

# THE VIKTOR WYND MUSEUM OF CURIOSITIES, FINE ART & NATURAL HISTORY

"The Marvellous is Always Beautiful, Anything Marvellous is Beautiful, in Fact Only The Marvellous is Beautiful"

Andre Breton Le Manifeste du Surrealisme

The Museum presents an incoherent vision of the world displayed through wonder, enclosed within a tiny space. No attempt is made at classification & comprehensiveness; instead The Museum focuses on the pre-enlightenment origins of the museum as Wunderkabinett – a mirror to a world so suffused with miracles & beauty that any attempt at categorization is bound to fail.

Where contemporary museumology hides 90% of a collection, attempts to educate & explain, to put the world into neat little labelled drawers dictated by an obscurantist elite establishment that has shown itself in error many times over the centuries & is obsessed with a pedantic overspecialization of so-called "knowledge"

that means little or nothing to anyone outside its narrow little field & oft discredited metanarratives. This Museum merely displays everything that has glittered & caught the eye of its founder – from rare priceless marvels of the natural & scientific worlds like Dodo Bones or speculum to the intriguing beauty of McDonald's Happy Meal Toys, from old master etchings to prison inmates & mad women's doodles, occultist's paintings & pop art prints, the horrors & wonders of nature, two-headed kittens & living coral. By placing the rare & the beautiful on the same plane as the commonplace, banal & amusing this Museum seeks not to educate but to subvert, to show the world not in a grain of sand, but in a Hackney basement.

The Museum has no overreaching aim beyond the theft of it's visitors time & the hope that it will provide amusement by return & hopes to fill the vacuum between what the establishment elite believes is worthy of worship & what exists in the world.

The Museum originally opened its doors in 2005 as a curiosity shop in the basement - Viktor Wynd's Little Shop of Horrors - & an Art Gallery on the ground floor called Viktor Wynd Fine Art Inc, becoming a Museum following a successful Kickstarter campaign.



## BEASTS, FREAKS & MONSTERS

The Museum's collection of Polycephalous Specimens – creatures with extra heads & limbs - include the Skeleton of a Two-Headed Kitten & a Human Baby, the Mummified Head of a Two-Faced Calf, an Eight-Legged Lamb (ex Walter Potter Museum), a Two-Headed Lamb, Snake & Teddy Bear, a Kitten, Calf, Snake, Two-Lambs & a Teddy Bear.

Elsewhere see the Mounted Head & a Skull of a Unicorn, Fairies (Mummified, Fish & Tiny), the Skeleton of a Mermaid, a Fiji Mermaid, Sea Unicorns, Sea Monsters, Sprites, the Skull of a Cyclops & Leg Bone of an Irish Giant.

#### **ETHNOGRAPHICA**

Viktor Wynd has travelled extensively & brought back a collection of Masks, Fetishes, Totemic Figures & other objects from The Congo, New Guinea & Latin America - including an axe used by the women of Papua's Dani people to chop joints off their fingers every time a male member of their family dies.



### **DANDIES**

An extensive collection of artwork & ephemera relating to Stephen Tennant, brightest of the bright young things, sometime lover of Siegfried Sassoon, adored by Beaton, celebrated by Nancy Mitford & perhaps the greatest novelist-manqué of them all. Several cover designs are on display for books which he never finished including for his great work Lascar. Studies of Quentin Crisp by Mervyn Peake when The Naked Civil Servant was modeling the class Peake taught at Central St Martin's in the 1950s & a shrine to Sebastian Horsley (photo opposite), the greatest Dandy of them all including his Savile Row Sequined Suit (by Richard Anderson), the nails from his Philippine crucifixion & syringes used to inject the heroin that would kill him in 2010.

#### **EROTICA & JUVENILIA**

The Museum's collection of Erotica illustrates the life Mr.Wynd wishes he'd led & includes Japanese Shunga, French 18th Century Watercolours, Austrian Prints (including one particularly odd one of girls, horses & possibly tennis balls), Ashanti Gold Weights, Masturbating African Figures, Chinese Paintings & Outsider Erotica by an artist best known for his soap advertisements. The Juvenilia starts with Mr.Wynd's own (badly) painted toy soldiers from his childhood & a boat made out of matches one Christmas with his grandfather extending to tin toys & anything else he wishes he'd had & can now buy.



### **DEAD PEOPLE**

You are never alone in our Museum – you are always surrounded by the dead – Mr. Wynd maintains that they are far better company than the living.

