

The guide

Saturday May 11 – Friday May 17 2002

The Guardian

Fierce BIRMINGHAM, COVENTRY, WALSALL

Advertised as “the international performance festival that bites”, and centred around the University of Warwick’s Arts Centre, Fierce certainly offers up a more provocative and engaging range of fine art performance than one usually encounters in the typically moderate and mainstream programmes of university arts centres. This Thursday you are invited to spend two minutes each in the presence of the inimitable

Franko B, who presents Aktion 398. Expect a deeply masochistic concentration of blood-letting and carnal splendour. Between May 21 and May 25, the Bafta-nominated collaborative group Blast Theory present An Explicit Volume, an installation of electronically activated books illustrated with internet porn. Whilst from May 20 to May 25, you can climb into the back of a lorry parked outside the

Arts Centre and be enchanted by a pitch dark labyrinth teeming with stars. This, The Black Maze by the group Stan’s Cafe, is, apparently, “great fun for all ages”. **RC**
Warwick Arts Centre and various venues, until June 9, visit www.fierceearth.com or call 024 7652 4524 for details



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