

Best in Show  
Red Carpet Treatment

by R. C. Baker

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War on .45/My Mirrors Are Painted Black (For You)'

Like a vinyl Lou Reed bootleg, this show is raw, literally dark, and death obsessed. Gardar Eide Einarsson has enlarged comic-strip captions and balloons; one declaims, "And off we went to destroy everything I held dear," and another, "His Badge Says Death, Ma!" Terence Koh's huge slab of black plywood has been pissed on, gouged, and burned, recalling Warhol's "Oxidation" series and the shotgun-blasted paintings of William S. Burroughs. Herwig Weiser's Death Before Disko—acrylic tubes lined with red strobes and connected to a p.a. system that crackles, rumbles, and emits distant, distorted howls—could be Armageddon's jukebox. Bortolami Dayan, 510 W 25th, 212-727-2050. Through September 9.