The collection includes a Shrunken head from South America (the skull is first removed, the eyes, nose & mouth sewn up to keep the spirit of the dead enemy inside & in perpetual pain, the head boiled with herbs, then kept in continuous motion for 24 hours with hot sand & stones inside), an Asmat Skull from New Guinea, human skeletons, dead babies in bottles, Napoleon's Death Mask, the preserved front bottoms of Victorian prostitutes, the skull of an Executed 19th Century Felon & the mummified trigger finger of Mexican Revolutionary Pancho Villa.

The Skull of Convicted, & executed Felon John Parker, Hanged on the 11th Sept 1813 on the roof of the prison lodge at Gloucester Gaol. He was convicted of breakinginto the dwelling house of Elizabeth Grey at Clifton, Bristol, & stealing silver spoons, a damask tablecloth, two shirts, & various other items.



## AUSTIN OSMAN SPARE

The Museum contains the largest collection of work by the English Magician & Occultist Austin Osman Spare (1886-1956) on public display in the world. Spare came from a working class South London family; his exceptional draughtsmanship earned him a scholarship to the Royal College of Art & comparison to Michelangelo.

He was feted by The Surrealists who saw him as a precursor, briefly associated with Aleister Crowley. He refused a 1936 portrait commission from Adolf Hitler remarking "If you are a superman, let me be forever animal." He died in poverty in Borough.



## MAGIC & THE OCCULT

The Museum holds a collection of Magical Soaps purchased in Mexico City's Witches Market, a Pebble containing a benign spirit used by a 17th century wise woman to treat intestinal complaints & a (replica) candle made of the tallow of a hanged man, the light from which is said to illuminate the souls of thieves & show where they hid their treasure.

The Devil's Table is covered in yet to be deciphered Occult carvings & stands next to a cabinet containing the tools in trade of a practicing Occultist...



DO WHAT THOU WILT SHALL BE THE WHOLE OF THE LAW. LOVE IS THE LAW, LOVE UNDER WILL.



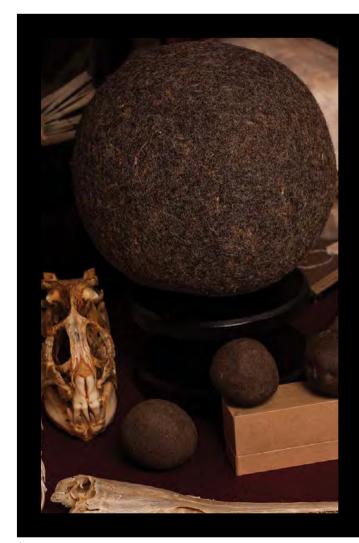
# **SKULLS**OSTEOLOGY, TAXIDERMY & MARINE CREATURES

Over 500 skulls sourced from historic collections, from a mouse to the gold plated skull of a hippo that once belonged to Pablo Escobar, the skeleton of a Giant Anteater & a Wholphin (a cross between a bottle nose dolphin & a false killer whale), fish skulls & skeletons, trophy heads, squirrels playing cards, a Japanese Giant Spider Crab & odd, odd creatures (dead & alive) from the depths of the ocean including a Giant Isopod & Pycnogonids. The Museum's Coral Reef Aquarium is maintained by Charterhouse Aquatics whose magnificent showroom is 10 minutes walk away along the canal at Stean Street, E8 4ED.



## **CURIOSITIES**

A Giant Hairball from a Cow's Stomach, Kidney Stones, Dodo Bones, Feathers of Extinct Birds, Deformed Sea Shells from Fukushima, a Casket Containing Some of the Original Darkness that Moses Called Down Upon Earth, Blood Squeezed from a Stone by Viktor Wynd, Magic Stones, Medical & Scientific Instruments, Unidentified Objects, Condoms used by The Rolling Stones, Celebrity Poo. a Bullet & a Piece of Bone Extracted from an Irish Boys Foot in 1898, a Chocolate John Major, Three Blind Mice, a Dancing Rat, a Mummified Cat, Furbies, Dinosaur Poo, Coco de Mer, Bean Pods (from lack's Giant Beanstalk), Venus Flower Baskets, Horoscopes, Ammonites, Dead Plants, Tin Toys, Mummified Pygmy Child, Golliwogs, Santa Muerte, Blue Babies, Unidentified Deep Sea Worm, Giant Clam Shells, Grot, Flying Kitten, Jenny Haniver, Devil Fish, The Strange One, Dead Things in Bottles, Victorian Dolls, Argonauts, Puzzle Balls...



