

**The Art Workers' Guild
Table Top Museums 2023**
Saturday 16 September, 11am–5pm

An exhibition of over 30 installations,
curated by Guild members and others.
An inventive celebration of the madness
and the individual and extraordinary rules
of those who collect.



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Designed by Webb & Webb
Tables by George Hardie

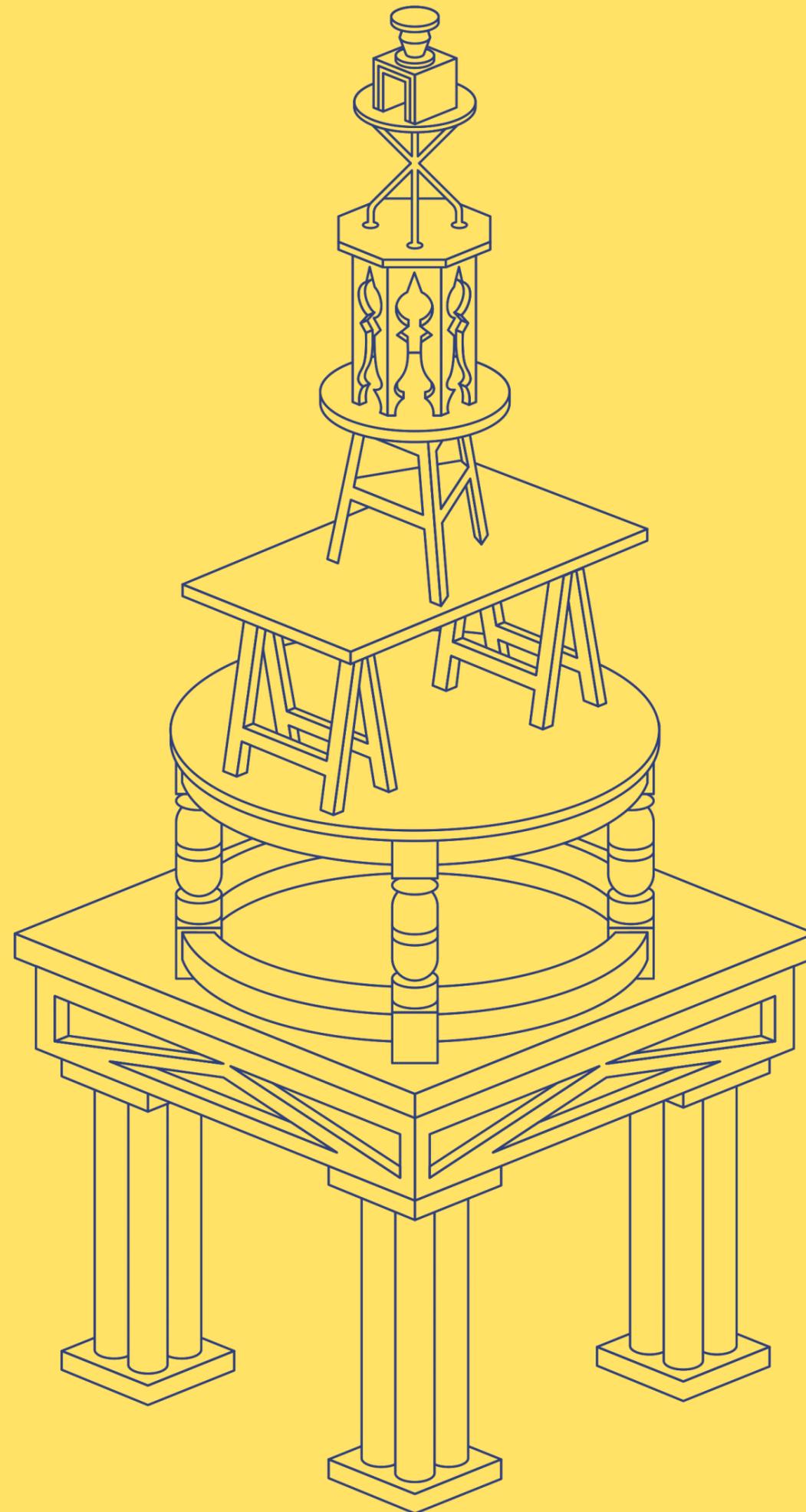


Table Top Museums



Richard Adams

Finished artwork c.1970s

Examples of finished artwork created for offset litho printing. Shows methods used before the advent of the computer. Work is predominantly from the 1970s, comprising designs for fringe theatre posters and an assortment of promotional material alongside printed results.

