



Brice Dellsperger's "Body Double"

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This French artist flips the script and changes the cast, making art out of Hollywood cult classics.

We live in a fast-paced world, where our tolerance for patience and beauty—and all its subtleties—is often limited, our lives so filled as they are by the instant gratification that technology provides. It's rare to muster the strength to simply put down our phones and experience something unique. Observing anything that challenges what we know takes focus and energy, something you realize when presented with the videos of French artist Brice Dellsperger, some of which are currently on display at [Team Gallery's](#) spaces in SoHo.

The show, *Body Double: Vous N'en Croirez Pas Vos Yeux*, consists of 30 works spanning almost two decades, shown in both of Team Gallery's locations. The videos continuously rotate to be on view weekly, many of which have never been seen in New York before. The Grand Street location shows one video each week as a large-scale single channel projection, while the Wooster Street gallery contains four monitors displaying single-channel pieces with three flat screen televisions displaying a multiple-channel work.

All of the videos are based on reenactments of scenes from such iconic cult Hollywood films as *Dressed to Kill*, *Twin Peaks*, *Eyes Wide Shut*, and Brian De Palma's *Body Double*, the title that inspired the series. Dellsperger respects the original scene but also deconstructs it by replacing all of the original cast with one or two other actors who play the multiple parts. This simple act completely changes the initial effect that the films might have originally contained, creating an unexpectedly analytical and deep-rooted intuitive response.



At times this format can be confusing, especially if you're unfamiliar with the original works. For the unaware, the actors in Dellsperger's versions seem overly dramatic, the scenes a kitschy and absurd satire. But, to be sure, these adaptations are quite up to par with the original. When allowing each video the required patience, time, and the openness to understand the larger message of the vignettes, having one actor play multiple parts actually brings a new brilliant life to the original scene. The actor is not held to one gender, personality, or time period. In effect, these bold films, for many viewers, function as alternatives to their everyday lives, asking the viewers to question the artificial ideals of sexual and gender identities that society has ingrained within all of us.

Such is the case in *Body Double 9* and *Body Double 12*. Three actors depict two scenes from the 1981 movie *Blow Out*. On three different flat screen televisions lining one wall of the Wooster location, each actor explores the scenes by playing multiple parts. Synchronized by the timing, color, and backgrounds of each scene, it is interesting to view these movies acted out in three different ways parallel to each other. Each actor takes the scene to a different place, yet the minimalist simplicity and beauty is congruent.

By exploring atypical Hollywood films over the last twenty years through his work, Dellsperger has been able to examine and challenge societal standards. When a spectator is able to view all his fantastical experimentations through his vignettes it becomes clear that they are not just a camouflage for an investigation into popular culture but also a reflection of ambiguous beauty and timeless intrigue.

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team (gallery, inc.) 83 Grand Street & 47 Wooster Street NY
