



I am for an art that is political-erotic-mystical,
that does something other than sit on
its ass in a museum.

I am for an artist who vanishes, turning up in
a white cap painting signs or hallways.

I am for art that comes out of a chimney
like black hair and scatters in the sky.

CLAES OLDENBURG
I Am for an Art (1961)

1985 Artists in Industry, Yorkshire Arts Placement
Rowntree Mackintosh, Halifax

Michael Windle Worked at Rowntree Mackintosh plc at their Halifax factory

Rowntree Mackintosh plc is a British based group comprising more than twenty companies making confectionery, snack food and grocery products throughout the world. It is one of the world's top five confectionery manufacturers, and the largest UK exporter of chocolate and sugar confectionery.

In 1984 the annual turnover was over £1000 million, helped by the sales of such famous products as Kit Kat, Quality Street, Black Magic, Rolo and Aero. One third of the Group's trading profits were derived from North America and 59 per cent from outside the UK.

Rowntree and Co Ltd and John Mackintosh and Sons Ltd began as separate companies in the north of England and grew simultaneously until merging in 1969 into one of the world's major confectionery businesses. The Group grew again in the 1970s by the addition of businesses in Europe and in the 1980s by the acquisition of companies in the USA and Canada.

Rowntree's origins date back to 1725 when Mary Tuke, a Quaker, opened a grocer's shop in York. Her business developed into Wm Tuke and Sons Ltd who in 1862 sold their chocolate and cocoa interests to Henry Isaac Rowntree, who with his son Joseph Rowntree developed the company as a major manufacturer of confectionery.

A manufacturing business for Mackintosh's Celebrated Toffee began in 1894 and the main factory opened at Halifax in 1909. In 1932, Mackintosh moved to Norwich and purchased A J Caley, and in 1969 Mackintosh's acquired Fox's in Leicester.

Following the merger in 1969 and formation of Rowntree Mackintosh Ltd, the Group acquired further businesses in the UK and abroad. In 1971 the Paris-based chocolate confectionery business Chocolat-Menier SA joined the Group and, Australian Company, James Stedman Ltd, joined in 1972. In 1977 Rowntree Mackintosh obtained a majority shareholding in Chocolaterie Lanvin, France, and this was followed by the acquisition of the Dutch company Nuts Chocoladefabriek in 1979.

During the 1980s Rowntree Mackintosh has increased its grocery and snack foods interests. Scunthorpe-based snack food firm

Sooner Foods joined the Group in 1982 and, in the USA, one of the United States' leading snack food companies, Tom's Foods, was acquired in 1983. The Original Cookie Company, which retails fresh cookies, was purchased in 1985. During this time Rowntree Mackintosh has also expanded its confectionery business in North America, with Canadian Laura Secord and American DeMet's joining the group in 1983.

Michael Windle is the second artist to work with Rowntree Mackintosh in the Artist in Industry scheme. The first was sculptor Colin Wilbourn in 1983.

Born in Dunfermline 1958. Diploma and Post Graduate in Drawing and Painting at Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art, Dundee 1979-84. Hospitalfield Summer School, Arbroath 1982. S.E.D. and Greenshields travelling scholarships in Italy, Holland and Belgium 1983. *One Artist Exhibition:* Traverse Gallery, Edinburgh 1984. S.A.C. Lithograph bursary 1985.



cat. no. 36

The smaller works on paper and canvas are the result of travelling throughout Rowntree Mackintosh's Albion Mills factory at Halifax making sketches and taking photographs. I had constructed a few perspex pieces before going to Yorkshire. With material gathered in the factory, I was able to develop these a stage further on returning to my studio in Dundee. In actual fact, the large works became much more complex images, probably as a response to the amount of machinery and activity on the production lines. The colours certainly are a direct outcome of the internal workings of sweet production. Quite apart from the colour of the sweets and wrapping machines, everyone involved was dressed in pink. The large works are based on

