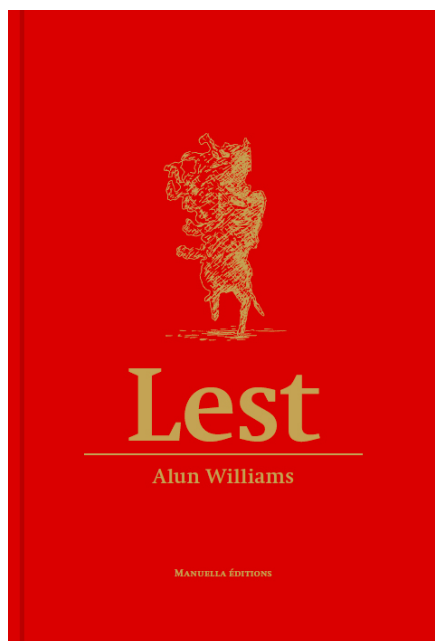


BOOK LAUNCH OF "LEST" A MONOGRAPH ON THE WORK OF ALUN WILLIAMS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2011, 6-9PM

EMILY HARVEY FOUNDATION, 537 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, NY 10012



Left: Cover of *Lest*, Right: *Six Fornarinas*, 2011, oil and acrylic on canvas, 51 x 63 in.; Collection: FRAC Limousin, Limoges, France.

The first monograph on the work of Alun Williams has been published by Manuella Editions, Paris, to coincide with the artist's solo exhibition at Galerie Anne Barrault, Paris (until January 7, 2012).

In its own way, Alun Williams' work is a reinvention of history painting, inspired by historical characters as its subject, and by the history of painting as its vehicle. With considerable humor, the artist calls upon Raphael, Goya, Ingres, Picasso, Miro, Magritte..., linking his appropriation of accidental paint-marks found in the street, with representations of historical characters gathered from the history of painting.

In *Lest*, the artist speaks about Jules Verne, Edgar Poe and Giuseppe Garibaldi, for example, along with a number of lesser known historical characters such as Hester Leisler, Julie Bêcheur and Joseph Gaultier, all of whom left their mark on literary, political, scientific or art history. The book itself constitutes a project that is at once artistic, literary and research-based, offering a completely fresh and unexpected manner of debating the subject of painting in general, and Alun Williams' work in particular, using an unaccustomed narrative style that is as light and retro, as it is relevant and readable.

Alongside Williams' texts, are those by the New York-based American painter, Cheyney Thompson, and the noted French critic and curator, Eric Mangion.

Lest by Alun Williams, published November, 2011, Manuella Editions, Paris; ISBN : 978-2-917217-20-7 hardcover, 240 pages, 126 color reproductions; bilingual; © the authors and photographers;

Editorial Direction: Manuella Varey; Editorial Design: Michel Baverey; Graphics: Motay;
texts: Eric Mangion, Cheyney Thompson, Alun Williams;

A Galerie Anne Barrault initiative, made possible by the generous support of: Fundació 30km/s, Barcelona; CNAP, Centre National des Arts Plastiques, Ministère de la Culture et de la Communication.