



Mock Serenade  
Bri Williams

Dvir Gallery is delighted to announce “Mock Serenade”, the first solo show of Bri Williams (United-States) with the gallery, on view from May 11 to July 13, 2023.

“The mocking serenade is a centuries old ritual described as a form of street theatre meant to humiliate and ridicule someone who had violated either a public or private social norm. It was carried out not by those seeking power over others, nor was it a protest; it was people living by their own rules. A mocking serenade stakes a claim to the use of humiliation, refusing to be numbed by it, using it instead, as a means to control one’s own cultural life.

I wish to reclaim the idea of mockery, the external and the internal, the mind games, the shame, the violence. What does it mean to celebrate failures and the journey that becomes of it? The moments of anger, fear, hopelessness, and then, acceptance. For all thoughts, dreams, and nightmares that come to surface in the mind could only be true if they are conditioned to be.

It can be loud, monstrous, and invasive. But also fruitful, alive, and delusional. It is thrilling to be strapped to a chair and paraded around naked. Here it all is. Flawed, but always beautiful.”

Bri Williams











**BRI WILLIAMS**  
*Precipice II*, 2023  
soap, metal  
116 x 118.5 x 19.5 cm



**BRI WILLIAMS**  
*Restraint System*, 2023  
silicone, crickets, bedframe sheet  
133 x 72 x 10 cm





**BRI WILLIAMS**  
*Solar Plexus*, 2023  
soap, wax, spray paint  
48.5 x 36 x 7.5 cm



**BRI WILLIAMS**  
*Thick Skin*, 2023  
silicon, metal, sequin jacket  
73 x 34.5 x 10.5 cm



**BRI WILLIAMS**

*Untitled, Target, 2023*

roses, resin, store sign letter, soap, wood

73 x 34.5 x 10.5 cm





**BRI WILLIAMS**

*Fall, Slip, Stammer, 2023*

roses, resin, wax, glass, mirror, soap

198 x 122 x 3 cm









**BRI WILLIAMS**

*Soft Bite*, 2023

resin, soap, metal, ribbon, cardboard, garbage bag

56.5 x 74 x 3 cm







**BRI WILLIAMS**

*A Person*, 2023

resin, blood, handkerchief, wax, glass, flowers

54 x 34 x 14,5 cm



**BRI WILLIAMS**

*Surrender*, 2023

resin, lace, cabinet, conch shells, silicone

168 x 44.5 x 32 cm







**BRI WILLIAMS**

*The floorboards shake and knees give out, 2021*  
soap, rust dyed quilt, earring parts, wood, nails

73 x 88.5 x 1.5 cm

**BRI WILLIAMS**

*Rapture*, 2021

soap, raven wings, bookshelf, keys, belt

87 x 73 x 32 cm









**BRI WILLIAMS**  
*Torso*, 2018  
stained soap, necklace, resin  
38.1 x 25.4 cm





**BRI WILLIAMS**

*Pest Control*, 2020

resin, soap, wax, sharpie, frame

61 x 50.8 x 1.3 cm



**BRI WILLIAMS**

*Rapunzel*, 2021

nightgown, soap, chewing gum, keys, decorative grille, wooden box

88 x 50 cm

Bri Williams (born in 1993 in Long Beach, lives and works in Oakland) received their BFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 2015 and their MFA from Mills College in 2017. Their work often includes found objects and materials that are repurposed and reworked. In some cases, the objects are moulded in soap, a material which is used metaphorically. Connecting personal associations with these objects and their history, Williams' work addresses collective memories and trauma, identity structures and power roles. Recent solo exhibitions include Out (2021); Progetto, Lecce, Italy and a two-person exhibition at Simian, Copenhagen, Denmark (2022). Recent group exhibitions include Essex Street Gallery, New York, NY (2022); Baloise Park Art Forum, Basel, Switzerland (2022); Museum of the African Diaspora, San Francisco, CA (2021); CCS Bard Hessel Museum, New York (2021).