

BRICE DELLSPERGER

10.11.17-06.01.18

Air de Paris



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The beautiful Kira, heroine of the disco fable *Xanadu*, is imagined in a standoff with Carrie, the scapegoat turned persecutor. From each film Brice Dellsperger extracts a scene and appropriates it via a destabilisation, a formal vibration that generates a double.

Dellsperger began his *Body Double* series in 1995, borrowing the title readymade from the film by Brian de Palma. From one film to the next and from remake to remake he explores the doubling process, with the roles being played by the same actor and the actors often turned into actresses. In this play on multiplicity he functions like a prism traversed by a ray of light and then emitting its spectre.

For *Body Double 32*, Dellsperger takes the second scene from *Carrie*¹. Played by androgynous model Alex Wetter, a happy gang of girls are whooping it up under the showers in a high school locker room where the rows of lockers seem to double up and form a space-time loop. The loop comes to an end as, one by one, they disappear into the steam and turn into infinite variations on one of their number: Carrie. Still under the shower, Carrie herself seems unaware of what is going on around her. With a touch of sensuality the camera suggests that the child is becoming a woman. Terror-stricken, Carrie sees that her hands are covered with blood.

For *Body Double 35*, Dellsperger takes the second scene from *Xanadu*². Played by choreographer/dancer François Chaignaud, a sprightly group of Muses emerges dancing from a painting on the wall. At an exhibition³ at the Swiss Institute in 2016 Dellsperger reproduced the wall painting and in a strange switch the creation of the set precedes the idea of the film, even becoming its trigger. The entire equilibrium of things seems to be affected: the shots are reversed and Kira⁴ dances backwards until she becomes one with the wall. The loop is closed.

Dellsperger's idea seems fundamentally antinomic: Kira vs. Carrie. Kira is bathed in light, Carrie only in mist; Kira spreads love and inspiration, Carrie only death; Kira is the daughter of a God, Carrie dances at Satan's ball.

At Air de Paris, *Body Double 32* and *Body Double 35* are shown alternately on the same screen, seemingly linked by a kind of interdependence: are not the names Kira and Carrie phonetic anagrams? Do not the rays of light show through the mist? And on the other side of the mirror, might not Kira be Carrie's double?

ABOUT

Born in Cannes, 1972

Lives and works in Paris

Brice Dellsperger has been working on his *Body Double* cycle since 1995. The films have been shown at many international film festivals and been acquired by private and public collections. His work is in collections that include the MoMA, Musée d'Art Moderne - Centre Pompidou and Nouveau Musée National de Monaco.

NEWS

Lille 3000 - Performance ! Une exposition du 40ème anniversaire du Centre Pompidou, Le Tripostal, Lille, Oct. 06, 2017 - Jan. 14, 2018

TRAVERSÉES REN@RDE, Une exposition du 40ème anniversaire du Centre Pompidou Transpalette, Oct. 21 2017 - Jan. 28, 2018

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¹ The cult movie directed by Brian de Palma, released in 1976.

² Directed by Robert Greenwald, released in 1980. A critical and commercial flop that marked the end of the disco era.

³ FADE IN: INT. ART GALLERY – DAY, Swiss Institute, New York USA, 03.03-19.05.2016

⁴ The embodiment of Terpsichore, the Muse of dance in Greek mythology.

BODY DOUBLE 32







BODY DOUBLE 32, 2017
after Carrie (Brian De Palma)
2k film, 16:9, Quicktime Apple ProRes 444, color, sound
11.05 minutes, looped
Edition of 5

15.000 € excl. taxes

Vimeo: <https://vimeo.com/243067038/67ea8da3ec>

BODY DOUBLE 35







BODY DOUBLE 35, 2017
after Xanadu (Robert Greenwald)
2K film, format 16:9 letterbox, ProRes 422, color, sound
29 min. 56 sec., looped
Edition of 5

15.000 € excl. taxes

Vimeo: <https://vimeo.com/239428477>
mdp: bdvideo

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