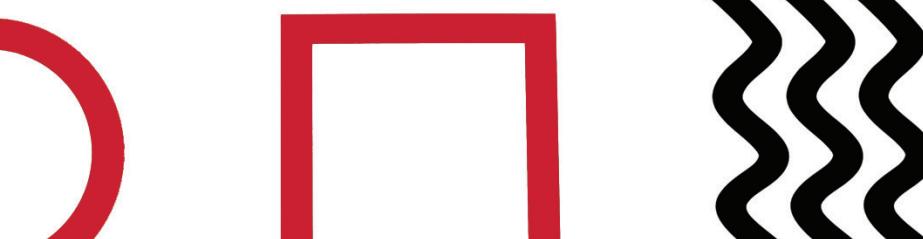


What Am I Thinking?

Sarah G + Sarah M

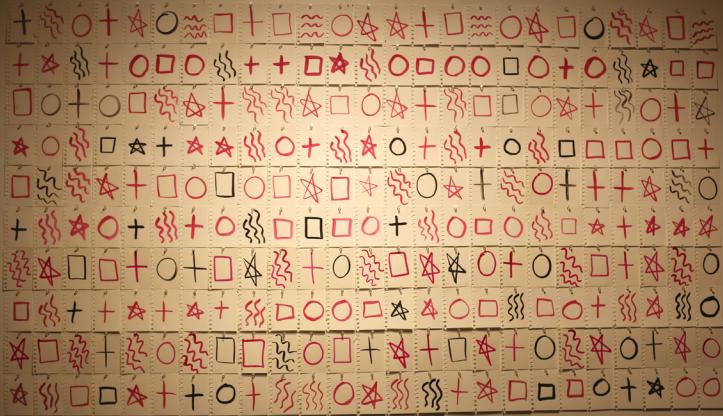
Gaffa Gallery
3 - 14 September 2015



What Am I Thinking? is a process driven exploration of Sarah G + Sarah M's psychic abilities over a 10 day period using Zener cards. Zener cards are used to test for clairvoyance based ESP and consist of 5 symbols including a circle, square, wave, star and cross. The 250 A6 size works on paper represent their findings which prove conclusively that Sarah G + Sarah M are not psychic. As part of the installation there is a 'psychic testing station' where you can use Zener cards to test for your clairvoyance based ESP.

Sarah Georgopoulos and Sarah McEwan met on the first day of art school and bonded over their fascination with all things occult. Their collaborations explore a desire to understand the supernatural world using contemporary art and humour.

	Correct	Incorrect	
Day 1 Sarah G	3	22	Sarah G's most psychically connected card
Day 2 Sarah M	5	20	
Day 3 Sarah G	5	20	
Day 4 Sarah M	6	19	
Day 5 Sarah G	7	18	
Day 6 Sarah M	5	20	Sarah M's most psychically connected card
Day 7 Sarah G	8	17	
Day 8 Sarah M	5	20	
Day 9 Sarah G	8	17	
Day 10 Sarah M	8	17	



PSYCHIC TESTING STATION

HOW TO TEST YOUR PSYCHIC POWERS

There are five symbols in the deck of 25 cards:
a square, circle, star, cross and waves. Feel the
energy of the cards and let them speak to you.
Sense what symbol is on the card.
Turn it over to see if you were correct.
1-5 Correct: Mathematical probability
6-10 Correct: You can feel the universe
11-20 Correct: You have THE gift
21-25 Correct: You know what everyone is thinking



Karl Zener was a psychologist in the 1930s who designed experiments to test for extra sensory perception. He invented Zener cards to test psychic ability and conducted experiments with his colleague J. B Rhine.

After years of testing, and Rhine even establishing the Parapsychology Lab at Duke University, their work was discredited by other academics based on their methodologies.

This has been a continuing trend for the last 130 years, where the study of paranormal activity has not been able to conclusively prove any claims. Studies trying to replicate successful research have also failed.

In the last decade the emergence of Anomalistic Psychology Research is gaining in momentum. This area of study attempts to explain 'psychological effects such as hallucinations, false memories, the unreliability of eyewitness testimony, placebo effects, suggestibility, reasoning biases and so on.'¹ The shift from belief to skepticism in this area of study has occurred.

After so many years of attempts to prove psychic abilities, there is no definitive, conclusive scientific evidence that humans can possess psychic powers. However, we still believe!

¹ <http://blogs.nature.com/soapboxscience/2011/12/19/the-rise-of-anomalistic-psychology---and-the-fall-of-parapsychology>



Karl Zener

Life can be a bit tedious, don't you think? It's full of physical actions, repeated over and over again so we can stay alive.

Boring.

I know that everyday I have to eat, brush my teeth, go to work and go to the toilet.

Boring.

Having to do these physical actions means I then have to clean my kitchen, move my hand in a circular motion, wash my clothes and buy toilet paper.

Boring.

I want a little transcendence. Something to believe in since everyone knows science has disproved God and HIS institutions were created by men, for men, to have women serve them and never be equal. The thought of making Jesus a cup of tea and then washing up his cup... You guessed it.

Boring.

What magic is there in the world to take us away from our continuous repeating patterns of behaviours?

The unknown, the intangible, the divine. The universe.

I WANT TO KNOW WHAT YOU ARE THINKING.

Both Sarah and I wish we were psychic. Every time we got our cards wrong, it wasn't a skeptics hooray, it was always an ohhhhhh-I-thought-we-were-psychic sense of disappointment. It's why we will try again and again to test our abilities...Believing in the miraculous and then failing to experience a miracle, makes it all feel quite absurd, disappointing and yet hopeful that you may get it right. Very much like the process of making art....

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