ANIMAL PASSIONS

Written and Directed by:

Christopher Spencer 2004

Many years ago I downloaded a documentary titled "Animal Passions". I saw it in a list of movie titles on a torrent site and the name caught my attention. From what I know, it's a purely traditional documentary about bestiality, or as they call it, zoophilia. There are no sex scenes, but candid interviews with people who love their animals and have what they would describe as a mutual sexual relationship.

I felt open minded and curious about how their minds worked. How they could normalize something that most people would find so perverse and atrocious (at least publicly)? I scanned to the middle of the documentary just to make sure it downloaded without errors, and watched approximately 30 seconds of a woman describing her first sexual encounter with the family dog. She was blushing and giddy, as if describing her first kiss. She was in love and immediately aroused just recalling the memory. To this day, those 30 seconds are all I've ever seen of the documentary. I couldn't watch it then, and I don't plan to now.

I don't know what that says about me or about them, but the gap between us could not be bridged. For "Untitled (House Show)", I created a special edit of Animal Passions which did not require me to watch it, and projected it onto us during the performance.

E. Aaron Ross 2016