

KATE WERBLE GALLERY

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BY PETER PLAGENS

BRENNAN GERARD & RYAN KELLY: 'KISS SOLO'

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Kate Werble
83 Vandam St.
(212) 352-9700
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As with so much art these days, there's a big back-story to this exhibition of Brennan Gerard (b. 1978) and Ryan Kelly (b. 1979). Three years ago, by talking a description into a tape recorder, the two artists surreptitiously documented couples performing Tino Seghal's "Kiss" at the Guggenheim Museum. Discovering that the piece was a "tightly choreographed 12-minute loop," Messrs. Gerard and Kelly translated it into a series of instructions for solo dancers. What were originally mildly erotic encounters between two people are now solo video performances by young dancers in street clothes. The audible instructions serve as a kind of score.

Despite the professional youth of the artists and the of-the-moment look to the screens, this is a fine, oddly satisfying exhibition. It may or may not seem that way to Twyla Tharp aficionados—but to a modestly dance-savvy viewer, "Kiss Solo" is a pleasure.

TEL 212-352-9700 FAX 212-352-9704

www.katewerblegallery.com EMAIL info@katewerblegallery.com