

## Jordan Baseman

### Dark is the Night

21 February - 5 April 2009

Private View and Reception for the Artist: Saturday 21 February 2009 at 2pm

Commissioned by ArtSway and The Photographers' Gallery, Jordan Baseman has made new film works in and around Soho interviewing residents who range from the notorious to the anonymous, including hedonists and faded actors. The interview process is at the heart of Baseman's work. He heavily edits this recorded material, juxtaposing the finished interviews with film footage taken in and around Soho to construct narratives that mimic, and yet subvert, the traditional documentary film format. These films are at once semi-narrative, poetic and revealing.

For the ArtSway showing Baseman will present films including *Dark is the Night* and *Nasty Piece of Stuff*. The title film features Lucy, a transsexual prostitute, as we hear her describe her life and experiences while watching footage of dimly-lit Soho streets. *Dark is the Night* was recorded nocturnally over a six-month period.

*Nasty Piece of Stuff* features Soho resident Alan Wakeman discussing the Gay Liberation Front and his first intimate sexual experiences. The film combines experimental film techniques with personal testimony.

Jordan Baseman's exhibition at The Photographers' Gallery, London takes place between 24 April - 14 June 2009.

Jordan Baseman lives and works in London and is represented by Matt's Gallery, London.

Jordan Baseman received a BFA from Tyler School of Art, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and an MA from Goldsmiths College, University of London. Baseman is currently the Reader in Time Based Media at Wimbledon College of Art, University of the Arts, London, and is also a Lecturer at the Royal College of Art Sculpture School. He has a long history of carrying out projects in collaboration with various public institutions. These have included residencies and commissions for Arts Council England, Dundee Contemporary Arts, Grizedale Arts, London Arts, Camden Arts Centre, The Serpentine Gallery, Book Works and National Sculpture Factory, Ireland.

#### Editor's Notes

ArtSway is a unique place in the UK's New Forest to see, discuss, make and engage with contemporary visual art. A purpose-built and architecturally important gallery space hosts a changing programme of exhibitions and wide-ranging creative opportunities for all.

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ArtSway is open: Tuesday - Sunday 11am - 5pm. Admission is free.

The Photographers' Gallery is the largest public gallery in the UK dedicated to photography. From the latest emerging talent, to historical archives and established artists - it is the place to see photography.

The Photographers' Gallery, 16 - 18 Ramillies Street, London, W1F 7LW.  
W: [www.photonet.org.uk](http://www.photonet.org.uk) E: Contact Sam Trenerry in the Press Office at [press@photonet.org.uk](mailto:press@photonet.org.uk)  
T: 020 7087 9333. Admission is free.

#### **Exhibition Associated Events:**

##### **Gallery Talk: Jordan Baseman in Conversation with Peter Bonnell Saturday 21 February 2009 at 3pm**

Join Jordan Baseman as he discusses his new series of revealing films, co-commissioned by ArtSway and The Photographers' Gallery, with ArtSway's Curator Peter Bonnell. Baseman will discuss the development and realisation of his new film works which are based on the thoughts and recollections of residents of the Soho district of London.

**FREE: Booking Essential.**

##### **ArtSway Associate Talk: Alistair Gentry Wednesday 11 March 2009, 7pm - 9pm**

Join ArtSway Associate Alistair Gentry for an evening of exploration and discussion into the use of documentary formats or idioms for non-documentary purposes, and how this format has been used in the films of Jordan Baseman and in Alistair's own work.

**FREE: Booking Essential.**

##### **Gallery Talk and Performance: Sebastian Horsley Saturday 4 April 2009 at 3pm**

ArtSway is pleased to present a once in a lifetime event in deepest rural Hampshire: an afternoon of 'dazzling and controversial anecdote' with artist and writer Sebastian Horsley, author of 'Dandy in the Underworld'.

**FREE: Booking Essential.**

**For press images, interviews, booking and further information, please contact Jack Lewis on 01590 682260 (+6) or email: [jack.lewis@artsway.org.uk](mailto:jack.lewis@artsway.org.uk)**