ASPECT / RATIO

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ZERO

DEVILLE COHEN

Friday, October 28 – Saturday, December 10, 2016
Opening reception for the artist: Friday, October 28th 5:00-8:00 pm

Deville Cohen, *ZERO*, still from single channel HD video, 2013-14, 23:00 minutes TRT

Aspect/Ratio is pleased to present *ZERO* from Deville Cohen. *ZERO* is shaped and motivated by theater, sculpture and collage. *ZERO* is inspired by television crime dramas such as *The X-Files*, but instead of trying to solve a supernatural murder or abduction, it investigates the slippage between something and its representation. Deville breaks down narratives from these frameworks and then turns them into complex and idiosyncratic systems that are transformed into a single channel video. Zero, the presumed sum of nature's equations featured in the video, is itself a semantic riddle: a representation of nothing. But, can nothing actually exist, if it is represented? Can nothingness, the lack of content, take a form?

In addition to this video, Deville will also premiere two new video sculptural works that are sculptural excerpts from his recent immense musical theatre production: *underline* *. *underline* follows E.A. Abbott's 19th C. geometrical novel *Flatland*, a satirical novel that boundaries and limitations of Victorian society and places the audience in the role of the novel's protagonist.

Deville Cohen is a visual artist and a director living and working in Brooklyn, New York. He studied sculpture at the KHB Berlin, Germany and received his MFA in film/video from Bard College. His work has shown at such venues as SFMoMA, PS1 MoMA, The Center for Contemporary Art in Tel-Aviv, Disjecta in Portland as well as University of South Florida Institute for Research in Art.

***** *underline* is a collaboration between Deville Cohen (Storyline, Videos, Set Design and Director) and the composer Hugo Morales (Music and Instrument Design). *underline* was commissioned by the Munich Biennale For New Music Theater and a co-production of the Deutsche Opern Berlin, *underline* premiered in Berlin and Munich in June 2016.