

An Auction of the following original works of art will be held at Quay Arts, Newport at 4.30pm on Saturday, November 4th 2017, in aid of The Isle of Wight Day Fund.

(Each Lot is created on a 7ft tall cut-out human shape made from 7mm thick Foamex board)

LOT 1: Anthony Minghella (1954 – 2008) by Nick Martin

The Minghella family has long been known on the Island as makers of Italian style luxury ice cream. Anthony, the acclaimed film director, playwright and scriptwriter, was born in Ryde. He was chairman of the Board of Governors at the British Film Institute between 2003 and 2007. He was nominated for four Academy Awards and won the Academy Award for Best Director for *The English Patient* (1996). *One of three Island Heroes by artist Nick Martin, Minghella is depicted proudly holding the Oscar he won aged 41.*

LOT 2: Winston Churchill (1874 – 1965) by Tony (Not Dead Yet) Trowbridge

Winston holidayed in Ventnor in 1888, 1889 and 1910, at 'Verona', 26 Mitchell Avenue and 'Flint Cottage' which is now the reception to Ventnor Holiday Villas. There is now a plaque there commemorating his visits. *The artist has used spray paint and stencils to portray one of Britain's most respected Establishment figures in a subversive street medium.*

LOT 3: Jimi Hendrix (1942 - 1970) by Carly Groves

Hendrix's headline act at the 1970 Isle of Wight Festival was his last performance on British soil. 600,000 people attended the Festival. At his request Hendrix was introduced by DJ Jeff Dexter as 'The Wild Blue Angel'. He died in London 18 days later. *Carly, who is 4'11" needed a stepladder to work on her figure. It was appropriately sited outside the Isle of Wight Festival Museum at Tapnell Farm for the weeks leading up to IW Day 2017.*

LOT 4: Sir Edward Elgar (1857 – 1934) by Anne Toms

Elgar is considered one of this country's greatest composers. He spent his honeymoon in Ventnor in 1889 at No 3 Alexandra Gardens. His wife Alice's family were horrified by her marriage to a then unknown Roman Catholic shop assistant with musical aspirations and immediately disinherited her! *The artist is a long time Elgar fan. She says, "I feel sure the time Elgar spent here in Ventnor on his honeymoon must have been an inspiration to him, just as his music has provided me with inspiration for many years."*

LOT 5: Guglielmo Marconi (1874 – 1937) by Nick Martin

Marconi chose Alum Bay for his experiments into wireless telegraphy in 1897. He erected a 40 metre mast at the Needles Hotel from where he transmitted to Poole in Dorset. Experiments were carried out for about a year, including one involving a link-up between the Prince of Wales, on the Royal Yacht Osborne and Queen Victoria at Osborne House, before transferring his attention to cross-channel links. He also experimented from Knowles Farm, Niton where there is a stone cut with the inscription, "This is to commemorate that Marconi set up a wireless experimental station here in AD 1900." *When Nick was asked if he'd take on another hero at the last minute he replied, "If its an Italian I'll do it'. Luckily it was.*

LOT 6: John Keats (1795 - 1821) by Karen Rivlin

John Keats, one of the Romantic Poets, visited the Island twice; the first time in April 1817, when he stayed in Castle Road Carisbrooke. Here he began work on *Endymion*. He returned in 1819 for health reasons as he was suffering from consumption. He stayed at Eglantine Cottage in Shanklin (now Keats Cottage) in the summer of 1819. The sonnet 'On the Sea' was inspired by Shanklin *Karen's piece features layer upon layer of pages of Keats' poetry, and of course a nightingale. She said, "I wanted to let the words that were so important to him do the talking."*

LOT 7: Barnes Wallis (1887 - 1979) by Abi Wheeler

Inventor of the ingenious WWII bouncing bomb and designer of many aircraft including the Wellington bomber, Barnes Wallis was apprenticed at J Samuel White in Cowes. He left in 1913 after being offered a job at Vickers where he undertook most of his work, starting with designing airships including the famous R101, which tragically crashed killing 48 people. *Abi's work features a fragment of the tragic R101 airship and depicts the path of the famous bomb, bouncing through a colourful patchwork landscape.*

LOT 8: Charles Darwin (1809 – 1882) by Tony (Not Dead Yet) Trowbridge

Darwin visited the Island to escape a scarlet fever outbreak in his home town in Shropshire in 1858. He stayed first at the King Head, Sandown and a little later at Norfolk House in Shanklin, where it is believed he may have begun work on his seminal Origin of the Species. *Darwin was a popular choice of Island Hero for Tony, who was a Geologist before becoming an artist and has a keen interest in the Island's fossil record.*

LOT 9: Queen Victoria (1819 - 1901) by Leigh Jackman

Victoria fell in love with the Island as a child when her mother rented Norris Castle, the estate next door to Osborne. Osborne House was later built as a favourite Summer residence for her and Albert. She spent much of the later part of her reign there and died at Osborne in January 1901.

The Penny Black stamp textured with black lace represent's Victoria's outward face while the vibrant paint splashes were inspired by the Hindu Festival of Colours and represent vibrant inner being and the colonies over which she ruled.

