

Exceptional & Extraordinary

Unruly bodies and minds in the medical museum

Since humans first appeared on Earth, no two have ever been the same. Yet somewhere along the way, certain bodies and minds came to be highly valued whilst others became viewed as problematic; as deviant and unruly, deficient and requiring adjustment towards a perceived idealised norm.

Exceptional & Extraordinary is a series of thought-provoking new commissions – inspired by the collections of eight of the UK’s most renowned medical museums and produced out of unique collaborations between artists and experts in medical history, disability and museums – that examine our attitudes towards difference and aim to stimulate debate around the implications of a society that values some lives more than others.



Tuesday 7 June 7pm
Langdon Down Museum
of Learning Disability,
Normansfield, London

Tickets £5 / Concessions £3

Tickets and enquires:

langdondowncentre.org.uk/

or 0333 1212 300

JULIE McNAMARA **HOLD THE HEARSE!**

Hold the Hearse! is an interactive, extraordinary theatrical journey through a myriad of museum collections that have impacted on the lives of the Mad, the Bad and the Unruly in our midst. This comic tale, inspired by objects and stories from behind the scenes of some of the UK’s most renowned medical museums, takes us through the history of two remarkable characters who evaded the collectors - complete with grime, gruesome grave robberies and grisly murder ballads. In this extraordinary production, Julie McNamara – who describes herself as ‘a Mad woman made good’ – brings previously hidden and disavowed lives to light and, in doing so, invites audiences to question our collective attitudes towards difference.

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