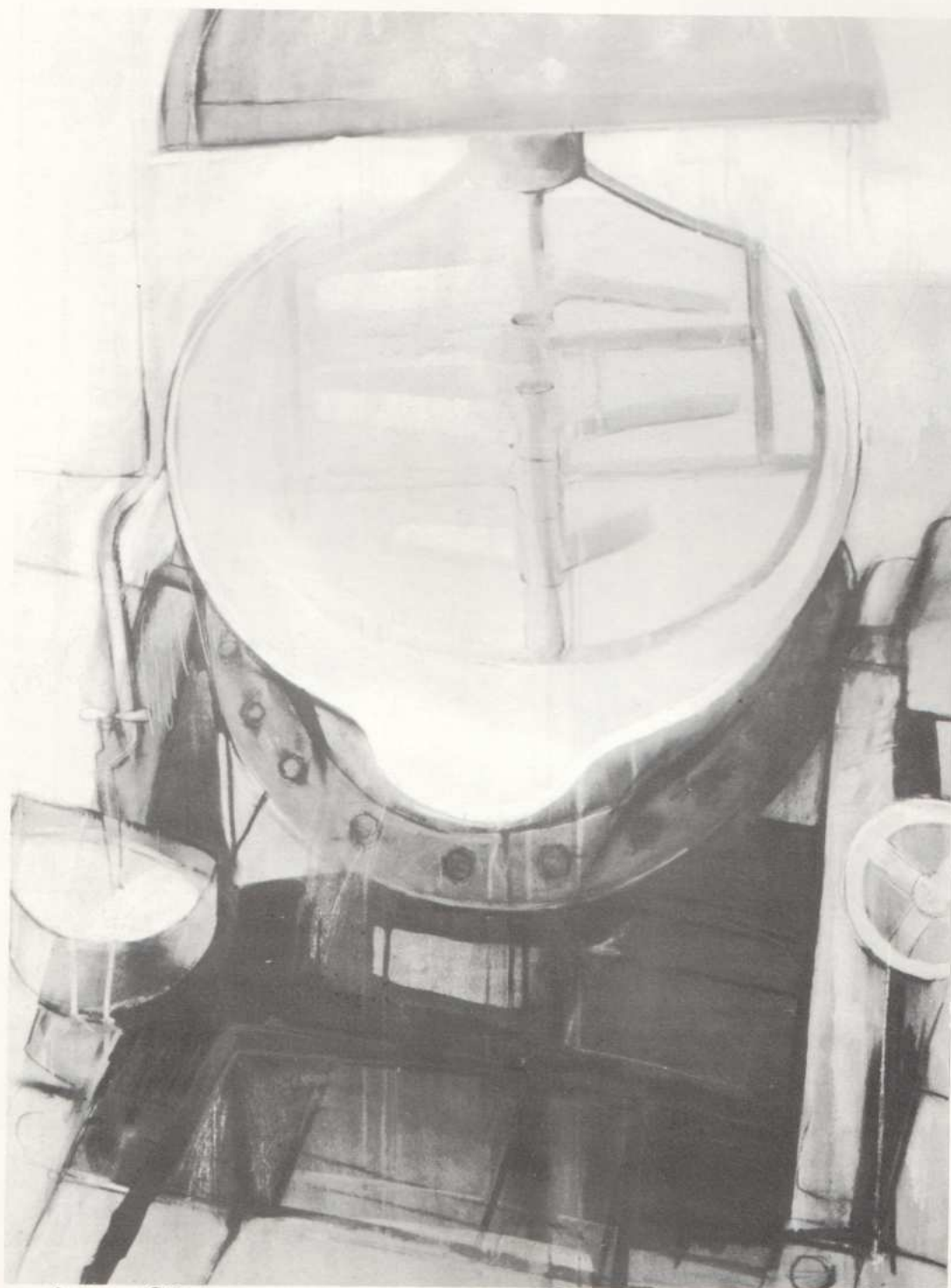
elements of the drawings. The wood and perspex is assembled first and made to work as a collage before any paint is added. For each work I use a large sheet of perspex approximately the size of the finished piece and smash it up; the resultant shapes could only be achieved by doing this. They are then painted as a sort of second phase within the limitations of the already constructed work.

The work

27. *Small Study 1*, ink and oil pastel, 5 x 7½
28. *Small Study 2*, watercolour and oil pastel, 5 x 7½
29. *Small Study 3*, watercolour, oil pastel and pencil, 5 x 7½
30. *Boiling Pan 1*, acrylic, charcoal and pencil, 25 x 36½

31. *Shute 1*, acrylic, charcoal and oil pastel, 28 x 28
32. *Boiler*, acrylic and charcoal, 30 x 40
33. *Boiling Pan 2*, acrylic and charcoal, 30 x 40
34. *Boiling Pan 3*, acrylic on canvas, 32 x 30
35. *Shute 2*, acrylic on canvas, 32 x 30
36. *Tin Tin Breaks Out*, acrylic, perspex and wood, 44 x 60
37. *Pour*, acrylic, perspex and wood, 44 x 60
38. *Edge Hot and Cool*, acrylic, perspex and wood, 88 x 60

All works made in 1985: 27–35 at Rowntree Mackintosh, Halifax during February–March; 36–38 in the Dundee studio. Dimensions are in inches, width before height.



cat. no. 33

