



JAMAICA FLUX '10

WORKSPACES & WINDOWS

Jamaica Center for Arts & Learning



Beat Down, 1998, single-channel, color, sound, 02'50"

CHRIS BORS

In *Beat Down*, a boxing nun puppet controlled by the artist punches the artist continuously in the face. The puppet is self-punishing as well as a representative of the outside world. The artist's reaction to the punches is one of indifference—a numbness related to the repetition of being beaten. The video references Catholicism's tradition of self-punishment, guilty consciousness, and the religious definition of sin. The sound effects are from Bruce Lee's classic kung-fu movie *Enter the Dragon*.

Chris Bors (b. Ithaca, NY) lives and works in Harlem, New York City. He received his MFA from School of Visual Arts and studied at Rhode Island School of Design. He employs a variety of media, including video, painting, and

photography. His art is both autobiographical and appropriates imagery found in popular culture, virtual spaces, and hardcore punk and metal music. He explores the dysfunctional and schizophrenic identity that results from a contemporary culture preoccupied by TV and video games, as well as the specific instances of this mass-media culture such as the hyperbolic acting of professional wrestling. His art has been exhibited at PS1 MoMA, White Columns, Envoy Enterprises, Heist Gallery, Sixtyseven, and Ten in One Gallery in New York; Casino Luxembourg in Luxembourg; Bahnwärterhaus in Esslingen, Germany; Bongout in Berlin; and at the Videoex Festival in Zurich. His work has been reviewed and featured in The New York Times, Vogue Italia, Time Out New York, Artnet.com, K48, zingmagazine and Old News.