LOT 10: Charles Dickens (1812 – 1870) by Kate Christie

Dickens was born in Portsmouth and sometimes stayed at Winterbourne, Bonchurch where he wrote David Copperfield. He said of one visit, "I have taken a most delightful and beautiful house... cool, airy, private bathing, everything delicious. I think it is the prettiest place I ever saw in my life, at home or abroad." *Library shelves feature on the figure's clothing and the letters leaping from the book in his hands form hidden words.*

LOT 11: General Garibaldi (1807-1882) by Nick Martin

An Italian politician and nationalist who played a large role in the history of Italy, Garibaldi was also said to be one of the greatest generals of modern times. He visited the Island in 1864 and delivered a rousing speech to an adoring crowd in Newport. *The Garibaldi figure stood proudly on the balcony of the Guildhall, Newport in the run up to Isle of Wight Day - on the very spot where he gave his speech.*

LOT 12: Arthur Lowe (1915 – 1982) by BB Bango

Best known for his role as Captain Mainwaring in the TV series Dad's Army, Arthur often performed at Shanklin Theatre and moored his spectacular 114ft steam yacht, Amazon nearby. *Once over his disappointment at not being allowed to paint his true hero, Benny Hill, BB Bango settled to painting Arthur in his typical Pop Art style "to reflect the cult status of the BBC show". The letters on the figure form clues to its identity.*

LOT 13: King Charles I (1600 – 1649) by Caroline Underwood

Charles I was held prisoner in Carisbrooke Castle for a year. He had escaped to the Island in Nov 1647 where he thought he would be safe, but the Island's Governor was a parliamentarian and put him in prison. He was eventually taken to London where he was tried and subsequently executed. *Caroline's rendition of Charles I has been standing sentinel on the battlements of Carisbrooke Castle for the last few weeks, where his outline could be seen for miles around. He was the focal point of a themed treasure hunt.*

LOT 14: Robert Hooke (1635 - 1703) by Tony (Not Dead Yet) Trowbridge

Born in Freshwater, Robert Hooke was a brilliant natural philosopher, architect and polymath. Overshadowed at the time by Newton, his many and varied achievements were only later fully recognised, including carrying out the earliest research using a microscope, describing and naming the cell, and discovering the law of springs/elasticity. *The artist used spray paint and stencils to depict an aged Hooke and some of his best-known achievements.*

LOT 15: Sophie Dawes (c 1795 - 1840) by Gerry Price, The Coastal Gardener

Born a pauper in St Helens, Sophie was the ultimate social climber. After being brought up in the workhouse in Newport she worked in a brothel in Piccadilly. There she met and married the exiled duc de Bourbon (later to become Prince of Condé). He died and she was taken to the French court and in 1818 married Adrien Victor de Feuchères, a major in the Royal Guard. She was later suspected of the murder of the Prince of Condé after apparently inducing him to sign a will leaving her ten million francs. *Gerry's unique approach involved attaching a blanket of live plants to the 'canvas', which will see Sophie Dawes' dress becoming more and more lavish over time, referencing her rise from rags to riches.*

LOT 16: Joey Attrill by Steve Simmonds

On March 10th 1888, the "Sirenia" ran ashore on Atherfield Ledge. Initial rescue attempts by the Brook Lifeboat were thwarted by the heavy seas, which took the life of two of the crew. Bembridge Lifeboat Coxwain, Joey took it upon himself to march the 15 miles from Bembridge to help with relaunch of the lifeboat and the eventual rescue of the crew of the stricken ship. *Artist Steve is today's Coxswain of Bembridge Lifeboat, and Joey Attrill has long been a personal hero. The figure of Joey was sited on Bembridge Lifeboat pier in the run up to Isle of Wight Day.*

LOT 17: Sir Christopher Cockerell (1910 – 1999) by Jeremy Gully

The inventor of the hovercraft spent two years from 1959 on the Island developing his first prototype at East Cowes. The SR-N1 was first shown to the public on 11 June 1959. It was capable of carrying four men at a speed of 28 miles per hour. It successfully crossed the English Channel between Calais and Dover on 25 July 1959, 50 years to the day after the historic crossing by Bleriot. *Jeremy positioned Sir Christopher's likeness atop a mock hovercraft, complete with skirt especially made by Hovertravel engineers.*

LOT 18: Julia Margaret Cameron (1815 – 1879) by Barry Ecuyer

Julia is considered one of the most important early photographers, and one of the greatest portrait photographers of the 19th Century. She lived on the Island from 1860 when her family purchased Dimbola Lodge in Freshwater. She took up photography there at the age of 48, when she was given a camera for her Birthday. *Barry says he wanted to portray Julia in a way that was kind, respectful - and slightly mischievous. His portrait shows her with her box brownie over her shoulder and taking a picture with an iPhone.*

