

Artist-in-Residence: April 2014 – March 2015

Bedwyr Williams

'**Century Egg**', 2015, a film made from the artist's residency that takes the viewer on an imaginative and witty sojourn through the collections of the University of Cambridge Museums as well as the North West Cambridge Development site. Weaving together imagined narratives, quirky details and humorous anecdotes, the work explores the theme of time in relation to both the development site and to objects in museum collections, highlighting the human stories inscribed in the objects and sites as the most important aspect of the material items we collect and audit.

Century Egg is a Chinese delicacy made by preserving eggs in a mixture of clay ash, salt, quicklime and rice hulls for several weeks or months. It is one of many objects in the film, like the wrapped and suspended bottlenose whale, that is 'a real time time-machine'.

Century Egg was selected for exhibition as part of 'British Art Show 8', 2015-2017.

Encompassing performance, sculpture, painting and video, Bedwyr Williams's practice is characterised by his unique humour and gentle self-deprecation, both informed in part, by his upbringing in Wales. At Frieze art fair in London in 2012 Williams made a cadaver out of cake, representing a murdered curator which visitors were invited to eat. Drawing from his life experiences, Williams' work, on the one hand, offers a sharp critique of our everyday world, and on the other a celebration of the obscure and overlooked.

www.bedwyrwilliams.com

