

Family Review

Slowed and Throed: Records of the City Through Mutated Lenses

March 6–June 7, 2020



DJ Screw in his home studio. Courtesy SoSouth Music Distribution. Photo by Ben DeSoto ©1995.

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Slowed and Thrown: Records of the City Through Mutated Lenses is a two-part interdisciplinary exhibition orbiting around the legacy of the late Houston legend DJ Screw. Until his death in 2000, DJ Screw distorted songs by musical artists, creating “chopped and screwed” versions of the original by slowing tempo, reducing pitch, chopping lyrics, and layering freestyles by Houston-based rappers. Known for his signature stretched sound, he also displayed deft skill evident in his transitions, sampling choices, and beat juggling.

The exhibition features unconventional photography and new media created by strategies paralleling the musical methods of the innovative DJ. In their photo-adjacent practices, the participating visual artists appropriate, mash-up, collage, and mutate photographic inputs, in addition to slowing time. Serving as the physical and conceptual core of *Slowed and Thrown* is a nesting exhibition of DJ Screw archival materials from the University of Houston. Displayed in a gallery built to mirror the edifice of the original location of Screwed Up Records & Tapes on Cullen Boulevard, the archival

exhibition is activated by a musical playlist by E.S.G., rapper and member of the Screwed Up Click. The songs in this playlist do mention weapons, sexuality, and use some profane language. There is also artwork by Shana Hoehn that contains images of nude women.

For more details or questions regarding the content of this exhibition please reach out via tours@camh.org.



Karen Navarro. *Fragment* (detail), 2019. Archival inkjet print, wood, and epoxy. 48 x 56 inches. Courtesy the artist and Foto Relevance, Houston, Texas.