LOT 19: Valentine Grey (1813 - 1822) by Lynn Young

John Valentine Gray was an apprentice chimney sweep in Newport but in 1822, at the tender age of ten, he died at the hands of his master, who was later convicted of manslaughter. His death led to the passing of The Climbing Boys Act which criminalised the use of children as chimney sweeps. *Anyone who visited the old Brading Wax Museum will remember the feeling when they saw the waxwork of the small boy (Valentine Grey) stuck up a chimney. The artist wanted her Island Hero to leave you feeling the same way.*

LOT 20: Jon Pertwee (1919 – 1996) by Jeremy Gully

A versatile actor and comedian, Jon Pertwee was probably best known for his role as the third incarnation of Dr Who. One episode of 'Dr Who and the Sea Devils' was filmed on No Man's Land Fort off Seaview, with other scenes shot in and around Bembridge. (During the filming the actor reportedly injured his ribs when he fell forward onto his sonic screwdriver). In 1996 Pertwee made a last trip to the Island to the Medina Theatre in Newport for his one man show, just days before his fatal heart attack. *Jeremy, who lives in Bembridge, remembers hiding behind the sofa during early episodes of Dr Who. He can't recall if he was still doing this when the Sea Devils episode was broadcast in 1972, when he was 17.*

LOT 21: John Milne (1850 - 1913) by Independent Arts group with Leigh Jackman

Professor John Milne FRS was the founder of the science of seismology, the study of earthquakes. The first half of his professional life was spent in Japan, and the second half on the Isle of Wight, where he established the world's first seismographic station. *The group mixed mud in with the paint. In Japan broken pottery is sometimes repaired with gold. The gold crack on the figure represents Milne's time in there.*

LOT 22: Karl Marx (1818 - 1883) by Joanna Kori

German born revolutionary Socialist, Karl Marx co-authored The Communist Manifesto, asserting that all human history had been based on class struggles, and later produced 'Das Kapital', the 'bible of the working class'. He is known to have stayed on the Island 3 times, at 11 Nelson St, Ryde, and I St Boniface Gardens, Ventnor. *Joanna questions how many people who use the term Marxist have actually read anything by him, which is why she featured two of his most important works on her figure, on a red backdrop that references the revolution and bloodshed attributed to Marxism.*

LOT 23: Lewis Carroll (1832 – 1898) by Quay Arts 'Waves Workshop' with Hannah George and Ian Whitmarsh

Carroll was a frequent visitor to the Tennyson residence at Farringford, and based Alice in Wonderland on an Island girl, Alice Liddel who lived nearby in Freshwater. *An appropriate Island Hero for the children of the Waves workshop, who said it was great fun to do and that they really enjoyed it.*

LOT 24: Emperor Haile Selassie (1891 - 1975) by Jez (Ras Bunny King) Wilkinson

Exiled in Britain from 1936 - 1940, Haile Selassie holidayed in Ventnor, at the Beach Hotel on the Esplanade. A photograph in Ventnor Museum shows him being helped ashore off the local longshoreman's boat - allegedly his first landfall in Britain after being deported from Ethiopia. He became a central figure of the Rastafari religious movement. *Jez is a Rastafarian stencil artist. He has painted many pictures of His Majesty, Haile Selassie over the years, though never before on this scale.*

LOT 25: David Bowie (1947 - 2016) by Sonia McMullen

Bowie's last full show on British soil was at the end of the 2004 Isle of Wight Festival at Seaclose Park, climaxing Ziggy Stardust. Turns out he also gave his first public performance on the Island when he attended a Scout camp in 1958 with the 18th Bromley Scouts. He also played Ventnor Winter Gardens in April 1965. *Sonia's 'Star Man' Bowie has snippets of his song lyrics interwoven between stars and planets. She says it was a great excuse to go crazy with glitter!*

LOT 26: Horatio Nelson (1758 - 1805) by Jeremy Gully

A plaque on the Old Church Tower, St Helens Duver, states "On Saturday 14th September 1805 Admiral Lord Nelson boarded HMS Victory lying anchor off St Helens near to this spot. HMS Victory with HMS Euryalus in company, sailed the following morning, Sunday 15th September, to join the Fleet off Cadiz prior to the Battle of Trafalgar, 21st October 1805." *Jeremy used a red, white and blue nautical colour scheme with rich gilding, and some heavy clues to signify the identity of this Island Hero.*

LOT 27: Mahatma Gandhi (1869 - 1948) by Kate Richardson

In 1890 Mohandas (nickname Mahatma) Gandhi holidayed at Shelton's Vegetarian Hotel, Osborne House and at 25 Madeira Road, Ventnor while on holiday from his law studies in London. The visit is described in his autobiography. *The pearlescent paint on the figure's plaster & skim and cloth dhoti give the figure a faintly ethereal glow.*

LOT 28: Alfred, Lord Tennyson (1809 - 1892) by Sue Stitt

Tennyson lived at Farringford, Freshwater for 39 years and wrote many of his best-known works there, including The Charge of the Light Brigade. He was often to be seen walking on the down with his friends, where he famously said, "The air is worth sixpence a pint." *The artist said that of all the images she found of Tennyson it was his eyes, hauntingly focused on the camera lens - and hence on the viewer - that she felt she wanted to portray.*