

# *Phantasmagoria*

## Audio guide

Isaac Lythgoe

HENRY MOORE  
INSTITUTE

### Stop 12.

Hi, I'm Isaac Lythgoe and I'm a sculptor.

In *Cherish curious cats*, half a sphere is hung back to the wall. The sphere is open, made from carved wood, and within it is housed the head of a dog. The top of the sphere is made from what appears to be a mushroom cloud, and as we come down from the top of the sphere, we find a dog's head. The dog's expression is rather wild and his tongue hangs out of his mouth.

The tongue is made from uranium glass. Uranium glass was used widely up until around the sixties, when the procurement acts for the Cold War and the aftermath of the Manhattan Project moved all uranium production towards the making of bombs and away from the making of ceramics. And we can find uranium glass used widely globally in ceramic production up until around this time.

I was looking into the mythologies of planets, and this forms part of a broader series of works which base their form from the myths and the embodiments of the planets. Here I was thinking a lot about Mars and the dog of war. This was made in 2023, towards the start of the Ukraine war.

This is the end of Stop 12.

This is a transcript of an audio guide produced by Henry Moore Institute for the exhibition *Phantasmagoria*, on display from 15 May to 30 August 2026. For more information visit [henry-moore.org/phantasmagoria](https://henry-moore.org/phantasmagoria)