

PRESS RELEASE

18 January 2024

Scene I: Glen Pudvine, *Mug*

6 February - 2 March 2024

12 Porchester Place, London W2 2BS



Glen Pudvine, *Hands*, 2023, Oil on linen, 80 x 100 cm (31 1/2 x 39 3/8 in.)

Matt Carey-Williams is pleased to present the first 'Scene' as part of his new global curatorial project, showcasing the work of London-based artist Glen Pudvine (b. 1989). "Scene I: Glen Pudvine, *Mug*" opens 6 February at Matt Carey-Williams' permanent space at 12 Porchester Place, London.

Glen Pudvine is a figurative painter working across themes of identity, existentialism, the everyday, pop culture and medieval and renaissance iconography. Searching for connections between these themes and experiences from the artist's life, Pudvine hopes to create new motifs that communicate a broader curiosity of who we are and where we are.

"Scene I: Glen Pudvine, *Mug*" takes the viewer on a journey from celebrated cave paintings to the present day, exploring on the way the veracity and

virility of image and index. Many of the paintings in Pudvine's Scene employ the motif of a mug handle, with the handle itself functioning as a kind of portal throwing the viewer from contemporaneity into prehistory, as evident in a painting such as "Present" (2023). The word 'mug' is also slang for a face and in many of these works the artist's own face is locked in some kind of combat with a series of images – known or imagined – that make up a landscape of his obsessions and anxieties. "Mammal" (2023), for example, has a mug adorned with a familiar online description of an alien cut across an abbreviated portrait of Pudvine's own pierced ear. Questions of depiction and perspective, time and presence, abound in both their synergy and dissonance.

Carey-Williams said:

"Glen is a brilliant young artist I have long admired. He is a painter who is not afraid to strip down everything – especially himself – to get to the real nub of today's challenging world. In my first Scene, Glen records its remarkable evolution and revolutions (as well as his own hopes and fears of and for it) across a series of simple, commonplace mugs. With so many 'mugs' both running and ruining our world, I could not have hoped for a more telling start to my programme."

"Scene I: Glen Pudvine, *Mug*" will be accompanied by an essay by Carey-Williams, examining and elucidating the artist's oeuvre. The Scene will complement Carey-Williams' inaugural 'Episode', entitled *Bump*, a group show at No.9 Cork Street, London, opening 7 March that will also feature work by Pudvine.

Notes to Editors

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mattcareywilliams.com

About Glen Pudvine

Glen Pudvine (b. 1989) graduated from the Royal Academy of Arts in 2019 and has since be subject to a number of solo exhibitions including: *Scene I: Glen Pudvine, Mug*, Matt Carey-Williams, London UK (2024); *Portals*, Xxijra Hii, London, UK (2022); *Slugulus The White and The Penance of Saint Glen*, J Hammond Projects, London, UK (2021); *Death by the Sea*, with Dominic Watson, Quench Gallery, Margate UK (2021); In the 2024 Pudvine is also scheduled to have a further solo presentation at Xxijra Hii, London, UK and be part of Matt Carey-Williams' inaugural Episode: *Bump* at No.9 Cork Street, London, UK.

About Matt Carey-Williams

Carey-Williams has worked at the world's leading galleries and auction houses, most recently Victoria Miro, where he was a Senior Director and Head of Sales from 2018–23. He has held sales roles at the influential galleries Gagosian in New York and White Cube in London, led Haunch of Venison in Europe, and occupied senior global positions at Phillips, Christie's and Sotheby's, where he began his career in 1997.

What is a 'Scene'?

A 'Scene' is a small, intimate presentation of around 5-8 works of a single artist at Matt Carey-Williams' studio space at 12 Porchester Place in London. 'Scenes' focus on emerging artists, giving them a chance to be spotlighted on Carey-Williams' platform and allowing them access to his extensive market knowledge and substantial client base. 'Scenes' also offer a platform to more established artists who have little or no presence in the UK and aim to refocus collectors' attention on mid-career UK-based artists.

What is an 'Episode'?

An 'Episode' is a large-scale group exhibition born out of a core curatorial idea. 'Episodes' mix artists of all stages of their careers, drawing parallels and conversations between their works from a practice-based approach and inviting them to engage with curatorial concepts of varying degrees.

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