



Steve Manthorp - The Haunted Doll's House - detail - 2016 © Steve Manthorp

Alchemy and The Leeds Library  
present  
in collaboration with  
Ilkley Literature Festival  
and  
Leeds International Film Festival

Simon Armitage Imtiaz Dharker  
Rob Green Adele Howitt  
Khadijah Ibrahiim Jonnie Khan  
Christella Litras Jack Lockhart  
Steve Manthorp Mark Pajak Tila  
& Tavelah Robinson John Siddique  
Rommi Smith (with Dave Evans,  
Kenny Higgins and Jenni Molloy)  
Rashmi Sudhir Vijay Venkat Joe  
Williams and Zareena Bano

# The Haunting

GHOSTS OF EVERY SHADE

Friday 7th October  
to  
Monday 7th November 2016

# The Haunting

GHOSTS OF EVERY SHADE

## PROGRAMME

Join us for thrilling, chilling, reflective, sometimes probing explorations of ghosts and hauntings through poetry, performance, visual arts, soundscape, dance, vocals and film. A month-long programme of live and online events includes new commissions, performances, masterclasses, workshops, salons as well as Ghostly Trails sited in The Leeds Library.

Poetry commissions by Simon Armitage, Imtiaz Dharker, Rommi Smith and John Siddique respond in unexpected ways to what haunts and possesses us, showing how and why these are not always supernatural forces.

Experience Steve Manthorp's exquisitely detailed and unsettling *The Haunted Doll's House*, based on M.R. James' classic ghost story of the same name. Explore Adele Howitt's ceramic installation responding to Edith Wharton's quietly terrifying story, *Pomegranate Seed*, of a spectral spouse infiltrating an otherwise unremarkable New York apartment. This is part of Ghostly Trails which also includes a wealth of memento mori, sketches and paintings and will be available for viewing at The Leeds Library throughout the duration of the programme.

The Window Installation at The Leeds Library curated by Steve Manthorp, with soundscapes by Jonnie Khan and readings by Joe Williams, provides a mesmerising array of images, plus animation by Jack Lockhart which can be enjoyed by passers-by on Commercial Street. Other key highlights include writing masterclasses by Simon Armitage and Rommi Smith, enigmatic installations by artist Zareena Bano and a satisfyingly spooky Halloween workshop.

*The majority of events are in The Leeds Library, Commercial Street Leeds, LS1 6AL with some events taking place in Ilkley Literature Festival venues and a special screening in Mill Hill Chapel, City Square Leeds, LS1 5EB.*

### Friday 7th October

#### Ghostly Trails Tours

10.00 and 11.30 a.m. The Leeds Library  
Curator of The Haunting Nima Poovaya-Smith will lead a conducted tour of Ghostly Trails. Objects lurking in unexpected places will both surprise and intrigue. Interventions, many of them puzzling and curious, include memento mori carvings, paintings and ceramics.

**Free event but booking essential**  
email [umimistry@alchemyanew.com](mailto:umimistry@alchemyanew.com)

### Friday 7th October

7.30 - 9.15 p.m. King's Hall, Ilkley

**Alchemy, The Leeds Library and Ilkley Literature Festival present The Haunting: Ghosts of Every Shade- Simon Armitage**

An intoxicating evening of performances and readings of newly commissioned work by acclaimed, multiple-award winning poet, playwright and novelist Simon Armitage; Hedgebrook Fellow, poet, playwright and performer Rommi Smith accompanied by Dave Evans and Kenny Higgins; poet and essayist John Siddique and actor Joe Williams. Soundscapes by Jonnie Khan and installations of *The Haunted Doll's House* by Steve Manthorp and *Pomegranate Seed* by Adele Howitt. **£12/£10; haunted cake available at interval; to book a place please email [boxoffice@ilkleyliteraturefestival.org.uk](mailto:boxoffice@ilkleyliteraturefestival.org.uk) or ring 01943 816714**

### Saturday 8th October – 30th November

Online on [www.alchemyanew.co.uk](http://www.alchemyanew.co.uk)

#### Launch of The Haunting digital platform

This includes a performance by Simon Armitage, animation by Jack Lockhart, artists reflecting on their work, online exhibitions of Imtiaz Dharker's powerful black and white drawings exploring themes of displacement, terror, religious strife, grief and loss, and Steve Manthorp's curious and intricate little carvings such as *The Incubus*, *Adders and Ladders*, *Bell, Book and Candle* and *The Albigensian Heresy*.

### Friday 14th October

9.30 - 10.30 p.m.

