



Sam Doyle Press Release

Outsider Art Fair, New York [Booth A12]

19th to 22nd March 2026

The Gallery of **Everything** presents the life and art of **Sam Doyle** (1906 - 1985), curated from the collection of Bob Roth.

Born into the Gullah community of St Helena Island, South Carolina, **Doyle** was a self-schooled art-maker, whose graphic paintings, sculptures and assemblies established him as a powerful cultural presence - and would go on to influence the artist Jean-Michel Basquiat.

A natural storyteller steeped in the myths, language and traditions of his ancestors, **Doyle** used his gift to celebrate the history of Black emancipation, alongside painted icons of politics, culture and sport. Yet he is most widely known for his vivid portraits of friends, neighbors, local heroes and healers - often accompanied by a succinct text in **Doyle's** own witty patois.

The front yard of **Doyle's** homestead was his platform. His bold housepaint renderings - on corrugated roofing tin, sheet metal and found lumber - were layered across the frontage to form the self-titled *St Helena Outdoor Art Gallery*. As word of mouth spread, the environment attracted collectors, gallerists and curators alike - including Jane Livingston and John Beardsley, who invited **Doyle** to participate in *Black Folk Art in America: 1930 - 1980* (1982), a seminal touring exhibition of self-taught art.

Doyle had been introduced to a national audience. Yet it was at the Fay Gold Gallery in Atlanta that Jean-Michel Basquiat would first encounter the work and acquire some of **Doyle's** most celebrated images. These soon found their way into Basquiat's studio, where they were displayed prominently and gifted to friends and collaborators, like Andy Warhol.

Today **Doyle** is widely regarded as a central figure in 20th century African-American art. His pieces are held in major institutional collections, such as the High Museum (Atlanta), LACMA (Los Angeles), PMA (Philadelphia) and MFA (Houston), as well as the Smithsonian (Washington DC) and the American Folk Art Museum (NY).

THE GALLERY OF EVERYTHING



At the Outsider Art Fair 2026, The Gallery of **Everything** brings together a museum-caliber selection of material from the collection of Bob Roth. Presented for sale for the very first time, these include several of **Doyle's** most beloved images, including *Dr Bus Ha.Lo* - the front cover of the seminal publication by Edit DeAk and Louanne LaRoche (Art Random, 1980).

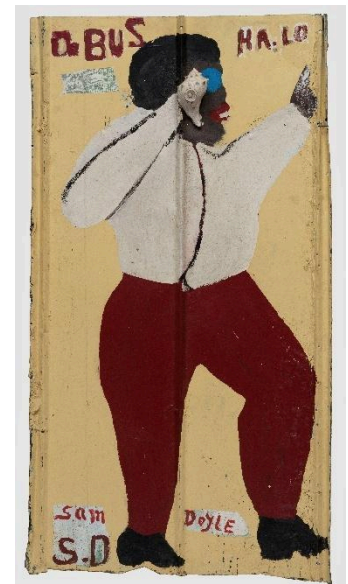
For further information, please contact the gallery at ge@gallevery.com.



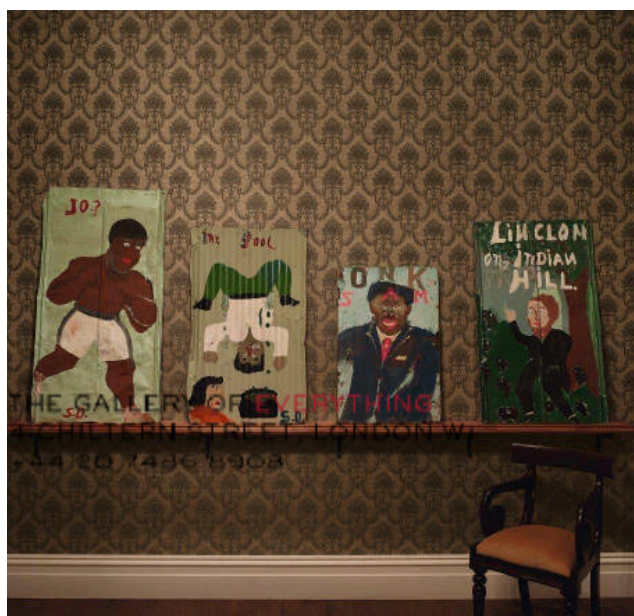
We We, 1970/9



Sam Doyle, c 1985



Dr Bus Ha.Lo, 1980



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Exhibition #7, The Museum of Everything, 2017

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