

DEM PASSWORDS

DANNY PEREZ
"ABUSEMENT"

February 24 - March 9, 2012

OPENING RECEPTION

Friday, February 24th from 7 to 10 PM

CLOSING EVENT

Friday, March 9th from 9 PM to 12 AM

music by White Magic, DJ Jimi Hey and special
screening with Danny Perez



Dem Passwords is pleased to present Danny Perez - ABUSEMENT. This is Perez's first solo-showing of artwork on the West Coast.

Best known for providing video accompaniment to the live sound presentations of his East Coast electronic jam-band collaborators Black Dice and Animal Collective, Perez's work extends out of the live music context into places both darkly psychedelic and eerily illuminated.

ABUSEMENT is an ambiguous and sometimes unsettling trip into the two hemispheres of the mind Perez; sides analytical and synthesizing. He trades in repugnant imagery of the Youtube variety and of older vintage, in this show, processed and filtered onto 30 meters of framed front and rear-projection screens. His work exists in a video art no-man's land where 70s liquid light shows meet the lustrous quality of big-budget Hollywood filmmaking.

In his latest work, Perez explores corrupted notions of our biological identity. Snake fetus footage, 2 seconds of gore from "Mermaid in a Manhole" looped over and breast-feeding adolescents blend between abstract washes of neon color. "Simple, dumb effects" turn 10 minutes of women's wrestling into something painterly; blown out and slowed down into glowing pulses.

Perez re-casts his taste for Pop banality with a personal and dynamic flare. He brings together sound, light, costume design and performance in a way that makes it easy to pick his style out of a line-up. He is his artwork like people who start to look like the dogs they own for a long time.

Perez is a classically trained filmmaker newly relocated to Los Angeles from Philadelphia; trapped in sunshine, depressed. But the opposite is also true.

Original score throughout. 7-channel video installation.

Danny Perez was born in 1979 in Washington DC. He graduated from the NYU Tisch School of the Arts in 2002 with a BFA in Film/Video. His work has been screened at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in New York, the National Gallery of Denmark in Copenhagen and at the 2010 Sundance Film Festival. "Oddsac," his feature-length collaboration with Baltimore band Animal Collective was released by Plexifilm in 2010.

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