#### Ghost Walk with Mark Pajak Charlotte Brontë's Festival

Apprentice Poet in Residence for Ilkley Literature Festival, Mark Pajak, invites you to discover the supernatural side of Ilkley with stories paired with chilling poetry; a tour of the town's landmarks and their macabre folklore and history matched with poems selected from the work of Alice Oswald, Robin Robertson, Alfred Noyes and many more. Dress warmly and bring a torch. The walk will take place regardless of the weather.

**£3; to book a place please**  
email [boxoffice@ilkleyliteraturefestival.org.uk](mailto:boxoffice@ilkleyliteraturefestival.org.uk) or ring 01943 816714

### Sunday 16th October

5.15 - 6.15 p.m. Ilkley Playhouse

**Alchemy, The Leeds Library and Ilkley Literature Festival present: The Haunting: Ghosts of Every Shade – Imtiaz Dharker**

Poet, artist and documentary film maker and winner of the Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry, Imtiaz Dharker reads from newly commissioned work, exploring the theme of haunting, against a backdrop of images created by her. Vocalists and composers Christella Litras and Rob Green evocatively render Imtiaz's compositions into song, accompanied by musician Jonnie Khan.

**£6/£4; to book a place please**

**email [boxoffice@ilkleyliteraturefestival.org.uk](mailto:boxoffice@ilkleyliteraturefestival.org.uk)**

**or ring 01943 816714**

### Monday 17th October – Monday 7th November

The Leeds Library

Enjoy the visual spectacle of The Window Installation, curated by Steve Manthorp. This can be viewed from Commercial Street.

### Tuesday 18th October

12.30 - 1.30 p.m. The Leeds Library

**Voices from the North**

The chance to listen to fresh and established talent. Writers include Khadijah Ibrahiim, Mark Pajak and Steve Manthorp.

**Free event but booking essential**

**email [umimistry@alchemyanew.com](mailto:umimistry@alchemyanew.com)**

### Wednesday 19th October

2 - 4.30 p.m. The Leeds Library

**Rommi Smith poetry masterclass**

Hedgebrook Fellow, first Parliamentary poet in residence and poet in residence at Keat's House, critically acclaimed poet Rommi Smith runs a poetry masterclass especially aimed at emergent poets and writers.

**£10 per person; to book a place please**

**email [enquiries@theleedslibrary.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@theleedslibrary.org.uk)**

### Thursday 20th October

2 - 4 p.m. The Leeds Library

**Simon Armitage poetry masterclass**

Simon Armitage is one of the most important chroniclers of contemporary Britain and is internationally renowned as a poet, playwright and novelist. Named Millennium Poet in 1999, he has won numerous awards for his writing including the Hay Medal for Poetry, the Lannan Award and the Keats-Shelley Poetry Prize. He received an Ivor Novello Award for his song lyrics for the Channel 4 film Feltham Sings. His medieval translation The Death of King Arthur was the Poetry Book Society Choice in 2012. He was awarded a CBE for his services to poetry in 2010.

**£15 per person; to book a place please**

**email [enquiries@theleedslibrary.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@theleedslibrary.org.uk)**

**(includes attendance for the evening performance).**

### Thursday 20th October

6.30 - 7.30 p.m. The Leeds Library

Simon Armitage will read from a selection of his work including an extract from The Haunting commission.

**£5 per person; to book a place please**

**email [enquiries@theleedslibrary.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@theleedslibrary.org.uk)**



Adele Howitt *That Which We Cannot See* (response to Pomegranate Seed) detail  
Artists notebook pencil on paper 2016  
© Adele Howitt



Adele Howitt *That Which We Cannot See* (response to Pomegranate Seed) detail  
glazed ceramic 2016  
© Adele Howitt

### Friday 21st October

3 - 4.30 p.m. The Leeds Library

#### Sleight of Hand and other cunning trickeries

Artist Steve Manthorp leads a workshop where he demonstrates how the 'special effects' of various well-known hauntings were engineered to create an illusion of haunting.

**Free event but booking essential**

email [umimistry@alchemyanew.com](mailto:umimistry@alchemyanew.com)

### Tuesday 25th and Wednesday 26th October

12.30 - 1.30 p.m. The Leeds Library

#### The Library Ghost and other ghostly trails

Curator of The Haunting, Nima Poovaya-Smith will lead a conducted tour of the Library. Hear the story of The Leeds Library ghost and encounter unexpected objects relating to worlds beyond – sketches, paintings, carvings and projections of demons, incubi and creatures of fable.

