Top five shows: Jan 9–15, 2013
The best of the week in art.

Dara Friedman, PLAY
Gavin Brown’s Enterprise, Sat 11–Feb 22

Role-play and fantasy — whether personal or interpersonal, sexual or romantic — are the subjects of Friedman’s latest video, which features vignettes of performers (mostly as couples, but sometimes, individually) in varying degrees of undress. Throughout the piece, the artist toggles back and forth between color and black and white, and low-resolution and high-def, as a way of signaling certain states of mind, perhaps, or the difference between what’s real and what’s imagined. Friedman’s point — that all behavior is a form of fiction — isn’t exactly new, but she delivers it with undeniable verve.