

DON BAPST'S

NARCISSUS

a queer noir drama



SYNOPSIS

On Pride night in a queer punk club in the mid-1980s, a young man named Devon “cruises” a mysterious older man while a serial killer and a “gay cancer” lurk on the sidelines.

Four decades later, in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic with HIV already half-forgotten, Devon finds himself pursued by a young man who reminds him of himself on that magical, unsettling night from long ago, stirring long-dormant desires and fears.

And somewhere in the middle, he crosses paths with himself.



A TIME-TRAVEL PIECE W/O THE TIME MACHINE



STYLE AND THEMES

90-minute queer-noir drama

heightened/bold design

1980's vs. 2000s vs. present day

punk glamour vs. retro nostalgia vs. forgotten past



DRAMATIC QUESTION

How is queer history shared across generations, then and now?



LOCATIONS

A club in the 1980s

Same club in 2000s with retro makeover

Same club now with more forgotten



LOOK BOOK

The Inauguration of The Pleasure Dome, 1954
Kenneth Anger, Director

Liquid Sky, 1982
Slava Tsukerman, Director;
Yuri Neyman, Cinematographer

A Zed & Two Noughts, 1985
Peter Greenaway, Director
Sacha Vierny, Cinematographer



LOOK BOOK

Suspiria, 1977

Dario Argento, Director

Luciano Tavoli, Cinematographer

The Devils, 1971

Ken Russell, Director

David Watkin, Cinematographer

Derek Jarman, Set Designer

Looking for Mr. Goodbar, 1977

Richard Brooks, Director

William A. Fraker, Cinematographer



LOOK BOOK

Climax, 2018

Gaspar Noé, Director

Benoît Debie, Cinematographer

Querelle, 1982

Rainer Werner Fassbinder, Director

Xaver Schwarzenberger & Josef Vavra,
Cinematographers

A Clockwork Orange, 1971

Stanley Kubrick, Director

John Alcott, Cinematographer

John Barry, Production Design



PROOF-OF-CONCEPT

Doppelgänger - 10 minute short

MFA Thesis Project

York University, Toronto

Supervisor: John Greyson; Reader: Moussa Djigo

written, edited, directed by

Don Bapst

<https://donbapst.com/films/doppelganger/>



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