

Non-Human Intelligence: Producing Culture

By: Ben Gufford



This ceramic face jug is named "Spielberg" after the famous filmmaker Steven Spielberg. It embodies a glimpse into the cultural modernization of religious accounts regarding paranormal and phenomenological science. The extraterrestrial appearance of this face jug reflects this modernization, which was exemplified by Steven Spielberg's movie, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*. To ensure accuracy, Spielberg consulted with former Project Bluebook members, NASA administrators, and experiencers. The alien in the movie bears a striking resemblance to the facial features in this face jug.

As a producer of culture, as a perceptionist, and much like Steven Spielberg, I evoke human perception in some of my face jugs with the repackaging of old understanding as presented as new. Dr. Diana Pasulka and Dr. Jacques Vallée give detail in their books to explain the processing of culture, understanding, and science as perceived through the lens of time. For centuries the repackaging of perception has yielded tremendous variations in the patterns of theology, cosmology, science, etc. While varieties of human expression seem so vast, there are patterns and themes that persist worldwide as Pasulka and Vallee bring to light in their books.

For me, I'm often asked why such a fascination with stigmatized topics. I remember childhood stories from my grandmother and grandfather that sparked my curiosity about the paranormal. My grandmother spoke of seeing a ghost in a window once and of seeing strange objects in the sky. My grandfather once recounted to me an experience with a glowing orb that followed him while he was walking home from a barn dance. My sister and father also have had experiences of seeing a group of glowing orbs while driving at night, with my sister feeling that the orbs noticed her, causing her to speed home in fear. These memories were brought to mind by this face jug, as some of my face jugs bear a resemblance to Hollywood's perceptions of nonhuman intelligence (NHI).

For those interested in exploring this topic further, I recommend reading books by Dr. Jacques Vallée or Dr. Diana Pasulka's book, *American Cosmic*. Their writings help bridge religious accounts of the paranormal with modern ufology. Additionally, my neighbor living an hour away, Chris Bledsoe in Fayetteville, NC, has documented ongoing phenomena with his Instagram account. Mr. Bledsoe has had almost every government agency in the U.S. and even the Vatican visit with him on his property to film and document his ongoing experiences. The nearby 82nd Airborne military base, Fort Bragg, continues to track Mr. Bledsoe's experiences via sensor data. Mr. Bledsoe also just recently released a new book, *UFOs and God*, which is a best seller on Amazon.