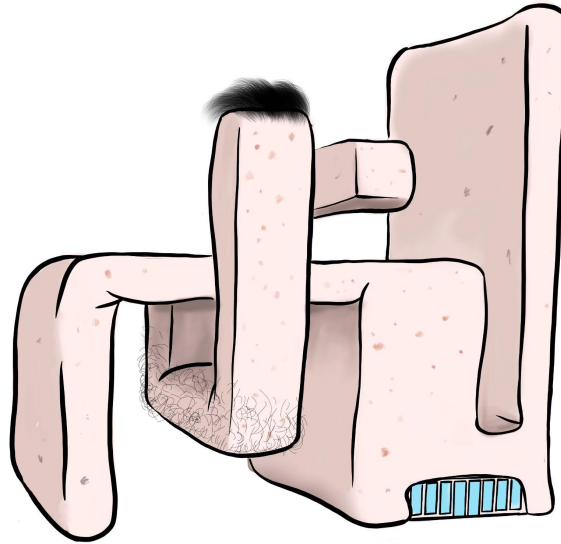


Bedwyr Williams, MILQUETOAST
KARST, Plymouth, PL1 3NY
24 September - 17 December 2021
Admission free

KARST
CONTEMPORARY ARTS



MILQUETOAST

Introducing Bedwyr Williams' MILQUETOAST at KARST

KARST is excited to invite you to our next exhibition, Bedwyr Williams' MILQUETOAST - open from 11am on Friday 24 September.

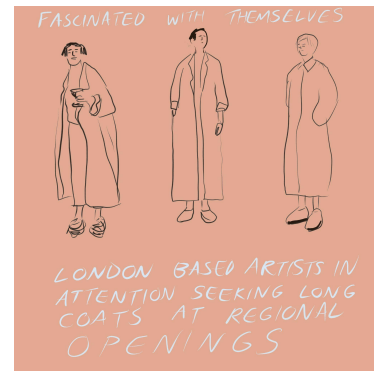
This major new body of work by Welsh artist Bedwyr Williams satirizes the art world through sculpture, video, painting and drawing.

The exhibition also includes his witty and acerbic autobiographical Instagram drawings in which he parodies and punctures contemporary society and the culture sector.

Williams sends up this 'fascinating circus', from real life hierarchies and aesthetics to online spats and humble bragging.

Art critic Hettie Judah, writing in The Guardian observed: *'From the curators with aggressively short fringes and witty spectacles, to patronising artists on rural residencies, he sees us all. Williams has made it impossible to see massed art world gatherings as much other than an assemblage of his painfully accurate caricatures.'*

The exhibition is accompanied by a new publication of Williams's habitual drawing practice, designed by Pagemasters, published by Southwark Park Galleries. This book is made possible by the generous support of Arts Council of Wales through funds derived from the National Lottery.



Ben Borthwick, Head of Creative Programme at KARST, noted: *'Williams' exhibition is timely for Plymouth with its vibrant, ambitious art scene which has recently seen significant expansion of its' architectural infrastructure. KARST is working closely with partners across the city and region, including East Quay in Watchet in advance of their upcoming site specific commission with Bedwyr Williams in December 2021'*

More details of this partnership will be announced on our website and social media channels.

Williams himself says: *'It's weird being an artist. There's buildings that are built for us to do things in. These buildings are often funny shapes or appear to teeter or lean but still have toilets and dustbins and all the basics as well... The way artists talk to and about each other both online and offline is its own sport, and nothing in my childhood prepared me for being around people like this in buildings like this.'*

Bedwyr Williams' MILQUETOAST is a Southwark Park Galleries touring exhibition in partnership with Tŷ Pawb, Wrexham, Aberystwyth Arts Centre and KARST, Plymouth. It opens at KARST on Friday 24 September and will be on display until 17 December. The tour concludes in Aberystwyth with a display from January to March 2022. Admission is free.

MILQUETOAST is supported by the Arts Council of Wales, The Colwinston Charitable Trust, The Paul and Louise Cooke Endowment, Arts Council England, Southwark Council, Omni Colour, Wrexham County Borough Council, Aberystwyth University, Ceredigion County Council, Theatrum Mundi and King's College London.

