



Ingrid Barber
Portfolio
The Somme collection
Acid Drop Copse

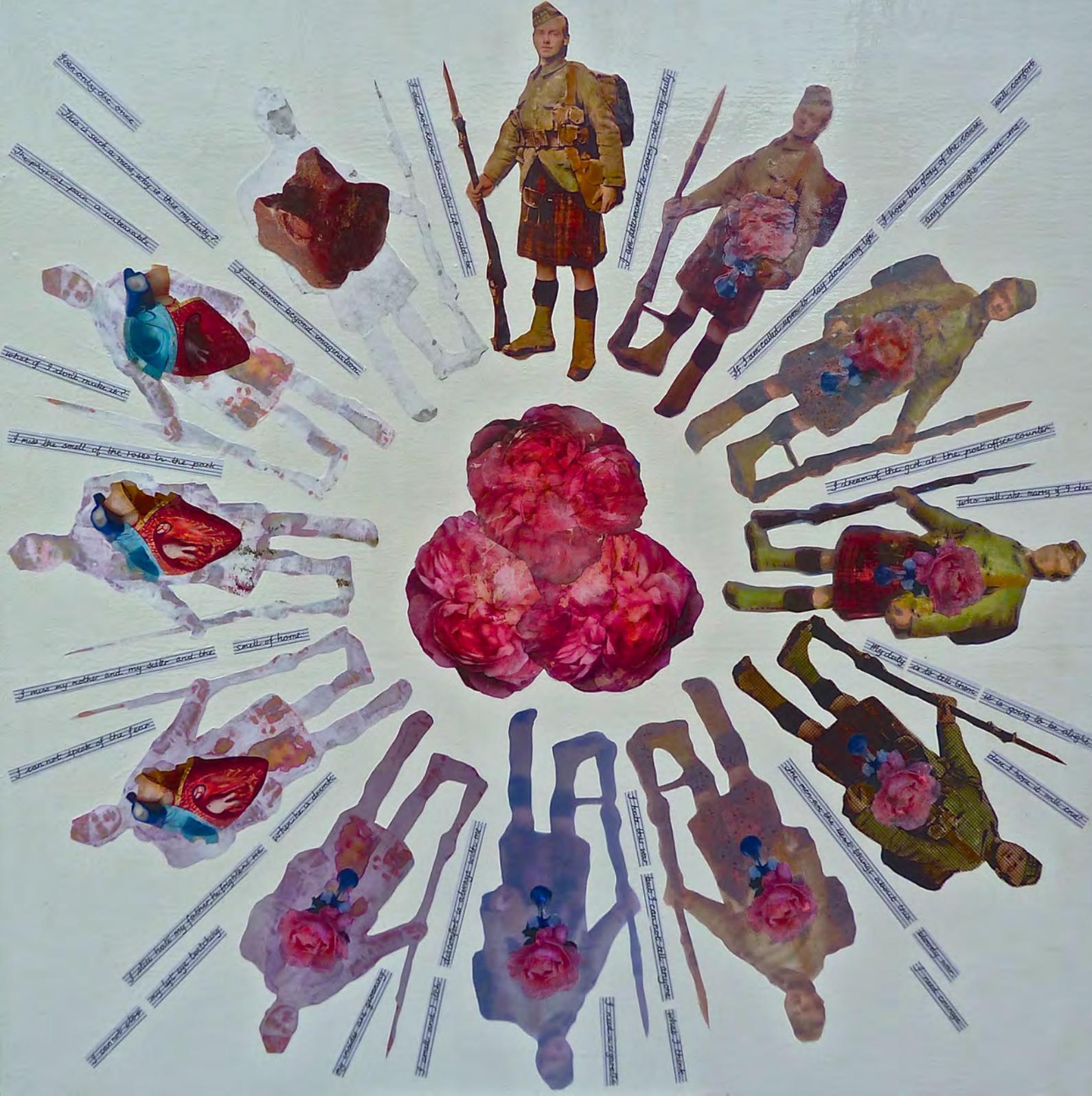
After Caspar David Friedrich's "Wanderer above the Sea of Fog"

Wax on board with toy soldiers and pewter

125 x 75



“Legitimised Contempt for Individual Life”
Crops, boot, wax and tag on board
123 x 80



“Sitting Target”
 Photomontage in resin on board
 82 x 82



“Coming back is harder”
oil and sewn canvas
100 x 80



“Women of Britain say Go”
oil and sewn canvas
100 x 80

My work for the Somme exhibition, Acid Drop Copse, is rooted in early childhood memories of summer holidays, being taken round Dachau, Hitler's bunker, Auschwitz and the battlefields of France by my father who was fascinated by the World Wars. I have misty recollections of spending many fraught hours driving around the graveyards outside Arras, looking for our relative Sydney Hurst who died aged 20 in the First World War. We never found his grave.

I wanted people to see the events through the light of contemporary artists' eyes, who could perhaps put things into a new perspective and bring out elements of the War that have not always been considered, or to re-examine the traditional images of the Somme, by revealing stories of local people affected by these catastrophic events and responding to the scars caused by war.

This is my personal tribute to Sydney Hurst, a small casket, which distills all the information I managed to amass from the fragments of his short life. Photos of his own relatives and his male descendants, Peter, Richard, William, Dan and Boris who only knew him from two surviving photos. A map shows the exact location of his death, from where he was exhumed before being laid to rest in the London Cemetery, at Neuville-Vitasse and phials of blood and soil hang down to represent his death by a piece of shrapnel through the heart. It features a toy plastic heart, metal soldiers and my only piece of actual memorabilia, Sydney's medal. References to roses echo his job maintaining the local park and his love of gardening and the coal is a good luck talisman taken to battle by many soldiers.

"Danke schoen"
Box and objects under glass
30x46





“The Front 1”
Wax soldiers, oil, window
50 x 20

Samuel Currier box
memorial and lockets
30 x 40



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