Afsoon

Repeated Stories

My collection of booklet postcards takes us around the world. I imagine these were bought by bad photographers or those without home-movie cameras. They were something we could show off during our Saturday night parties. Something to remember our trip.

Chiara Ambrosio

As far as the eye can travel

An archive of over 100 monthly photographic zines small enough to fit in the palm of the hand. These unique and mesmerising surprise pocket journeys are a powerful way to travel far while staring into a book: geographies of the mind, topographies of the soul, and physical excavations, as far as the eye can - and will - travel.

Tomoko Azumi

All in paper - cut out and assembled diorama and vintage models

From 19th century Japanese woodcut print (reproduction) to 1950–1960s French Shell petrol supplement sheets of car models - display paper of models all transformed from flat format to 3D models, plus collection of original sheets and books on paper diorama.

James Birch

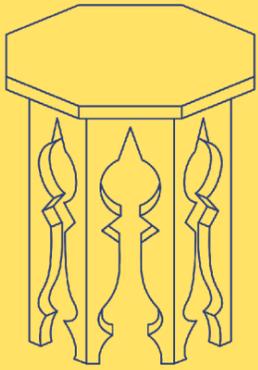
Various vintage paintboxes

These are a collection of vintage paintboxes from the 1940s to the present day. Some have been used heavily, others have not. Sizes ranging from 18cm to 4cm.

Fiona Campbell

The museum of measurement

A collection of objects used for measuring: air pressure, coins, distances, angles, time, knitting needles, temperatures, the dimension and weight of objects, specific gravity and volume of liquids. Also a small collection of ephemera relating to weights and measures.



Nicholas Cooper

Some staircase banisters

In the 1970s and 1980s, listed buildings were being pulled down all over England. At that time I was travelling widely, and rescued a number of staircase banisters from houses that were about to be demolished. These are mostly earlier eighteenth century, with a few from the end of the seventeenth.

Charlotte Cory

The museum of blue

Charlotte will be curating, accessioning and indexing her glorious mixture of blue curiosities, composing a beautiful catalogue. Charlotte Bronte's French opera glasses and random bits and bobs (collected here, there and everywhere) will discover their interlinking stories during the course of the day.

Dorian Crook

Kit box art

A selection of the box-top art used on plastic (mainly aircraft) model kits. The kit manufacturers frequently employed artists to produce dramatic images of the aircraft represented... Not just Airfix and Revell: East European and 'cottage industry' too.

Jane Dorner

Out of pocket

My collection of purses, bags and baskets come from many countries starting with a baby alligator-skin handbag I was given at the age of 11 (to my great distress) to the most recent Bali basket acquired last year. Some are essentially external pockets, holding no more than a coin or a small mirror and lipstick; others can house a phone, a kindle, a handkerchief and more – items men can fit in their pockets. Convenient as pockets are, they are also hidden recesses: this collection wears its beauty in the open and celebrates a diversity of craftsmanship.

Laura Down

Guest soaps from around the world

Guest soaps from my mother's international travels from 1970 until 1995. Each place she stayed in is commemorated by a small wrapped soap in different designs. An artist herself, she had an eye for the visual appeal of objects.

Leonor Faber-Jonker

Objects from Southern Rhodesia

A collection of objects from Southern Rhodesia, inherited from my grandmother Loek, who lived there in the 1950s. The collection includes a pair of Rhodesian 'snake boots' worn by my grandfather, prospecting licenses, and a teaspoon from Umtali (Mutare).

Claire Fletcher

Lucky charms

Good luck charms, lucky jewellery and magic talismans collected over the years. Black cats, Joan the wad, Cornish pixie, hag stones; mostly small to keep close for protection and to bring luck to the owner.

Stephen Fowler

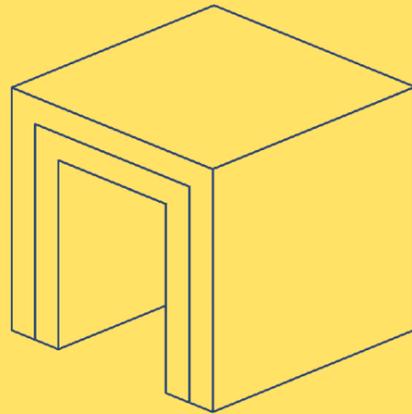
From elephants to gnats

A collection of vinyl and cassette tape natural history field recordings. Come and listen to Fowler's sound museum, headphones provided.

Tony Hayward

The view-master museum

The View-Master Museum displays View-Master 3D (stereoscopic) viewers, projectors, reels and publicity material. This hands-on collection not only triggers fond childhood memories but also acts as a snapshot of design across the second half of the 20th century.