## **FINE ART**

Matthew Killick, Michael Ayrton, Peter Blake, Charles Bronson, Ian Bruce, John Buckland-Wright, Leonora Carrington, Ithell Colquhoun, Shezad Dawood, Tessa Farmer, Marcelle Hanselaar, Madge Gil, Hendrick Goltzius, Kate MccGwire, Mervyn Peake, Pablo Picasso, Austin Osman Spare, Lina Scheynius, Graham Sutherland, Stephen Tennant, Theatre of Dolls, Agostino Veneziano, John, Waters Hugo Wilson, E.C. Woodard, Viktor Wynd...

### THE LIBRARY

A Guide to Faking Exhibition Poultry, The Aesthetics of The Japanese Lunch Box, Wasps of Surrey, Warfare in The Enemy's Rear, Sin Bum, The Naughty Nun, Shopping Centre Sex, Girls of The Pansy Patrol, Who Cares About Elderly People, Rats for Those Who Care, A Sex Guide for Irish Farmers, The Social & Cultural History of The Potato, I Was Hitler's Maid, Versailles – The View from Sweden, Mrs. Thompson's Water Domination, Let's Play Nurse & Doctor, The Glands of Destiny, Men Who Have Risen, How To Help Your Husband Get Ahead, Enid Blyton's Gay Story Book, Joyful Lays by The Rev.R.Lowry, If You Want Closure in Your Relationship Start With Your Legs...







1/The Witches Rout by Agostino Veneziano 1505 - Shows a witch out gathering babies

2/ The Memory Tower by Leonora Carrington

## INTIMATE MOMENTS

The Austin Spare Room & the two tables in the Wunderkabinett are available to hire for dinners, drinks, boardroom meetings and intimate moments.

Prices start at £150 for The Spare Room with it's conservatory (smoking area), seating 20 (or slightly more for drinks), £75 for the Sarcophagus, in The Lion's Chamber, seating up to 12 (at a pinch) & £45 for The Devils Table (seating 6).

Please ask for details of other hires / private events / wedding receptions / wakes / Christmas parties etc.

Location Hire for photo shoots or filming starts at £150 an hour (£50 for students).

1/The Sarcophagus Table

2/ The Devil's Table & Doll





## **COCKTAILS**

#### MUMMYS MAI TAI

SAILOR JERRY'S + 7 RUM BLEND, ORGEAT, LIME TOPPED WITH BEER.

#### COCONUT FREAK

GREEN MARK VODKA, SAKE, COCONUT, LIME, ELDERFLOWER, APPLE JUICE.

#### ARMY & NAVY

HENDRICK'S GIN. ORGEAT, LIME AND BLACK WALNUT BITTERS

#### GONE WITH THE WYND

ABSINTHE, CHAMBORD, FRESH RASPBERRY, LEMON, EGG WHITE

#### THIS IS NOT A BROTHEL

OLD GRAN-DAD BOURBON, LEMON THYME, OLD TIME BITTERS

#### SCORPS REVIVER

HENDRICK'S GIN, WHITE VERMOUTH, COINTREAU, LEMON, ABSINTHE (WITH AN EDIBLE ARMOUR TAIL SCORPION GARNISH)

#### DIRTY GIN ANT-INI

HENDRICK'S GIN, DASH ABSINTHE, DASH PINK GRAPEFRUIT BITTERS (WITH EDIBLE QUEEN LEAF-CUTTER ANTS)

#### GREEN LADY

ELLC LONDON DRY GIN, GREEN CHARTREUSE, LIME, DEMERARA, ABSINTHE

#### REEDLING SOUR

OAK BARREL PISCO, SAKE, LIME, LEMON THYME, EGG WHITE

#### TALES AND SPIRITS

MEZCAL, RITTENHOUSE RYE, CINNAMON, ABSINTHE, 3 TYPES OF BITTERS

#### FOOD

ARTISANAL CHEESE BOARD, EDIBLE INSECTS, GIANT WATER BUGS, CHOCOLATE ANUSES. DINNERS & BANQUETS BY REQUEST



## VIKTOR WYND'S ACADEMY OF DOMESTIC SCIENCE

SEPT 19TH	CELINE HISPICHE ON BETTY MAY, ALEISTER CROWLEY & BOHEMIAN LONDON
OCT 3RD	LUCY TALBOT ON DEATH & THE MAIDEN
Ост 4тн	GARY LACHMAN ON COLIN WILSON
Ост 10тн	BILL EDWARDS ON 40 YEARS OF MURDER
Ост 25тн	RAYMOND SALVATORE HARMOBN WITCHES OINTMENTS
Nov 7тн	ELEANOR MORGAN ON SPIDERS, HUMANS & THEIR THREADS
Nov 21ST	JEREMY ALLEN - THE TAROT DECK OF AUSTIN SPARE
Ост 24тн	HALLOWEEN SÉANCE WITH PHILIPP OBERLOHR
VIKTOR WYND'S GUIDED TOUR OF HIS MUSEUM	