**Free event but booking essential**

email [umimistry@alchemyanew.com](mailto:umimistry@alchemyanew.com)

### Thursday 27th October

12.30 - 1.30 p.m. The Leeds Library

#### Movement and mime workshop for children

Dancer and choreographer Rashmi Sudhir runs this lively workshop where you can learn how to move and mime like ghosts from other realms and cultures.

**Free event but booking essential**

email [umimistry@alchemyanew.com](mailto:umimistry@alchemyanew.com)

### Saturday 29th October

2 - 3.30 p.m. The Leeds Library

#### Halloween workshop. Suitable for all ages

Immerse yourself in the spirit of Halloween through this workshop which includes mask making and dressing up in various Halloween costumes led by artist Zareena Bano; includes story-telling about Halloween and All Souls Night.

**Free event but booking essential**

email [umimistry@alchemyanew.com](mailto:umimistry@alchemyanew.com)

### Tuesday 1st November

6.30 - 7.45 p.m. The Leeds Library

#### Spirit dance: Salon

Dancer Rashmi Sudhir and musician Vijay Venkat give a specially commissioned performance inspired by the notion of spirits and sorcery.

**Free event but booking essential**

email [umimistry@alchemyanew.com](mailto:umimistry@alchemyanew.com)

### Wednesday 2nd November

2.30 - 3.30 p.m. The Leeds Library

#### Brush Shades: Calligraphy workshop

Artist Zareena Bano explores complex shadows, shades and shapes contained in the seemingly simplest of calligraphic lines.

**Free event but booking essential**

email [umimistry@alchemyanew.com](mailto:umimistry@alchemyanew.com)

### Thursday 3rd November

6.30 - 8.00 p.m. The Leeds Library

#### Salon: Ghosts in the Clay

Tea with Madam Blavatsky: Psychic Phenomena & Controversy by Paul Smith (includes high tea); Loretta Braganza ceramic display; performance of *Alumina* by Rommi Smith with Jenni Molloy; *Pomegranate Seed* (installation by Adele Howitt & readings by Rommi Smith).

**£5 contribution towards high tea; to book a place email [enquiries@theleedslibrary.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@theleedslibrary.org.uk)**

### Friday, 4th November

7 p.m. Mill Hill Chapel

#### Whistle and I'll Come to You

M.R. James adaptation, installations and live performances (part of Leeds International Film Festival)

M.R. James (1862 – 1936) was a master of the ghost story genre. Enjoy a screening of Jonathan Miller's classic 1968 adaptation of *Whistle and I'll Come to You* starring Michael Hordern in a curated space charged with ghostly excitement, enhanced by installations of *The Haunted Doll's House* by Steve Manthorp and *The Pomegranate Seed* ceramic series by Adele Howitt with animation by Jack Lockhart and soundscapes by Jonnie Khan. Live performances by Joe Williams, John Siddique and Rommi Smith (accompaniment by Kenny Higgins and Dave Evans).

**£6.50/£5.50 per person. Tickets are available online (<http://www.leedsfilm.com/films/mr-james-whistle-and-ill-come-to-you-at-mill-hill-chapel/>) or from the City Centre Box Office at the Town Hall, in person or over the phone on 0113 3760318**

### Monday 7th November

6 p.m. The Leeds Library

#### Ghost Whispers

In this finale event, submerge yourself in a delicate web of enchantment spun through music and vocals by Christella Litras, Rob Green, Vijay Venkat and Tilah & Taveleh Robinson.

**Free event but booking essential**

email [umimistry@alchemyanew.com](mailto:umimistry@alchemyanew.com)

### October 10th, 11th, 13th, 24th, 28th and 31st

#### The Haunting Library Tours

Two tours per day starting at 11.30 a.m and 2.15 p.m (30 minutes)

Hear the story of The Leeds Library's very own ghost and maybe discover new ones of your own; includes exploring ghostly trails throughout the Library.

**Free event but booking essential**

email [umimistry@alchemyanew.com](mailto:umimistry@alchemyanew.com)

Information correct at time of going to print. Please check [www.alchemyanew.co.uk](http://www.alchemyanew.co.uk) and [www.theleedslibrary.org.uk](http://www.theleedslibrary.org.uk) for updated information.

The Haunting has been generously funded by Arts Council Yorkshire. We are also grateful for support from Leeds City Council and Peter Hirschmann.

*The project has been conceived and curated by Alchemy*

[www.alchemyanew.co.uk](http://www.alchemyanew.co.uk)

[www.theleedslibrary.org.uk](http://www.theleedslibrary.org.uk)

[www.leedsfilm.com](http://www.leedsfilm.com)

[www.ilkleyliteraturefestival.org.uk](http://www.ilkleyliteraturefestival.org.uk)



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**

