

Frutta

Bedwyr Williams

Adjunct Curator

21 December 2018 – 15 February 2019

Frutta, Glasgow

Two of the smaller curators were holding onto Bedwyr's ankles with all their strength. Wrapped around his legs like big suited toddlers. The other two slightly taller curators had an arm each and another even taller curator who had him by the hair stuffed a flight sock in his mouth. They shuffled him backwards towards a large architect's drawing board in the corner of the studio and pushed him against it. The drawing board tilted forward to match the angle of Bedwyr's back and the curators had him pinned.

A sixth curator came in to the studio pushing the door open with his foot. He was wearing thick blacksmiths gloves and was holding something red hot and smoking. Bedwyr saw as he approached that what he was holding was a pair of thick steel spectacle frames. He was holding them by their arms. Without saying a word he pressed them onto Bedwyr's face. Bedwyr screamed into the curator's flight sock as a spectacle shape was seared onto his face around his eyes. 'Let him go' the sixth curator said as he placed the iron spectacles on top of the artist's Epson scanner. The frames, which had cooled a little still easily melted their way through the transparency hood stopping as they hit the glass bed of the scanner.

Bedwyr Williams (b. 1974, St. Asaph, Wales) lives and works in Caernarfon, Wales. He studied at Central Saint Martin's College of Art and Design, London, and Ateliers Arnhem, The Netherlands. He is a winner of the Paul Hamlyn Award in 2005, represented Wales at the Venice Biennale 2013 and won the Derek Williams Trust Purchase Award in association with Artes Mundi 7 in 2017. He has exhibited nationally and internationally with solo presentations at Barbican, London in 2016; Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester; Visual Centre for Contemporary Art, Carlow, Ireland; and Vestjyllands Kunstpavillon, Denmark in 2015; Tramway, Glasgow in 2014; and Ikon Gallery, Birmingham in 2012.

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