

TABA JEAN REED
DEGREE SHOW 28.05.26



Oral traditions and happenings preserve cycles of collective storytelling. Across time, song and dance have been used to reclaim space and express the essence of living. Song is deeply ingrained in people, centering ritual practices across the planet, defying borders and evolving as a vital form of social bonding. The shared act of vocalizing enhances our endorphins; this is mirrored in birdsong, proving it to be a powerful practice, pulling people into patterns of synchronicity and collective rhythm.

My work excavates recurring messages embedded within some of the oldest traditions of the United Kingdom and Ireland. It is an ode to stories that resist boundaries of class and colour, that remain socially relevant as they continue to stand in the face of adversity. This series is an exploration of song as an opportunity to transcend and walk through the open planes of 'no- place', echoing the songs' symbolic force and giving weight to their elusive nature by cycling them through the printing press.

These gigantic puppets, made from found things and Papier Mache, were vitalized as part of a performance of an original song 'The Ghillie Dhu'. Activated by dancing family and friends, in performance these puppets transform to become expansive emblems of collective storytelling. By prioritizing chaos and reviving folkloric figures, the performance explores the dangers of societal othering, working with absurdity to challenge fear.



Aquatint Etching, 'The Leprechaun'



Aquatint Etching 'The Blind Begger'





Aquatint Etching 'Folly Futures'



'Amphisbaena',
Puppet

'Ghillie Dhu',
Puppet

'Face of The
Sun', Mask



'Ghillie Dhu' detail



Aquatint Etching, 'Move Along'



Photo Etching, 'Gigantic Puppet Show'



Link to the Puppet show <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OBxCttEp55k>



Aquatint Etching 'Cuckoos Nest'



Concrete and steel stand for 'Amphisbaena'



'Amphisbaena' detail



'Ghillie Dhu' detail

PRICE LIST

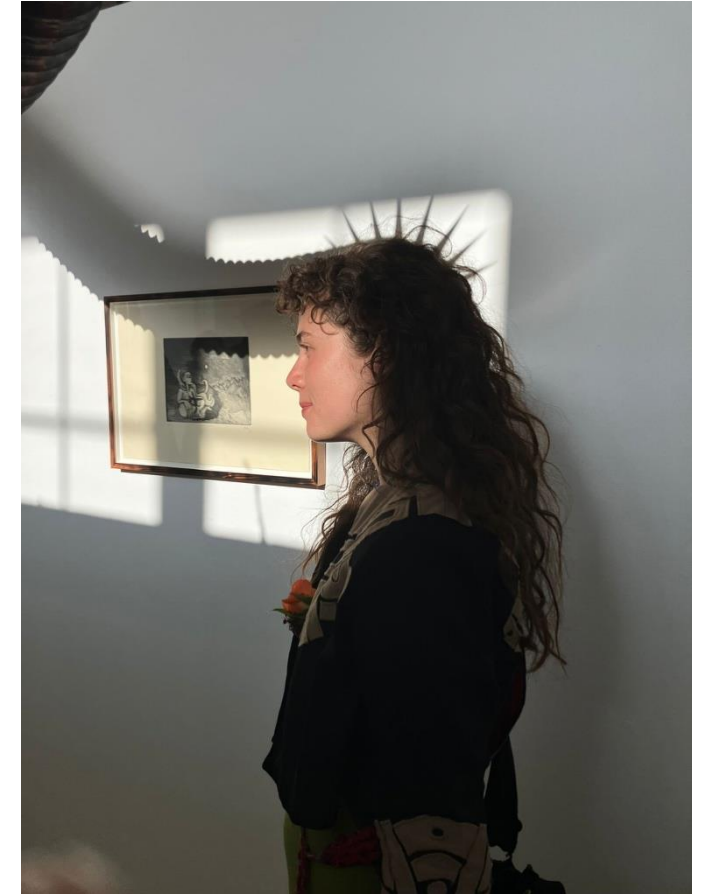
'The Leprechaun'.....£230 unframed
'The Blind Beggar'.....£230 unframed
'Move Along'.....£230 unframed
'Cuckoo's Nest'.....£230 unframed
'Folly Futures'.....£330 unframed
'Gigantic Puppet Show'....£330 unframed

Sculptures

'Face of The Sun', Mask....£230
'Ghillie Dhu'.....£460
'Amphisbaena'.....£460

An Additional hand-crafted smoked Beech frame...£110

For enquiries, please email tabajean123@gmail.com



Thank you !