Caitlin Hazell

Art gallery toilet paper

A closer look itself into museum culture, 'Art Gallery Toilet Paper' brings about a collection of samples from art galleries and museums, across several countries, to observe differences in an institution's most forgotten and discarded curated 'artworks'.

Lizzie Kendal

World piece

This was a collaboration between me and my small daughter - she bit her world map globe bouncy ball apart like an apple! So I displayed it as a museum. I started making it during lockdown and it was a kind of therapy, processing our frustration, my thoughts about the wider world and finding a bit of silliness.

Sally Kindberg

Museum of surprising packaging

Since I was an art college student many years ago I've been collecting striking packaging whose contents sometimes don't always live up to their printed description. One wall in my flat is completely covered in it. For instance, Dolly in Bath, Atomic Fireball Sugar Candy, Ever Ready Pocket Trout, Puffing Sailors, Guardian Angel Bracelet, Wash Away Your Sins Towelette, Friskies Squeaking Chop. When my daughter was little we had a good luck ritual called 'Squeak the Chop'.



Julie Light

Marine museum of lost potential - capsule creatures

The Marine Museum of Lost Potential collects deep-sea creatures lost to the world before they could be discovered, and chronicles what might have been had these creatures survived long enough to be found. The Capsule Creatures are its founding specimen.

Lara Maiklem

Mudlarking: collection within a collection

A carefully curated selection of objects found over 20 years of foraging on the Thames foreshore. For this exhibition I have selected groups of objects that make up collections within my larger collection, including almost 100 medieval to modern shoe soles.

Gary Northfield

Flying aces of WWI

Starting with an obsession with old biplane Airfix kits, I uncovered many fascinating and dramatic contemporary books, magazines and illustrations (and more old model kits!) that bring to life the heroic and often suicidal missions of the brave WWI pilots.

Anna Ólafsson

All the tunes in my head

A screen-printed list, exploring identity and cultural ownership, of the fiddle tunes I play from memory, documented with the person who taught it to me, and the place where I learnt it, accordion-bound inside a handmade clamshell box.

Nicholas Pankhurst

Pumpkin pulp paraphernalia patch

An unhealthy collection of particular pumpkin pap, indulging in the fantastical and practical aspects of an anthropomorphised object and its identity. Be it horror, lamps, plates, cartoon, candles or Cinderella's coach the pumpkin can encompass it all: a one-stop fantasy-fulfilling fruit.

Lois Pawson

Omar Khayyam's Rubaiyat

Omar Khayyam's Rubaiyat: 11thC Persian poetry, English translation popular in Victorian England, with humanistic themes to 'make the best of life' remains relevant today. Rediscovered through: illustrated poetry - ancient Persia and modern Iran; past illustrated Rubaiyats; journey scarf; digital story.

Nolan Price

Pin badges

Nolan's pin badge collection was recently recovered from the loft of his childhood home. The viewer is transported to a time when Heinz Haunted House, Economy 7 and Radio Rentals were the backdrop to British life and ET and the A Team captivated the nation.

Peter Quinnell

Top of the Pops: The entire set of Hallmark's brilliant pop hits covers series, 1968-1985

Mainly pretty good cover versions of the pop hits of the day, making the music available to the poorer or less fussy fans. Legendary exploitative cheesecake pin-up cover art. Many later famous people contributed as session musicians and cover models.

Mikki Rain

Bonzo the Dog

A cartoon character created by George Studdy in 1922, Bonzo became a popular icon generating hundreds of postcards, annuals and merchandising. The naughty antics of this funny cuddly puppy charmed both children and adults for two decades.

Bex Shaw

A mixture of mercies

This tabletop museum houses a collection made on a recent visit to Orkney, from where my ancestors migrated. Visitors will experience treasure gathered from the shoreline of Birsay Bay interspersed with handmade ceramic pieces commemorating and honouring the place.

Harriet Vine

Museum of the colours of my imagination - acrylic swatches from the Tatty Devine vault

This collection is a working and retired collection of all the colours of acrylic Tatty Devine has amassed over the past nearly 25 years. Some current, some discontinued, all tell a story of something that got made along the way.

Natalia Zagorska-Thomas

The Camden Town hoard

An archaeological collection of ferrous urban artefacts recently excavated along Regent's Canal in London and provided with museum labels by a diverse team of experts as part of an on-going worldwide study into FOPN (Found Objects of a Perplexing Nature).

Zeel

The crappy museum of pooping and peeing figurines.

With contributions from Miss Agnes Jay.