VIKTOR WYND'S GUIDED TOUR OF HIS MUSEUM
SEPT 14TH / SEPT 28TH / OCT 12TH / NOV 23RD / DEC 7TH

JOIN MASTER STORY GILES ABBOTT AROUND THE SARCOPHAGUS FOR STORIES ON A SUNDAY

SEPT 11TH / OCT 9TH / NOV 13TH / DEC 11TH / JAN 8TH

COCKTAIL MASTERCLASS – GET BEHIND OUR BAR & LEARN HOW TO MAKE & DRINK FOUR CLASSIC COCKTAILS

Aug 25th / Sept 22nd / Oct 20th / Nov 17th / Dec 8th

PET A PYTHON, CUDDLE A CHAMELEON, TOUCH A TARANTULA & KISS A FROG AT OUR PETTING ZOO

Aug 20th to 21st / Sept 6th to 18th / Oct 20th to 22nd / Nov 11th to 13th / Dec 2nd to 4th

THE MAGNIFICENT MASQUERADE BALLS
HALLOWEEN, NEW YEARS EVE & VALENTINES

#### THE LAST TUESDAY SOCIETY

FRIDAY 28TH OCTOBER 2016

THEIR EXCELLENCIES THE CHANCELLOR & SATRAP OF THE LAST TUESDAY SOCIETY, VIKTOR WYND & SANTIAGO GENOCHIO, REQUEST THE GLORIOUS DISHONOUR OF YOUR MOST INFAMOUS PRESENCE AT LONDON'S MOST SPECTACULAR HALLOWEEN BALL.



## THE BRITISH ACADEMY OF TAXIDERMY

We have been teaching taxidermy since 2007 & offer the largest breadth of classes in Europe. Classes from £35 - Choose: Anthropomorphic Mouse Taxidermy, Crab, Mole, Snake, Goat, Fox, Crow, Canary, Deer, Rabbit & many more (all specimens are ethically sourced).

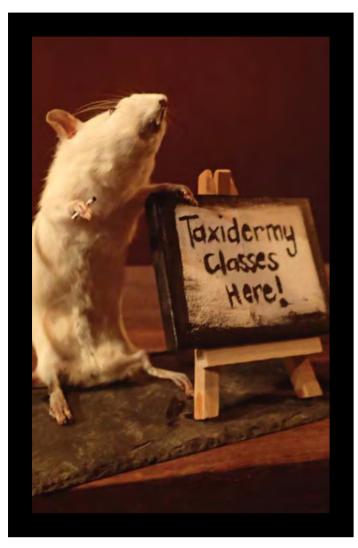
WWW.THEBRITISHACADEMYOFTAXIDERMY.ORG

"WE LEFT LATE AT NIGHT, STUFFED MICE IN HANDS & GLOWING WITH SATISFACTION"

VIRGINIA IRONSIDE IN THE OLDIE

'I CAN'T SUPPRESS A SQUEAL OF DELIGHT AT MY CREATION' THE FINANCIAL TIMES





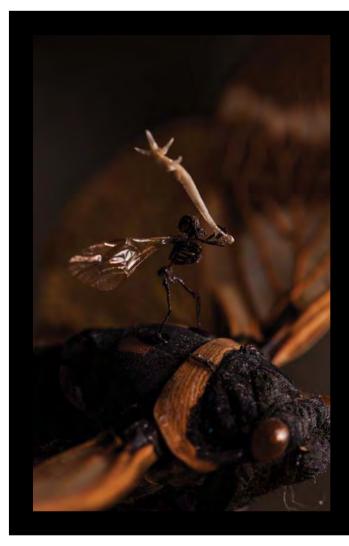
### THE HENDRICK'S GALLERY

The changing exhibitions in The Museum's gallery, & specially commissioned interventions in The Wunderkabinett galleries are generously sponsored by Hendricks Gin.

Recent & upcoming exhibitions include English Surrealism, Austin Osman Spare, Mervyn Peake, Gunter Grass, Alasdair Gray, Leonora Carrington & Tessa Farmer, all accompanied by bespoke cocktails featuring the world's most unusual Gin.

