

Dylan Thomas Widows the Wine

Sculpted in 2008 as part of a suite "Poetry"

This was derived from an englyn by Euros Bowen (1908-1988) and in union with the translation by Tony Conran.

Euros Bowen's cutting englyn centres on Dylan Thomas Bacchanalean love of social excess: parties, wine and celebration.

The bust reflects on Caravaggio's playful painting "Bacchus" elevating Dylan Thomas to deity, recognising his tremendous creativity, talent and originality. The vine climbs over his torso and clings to him, drawing out his goodness, sucking out his soul.

The bust has also a head wreath of vine leaves as derived from Caravaggio's "Bacchus". This is not depicted. The piece was finished in white with brown hair, copper green body foliage and a strong red for the wine coated lips.

Dylan Thomas casts a sorrowful, pensive gaze as he passes from this world to wonder free with the gods.

Text sources:

Detholion by Euros Bowen, Yr Academi Cymreig 1984.
Published by JD Lewis a'i feibion cya, Gwasg Gomer, Llandysul

Professional translation by Tony Conran, "Welsh Verse".

