

THE GALLERY OF

EVERYTHING



THE DEPARTED

3RD SEPTEMBER TO 1ST OCTOBER 2023



Horace Lindezey
Queen Elizabeth (1926-2022), 2023
paint, glaze on clay
29.5 x 29.5 x 1.1 cm, 11½ x 11½ x ½ in

The Gallery of **Everything** presents **The Departed**: a multigenerational investigation into the land beyond the living. Featuring artists and makers, both known and unknown, **The Departed** celebrates those who have memorialised their loved and forgotten over the last 250 years.

Featured works include the obituary art of **David A Holt** and **Horace Lindezey**, the psychic portraits of **Sidney A MacDonald**, the finger-painted visions of **František Jaroslav Pecka**, the seance photography of **Shannon Taggart**, alongside found objects from The Archive of **Everything**.

EVERYTHING

Madame Favre, c 1850 (France)

Madame Favre was the pen-name of a precise (presumed) draughtswoman working in the mid 1800s. The intricate pencil drawings she authored over a two year period were discovered in a spiritualist library in an exercise book entitled simply: the natural talent of **Madame Favre**. The artist's ethereal figures, with their forlorn features, exotic garb and luxuriant hair-designs, have been the subject of speculation, as this single book is to date the only discovered oeuvre.

Madge Gill, 1882 - 1961 (UK)

Madge Gill was the now-legendary British medium and healer whose spirit guide, known as *Myrinerest*, was channelled through the pale faces, swirling patterns and cryptic dialogue of her vast and enigmatic oeuvre. **Gill**'s opus included postcards, large format portraits and long panoramas of inked calico, with figurations, inscriptions and contra-symmetries. **Gill** has been the subject of numerous solo exhibitions in the UK and abroad, and, along with artist **Scottie Wilson**, is considered to be the most important of all the British so-called *Outsiders*.

David A Holt, b 1984 (USA)

David A Holt is the painter and illustrator of memorial portraits, which he takes from published obituaries in the local and international press, and renders in coloured pencil on card. **Holt**'s wry and nostalgic figuration expresses not only the immediacy of loss on the public stage, but the sense of celebration which underlies his subjects' lives. **Holt** is based at Project Onward in Chicago.

Horace Lindezey, b 1966 (UK)

Horace Lindezey adapts the format of the classic (British) blue memorial plaque into a personalised eulogy for those who have passed. **Lindezey**'s particular vocabulary and phraseology lend these graphic handwritten discs tremendous intimacy, humour and insight, recalling once-forgotten names from the public eye and the artist's private life. **Lindezey** is based at Venture Arts in Manchester.

Sidney A MacDonald (South Africa)

An art school graduate with a classical style, **Sidney A MacDonald** was a South African émigré who was noted for his psychic portraits of seers, prophets and spirit guides from across the cultural divide. During and after the war, **MacDonald** offered his services from a flat in West London, where clients would present him with letters from the deceased, and from which he would channel visualisations.

František Jaroslav Pecka, 1878 - 1960 (Czechoslovakia)

A published author on evolutionary history, **František Jaroslav Pecka** was a geologist, archaeologist and palaeontologist, whose immersion in spiritualist study inspired an extraordinary body of work. His (re)discovered spirit portraits and finger paintings, produced in trance and accredited to the departed, led to his status as one of the most avant-garde figures within early 20th century mediumistic art.

Austin Osman Spare, 1886 - 1956 (UK)

Offbeat, contrary and London-born, **Spare** was a trained draughtsman and child prodigy, who gained notoriety as the youngest painter ever to be accepted into the Royal Academy's *Summer Exhibition* in 1904. Yet it was his profound interest in magic, sexuality, the unconscious, and the occult, which came to dominate his art, now highly-prized for its relentless and lifelong depiction of *the other*.

Shannon Taggart, b 1977 (USA)

Inspired by a series of personal revelations, artist **Shannon Taggart** has spent almost 20 years documenting fragments of spiritualist subculture and shedding light on contemporary mediumistic practices, including New York's Lilly Dale community. **Taggart** has been published in Newsweek and the Financial Times. Her monograph *Séance* was among Time magazine's *Best Photobooks of 2019*.