Tanya Williams
Pictures of You, 2005

Digital print mounted on aluminium

Tanya Williams was one of the two recipients of the 2005 UCC Purchase Prize, awarded at the Crawford College of Art and Design annual degree show.

This black and white digital print is one of a series of photographs titled Pictures of You, developed during Williams’ fourth year in the Crawford. During the year her explorations led her from studies of the self and body to psychological investigations of the mind, particularly delving into the world of dreams and nightmares. She describes herself as having a particularly vivid imagination and a tendency to darken her work, often introducing a sinister note.

The macabre subject, close up detail and texture of this photograph are characteristic of Williams’ work. A large menacing hand dominates the image, concealing William’s face. An open eye and shoulder are all that are visible of the subject, who is trapped behind the oppressive hand. The hand has an unreal fantastic appearance, an effect achieved by superimposing details of photographs of old textured walls onto the image. This layering technique adds depth to the image and adds to the sense of tension and suffocation.

Text written by Nora Hickey following an interview with the artist

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