



READ MY LIPS



Gran Fury

Read My Lips, 1988

Poster



Gran Fury was an 11 person artist collective formed out of ACT UP, a grassroots AIDS activist group. The group created a large body of works discussing the social, medical, and moral issues surrounding the epidemic. The “Read My Lips” campaign flipped George H.W. Bush’s slogan from one of lower taxes into one of combating homophobia and stigma. It and other works such as “Kissing Doesn’t Kill” also pushed to dispel the false narrative that HIV could be contracted through casual contact. What would it be like to know that the stigma prevented those you care about from getting better? How would it feel to be told kissing you was a death sentence?