

# JAMES HARRIS GALLERY

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## PRESS RELEASE



### Bing Wright: *Blow-Up*

February 8 to March 21, 2020

Reception for the Artist:

Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 3-5PM

Left: Bing Wright

"Blow Up/Splashing Girl" 2019

2 Inkjet Prints, Mounted on Rag Board

Image: 45" x 35" Framed: 50 3/8" x 40 3/8"

Gallery Hours:

Wednesday-Saturday, 11am-5pm

Tuesday by appointment only

Images are available upon request.

James Harris Gallery is pleased to present *Blow-Up*, our fifth solo exhibition by New York based artist Bing Wright. This new series marks the artist return to color photography after seven years. Inspired by Michelangelo Antonioni's 1967 movie of the same title *Blow-Up*, Wright's photographs explore ideas of ambiguity and perception, underlying themes found in the movie. Wright's works are a combination of visual layering in which two blow up details from a single image are placed on top of one another. Like Antonioni's film, Wright's photographs reveal the mystery of looking deep into a photographic image, resulting in works that visually question the reality of an implied narrative.

Wright's new work addresses the core concerns of his practice, and the technological developments of the medium. Looking back into his archive of black and white negatives, he discovered a series of images depicting children frolicking at the beach. Compelled by nostalgia and the carefree innocence of the subjects, Wright began to take specific segments of the analog photographs, and through digital technology reveal heightened details through cropping and enlarging (traditional photographic techniques also explored in the Antonioni's s film). In "Blow Up/Girl Splashing," a black and white image captures the splattering water below an outstretched arm; on top of the image, the artist has placed a color enlargement of the splash, emphasizing the motion of the water and interrupting the picture plane. The overall composition is cinematic and creates an ambiguous narrative. The seven works occupy a new hybrid visual system, negotiating methodical and improvisational approaches to composition while applying contemporary strategies of image generation.

Bing Wright received a Bachelor of Arts in Art History from Columbia University, New York. His photographs have been shown in exhibitions at the Tang Museum and Art Gallery, Saratoga Springs, the New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York and the Queens Museum of Art, New York, among others. He lives and works in New York City and is also represented by Paula Cooper Gallery.