Jonathan Baldock

Jonathan Baldock works across multiple platforms including sculpture, installation and performance. With work often taking on a biographical form, he addresses the trauma, stress, sensuality, mortality and spirituality around our relationship to the body and the space it inhabits.

Baldock was born in 1980 in Kent, UK. He lives and works in London. He graduated from Winchester School of Art with a BA in Painting (2000-2003), followed by the Royal College of Art, London with an MA in Painting (2003-2005).

Saturated with humour and wit, as well as an uncanny, macabre quality that channels his longstanding interest in myth and folklore, Baldock has an ongoing focus on the contrast between the material qualities of ceramic and fabric in his work. Concerned with removing the functional aspects of the materials he uses, the artist instead works in a performative way through his sculptural assemblages, bringing the viewer, the object and the space they simultaneously occupy into question as a theatrical or ritualistic act.

Recent solo exhibitions include ‘Touch Wood’, Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Wakefield, UK (2023); ‘through the joy of the senses’, Charleston Lewes, Sussex, UK (2023); ‘Unearthed’, Kunstverein Göttingen, Germany (2023); ‘we are flowers of one garden’, Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, UK (2023); 'I'm Still Learning', La Casa Encendida, Madrid, Spain (2021); ‘Warm Inside’, Accelerator, Stockholm, Sweden (2021); and ‘Me, Myself and I’, Kunsthall Stavanger, Norway (2020).

In the spring of 2019, Baldock’s solo exhibition ‘Facecrime’ opened at Camden Arts Centre, London following a Freelands Lomax Ceramics Fellowship. The exhibition travelled to Tramway, Glasgow in August 2019 and Bluecoat, Liverpool in March 2020. Other notable solo and two-person exhibitions include ‘LOVE LIFE: Act 3’, De La Warr Pavilion, Bexhill, UK (2017); ‘LOVE LIFE: Act 2’, Grundy Art Gallery, Blackpool, UK (2017); ‘There’s No Place Like Home’, Southwark Park Galleries, London, UK (2017); ‘LOVE LIFE: Act 1’, PEER, London, UK (2016); ‘The Soft Machine’, Chapter Gallery, Cardiff, Wales, UK (2016) and ‘A strange cross between a butchers shop and a nightclub’, Wysing Arts Centre, Cambridge, UK (2013).

Baldock has participated in group shows including ‘Poor Things’ at Fruitmarket, Edinburgh, UK (2023); ‘Strange Clay’ at Hayward Gallery, London, UK (2022); ‘Threadbare’ at Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, UK (2021); ‘Human Conditions of Clay’ at Chapter Arts Centre, Cardiff, Wales (2021); and the inaugural Towner International biennial at Towner Art Gallery, Eastbourne, UK (2020). His works are included in prominent collections including Aïshti Foundation, Beirut, Lebanon; Arts Council Collection, London, England; The Grundy Art Gallery, Blackpool, England; The Roberts Institute of Art, London, England and Saatchi Gallery, London, England.