

**MONDAY, JANUARY 19 2009**

## Uri Aran at Rivington Arms



Uri Aran, *Untitled*, video still, 2008, DVD, 6 minutes Rivington Arms

"Baryshnikov is the greatest dancer in the world", a man dutifully recites for artist Uri Aran. "Baryshnikov is the greatest dancer to have ever lived. Barshnikov is the greatest dancer...ever." These are just a few accolade variations the speaker pictured above came up with when directed to describe Barshnikov's astounding talent in one sentence. After about 30 minutes — a time lapse revealed in the 6 minute loop when the camera pans around the sound studio to show the recording duration on the sound file — the professional stumbles a bit. The smooth voice never cracks, but hesitation and loss for words fracture the authority of the sound bite. There are no surprises in this scenario — of course the orator stumbles, of course the truth of his statement gradually seems as though it might be flawed — and yet the experience feels unique. In fact, the experience feels just about right.

Uri Aran's *Untitled* video is part of a larger solo show titled [Geraniums at Rivington Arms](#) on display through January 25th. This will be the gallery's final exhibition.