

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FORCE: on the Culture of Rape

Current Gallery, 421 N. Howard St., Baltimore, MD 21201

October 7, 2010-November 14, 2010

Opening Reception: October 7, 6pm-9pm

Closing November 12, 13, 14 6pm-8pm, with DARB TV at 8pm

“The ordinary response to atrocities is to banish them from consciousness. Certain violations of the social compact are too terrible to utter out loud. This is the meaning of the word: unspeakable.” - Judith Herman

If we are too uncomfortable to talk about rape, how can we ever process sexual violence in a way that lets individuals heal and challenges our culture to progress?

FORCE: on the Culture of Rape is a collection of art, performance, discussion, and critique about unwanted sexual experience. The show promotes a critical dialogue about how our attitudes towards gender, sex, power and violence are played out on people’s bodies. In bearing witness to the survivors of sexual violence, *FORCE* creates a safe and healing space.

If we are going to prevent rape, we need a conversation that goes beyond “Rape is wrong”. We need to place the personal crisis within its cultural context. We need to ask ourselves complicated and difficult questions about what in our society and in ourselves produces sex as violence.

FORCE: on the Culture of Rape will be on view from October 7, 2010-November 14, 2010, with an opening reception on October 7 from 6-9pm. The show will close on November 14 from 6-8pm, with DARB TV’s final performance at 8pm . The show is curated by Rebecca Nagle and Hannah Brancato.

Participating artists: Rahne Alexander, Matilda Bernstein Sycamore, Gina Carducci, Theresa Columbus, Cecelia Condit, Jessica Delfino, Rebecca Di Meo, Dynasty Handbag, Chris Ferrara, Carrie Fucile, the Firefly Collective, Ulf Kristiansen, Sarah McCann, New Lens, Aaron Oldenburg, Robbie Rackleff, Martin Figueroa-Ramirez, Mason Ross, PuppeTyranny, Evelin Stermitz, and Angie Young.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DARB TV

**Current Gallery, 421 N. Howard St, Baltimore, MD 21201
November 12, 13, 14, 2010 @ 8:00pm**

Get down on your knees, its time for...

DARB TV!

A KID'S TV SHOW ABOUT INSECTS!!!!!!!

(darb tv is a play about incest.)

birthed by rebecca nagle

raised by natalya brusilovsky, monica mirabile, and sarah tooley.

The Darb TV family will be performing their sexy subversive satire at the Current Gallery (421 N Howard St) Oct 12, 13 and 14 at 8pm for your education and \$5-\$10 donation please.

Saddle up those kiddos and ride 'em on over, because its time for an educational, magical, mystery-solving TV adventure! What does the note trapped in the magic bottle read? How do you break its spell? Why did Rebecca throw up? How many people in the audience have been raped? With puppets, musical bits, dreams and audience participation, our family will attack these questions and so much more in this hour of dark and disturbing comedy the kids will love. Not only will your little tikes be delighted by bug movies, healthy snacks and commercial breaks, but their brains will grow! Yes, all the fun here in Darb TV land comes with an educational, magical mission. We promise to improve your babies by showing them how to eat bruschetta, douche their vaginas, heal from childhood sexual abuse, and dig a large hole. Grounded in feminist critique and delivered with colorful puppets, Darb TV is a sexy, subversive satire the whole family needs to see.

Note: This play is not good for children.

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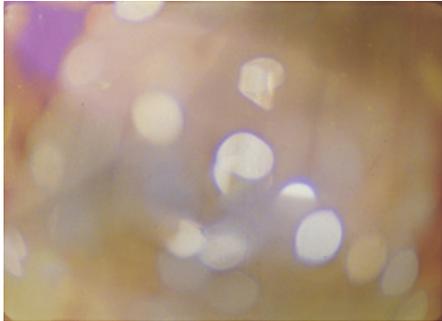




RAHNE ALEXANDER

Equal + Opposite

From the early silents of Lubitsch to *The Crying Game* and beyond, gender-variant characters persistently provide cinematic shock upon the revelation of their “true sex.” Turning the focus away from the gender-variant body, “Equal+Opposite” instead explores the range of physical and emotional reactions by “protagonists” to transgendered bodies, from curiosity to revulsion.



