

JOSEPH DUPRÉ RECASTS NHS GPS AS MEDIEVAL KNIGHTS IN NEW LYNDSEY INGRAM EXHIBITION

By [Mark Westall](#) • 19 January 2026

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Artist and practising NHS GP Joseph Dupré presents *Knight Shift*, a new ceramic exhibition at Lyndsey Ingram that reimagines family doctors as medieval knights – honouring a form of courage and care often overlooked in contemporary healthcare. The exhibition marks Dupré's first solo presentation with the gallery.

Drawing on more than a decade of medical practice alongside his work as an artist, Dupré uses sculpture to counter the increasingly critical narrative surrounding the NHS, restoring dignity and reverence to a profession under sustained pressure. His dual vocation sits at the heart of the exhibition, which brings medicine and making into rare and poignant alignment.

Knight Shift comprises eight ceramic tombs, each dedicated to a GP personally known to the artist. Resting atop each monument is a gilded knight, modelled on medieval effigies, while the sides of the tombs narrate true, life-saving stories – from dramatic street interventions to quieter acts of preventative care that changed lives before crisis struck. References to feudal heraldry, illuminated manuscripts and the Watts Memorial to Heroic Virtue in Postman's Park situate these works within a long tradition of commemorating everyday bravery.



Installed in two rows that echo the formation of a hospital ward, the eight knights are accompanied by an altar-like structure at the end of the space. Adorned with ecclesiastical objects – icons, a cross and a chalice – the altarpiece also incorporates ceramic stethoscopes and medical instruments, collapsing sacred ritual and clinical reality into a single symbolic space. A series of ceramic chargers punctuates the installation, inscribed with remarks Dupré has encountered in his GP practice, from "It is easier to get an appointment with the Pope" to the bluntly confrontational "Bloody Doctor."

Dupré divides his week between his GP surgery and his studio, viewing both practices as fundamentally connected.

“Both careers nourish me in different ways,”

he says.

“This exhibition is the closest they have ever come together.”

The works are rooted in lived experience, shaped by stories shared by fellow doctors – including one who saved a woman’s life on Brixton High Street using only a biro to treat a punctured lung. These moments are translated into sculptural detail, such as a tomb decorated with ceramic broccoli florets in honour of a GP who saved a patient choking.

Balancing reverence with flashes of dark humour, *Knight Shift* presents GPs as modern-day knights: quietly heroic, frequently uncelebrated, and unwaveringly committed to care. As Dupré reflects,



“It’s impossible not to feel emotionally attached to these pieces... They’re about the unseen moments where GPs step forward, often without recognition, simply because someone needs help.”

Joseph Dupré | *Knight Shift*, 23rd January – 20th February 2026 Lyndsey Ingram