

Hannah Battershell

GOOD SPIRITS

4th – 26th November 2022

Trio, 6A Florence Road, Deptford/New Cross, SE14 6TW



Hannah Battershell

Dream Machine, 2022

Acrylic and wax on paper collage
in vintage matchbox

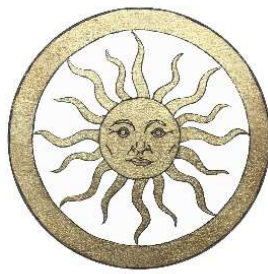
21 x 26 cm

Autumn, as a threshold to the bleaker months ahead, is a time when our thoughts turn inward whilst the world outside our front door becomes increasingly cold and inhospitable.

Good Spirits takes the opportunity presented by this transition towards darkness to evoke the flickering phantasmagoria of a magic lantern show and conjure magical realms populated by mermaids, ghouls and green men in the hope of bringing cheer in the darker part of the year.

With these new works, Hannah Battershell endeavours to tap into a sense of ancestral enchantment with the magic of the landscape's natural cycles. Many are inspired by the vestiges of historical Christian and Pagan beliefs which still colour seasonal traditions here.





The traces of old mythology in these rituals connect us to the people who came before us whose lives were more intimately connected to the changing seasons through the harvest cycles. Recurring themes such as transformation and repeated motifs such as eyes peering out of foliage reference the archetypes of early folklore and religious beliefs, linking these works to ancient practices whereby our place in the world is explained through story and myth.

This collection of sculptures, prints and collages in found objects seeks to remind us of the comfort offered by seasonal stories and customs. They attempt to rekindle the archaic tradition of the ghost story around the fire, acknowledging that it is scary outside but there is still joy, mystery and intrigue to be found in the magic of the changing season.

Hannah Battershell is an artist living and working in Bristol. Her work is part of numerous private collections across the world. She has been a regular exhibitor at the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition since 2011 and was represented by Curwen and New Academy Gallery (London) until their closure in 2017.

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Hannah Battershell
Mermaid Me, 2021

Acrylic and ink on paper relief collage,
Meccano, vintage marmite box, antique
photographic plate holder
22 x 24 x 9 cm



Hannah Battershell
Skinny Dipping, 2022

Wax pastel on wooden panel with
ribbon and vintage magnifying glass
19 x 19 cm

