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Lior Shamriz

CANCELLED FACES

Korea, the now: A young man makes a fateful encounter with a stranger he passionately falls in love with. When Unk rides his scooter through the night he fails to notice a drunk pedestrian, a man called Boaz, and hits him. The accident has unforeseen repercussions since shortly afterwards Unk and Boaz start an intense relationship that leads into a gradually worsening dependency and the “nouveau-noir story of absorption and autonomy” (Lior Shamriz) takes its course. Filmed as a gay melodrama in black-and-white shots, the classically narrative strands are intertwined with scenes from an eccentric theatre production that incorporates stories of the great revolt of the Jews against the Roman Empire. Bit by bit, the lines between a romantically orchestrated reality and the performative staging of a fictional tale begin to blur.

Lior Shamriz's film deals with cultural and historical appropriation. Elements of the New Queer Cinema, American pop culture, Biblical history, and fetish fashion are singled out, taken out of context, then re-contextualized and integrated into an unconventional narrative that consciously recites cinematic conventions at the same time. In the form of what could be called a cinematic mash-up, *Cancelled Faces* alienates cultural signifiers and opens a view to the concept of alienation on various levels. The personal alienation of two lovers inside a relationship, the cultural alienation of subjects in a globalized consumer culture and lastly, the alienation of concepts of national, sexual, or cultural identity. (Toby Ashraf)

2015, black/white, QuickTime ProRes, 80 min., Korean. **Written and directed by** Lior Shamriz. **Production** Lior Shamriz. **Cast** Kim Won-mok, Lee Je-yeon, Ye Soo-jeong, Won Tae-hee, Kim Hye-na. **Production manager** Kim Kyeongkoo. **Costume design** Oh Seborg. **Sound mixing** Jochen Jezussek. **Music** Ohal Grietzer.

Lior Shamriz was born 1978 in Ashkelon, Israel, and currently lives in Berlin and Los Angeles. His work has been presented at numerous international film festivals, including Berlin International Film Festival (2010, 2013), Locarno, Torino, Frameline, Sarajevo, BAFICI, Oberhausen Kurzfilmtage and venues such as MoMA, New York, Kunstwerke, Berlin, Centre George Pompidou, Paris, and The National Museum of Art Washington D.C.

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WAYWARD FRONDS

Mermaids flip a tale of twin detriments, domiciles cradle morph invaders, crocodile trails swallow two-legged twigs in a fecund mash of nature's outlaws... down in the Everglades.

Wayward Fronds references a series of historical events that helped shape the Florida Everglades as they are today, while fictionalizing their geological future and their effects on both native and exotic inhabitants. Exploring this region was influenced by recent talks to finally disperse billions of dollars in restoration funds, giving way to ideas and possibilities of a future eco-flourished Everglades that engulfs civilization along the way. Events in this film imply that nature begins to take over, that the Everglades switch roles and tame civilization after centuries of attack, and even guide it into its mysterious aqueous depths, forcing humans to adapt and evolve to their surroundings.

“Sound serves as a field of play for many ... filmmakers, who call to viewers with it in ways that excite the imagination. Fern Silva's *Wayward Fronds* ... combines verdant landscape imagery with richly heightened natural sounds of chirping birds and insects, bubbling water and galloping horses, which together help give a sense of an expanding ecosystem.” (Aaron Cutler)

2014, colour, 14 min., English. **Director** Fern Silva.

Fern Silva, born in 1982, in Hartford, Connecticut, uses film to create a cinematographic language for the hybrid mythologies of globalism. His films consider methods of narrative, ethnographic, and documentary filmmaking as the starting point for structural experimentation. He has created a body of film, video, and projection work that has been screened and performed at various festivals, galleries, museums, and cinematheques including Toronto, Berlin, Locarno, Rotterdam, New York, Edinburgh, Images, London, and others.

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