MATILDA BERNSTEIN SYCAMORE & GINA CARDUCCI

www.matildabernsteinsycamore.com

All That Sheltering Emptiness

All That Sheltering Emptiness is a meditation on elevators, hotel lobbies, hundred dollar bills, the bathroom, a cab, chandeliers, cocktails, the receptionist, arousal, and other routines in the life of a New York City callboy. *All That Sheltering Emptiness* explodes the typical narratives of desire, escape and intimacy to evoke something more honest.



THERESA COLUMBUS

Shockingly Brilliant

Pal: So, how does this become your artist bio?

Combo: It's about this want.

Pal: So want is the defining feature, this specific want.

Combo: This one, yup. That this is art, making it art because we REALLY want it to be.

Pal: Or even want it just a little bit?

Combo: Yes, but this is not even art, it is T's art bio.

Pal: This is part of T's artist statement.

Combo: No, it is-

Pal: OK, can we say it is both?

Combo: Can we say it is her bio, part of her statement, which really is also real art-

Pal: Hmm, does every piece of art she makes fit this bio? What if this piece is not about her art.

Combo: Well this happens to be about art... her art.

Pal: Oh really?

Combo: Yessssssss.



CECELIA CONDIT

www.ceceliacondit.com

Possibly In Michigan

Possibly in Michigan is a musical that takes place in Middle America. A man stalks 2 women through a department store and follows them home. There, the victims become the aggressors.

Beneath the Skin

Beneath the Skin is a media extravaganza about a girl's murder and the other girlfriend's shock.

JESSICA DELFINO

Please Don't Rape Me



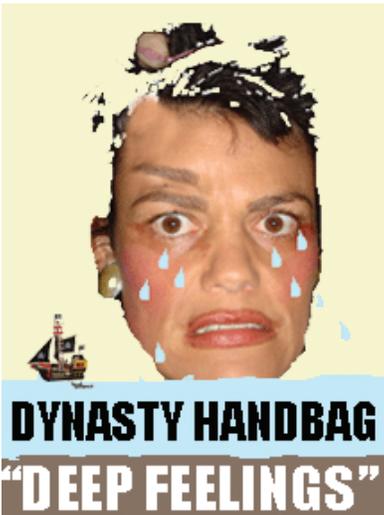
Hi. I'm Jessica Delfino, an NYC based comedian, musician, performer and writer who plays many instruments ranging from the flying V ukulele to the rape whistle. I decided to try stand-up comedy when a comedian I met said females couldn't do comedy. That morphed into playing music into the subway. Then I began bringing my guitar on stage and making videos which led to me getting publicly denounced by the Catholic League, and banned by Youtube, and then unbanned. It hasn't all been rainbows and unicorns, but even the shitty parts are probably better than your job.



REBECCA DI MEO

Touch

This work was created as snap-shots of bodies interrupted by touch.



DYNASTY HANDBAG

www.dynastyhandbag.com

Deep Feelings

Dynasty Handbag revisits some icky childhood sexual adventures and it's influence on adult relationships and internalized homophobia. A Dr. Phillis keeps interrupting her process with criticism and bad advice. Along the journey she rapes her house cat, meets an octopus with a knife, is tempted into a warm cave by a lion who makes her vacuum, a sweet and unintelligible sea horse, and molests a teen slut passed out on a picnic table.



CHRISTINE FERRARA

Christine Ferrara is an American Triathlete, artist and mother of 8. She lives and works in Baltimore.

Google Art Video

As two women discuss art, a cryptic mini-drama plays out.



FIREFLY COLLECTIVE

The Firefly collective is Daniella Alvarez , Nataki Mc-Neal Bhatti, Donyae Coles, Joyce E Braxton Coley, William Ortiz, Laura Riley, Lynn Sadowy, and Janice Evelyn Snapp. The group works together in Harrisburg, PA. Firefly is a diverse community of artists who: work in many mediums; are passionate about the creative process; and are committed to supporting one another. For FORCE, the group is making a collaborative quilt about rape and incest.



CARRIE FUCILE

www.carriefucile.net

Ssh

Carrie Fucile's work focuses on the fragility and mortality of the human body. Recent exhibitions include Systems Failure at Target Gallery, Alexandria, VA, Sign Language at Whole Gallery, Baltimore MD, and Materiality at ARC Gallery, Chicago, IL. She received her MFA from Brooklyn College in 2006 and currently lives and works in Baltimore, MD.