Notes to Editors

About Bedwyr Williams

Bedwyr Williams lives and works in North Wales. Solo exhibitions include 'Foundation of things to Come', Fondazione Sandretto de Rebaudengo, Turin, 'The Gulch', The Curve, Barbican Art Centre, 2016 'The Starry Messenger', Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester, 2015, 'Echt', Tramway, Glasgow, 2014 'My Bad', Ikon Gallery, Birmingham, UK. Recent group exhibitions include 'Adapt to Survive: Notes from the Future', Hayward Gallery, London, 2018. 'The Land We Live in - The Land We Left Behind', Hauser and Wirth Somerset, 2018. 'Stress Field', Hubei Museum of Art, China. In 2013 he represented Wales at the Venice Biennale and was shortlisted for the Artes Mundi Prize in 2016. He is represented by Southard Reid, London.

About KARST, Plymouth

KARST emerged from a DIY pop-up project organised by artists in the city during British Art Show 7 in 2011. In less than a decade, KARST has grown to become the one of most ambitious contemporary

art galleries and studio complexes in the South West with a reputation for being dynamic, challenging and risk taking.

The gallery and studios are based in an iconic industrial building. We think beyond our walls and invite projects from anywhere where art, ideas, and life meet. The space affords time to think and ask questions. It's an experimental workshop, a safe place to take risks, a place for ambitions beyond defined outcomes. It's also an incubator for new and established talent. We believe art has a transformative power, and we play our part in shaping the cultural identity of our city.

About Southwark Park Galleries

Founded in 1984 by The Bermondsey Artists' Group, the organisation has commissioned and presented over 160 free exhibitions by emergent, overlooked and established British and international artists. Formerly known as CGP London, the Galleries comprise The Lake Gallery (formerly The Gallery) and Dilston Gallery (formerly Dilston Grove). They are a registered charity and Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation, supported by Southwark Council as well as relying on key support from various Trusts, Foundations, sponsors, donations and venue hire to sustain our ambitious programme of contemporary art, community engagement and education.

About Tŷ Pawb, Wrexham

Tŷ Pawb is a cultural community resource, bringing together arts and markets within the same footprint. This coexistence celebrates the significance of markets within Wrexham's cultural heritage and identity. The development is a space for dialogue around subjects including social and civic issues, the environment, health, cultural identity, sustainability and Education. Tŷ Pawb presents a contemporary programme of welcoming and inclusive exhibitions, socially engaged projects and live performance. The programme emphasises skills and craft, working with emerging and established artists from all backgrounds.

About Aberystwyth Arts Centre

Award winning Aberystwyth Arts Centre is Wales' largest arts centre and recognised as a 'national flagship for the arts'. It has a wide-ranging artistic programme across all art forms including visual arts, drama, dance, music, applied arts, film, new media, and community arts and is recognised as a national centre for arts development. The Arts Centre sits at the heart of the university's campus, with stunning views over the town of Aberystwyth and along the coastline of Cardigan Bay.

It is one of the main galleries in Wales that exhibits and promotes contemporary art, giving opportunities to Welsh and international artists. It has one large main gallery for major exhibitions, a smaller gallery dedicated to emerging artists and experimentation and three smaller spaces for community art and film. Its audience is at the heart of what it does and it aims to provide engaging ways to look at, and participate in the arts and to reach new audiences.

Listings Details

KARST | 18-22 George Place | Plymouth | PL1 3NY

+44 (0)1752 222676 | www.karst.org.uk

Instagram: @karstgallery @bedwyr_williams

Facebook: @karstgallery

Twitter: @karstgallery

Tour Dates

KARST, Plymouth: 24 September-17 December 2022

Aberystwyth Arts Centre: Jan- Mar 2022

Transport to KARST

There is up to 3 hours free street parking by KARST.

KARST is within walking distance from Plymouth Train Station where direct services depart from London Paddington (taking 3-3.5 hours), Bristol, the Midlands, the North of England, Scotland and Cornwall.

The majority of local buses stop at Royal Parade, a 15 minute walk from KARST.

Plymouth Coach Station is located on Mayflower Street, a 20 minute walk away. National Express services run to London Victoria via Exeter and plenty of other UK destinations.

For further press information, please contact:

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