

REVIEWED THIS MONTH

BY SARAH VALDEZ

JEREMY BLAKE

Jeremy Blake's semi-narrative, semi-abstract, super-seductive DVD animations lean toward visuals associated with jet-setting libertines and the attendant casualties of the hedonistic high life. The California-based artist's mod

aesthetic champions illogic and excess — a fun, philosophical foe of the current mainstream's blandness. His latest exhibition, "Sodium Fox," finds him collaborating with the sly Nashville-based poet and sometime musician David Berman (of the Silver Jews); it features, in some of Blake's words, "a sexually charged but not traditionally passive female icon" who takes the idea of foxiness beyond attractiveness toward a more intriguing idea of "strategic cleverness." With a winning combination of earnestness and humor, Blake draws on such disparate inspirations as Neil Young, James Rosenquist and Jean Luc Godard to undermine, as he puts it, "the Wal-Mart Super Store, the McMansion, the Super Church and the Reality Show." Bless his heart. We need this vision now more than ever.

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"SODIUM FOX" BY JEREMY BLAKE

