

Lucy

Beech

Ooze



Warm Decembers, 2022.

Warm Decembers is a film made by artist and filmmaker Lucy Beech. The film is inspired by a poem titled *The Warm Decembers* that was written by Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick. It took the writer nine years to complete this work. Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick included her notes at the end of the poem, which is interesting and unusual because notes are often thrown away or excluded, usually seen as waste. Lucy Beech's film is a visual interpretation of this poem and its notes. For the artist, the poem shows a process of crisis. Life's tough moments, uncomfortable feelings, or changes in the way we feel about ourselves – do these experiences in life stay with us or become waste?

Warm Decembers



Warm Decembers, 2022.

One of the side characters in the poem is called Beatrix. The artist made Beatrix the lead character of the film. Beatrix is experiencing moments of crisis, and is going through a difficult period of change. These difficulties affect both the mind and the body.



CLICK OR SCAN
to watch the scene
from the film

1. Describe what you see and/or hear in two or more sentences. Include two of the words from the list on the right in your description.

The image above shows us a still image from the film. We see Beatrix, her nephew, and her father, who is standing at the table. In this scene, Beatrix describes to us a dream she had about her father, her aunt, and her nephew.

- chair
- table water
- forgetting
- waste chaos
- grief
- Beatrix dream
- absence
- voice fluid
- family

Warm Decembers

2a.

When we sleep, we all have dreams. Most of our dreams are forgotten when we wake up, but sometimes we remember them, either as fragments or whole stories. Think of a dream you once had that made a big impression on you, or one that you are sure you will never forget. Make a sketch of this dream on this page. You can add words to your sketch. It's a good idea to make a sketch that you are happy to share with others (see 2b!).

2b.

Form a group with up to four other people, or you can choose to work alone. Take a look at everyone's dream sketches and choose one (or your own) to work with.

2c.

Now find a place where you can move freely and comfortably. Using your body or bodies to recreate elements from the sketch, make a still image or a freeze frame of the dream. You can also use the materials you see around you to make props.

2d.

Take a photo of the still image by using the self-timer on your phone. Create a title for the work and email both to activiteiten@kunstinstituutmelly.nl.

We will upload the photo of your work to [the website of Kunstinstituut Melly](#).

Tip! One person could be the director, who gives instructions to set everyone and all of the props into place.

2d. Space for your still image and title

Concept & Development: Emmelie Mijs
Design: Loes Verstappen
Photography: Kristien Daem
Copy editing: Harriet Foyster, Julija Mockutė, Wendy van Slagmaat-Bos.

© 2023 Kunstinstituut Melly, Rotterdam. Kunstinstituut Melly is supported by the City of Rotterdam and the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science in the Netherlands. This exhibition is made possible by Stichting Ammodo, ifa (Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen) and Mondriaan Fund.

Kunstinstituut Melly
Witte de Withstraat 50
NL-3012 BR Rotterdam