THE MUSEUM & THE SOCIETY EXIST PURELY THANKS TO THE EXTRAORDINARY GENEROSITY & FORESIGHT OF HENDRICK'S GIN WHO SHARE A COMMON AIM TO MAKE THE WORLD A MORE UNUSUAL & PLEASANT PLACE. FOR OVER A DECADE HENDRICK'S HAVE HELPED & PARTNERED OUR EXTRAORDINARY ADVENTURES; FROM LECTURES & DINNERS AT THE CAFÉ ROYAL, TO A A CRYING PARTY, HALLOWEEN EXTRAVAGANZAS & MIDNIGHT SEANCES IN A CORNISH QUARRY (WHERE THE DEAD CAT SPOKE). BUT PERHAPS MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL IS THE GIN THAT HAS BEEN SUPPLIED, WITH ACCOMPANYING CUCUMBER, IT HAS LUBRICATED & FREED OUR MINDS TO LOAT & THINK FOR WHICH WE ARE TRULY GRATEFUL & WITHOUT WHICH WE WOULD STILL BE IN BED IN A DULL GREY WORLD. SO COME, CHARGE YOUR GLASSES & ENTER OUR BASEMENT.





## **VIKTOR WYND**

Is an artist, author, lecturer, impresario & 'pataphysicist. Educated at SOAS, The John Cass & The University of South Florida. The Museum is intended as an artwork in its own right, a portrait of the inside of his head as an incoherent, unhappy mess. Past exhibitions, projects & installations have included 'The Sorrows of Young Wynd,' 'Structures of The Sublime – Towards a Greater Understanding of Chaos' & 'Why I Think I'm So Fucking Special – It's All About ME'. He is the author of 'Viktor Wynd's Cabinet of Wonders (Prestel, 2014) & has lectured widely at institutions including The British Library, The Natural History Museum, The Barbican, Kings College Cambridge, University of Manchester...

In the Noughties he reinvented London Nightlife & entertained tens of thousands of revelers with his legendary Masquerade & Halloween Balls, The Animal Party, Wyndstock & reinterpreted The Onion Cellar Nightclub from Gunter Grass's Tin Drum as 'Loss; an Evening of Exquisite Misery' where thousands chopped onions & cried. He very much hopes you enjoyed your visit & would love to know what you thought - please leave a review on Tripadvisor, & if you have anything at home you think he might like, please post it to him at The Museum.



#### "VIKTOR WYND IS A SICK ORCHID" JOHN WATERS

"An exuberant jumble of the priceless & the kitsch, the bizarre & the macabre" Another Magazine

"MR.WYND FOLLOWS THE VICTORIANS IN PUTTING EVERYTHING ON DISPLAY IN AS PRETTY, STRIKING OR SATISFYING A WAY AS POSSIBLE" COUNTRY LIFE

"A dreamy, Gothic mélange of curiosities & taxidermy" New Statesman

"A JAM-PACKED LAIR OF ECCENTRICITY IN A FORMER CALL CENTER TRANSFORMED INTO A WEIRD & WONDERFUL NEST" THE GUARDIAN

"An utterly enthralling guide to an unsettling personality" World of Interiors

"One of the great latter-day collectors"
Times Literary Supplement

"Descending into the museum is like entering a dark, occasionally nightmarish warren" Antiques Trade Gazette

"VERY VERY WEIRD & PROPERLY DISTURBING" GOOGLE REVIEW

"LONDON'S STRANGEST NEW MUSEUM" THE DAILY BEAST

"THE KIND OF ESTABLISHMENT YOU COULD IMAGINE CHARLES DARWIN & JOHN WATERS RUNNING TOGETHER AS A JOINT VENTURE, IF THE TWO OF THEM WERE HOARDERS & THEY'D TAKEN INTERIOR DESIGN ADVICE FROM THE HIGH PRIEST OF A CENTRAL AMERICAN DEATH CULT" THE FINANCIAL TIMES

"A DARK ROMP THROUGH MISCELLANEA OF THE MACABRE"

DERREN BROWN





SEE DANDIES, SHRUNKEN HEADS, DODO BONES, MERMAIDS, UNICORNS, FAIRIES, EXTINCT BIRD FEATHERS, OLD MASTER ETCHINGS, BONES, FURBIES, OCCULT PAINTINGS, CYCLOP'S SKULL, GIANT'S BONES, SCIENTIFIC & MEDICAL INSTRUMENTS, ELEPHANT BIRD EGG, DEAD FISH & MUCH MORE

THE VIKTOR WYND MUSEUM OF CURIOSITIES, FINE ART & NATURAL HISTORY & COCKTAIL BAR. OPEN WED – SUN 11AM-10PM
11 MARE STREET, LONDON, E8 4RP 02079983617
WWW.THELASTTUESDAYSOCIETY.ORG

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