ULF KRISTIENSEN

www.ulfkristiansen.com

The Abyss

A convicted rapist and killer is about to be executed. The day before his execution, he wants to warn society about the dangers of violent pornography. Whether this is a heartfelt concern of a man who wants to do at least one decent thing before he dies, or this is just a last attempt of a psychopath to manipulate his surroundings will have to be up to the viewer to decide for him/herself.



SARAH MCCANN

www.sarahbmccann.com

What Is Rape

The collaborative piece What is Rape? is an installation including a writing table, paper, pens, push pins, a lock box and a trash can. Viewers will be asked to answer the question "What is rape?" and then take their written response and do one of three things with them. The first is to hang it on the wall for all to see, the second is to place it in a locked box so that other viewers cannot see or read it, and the third is to crumple it up and throw it away in a trash can, the contents of which will be burned at the close of the show.



NEW LENS

www.newlens.info

New Lens is a youth driven social justice organization working to assist youth in making art and media about often underrepresented perspectives. In 2008 the group worked on projects related to healthy relationships; this poster about consent represents one result of that dialogue.



AARON OLDENBURG

www.aaronoldenburg.net

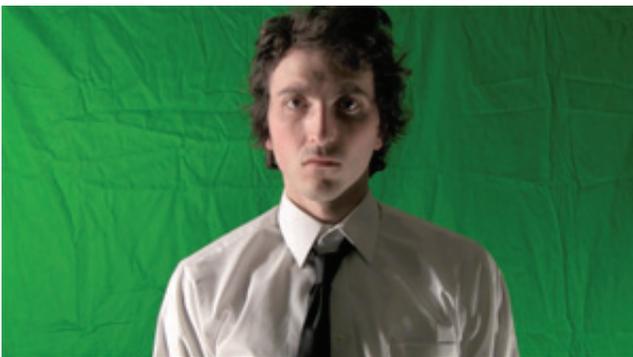
Blue Sex

This is an open source porn app that attempts to objectify and humiliate the player by putting them onscreen and asking them to paint their genitals blue to interact with it.



PUPPETYRANNY

PuppeTyranny is a committee of craftastic wrongdoers based in Philadelphia and featuring tyrannical circus and annoyance arts from abroad. Their multimedia performances have featured puppetry in many forms, toy theater, trapeze, animation, a 100 foot long scrolling banner, pi-ata swinging, original music, and regular old acting.



ROBBY RACKLEFF

www.whamcity.com

Robby Rackleff is a recent graduate of the Mount Royal MFA program at the Maryland Institute College of Art, and a member of the Wham City art collective. He currently lives in Baltimore, Maryland.



MASON ROSS

www.whamcity.com

Mason Ross is a performance artist in Wham City. He is known for his awkward stand-up comedy style and for his misplaced and confused everyday style. After being cast as Ian Malcolm in Wham City's Jurassic Park, Mason realized how much fun it is to waste your life on the dumbest shit you can possibly imagine. He is now open to any suggestions on how to do this to a fuller capacity.



EVELIN STERMITZ

www.evelinstermitz.net

Water Portrait 1

Portrait of Carmen Lipush

This video series becomes a collection of women's portraits of images mirroring from the water surface, filmed at the Ljubljanica River in Ljubljana, Slovenia. These video portraits reveal personal experienced stories of violence against women



MARTIN FIGUEROA-RAMERIREZ

Scrapbook Repression

Inspired by the real life experiences of several people close to the artist, Scrapbook (Repression) is primarily about the psychological damage that occurs with victims of sexual abuse. Ultimately, the piece is meant to question the ideas of the family and the occurrences that get brushed under the carpet and kept out of the scrapbook.

ANGIE YOUNG

Interview Clips From "The Incest Machine"

The Incest Machine is a film-in-progress by Angie Young that explores the cyclical nature of incest and how it functions as a machine to recreate hypocrisy, systems of oppression and patriarchy. It opens the door to ending the silence surrounding incest and offers new possibilities for healing and transformation for all who have been affected by sexual abuse. Using a combination of experimental film and interviews, the film explores the complexities of the subject while simultaneously deconstructing the narrative to elucidate new meanings and connections to the systems of power and control that shape our culture and our consciousness.

