when the company went public. "I'm glad that I didn't get shaken off of it."

[More here.](#)

Massive Fundings

AfterShip, a 10-year-old, Hong Kong-based e-commerce shipment tracking app, has raised \$66 million in Series B funding led by **Tiger Global Management**, with participation from **Hillhouse Capital**. (The company's last round of funding was a \$1 million Series A back in 2014, says its cofounder.) TechCrunch has [more here](#).

Big-But-Not-Crazy-Big Fundings

Current Health, a six-year-old, Scotland- and Boston-based enterprise remote care management platform, has raised \$43 million in Series B funding led by **Northpond Ventures**, with participation from **LRVHealth**, **OSF HealthCare**, **Section 32**, **Elements Health Ventures** and earlier investors. FierceBiotech has [more here](#).

Halter, a five-year-old, New Zealand-based maker of dairy herd management software, has raised \$23 million in Series B funding. **Blackbird Ventures** led the round, joined by earlier backers **DCVC**, **Promus Ventures**, **Ubiquity Ventures** and **Peter Beck**. [Moo here](#).

Monopteros Therapeutics, a two-year-old, Boston-based biotech at work on a treatment to reprogram T cells in the tumor microenvironment to jump-start an immune attack in cancer patients, has raised \$20 million in Series A funding from **Medicxi**. FierceBiotech has [more here](#).

Smaller Fundings

Applied XL, a 14-month-old, Brooklyn, N.Y.-based startup that's developing real-time information systems powered by experts to track the health of people, places and the planet, has raised \$1.5 million in seed funding led by **Tuesday Capital**, with participation from **Frog Ventures**, **Correlation Ventures** and **Team Europe**. TechCrunch has [more here](#).

GoalBased Investors, a two-year-old, New York-based financial planning startup that matches users and advisers through a free gamified app experience, has raised \$2.75 million in seed funding led by **True Ventures**, with participation from **The Venture Collective**. Crunchbase News has [more here](#).

Holoride, a two-year-old, Munich, Germany-based Audi spinoff that's developing a mixed reality in-vehicle media platform, has raised €10 million in Series A funding led by the Swedish software development company **Terranet**. TechCrunch has [more here](#).

Introvoke, a two-year-old, Bay Area-based live engagement technology platform that allows organizations to integrate virtual sessions, live streams and networking hubs into their own websites, has raised \$2.7 million in funding. **Struck Capital** led the round, joined by **Comcast, Social Leverage, Great Oaks, V1vc**, Time CTO **Bharat Krish** and Resy co-founder **Mike Montero**. TechCrunch has [more here](#).

PowerX, a year-old, Brooklyn, N.Y.-based startup that's developing a suite of environmental and energy cost-saving products for the home, has raised \$4 million led by **SpringTide Ventures**, which was joined by earlier backers **Antler**, senior executives from Tesla and SpaceX, and **Y Combinator**. Crunchbase News has [more here](#).

People

The latest reminder that it [pays](#) to be a **Google** exec.

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Essential Reads

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Travis Kalanick's CloudKitchens is "[Uber all over again](#)."

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