

GLEN BAXTER (1944-2026)

[Download Press Images](#)

21 CORK STREET
LONDON W1S 3LZ
T: +44 (0)20 7439 7766
press@flowersgallery.com
www.flowersgallery.com

"Mr. Baxter betrays all the ominous symptoms of genius."
Edward Gorey

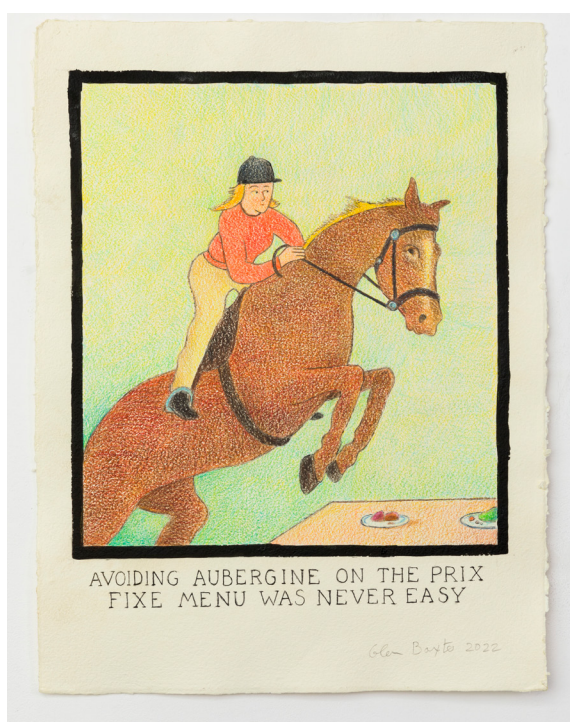
We are deeply saddened by the passing of the much-celebrated artist Glen Baxter (1944-2026). Flowers Gallery is honoured to have worked with Glen Baxter on presenting exhibitions of his uniquely surreal work for more than two decades in New York and London, most recently *Intermittently Ochre* at our Cork Street space in 2024-25.

Born in Leeds, Baxter studied at Leeds College of Art before moving to London, where he taught at the Victoria & Albert Museum in the late 1960s and Goldsmiths from 1974 to 1986. Baxter first read his own poetry in 1974 at St. Mark's Church, New York, before developing his distinctive drawing style, which combines imagery and text in the format of a single cell graphic panel. Presenting a precise, gently absurd tension between language and image, his acclaimed practice was informed through his own early struggles with speech.

For those who have the misfortune to stammer, certain words and letters can induce dread. Strategies are developed and this is how I began to circumvent the everyday trauma of trying to achieve fluency of speech. Each element of language has to be rearranged. At times resulting in unusual sentence formations



Glen Baxter in Studio, January 2022, Photography by Antonio Parente.



Glen Baxter, *Avoiding Aubergine on the Prix Fixe Menu Was Never Easy*, 2022, Ink and crayon on paper, 79 x 58 cm.

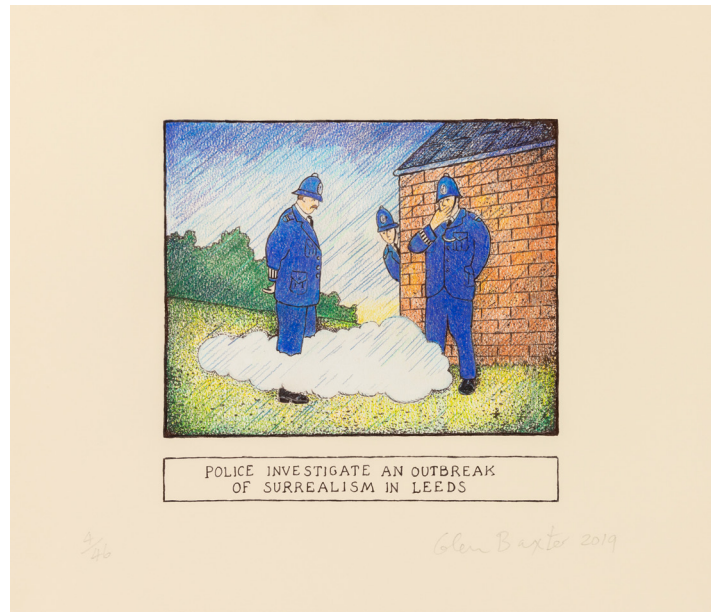
This was the world I took with me to art school, where I discovered that this fitted in perfectly with André Breton's description of Surrealism. I was happy to discover I was not alone, and this newfound freedom allowed me to explore the combinations of words and images that were to become the bedrock of what we now know as a Glen Baxter drawing. - Glen Baxter

Deriving material from varied sources such as pulp fiction, adventure stories, cowboys, objects and foodstuffs with names that he found intriguing, Baxter worked with a number of recurring personas who contemplate life's big and small questions in incongruous scenarios at once familiar and surreal, including the great outdoors, art galleries, and the dinner table.

London-based Glen Baxter was a regular contributor to *The New Yorker* and exhibited internationally, with his work in the collections of Tate and The Victoria and Albert Museum, London. Sell-out publications of his work include *'New Ways with Vegetables and Other Disasters'* (2021).



Glen Baxter, *I Soon Began to Realise the Downside of Working in a Shared Office Space*, 2021, Ink and crayon on paper, 79 x 58 cm.



Glen Baxter, *Police Investigate An Outbreak Of Surrealism In Leeds*, 2019, Archival digital print, 45 x 52 cm.

All Images © Estate of Glen Baxter, courtesy of Flowers Gallery
PRESS ENQUIRIES: For more information and images please contact Emily Flowers:
press@flowersgallery.com / +44 (0) 207 439 7766